

Santa Clara County Quality Matters Stipend Program for State Preschool (CSPP) & Center-Based Childcare (CCTR) Early Educators/Administrators

The Quality Matters Stipend Program (QMSP) is administered by the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) to provide financial incentives to CSPP/CCTR administrators and teaching staff.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

CSPP/CCTR Programs	Employment Status	Professional Development
<p>Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently employed in a California State Preschool Program (CSPP) Currently employed in a General Child Care and Development (CCTR) program 	<p>Work directly with children and hold a paid position:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistant/Aide Associate Teacher Teacher Master Teacher Site Supervisor Assistant Site Director Site Director 	<p>Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> College Coursework Pathway Training Pathway (21 Professional Development hours)

Application Open Enrollment: August 1 – September 19, 2024



Apply Online: www.caregistry.org

For more information:

<https://sccoe.to/24-25QMSP>

(669) 212-5400

LPCInfo@sccoe.org

STIPEND PATHWAYS

OPTION 1

\$600 - College Coursework Pathway

- Complete a minimum of 3 semester units or 5 quarter units with a grade of 'C-' or higher between July 1, 2024 and April 11, 2025.
- 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.
- Course must be taken through a nationally accredited college or university.

OPTION 2

\$400 - Training Pathway

- Complete a minimum of 21 Professional Development (PD) hours and be verified by CA Workforce Registry between July 1, 2024 and May 23, 2025.
- College coursework that does not meet Option 1 criteria can be used to satisfy the 21-hour requirement. Hour Conversion:
 - 1 Semester Unit = 15 hours
 - 1 Quarter Unit = 10 hours
- For a complete list of approved trainings, please visit: www.lpcsantacruz.org

Stipends Distribution: Starting July 1 - August 31, 2025

To earn a stipend, you must successfully:

- Submit an online Quality Matters Stipend Program application in www.careregistry.org between August 1 - September 19, 2024.
- Complete either Coursework Pathway (Option 1) or Training Pathway (Option 2) by May 23, 2025, and:
 - Submit a Professional Development Plan by October 20, 2024.
 - Complete one Professional Growth Advising session with the Stipend program staff by March 28, 2025.
- Attend one Program Orientation by October 20, 2024.
- Must be employed by a CSPP/CCTR site through the employment verification deadline of February 28, 2025.
 - Submit a current W9, which is dated and signed only after June 30, 2024.
 - Stipend checks will be sent to the address provided on the W-9 Form.

Important Notes

- Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) may raise or lower stipend amounts based on the availability of funds and the number of eligible applicants. Awardees will be notified via mail during the Stipend Distribution Period (July 1 - August 31, 2025).
- Applicants can only apply to one Option per fiscal year (July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025) and may request to change their Option no later than March 31, 2025, by 5 p.m. Determination is based on the availability of funds. Contact us for more information.
- Stipends are considered taxable income. A 1099 form with the stipend amount will be mailed starting February 2026 to any participant who received a stipend of \$600 or more.
- Most of the Quality Matters Stipends Program requirements are completed online. Access to a computer or tablet and internet access is REQUIRED.
- Applicants may appeal SCCOE's decision between August 1, 2025 through August 15, 2025.