

EDUCATIONAL CREDENTIAL EVALUATORS

Unlocking the Promise of International Education

2018

ANNUAL REPORT FOR ECE® AID,
A PROGRAM OF ECE®

 414.289.3400

 ECE.org

 101 W. Pleasant St. Ste. 200

Milwaukee, WI 53212

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF ECE®



Dear Friends,

How did you get to where you are now?

We all have a story about how we arrived in our current circumstance. A recent article told the story of a CEO of a national nonprofit organization who arrived in the United States at age 8 from China. Her parents each worked multiple unskilled jobs in order to support their family and ensure that their children could attend school. As a young girl, she was ill and received good health care. However, she had neighbors who could not afford to see a doctor. Knowing the difference that good medical care made in the lives of people, she dreamed of becoming a physician. She believed that profession was beyond her abilities until one day a professor told her she could be a physician. Having one person who told her the dream was possible was a turning point in her life. Now she is making a difference in the lives of tens of thousands.

We at ECE are in the business of helping people write their own stories. We believe that immigrants, refugees, and others in need can achieve their dreams through education. When prior education is properly recognized, they can enter the work force or educational system and work towards their goals. We want ECE® Aid to be the spark that ignites the imagination of an immigrant who dares to dream of a new beginning. We want ECE® Aid to show new possibilities to a mother who is breaking the chain of domestic abuse.

In addition to serving those in dire need, in 2018 we helped over 32,000 other people from around the world ensure that their education was understood and put to good use. ECE® reports facilitated the appropriate admission of students into undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree programs. Our reports helped health care professionals enter the work force, to the benefit of neighbors in their new country. Our evaluations have assisted parents obtain jobs so that they can better support their families. Owing to ECE properly assessing the education completed in other countries, our nation and the wider world community benefits from the efforts and energy of those whose education would otherwise have been unrecognized.

Together with participating colleges, universities, refugee resettlement agencies, and other organizations, we are helping members of our world community write their stories through educational recognition. Our supporters contribute funds so that ECE® Aid can serve an ever growing number of people from around the world who have crossed borders to make better lives for themselves, their families, and their old and new communities.

The ECE® staff feel fortunate because we make a difference. Each day we are channeling our energy into helping foreign-educated people on their way to realizing their dreams. We are grateful to our colleagues and supporters for being a part of that important work.

At this time in our nation's history, there is no place I would rather be, no work I would rather be doing, and no people, like you, with whom I would rather be proudly standing, to make a meaningful difference.

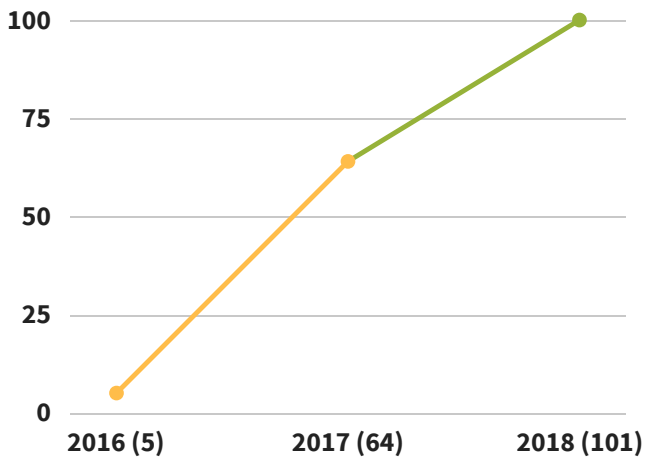
Margit A. Schatzman
President





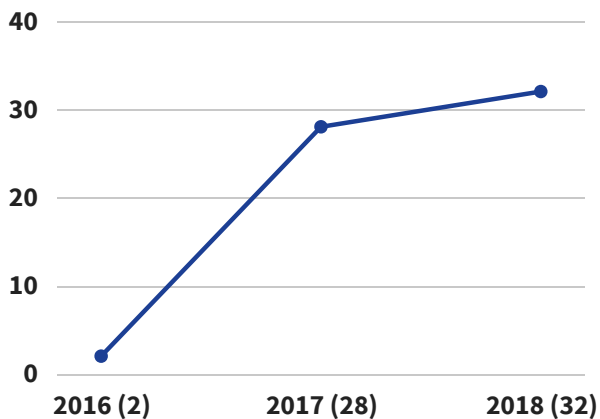
ECE[®] Aid ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Completed ECE[®] Aid evaluations



