The Oklahoma Association for the Education of Young Children is now accepting applications for the

**OKAEYC PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT AWARD**

This award provides a registration to the Annual Conference of the Oklahoma Association for the Education of Young Children (OKAEYC), and a one-year membership in the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and the state affiliate OKAEYC, as well as the Southern Early Childhood Association (SECA). This award is in remembrance of past board members (Girdie Ware, Ann Mills & Ramona Paul) who supported professionals and promoted professional advancement throughout their careers in Oklahoma.

The OKAEYC Professional Advancement Award recognizes individuals who have worked with young children a minimum of four years and are currently employed in early care and education settings in Oklahoma.  This award is intended to encourage professional growth, continuation of quality care experiences for children, and to share the importance of networking with others in the discipline of early care and education.

The funding for this award is through the Conference Committee budget line item and donations.

Recipient receives:  NAEYC/OKAEYC and SECA one-year membership and funding for conference registration for OKAEYC Annual Conference (attendance required), an

ab libitum member on the OKAEYC board for one year and a framed certificate.

**Qualifications:**

Must be employed as a child care provider in family child care, for profit or non-profit child care center or Head Start/Early Head Start;

Must have worked in the early childhood or child –related field for at least four years; and

Must be a resident of Oklahoma.

**Application Deadline:**

August 15, 2022

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