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Harry S Truman College

Supporting the Chicago Early Learning Workforce
Scholarship Investment

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**How do we find those that
need us most?**



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The Chicago Early Childhood Workforce Scholarship

- On March 2, 2018 along with early education advocates, Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced that Truman College will be the hub of the new \$2 million dollar city scholarship to expand the early childcare workforce.
- The Chicago Early Learning Workforce Scholarship will increase access to higher education certification programs for educators across the city to build a more diverse, trained workforce that meets the needs of the youngest learners across the city.
- The scholarship is eligible to both current Chicago Early Learning program staff pursuing additional education credentials and Chicago residents interested in launching a career in early childhood education.



"The Early Childhood Workforce is in extreme economic distress." -*NASEM (2018)*

"The ECE teaching workforce ... lacks the opportunity it enables for others"

- *Kagan, Kauertz, & Tarrant*



Goals for the Investment*

- To ensure Chicago Early Childhood Professionals are prepared to support children and families.
- To prepare the workforce for the City's plans for universal preschool for four-year olds by 2021.
- To put Early Childhood Professionals on a trajectory that secures their own economic mobility.

Each goal has subsequent metrics that are being developed and will be aligned these goals and tracked by Truman College and the Department of Family Support Services Team *



Operationalizing this effort

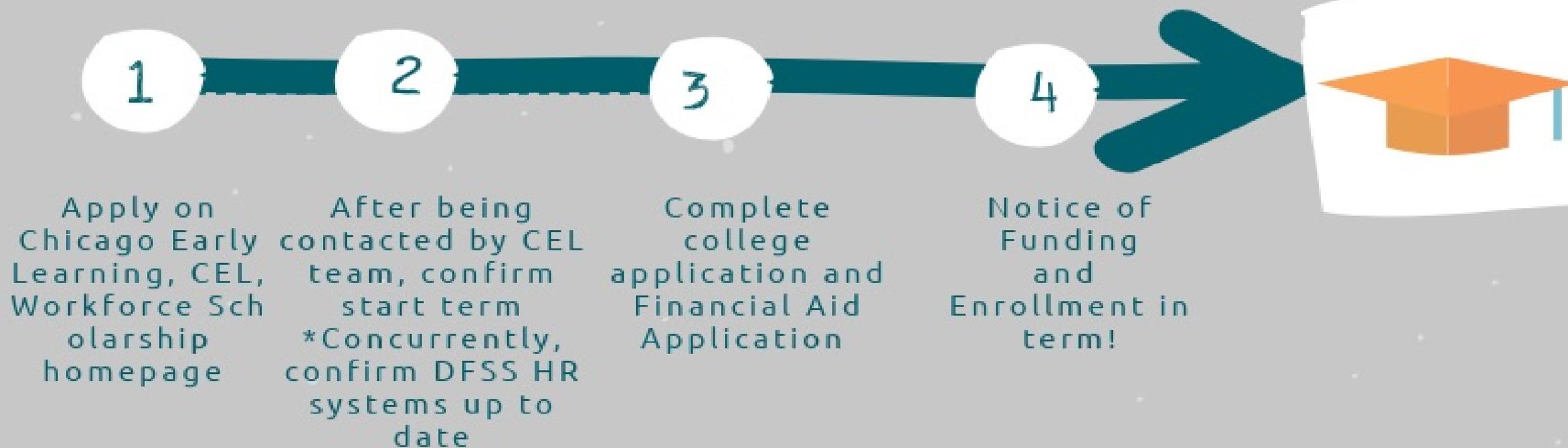
This effort is dependent on strong relationships between DFSS and City Colleges. This includes:

- Creating a process to find current and potential early childhood educators, and align them to appropriate coursework based on their individual need
- Convening weekly meetings
- Collaborative planning for community and workforce outreach and support
- On-Demand availability for problem solving
- Aligning communication and goals to minimize confusion
- Working in tandem to approve eligibility