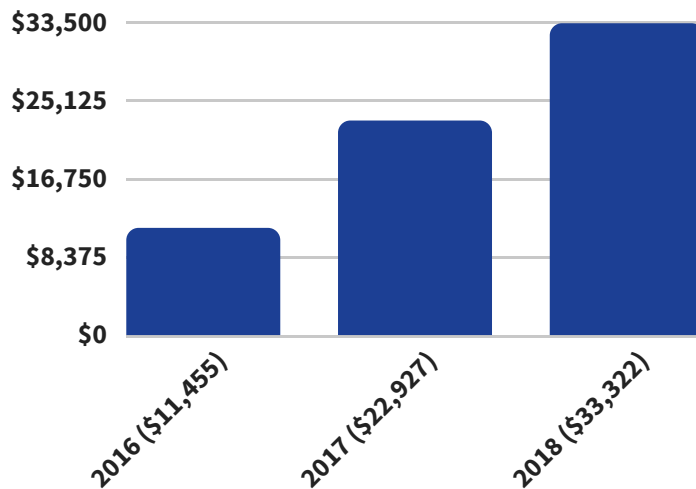
There were 101 completed evaluations receiving ECE[®] Aid fee waivers in 2018. The total number of fee waivers that have been awarded through ECE[®] Aid now stands at 170!

ECE[®] Aid participating institutions and organizations



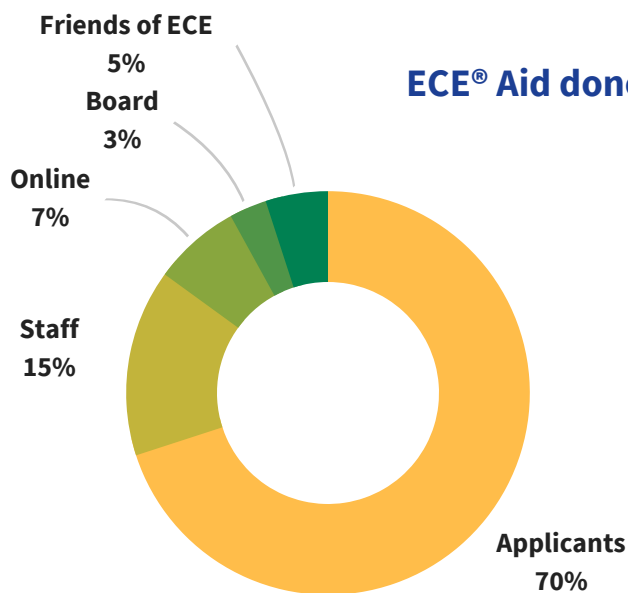
Participating institutions and organizations have increased to 32 in 2018.

ECE[®] Aid funds raised



Donations in 2018 reached \$33,322! Since the launch of ECE[®] Aid, the total amount of donations has now come to \$67,704.

