RICHARD C. ALEXANDER SCHOLARSHIP
FOR EARLY HEAD START (EHS) PARENT

Richard C. (Dick) Alexander, a business leader, and entrepreneur had a deep commitment to focusing resources where they can make the greatest difference: early childhood. He was the architect of the Ready for School campaign which leveraged the power of business and civic leaders to secure an additional $39 million in state funding for Oregon Head Start Pre-kindergarten’s most vulnerable children. In 2010, his advocacy resulted in the Oregon Legislature allocating a million dollars to the Department of Education to establish a state-funded EHS program. This placed Oregon as a front runner in developing a state and federally funded system for early childhood services, prenatal to age 5. In honor of Alexander, this scholarship will be awarded annually to an Early Head Start Parent enrolling or enrolled in a program of higher education.

**SCHOLARSHIP**

The recipient of the Richard C. Alexander Scholarship for Early Head Start Parents will receive $2,000 to be applied to an institution of higher learning. Winners will be asked to provide proof of enrollment in order for OHSA to issue scholarship checks to their institution of higher learning.

**SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA**

Your program has established its own timeline for reviewing applications. Your program will submit this application to the OHSA Scholarship Committee no later than 2:00 pm first day of the Annual May Spring conference.. Failure to meet any of the rules, regulations, or criteria below will result in automatic elimination. **Applications must be submitted in English.** Applications with photos will be disqualified.

1. The applicant must be a current Early Head Start parent.
2. Proof of acceptance, or enrollment, from an institution of higher learning, will be required. Formal documentation of enrollment is required within five months of receiving the scholarship.
3. CATEGORIES: The applicant must submit a separate page of typed responses for each category. The maximum point value for each category is indicated in parentheses. Judges will rate for specific information.
4. EARLY HEAD START EXPERIENCE: Describe in one page or less, your experience as an Early Head Start parent. (20 points)
5. GOALS/ASPIRATIONS: Describe in one page or less, your *goals /aspirations* for furthering your education and the role Head Start has played in your education. (50 points)
6. REFERENCE LETTERS: The applicant must submit exactly three letters of reference, one for each type of relationship. Letters should be typed by an individual who knows the applicant in the following capacity: (1) Teacher/Supervisor, (2) Personal, or (3) Community Member. Letters must be written by three different people. Please indicate what relationship capacity the letter is meeting (Teacher/Supervisor, Personal or Community Member) by clearly indicating so in the top right hand corner of each reference letter. If the letter is being submitted in a sealed envelope, clearly indicate the relationship capacity on the envelope. Letters will be judged for specific information and rated on their overall effectiveness. (30 points)