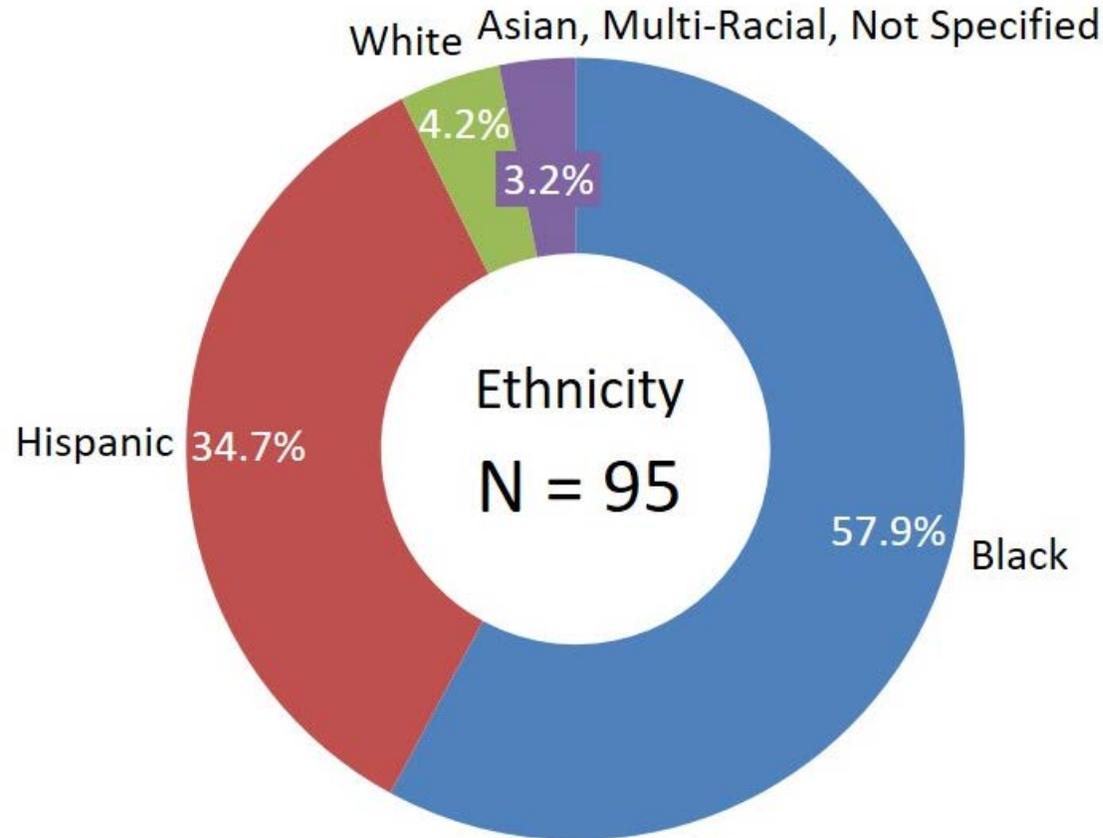


Process for Teachers

Chicago Early Learning Workforce Scholarship



Race/Ethnicity Breakdown of CCC's Chicago Currently Enrolled Early Learning Scholarship



- Over 500 students have expressed interest in starting this Academic Year
- We're experiencing about a 30% Response Rate from students
- Next steps are to work with DFSS and CCC to begin coordinating cohorts of teachers outside of the currently existing efforts.



What this means for City Colleges of Chicago

- Promotion and reinforcement that all ECE programs at CCC are open
- Enrollment: Groups covered in green are funding mainly through attendance at CCC
- Maximizing current supports: This funding has given us the opportunity to support the longstanding DFSS Grant Team at HWC which will shift its main focus to working with individuals pursuing certificates and degrees
- Transfer Agreement: Allows us to leverage four-year partnerships to support beneficial transfer agreements for our AA and AAS completers



Questions



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