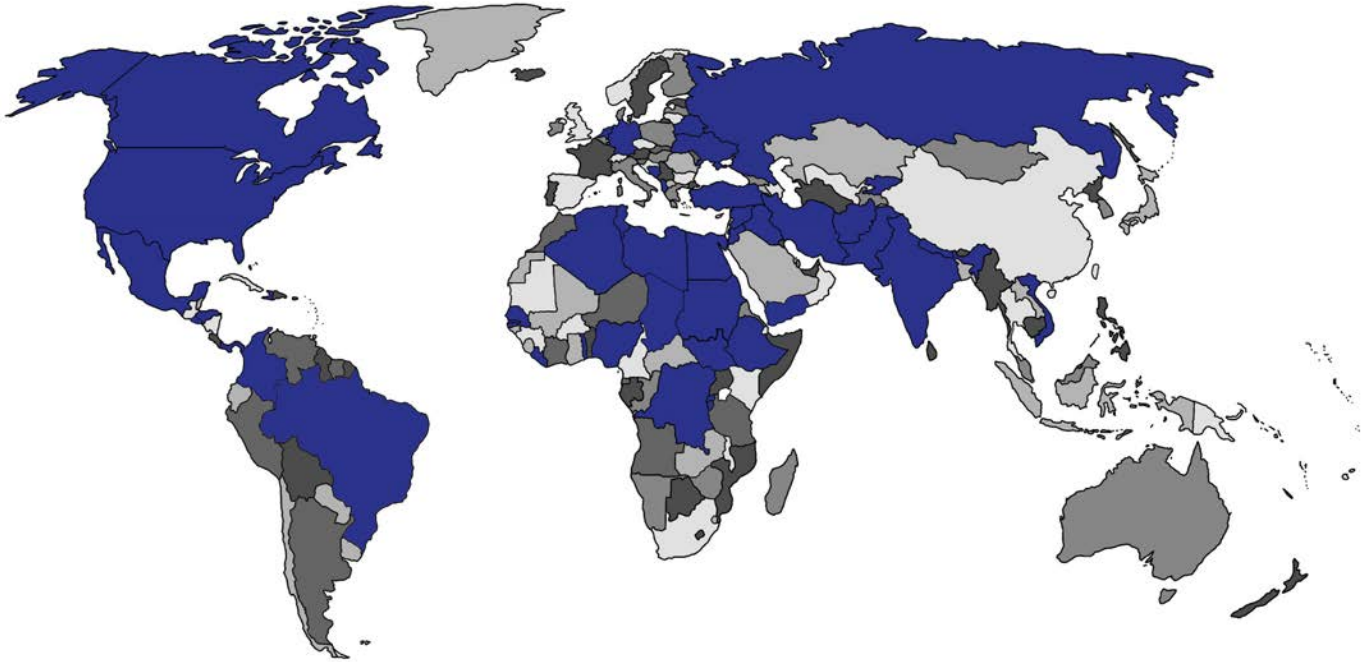
ECE[®] Aid donors



Past and present ECE[®] applicants, ECE[®] staff, ECE[®] board of directors, and friends put ECE[®] Aid in a sound financial position.



ECE[®] Aid has provided fee waivers to recipients from over 45 different countries.



In 2018 ECE[®] Aid recipients came from Iraq, Sudan, Afghanistan, Nigeria, Columbia, Ukraine, Libya, Nepal, Syria, Brazil, Jordan, Ethiopia, Turkey, Chad, Kyrgyzstan, Algeria, Albania, El Salvador, Burundi, India, Russia, Yemen, Palestine, Pakistan, Egypt, Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Honduras, and Senegal.

Here are just a few of the many inspiring stories from ECE[®] Aid recipients:

I wish I will be a professor and help people.

- Hussein, ECE[®] Aid recipient



Hussein Al-Rubaya is a teacher from Iraq who hopes to become a professor in the U.S. When he first arrived, Hussein tried to pursue a master's degree in English linguistics but struggled to get admitted. His desired institutions in the U.S. did not understand his previous studies and transcripts from Iraq, and Hussein was starting to fear he would have to start his quest for a Ph.D. all over with undergraduate work.

Hussein found help with Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services (IRIS), a participant of ECE[®] Aid. Fortunately, IRIS understands the importance of what an academic credential evaluation can do for someone and the opportunities that can open up through an evaluation from ECE. IRIS awarded Hussein a fee waiver, and now with an ECE[®] Report, U.S. higher education admissions officers are able to better understand Hussein's bachelor's degree, credits, and grades in U.S. terms.

"My dream is to get the master's degree and then the Ph.D. in English linguistics and literature. I wish I will be a professor and help people. I really appreciate ECE evaluators for helping me out. Thank you very much." - Hussein Al-Rubaya



ECE® Aid RECIPIENTS

Meet Prashant! He is a Nepali refugee who first relocated to India to study information technology. Owing to our generous donors and trusted participating institutions, like North Hennepin Community College, Prashant can now achieve his dreams in the U.S. for himself and his family.

"As earthquake victims, my family and I were facing many problems, more specifically financial problems. I thought my dream to continue my further study in the USA would not be fulfilled because of my non-U.S. degree. With the help of North Hennepin Community College, I was able to get an ECE® Aid fee waiver for a foreign credential evaluation report. I am really thankful to them for their kindness. ECE® Aid played an important role in fulfilling my dream!"
- Prashant T.



