

Sec. 7. CHILD CARE AND EARLY LEARNING WORKFORCE SCHOLARSHIP

(a) Up to \$500,000.00 appropriated for the Child Care Financial Assistance Program pursuant to Sec. 3 of this act may be used by the Department for Children and Families' Child Development Division for the purpose of providing scholarships to individuals employed by a regulated, privately operated center-based child care program or family child care home while acquiring credits in early childhood, child or human development, elementary education, special education with a birth to eight focus, and child and family services.

(b) The Division shall adopt policies, procedures, and guidelines necessary to implement the provisions of this section. Scholarships distributed pursuant to this section shall be available on a first-come, first-served basis until any designated funds are depleted.

(c) It is the intent of the General Assembly that an appropriation that meets or exceeds the amount appropriated in fiscal year 2020 be made in fiscal years 2021 through 2024 to accomplish the purpose set forth in subsection (a) of this section.

(d) An individual shall not simultaneously participate in the scholarship program set forth in this section and the student loan repayment assistance program set forth in Sec. 6 of this act.

\* Note: Reference to T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Vermont Scholarship Project in Sec. 6 would also need to change.