

A. ECDA TRAINING AWARDS & COMMENDATION AWARDS

ECDA Training Awards

1. What are the ECDA Training Awards (ITE / Polytechnic / University)?

The ECDA Training Awards (TA) aims to support students who are passionate about working with children and who wish to pursue a career in the early childhood sector. It is open to Singapore Citizen or Permanent Resident students undergoing full-time professional early childhood courses at National Institute of Early Childhood Development or NIEC [ITE, Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) and Temasek Polytechnic (TP)] and the Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS).

These Awards provide students with full sponsorship of their course fees, learning resource grants, professional development grant, monthly study allowances and professional networking opportunities that allow them to connect with the larger EC fraternity.

TA recipients are required to fulfil a year's bond to the early childhood sector for every year of support received, upon course completion.

Students can receive the following benefits:

Benefits	Training Award (ITE)	Training Award (Polytechnic)	Training Award (University)
Full-Course Sponsorship ¹	\$1,300 based on 2-year sponsorship (\$650 per year)	\$9,000 based on 3-year sponsorship (\$3,000 per year)	\$33,600 based on 4-year sponsorship (\$8,400 per year)
Learning Resource Grant (One-off)	\$1,000	\$1,050	\$1,050
Professional Development Grant (Given on a reimbursement basis)	Capped at \$1,000 per academic year (Total of up to \$2,000 based on 2-years)	Capped at \$1,000 per academic year (Total of up to \$3,000 based on 3-years)	Capped at \$1,000 per academic year (Total of up to \$4,000 based on 4-years)
Monthly Study Allowance	\$500 (Total of up to \$12,000 based on 2-years)	\$800 (Total of up to \$28,800 based on 3-years)	\$800 (Total of up to \$38,400 based on 4-years)

¹ Singapore Citizen students receive full-course sponsorship. Singapore Permanent Residents receive the same value of course sponsorship, but would be required to top-up as they are charged higher fees.

Max Total Value	\$16,300	\$41,850	\$77,050
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2. How do the ECDA Training Awards support the sector’s manpower needs and uplift the EC profession?

ECDA offers the Training Awards (TA) to encourage post-secondary students to pursue EC courses at National Institute of Early Childhood and Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS) and join the sector upon graduation.

ECDA also widens our outreach efforts to incumbent non-TA students. These include organising sector orientations for all EC students to gain greater exposure to the sector and Teachers’ Day celebrations at the Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs) to build a stronger sense of belonging and identity to the EC fraternity.

ECDA has also extended the Training Award (University) to the full-time Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (with Minor) with SUSS since July 2017, improving the pathway for individuals from other backgrounds to join the EC profession (e.g. GCE A-Level and non-EC diploma route).

ECDA Training Award (TA) Commendation Award

3. What is the purpose of the ECDA TA Commendation Award, and what will recipients receive?

Introduced in 2017, the Commendation Award recognises TA recipients who have performed well during their course. Recipients of the Commendation Award are students who are excellent role models for their peers. They have performed consistently well in their courses and displayed outstanding conduct and leadership qualities. This is the third year that ECDA is giving out this Award.

All graduating TA recipients taking the full-time Higher NITEC, Diploma or Degree course in ECE can qualify for the Award. Each commendation awardee will receive a certificate and a cash prize of \$1,000 during the ECDA Scholarships and Training Awards Presentation Ceremony.

Awardees are selected based on several factors, including their leadership abilities and potential to contribute to the sector. Students are first nominated by their respective lecturers at the Institutes of Higher Learning and will then undergo an interview assessment with ECDA.

B. ECDA SCHOLARSHIP

4. What is the ECDA Scholarship?

ECDA Scholarships support promising in-service educators who have demonstrated leadership potential and are committed to taking on larger roles in their organisation or in the early childhood sector. Applicants need to demonstrate the competency level of at least a Senior Pre-School Teacher. The ECDA Scholarship is part of ECDA's talent development efforts for the sector.

The following part-time programmes are supported under the scholarship:

	Institution	Course
1	National Institute of Education	Master of Education (Early Childhood)
2	Singapore University of Social Sciences	Master of Early Childhood Education
3	Singapore University of Social Sciences	Bachelor of Early Childhood Education
4	Singapore University of Social Sciences	Bachelor of Early Childhood and Chinese Language Education