Part of the success of ECE® Aid is dependent on our trusted participating organizations and institutions. Here is a story about a recipient from Syria that contacted one of our ECE® Aid participants, Refugees to College, to receive a fee waiver:

"I am a dentist from Syria. I recently moved to the U.S. (in 2017) through the refugee program. My goal is to practice dentistry here in the U.S., so I started to go through the licensing process, which required me to have my credentials evaluated by ECE. I found out that refugees can apply for a fee waiver, so I went through the ECE® Aid webpage and found a list of nonprofit organizations that would facilitate issuing this waiver. The organization I contacted was Refugees to College. They were very nice and very helpful. I explained to them my situation and they were very eager to provide assistance. They contacted ECE on my behalf and a week later asked me to submit my application where they had arranged with ECE for my fee to be waived.

I'm grateful for ECE® Aid for introducing me to Refugees to College, as they are still assisting me with other aspects of the licensing process beyond the ECE® application. I have since then received my ECE® evaluation report, and I'm getting ready to take the board exam. Getting licensed to practice dentistry is a long process that will take me about three years and will require various applications and fees for different agencies.

"It is a relief to get some of those costs waived, as it is difficult enough being a refugee to rebuild your life and to keep up with daily expenses, let alone the added expense of licensing application fees."

It is a relief to get some of those costs waived, as it is difficult enough being a refugee to rebuild your life and to keep up with daily life expenses.
ECE® Aid recipient from Syria
ECE

Visit ECE.org/ECE/ECE-Aid/EceAid-Stories to read more stories about the positive impact ECE® Aid has made.

