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PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: April 19, 2023

TO: Deborah A. Frison, Ed.D.
Deputy Commissioner of Education

FROM: Melody Hobson

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Deputy Commissioner to approve a continuation grant to the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children (NeAEYC) to operate the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Nebraska ®Scholarship program

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Grant

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Nebraska® is a scholarship program for low-income professionals working in early childhood education and care programs who want to continue their education.
- T.E.A.C.H. is an acronym that stands for Teacher Education and Compensation Helps.
- T.E.A.C.H programs operate in twenty-one states.
- Nebraska T.E.A.C.H. scholars work to complete associate degrees in early childhood education and eventually may complete a bachelor's degree and obtain a Nebraska teaching certificate with an Early Childhood Inclusive endorsement.
- T.E.A.C.H. pays tuition, books, and release time for students who work at least 30 hours per week in an early childhood program.
- The Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children is the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Nebraska® license holder for Nebraska.
- In fiscal year 2022, 164 early education professionals received scholarships.
- For associate degree scholarship recipients, the average retention rate was 91.1%.
- For bachelor's degree scholarship recipients, the average retention rate was 96.9%
- 28% of T.E.A.C.H. recipients were people of color and/or Latinx

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING: May 2023

ESTIMATED COST: \$300,000



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FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal Child Care and Development Funds (CCDF)
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: 2002

FOR NEW CONTRACTS OR OTHER CONTRACTS REQUIRING PROCUREMENT: NA

FOR GRANT SUBAWARDS:

- Describe the grantee selection process: The Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children is the only entity licensed to provide T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Scholarships in Nebraska

**Updated 02.07.2023*