

# **“Quality Counts” in 20-21**

## **Guidelines for Family, Friend and Neighbor Caregivers**



*Quality Counts – Raising the Quality of Early Learning & Care*

The “Quality Counts” Consortium welcomes your participation in our incentive program if you care for young children ages birth up to kindergarten.

### **How to get started:**

Complete the on-line application. A link is provided below; you can access this application with your computer, your phone or your tablet.

[Apply Here](#)

ICES staff will contact you regarding next steps, including completion of a W-9 if needed.



### **STIPEND OPPORTUNITIES for family, friend, and neighbor caregivers:**

**You may earn up to \$500 through participation in activities that support your caregiving experience. Increase your knowledge of child development, health and safety, social emotional development in young children, how reading, music, and movement encourage children’s healthy growth – and more!**

### **Options for how to earn the stipend:**

- **Complete, in partnership with child’s parent, an Ages and Stages Questionnaire. This easy to use tool helps caregivers to see how children are developing by doing fun, simple activities with them.**
- **Choose from a broad assortment of online webinars on early childhood topics**
- **Pick up a kit from ICES that’s full of learning activities to do with kids.**

- **Different activities can be combined to earn eligible stipend hours**

**You will earn \$25 for each approved hour of participation. ICES will provide you with suggestions for the above activities and support you every step of the way.**

**Requirements to participate and earn a stipend:**

1. Application completed.
2. You must work with a Quality Counts representative to agree on specific site-based quality improvement activities over the course of the fiscal year. For FY 20-21, this will be Suzan Greenwood (ICES)
3. You will be required to provide confidential information on the demographics of children served at one point in time during the year.
4. At year end, stipends will be awarded based on completion of agreed upon activities.

**Timeline.** The annual timeline for earning a Quality Counts stipend is from June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to May 31st 2021.