2018





ECE[®] Aid

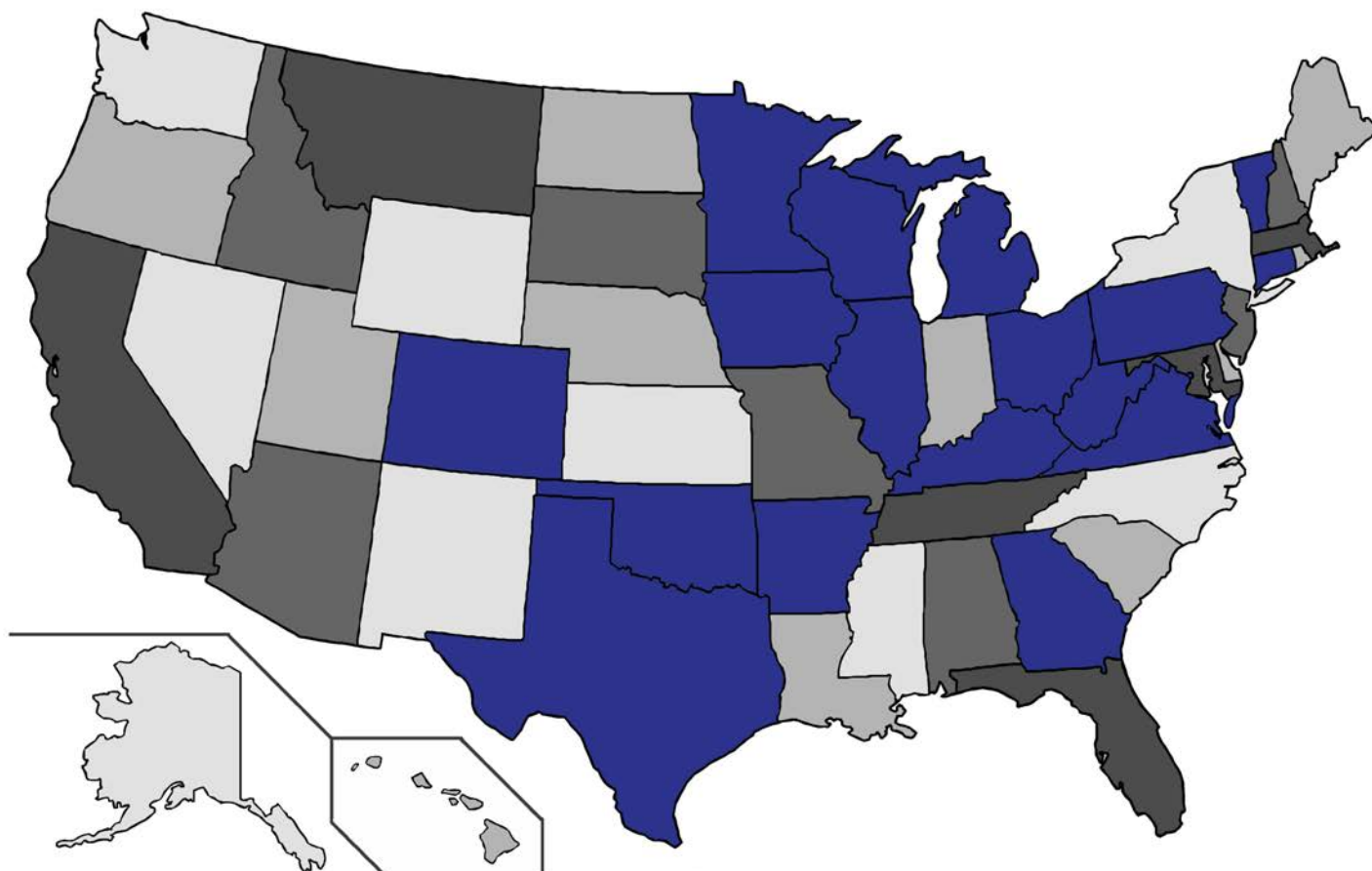
PARTICIPANTS

2018

ECE[®] Aid now includes over 30 trusted participating institutions and organizations throughout the U.S. and the world.

 ECE selects experienced, trusted agencies and institutions to distribute fee waiver vouchers to qualifying immigrants.

 ECE does not provide complimentary reports directly to individuals.



Current locations of ECE[®] Aid participating institutions and organizations as of 2018.

ECE[®] Aid would not be possible without the many trusted institutions and organizations participating in the initiative.

For more information on becoming an ECE[®] Aid participant, please visit ECE.org/ECE/ECE-Aid/Participating-Institutions


2018





ECE[®] Aid


PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

2018 goal = \$24,425 2018 result = \$30,322!

 Thanks to our generous donors, we surpassed our goal in 2018 and raised \$30,322 by year-end.

 A total of \$34,380 has been awarded for ECE[®] Aid fee waivers since its launch.

 By the end of 2018, \$23,429 of funds were available to those eligible for a fee waiver.

 \$6,895 has been earmarked for ECE[®] Aid fee waivers in process.

Fee Waivers in Process

\$6,895

11%

Available Funds

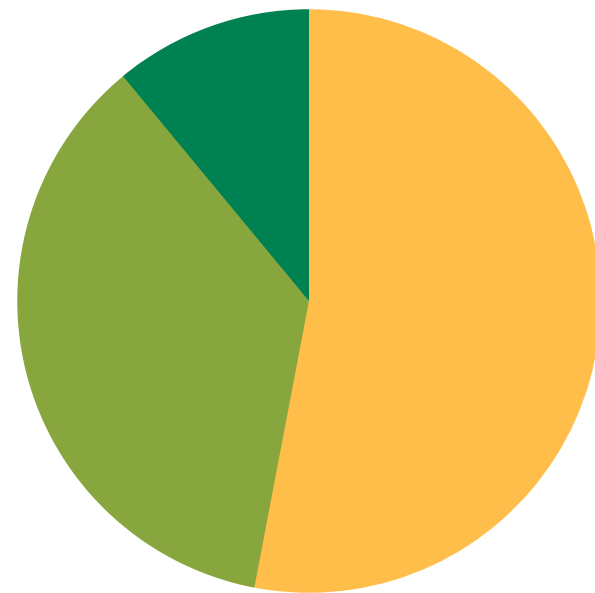
\$23,429

36%

Completed Evaluations

\$34,380

53%



No donations received are directed to the general operating fund.

A copy of the current ECE[®] Form 990 is available upon request by contacting Educational Credential Evaluators at PO Box 514070, Milwaukee, WI 53203.






ECE[®]
Aid

**Donate to
ECE[®] Aid today!**



A gift to ECE[®] Aid...

-  **Opens the door to refugee education and/or professional fulfillment**
-  **Provides an experienced workforce in high-demand occupations**
-  **Protects public safety through credential checks**

**You can donate at
ECE.org**



Thank you to all of our generous supporters and donors in 2018!

ECE is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and all donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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