

# 25/26 Quality Counts

## Individual Professional Development Stipend

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**Who is Eligible**

Assistants for a Family Childcare Home, apprentices and student teachers who have earned a permit, Home Visitors, Family Advocates, Family Support Site staff who work at Quality Counts sites, Program Managers/Directors who directly supervise staff members, and or who are working toward Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS) goals for the site.

Teachers and instructional aides who:

- work directly with children from birth up to Kindergarten.
- work at a licensed or license-exempt child care center.
- work an average of 15 hours per week during the site's school/program year.

Your site supervisor, director, or provider must agree to hold a staff meeting with a QC representative (51% of staff must attend).

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**How to Get Started**

**Complete the Online Application**

[New Applicants Click Here to Apply Here](#)      [Returning Applicants Click Here](#)

This application is for an **individual stipend**. Directors at the site may apply for a Site Stipend separately.

\* All participants must fill out an application every year to be eligible.

\*Stipend amounts will be determined annually, based on funding availability. The timeline for stipend payments will be June 2026.

**\*\*Application Deadline: October 31, 2025**

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**Requirements**

You may use any combination of the following professional development to earn the maximum site stipend:

1. Early Childhood College Units (must earn a "C" or better):  
1 unit: **\$200**, 2 units: **\$500**, or complete 3 units for **\$750** (\$750 max)
2. Official Teaching Pyramid training with coaching: **\$750**.
3. Professional Development linked to a Professional Growth Plan such as :  
General Teaching Pyramid coaching, Online Coaching Companion Cycles, attending workshops (certificate or reflection required) or attending web-based training (certificate or reflection required)  
**(\$25/hour)**

\*It is your responsibility to upload your Coaching and PD hours, certificates, and reflections into Hubbe/iPinwheel. Site supervisors are responsible for assisting their staff with entering data in the Hubbe system. If you need assistance, please contact your supervisor.

Maximum stipend for 2025/2026 is **\$750**

**Timeline:** PD hours must be completed between July 1, 2025 through May 15, 2026

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#### **HOURS THAT ARE NOT STIPEND-ELIGIBLE:**

- \*Any hours during your employed working hours
- \* Extra hours you may spend being observed by a coach, or coaching linked to regular workplace activities. The coaches will determine creditable coaching hours.
- \* Any training that is required by Licensing, or your employer
- \* Units and hours completed as part of the Apprenticeship program requirements at Columbia College

#### **TRAINING THAT INCLUDES TRAVEL:**

Trainings where travel out of county is involved, will be eligible as follows: If the individual is attending outside of paid work hours, the hours for the training alone (not travel time) will be credited toward a stipend. (For example, a two-day training with 6 hours on Day 1 and 4 hours on Day 2 would earn 10 stipend hours). You must upload certificates to Hubbe.

Stipends and taxation: If you receive \$600 or more in a stipend, the County of Tuolumne must report this as income to the Internal Revenue Service, using the information provided on your W-9. This occurs during a calendar year. Earning a stipend of \$599 or less will not trigger this reporting unless you have earned other independent income from the County of Tuolumne.

#### **LINK TO ECE WEBSITES:**

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JKuUY5OWxcU2dXY4gPWdbWx\\_soyhhyXyoV16atbySMI/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JKuUY5OWxcU2dXY4gPWdbWx_soyhhyXyoV16atbySMI/edit?usp=sharing)

#### **LINK TO COACHING COMPANION VIDEO:**

[Teacher Webinar](#)

SUPPORTING EARLY EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT (SEED) ECE ONLINE BULLETIN BOARD- Beth Barnett

[SEED PADLET](#)

For Inquiries please contact

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