

Program Description

The Quality Matters Stipend Program is administered by WestEd E3 Institute, and is designed to provide financial incentives to family child care providers/staff program administrators and teaching staff employed at QUALITY MATTERS sites or a Quality Counts San Benito Site.

Individuals enrolled in the Quality Matters Stipend Program receive a stipend based on the completion of professional development training and/or college coursework within the program year. Individuals participating in this program work independently to complete their requirements.

Note: The Quality Matters Stipend program is offered through the partnership of FIRST 5 Santa Clara County, First 5 San Benito County, and the Santa Clara County Office of Education.

Must meet all criteria below to enroll:

- Must be an early educator at a Santa Clara County QUALITY MATTERS Center Based site or Family Child Care Home or an eligible Quality Counts San Benito site.
- Work directly with children and hold a paid position traditionally referred to as assistant/aide, associate teacher, teacher, master/lead teacher, site supervisor, assistant director, program director, family child care owner, or family child care staff.
- Have a Social Security number.
- **Have access to a valid email account (email is the primary method of communication. You are responsible to check email regularly).**

ENROLL ONLINE
www.santaclarquality.org

September 12, 2022 –
November 4, 2022

Questions?
(408) 299-1700 or
e3@wested.org

This program is funded by FIRST 5 Santa Clara County, First 5 San Benito County, and the Santa Clara County Office of Education with support from Quality Counts California and the California Department of Education.



Please Note:

- **Participants may be contacted by a program specialist to discuss their professional development plan.**
- **Most program requirements are completed online. Access to a computer/iPad and internet access is required.**

How to Earn a Stipend

TASK	Deadline Dates
1. Submit an online Enrollment form at www.santaclarquality.org .	NOVEMBER 4, 2022
2. Complete <u>ONE</u> of the Stipend options below:	
<p style="text-align: center;">OPTION 1 - \$600 College Coursework Stipend</p> <p>Complete a minimum of 3 semester units (4 quarter units) with a grade of "C" or better between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Coursework must count toward a college degree or to obtain or upgrade a California Child Development Permit or credential. ■ General education and ESL/Basic Skills courses will be accepted. ■ Courses must be taken through a nationally accredited college or university. 	<p>JUNE 30, 2023</p> <p>(Transcripts submitted by July 14, 2023)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">OPTION 2 - \$400 Training Stipend</p> <p>Complete a minimum of 21 hours of professional development between July 1, 2022 and June 1, 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ For a complete list of WestEd E3 Institute approved trainings, please visit www.e3institute.org. ■ College coursework that does not meet Option 1 criteria can be used to satisfy the 21-hour requirement. <i>Hour Conversion: 1 semester unit = 15 hours; 1 quarter unit = 10 hours</i> 	<p>June 1, 2023</p>
3. Complete an end of year survey	August 15, 2023
For NEW Center Based and San Benito FCC Participants Only	
4. Submit a W-9 Form	June 1, 2023

- *Stipends will be sent to the participant's home address by September 2023.*
- *WestEd E3 Institute may raise or lower stipend amounts based on the amount of available funds and the number of eligible applicants.*
- *Stipends must be declared as income subject to income tax. A 1099 form with the stipend amount will be mailed during the first week of February 2024 to any participant who received a stipend of \$600 or more.*