

FY2024 Buncombe County Early Childhood Grant Report

Organization Name:	AB Tech Community College	
Project Name:	Blazing Trails: Early Childhood Collegiate Support Program	
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 1 (July 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 2 (October 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 3 (January 1, 2024 - March 31, 2024)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 4 (April 1, 2024 - June 30, 2024)

Narrative summary of grant related activities

Please provide a brief summary (no more than 1500 characters). You may attach supplemental documents if needed.

Quarter 1	<p>Erin DeBruyn was hired as a full-time faculty member and began work in August. This Fall, she is teaching 2 sections of EDU 119 and 2 courses in our certificate programs.</p> <p>We revised 4 courses in the Early Childhood Certificate with input or resources from SCRIPT-NC and STEMIE at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute. EDU 119, EDU 144, and EDU 145 are using new Open Educational Resources as textbooks, and EDU 146 is utilizing Conscious Discipline: Building Resilient Classrooms. Our goal was to revise 3 courses; we are excited to exceed that goal already. We are working with SCRIPT-NC to revise EDU 221 for Spring.</p> <p>Beth Pokorski attended the Early Childhood Leadership Academy and a six hour training on Understanding Inequities in Early Childhood. Faculty met to discuss professional development on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging. Our next session will be Building Equity in ECE Settings.</p> <p>Outreach and enrollment is a huge success! Faculty participated in a total of 18 outreach events, including meetings with Transformation Village, Verner Center for Early Learning, Eliada Child Development Center, Children First/CIS, Buncombe Partnership for Children, and Smart Start Partnership for Children. We are working closely with Caitlin Johnson, EC Workforce Coordinator for Buncombe County Schools. We had a table at the Erwin High School Career Fair and spoke to ~50 potential students. In October, we will host students in EC classes at both North Buncombe and Erwin High Schools. Students will tour campus, participate in a hands-on learning activity, and hear about certificates, degrees, and scholarship opportunities.</p> <p>We are thrilled to have over 40 students enrolled in our Fall sections of EDU 119, including 20 cohort students.</p>
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Quarter 2	<p>Outreach and enrollment went extremely well in the second quarter! In October, students from North Buncombe High and Erwin High visited our department for a presentation on our program and available funding. Beth Pokorski and Erin DeBruyn met with Brad Barnhart, Vice President of Operations at Verner Center for Early Learning to discuss supporting their teachers, and they met with teachers at Burton Center Head Start. In November, Beth and Erin met with teachers at The Academy of Asheville, and Beth gave a presentation to 40 residents at Transformation Village. We updated our recruiting flyer with the help of the AB Tech Community Relations and Marketing Department and sent emails to almost 70 child care centers and community organizations about Spring 2024 registration and enrollment. As a result, we had 24 students sign contracts to start our new Spring Early Childhood Certificate Cohort, which will be meeting on Thursday evenings with Erin. Erin's cohort will take the 6-week Orientation Course and EDU 119 in-person. Beth's Wednesday evening cohort will continue from the Fall, and those students will take EDU 151 and EDU 280 in-person. We received outstanding student feedback on our updated EDU 146 course. The students loved our new textbook and the accompanying online book portal and felt that all of the examples were applicable to their classrooms and the behaviors they see on a daily basis.</p>
Quarter 3	<p>The Spring semester has been extremely busy! Our Fall 2023 Dogwood Health Trust cohort students are taking EDU 151 and EDU 280 in the evening. We are excited that six students from that cohort are projected to complete their Early Childhood Certificate in May! We were thrilled that we had enough interest to start a Spring 2024 cohort group in January with 22 students. In total, we have 37 students enrolled in EDU 119 for the Spring semester. Thanks to our two additional faculty members, we will be able to offer four early childhood classes this summer. We expect to have at least one additional cohort student complete the Certificate then. Offering more summer courses gives us the opportunity to enroll new students in the program without them having to wait until the Fall semester. We are now recruiting for Summer and Fall 2024. In March, Erin and Beth attended the career fair at TC Roberson High School, and Tamara presented to over 30 potential students at the college's Try on College Day. We have numerous recruiting events on the calendar in April beginning with AB Tech's Find Your Future event on April 11. Tamara will present to new early childhood apprentices at the Building Bright Futures Apprenticeship Professional Development Day on April 15. Then, three groups of students from Buncombe County Schools will visit our Department on April 22, 24, and 29. Finally, on April 25, we will host our first Early Childhood Career Exploration Day with 12 local child care centers participating.</p>

Quarter 4	
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Progress toward annual goals

Measure	Annual Goal	Actual Results (Enter Data) Please only include new data for the specific quarter				Progress toward Annual Goal
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
# of unduplicated enrollment numbers	130		88			88
# of students who successfully complete EDU119	76		39			39
# of students who completed Certificate and Degree	19		8			8

Comments:

This data reflects Fall 2023 numbers for all measures. We will not have additional enrollment and completion data until the Spring 2024 semester concludes in May.

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Use of funds to date and any budget considerations

Spending Category	Starting Budget	Total Spending (Enter Data)				Amount Remaining
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Personnel	\$ 90,505	\$ 18,223	\$ 24,184	\$ 24,184		\$ 23,914
Travel/Training	\$ 2,400			\$ 889		\$ 1,511
Technology						\$ -
Curriculum/Assessments						\$ -
Licensing/Dues						\$ -
Nutrition						\$ -
Transportation						\$ -
Supplies/Materials	\$ 7,566		\$ 2,195			\$ 5,371
Building Maintenance/Repair						\$ -
Rent/Occupancy/Utilities						\$ -
Furniture						\$ -
Playground/Outdoor space						\$ -
Printing/Marketing/Website/Postage	\$ 7,577		\$ 495			\$ 7,082
Admin Expenses (Legal, Accounting, Insurance,	\$ 12,004	\$ 1,822	\$ 2,687	\$ 2,507	\$ -	\$ 4,987
Other (Student Scholarships)						\$ -
Total	\$ 120,052	\$ 20,045	\$ 29,561	\$ 27,581	\$ -	\$ 42,865

Comments: