

# “Quality Counts” in 21-22

*Raising the Quality of Early Learning & Care*

## Non-Rated Centers- Site Stipend

\*Private Sites

### Guidelines for Program Directors



The “Quality Counts” Consortium welcomes your participation in our program.

#### Who is Eligible:

- \*Centers that participated last year
- \*New centers that are licensed and willing to meet the requirements

All center directors must fill out an application every year. If the center is returning, less information will be required.

**A link to the online application is provided below.** The link will also be on the First 5 Tuolumne website.

[Apply Here](#)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: October 31, 2021**

### SITE STIPEND REQUIREMENTS for sites that choose not to be rated

Centers may earn up to **\$1,200** in a site stipend upon demonstrated completion of their Quality Improvement Plan by May 31, 2022. Partial stipends will be considered on a case by case basis.

1. The Director must complete and submit a site application.
2. The center must work with a Quality Counts representative to agree on specific site-based quality improvement activities over the course of the year. For FY 21-22, this will be Suzan Greenwood from ICES or Beth Barnett from Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools. They will ensure that each site has an annual Quality Improvement Plan. Your center must hold one staff meeting with at least 51% of the teachers present, for a presentation from Quality Counts. This requirement must be met if you want your teachers to be able to earn individual stipends, regardless of whether or not you pursue a site stipend.
3. The Director will be required to provide information on classrooms, teachers names, and the demographics of children served at one point in time during the year.
4. At year end, site stipends will be awarded based on completion of the Quality Improvement Plan.

**Options for Centers to earn a \$1200 site stipend:**

1. Using the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-SE) with parents of children ages up to K entry 2x a year and doing follow-up scoring and discussion. (Contact Beth Barnett- SEED Coordinator- bbarnett@tcsos.us)
2. Doing a minimum of 12 hours of targeted center-wide training with a Quality Counts coach in an approved topic (for example, Teaching Pyramid strategies), with at least 51% of teaching staff participation in combined hours of training, coaching, application/reflection and follow-up discussion (virtually or in-person may apply).

*For example:*

*1.5 hours: Initial training and discussion at a staff meeting. Teachers decide on one new strategy to try as a team in their classrooms.*

*4 hours: Teachers try the new strategy for a month in their classrooms.*

*1.5 hours: Teachers reconvene at another staff meeting and discuss, with a Quality Counts coach, how the implementation went, what worked, what didn't and what they learned. The teachers would jointly decide on next steps – continuing with the same strategy or adding a new one.*

*4 hours: Teachers try the strategies for a month in their classrooms.*

*1 hour: Final convening with a Quality Counts Coach, discussion of successes and challenges in imbedding a new quality practice into the daily routine.*

3. Your staff may also choose to attend 12 hours of various other trainings, conferences, webinars and/or workshops as a team, and then have follow-up meetings to discuss how you want to implement new skills or strategies into your program. Attendance must be recorded and submitted to a QCC coach for approval of hours.

**\*\*Below is a link to a list of many early childhood education websites and information about trainings or conferences you may wish to participate in to earn your stipend hours. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Barnett or Suzan Greenwood.**

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

A Quality Counts Representative will provide details once your application is received.

**Timeline: All hours must be completed between June 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 and May 31<sup>st</sup> 2022**

**Staff working at these sites who are interested in individual stipends must go to the Individual Stipend Guidelines page and use the link to the application there. Please contact Suzan or Beth if you need assistance.**

[suzang@icesagency.org](mailto:suzang@icesagency.org)

[bbarnett@tcsos.us](mailto:bbarnett@tcsos.us)