



## CARES / AB212 Stipend Project

First 5 Ventura County and Ventura County Office of Education are pleased to announce that the CARES (Comprehensive Approaches to Raising Educational Standards) and AB 212 Stipend Projects have combined and now have a single application process for both private and public-funded child development programs. This stipend project encourages early learning professionals to obtain higher levels of education by awarding monetary stipends to selected participants who meet specific eligibility criteria and complete approved college units that apply towards the Child Development Permit and/or a Bachelors degree in Early Childhood Development.

### Who is eligible to apply?

Participants are eligible to apply if they have provided care to children 0 to 5 (pre-K) for a minimum of 15 hours per week in the same licensed family child care home or child care program in Ventura County for at least 9 months between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009 while earning less than \$60,000 annually. Participants need to be directly providing care (or directly supervising those who provide care) in a preschool/child care environment. School sites, Military installation-based sites, and programs exempt from licensing may also be eligible.

### What are the participation requirements?

- 1) There are three tracks\* designed to meet various incoming education levels while promoting continual advancement up to the Degree Track.
- 2) All applicants are required to meet annually with a Career Advisor and complete an Individual Goal Setting Plan.
- 3) Participants who received either CARES or AB212 stipends in prior project years are required to attend a Harms/Clifford Environment Rating Scale (ERS-r) training, complete an ERS-r self-evaluation, and submit an ERS-r improvement plan to their Career Advisor by June 30, 2009 (exception: Entry Track participants).

*Track	Goal	College Units Completed as of June 30, 2008	College Education Units* to be completed between July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009	Stipend Amount
Entry	To obtain initial 6 units in ECE to earn Assistant level Child Development Permit	None	Complete three (3) units per year in ECE with grade "C" or better toward the Permit	\$600
Permit	To continue to advance on the Permit Matrix	A minimum of 6 ECE units and eligible for or have applied for Assistant Level or higher Permit	Complete three (3) units per year with grade "C" or better (ECE, GE, or ESL classes) toward the Permit	\$750
Degree	To continue education towards earning a Bachelors Degree	A minimum of a Teacher Level Permit or Associates Degree or equivalent	Complete six (6) units per year with grade "C" or better of classes required for Bachelors Degree in ECE/Child Development	\$1,500

**Acceleration Stipend:** To move to a higher track level or a Bachelor degree at an accelerated rate, stipend participants may be selected to receive a \$250.00 Acceleration Stipend, contingent upon availability of program funds, when the participant completes an additional (3) units beyond the College Education\* requirements (listed above) with a grade "C" or better toward the Permit or Degree requirements.

### How do I learn more about the requirements?

Orientations will be held to provide an overview of the stipend program opportunity, the eligibility requirements, and to answer any questions.

To register for one of the upcoming orientations, please call 805-437-1373.

**Wednesday, June 25, 2008**

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Moorpark College

Child Development Center

7075 Campus Road

Moorpark, CA 93021

**Saturday, June 28, 2008**

9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Ventura County Office of Education

Conference and Educational Services Center

5100 Adolfo Road

Camarillo, CA 93012

(Presented in English & Spanish)

**Monday, June 30, 2008**

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Child Development Resources

221 Ventura Boulevard

Oxnard, CA 93030

(Presented in English & Spanish)

### How can I be considered as a participant?

First, you are strongly encouraged to attend one of the orientations listed above. Second, you need to complete the CARES/AB212 Entry Form below and submit it to the Ventura County Office of Education. This will place your name in a pool of applicants that will be selected at random to participate. Selected applicants will be notified by July 2008. Selected applicants will then be scheduled to meet with a Career Advisor to complete an Individual Goal Setting Plan and all necessary paperwork. Applicants will then enroll in approved college classes for the 2008-2009 academic year. **TO BE CONSIDERED, ENTRY FORMS ARE DUE IN OUR OFFICE BY 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 18, 2008.**

**For more information:** Contact the CARES/AB212 office at 805-437-1373, or visit [childcareplanningcouncil.org](http://childcareplanningcouncil.org), Projects/Stipends page.

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### CARES/AB212 Entry Form

Complete and return form to Ventura County Office of Education, Lisa Hart, Health and Early Childhood, 5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo, California 93012.

First Name:		Last Name:	
Home Telephone	Work Telephone	Cell Phone	E-mail address
( ) -	( ) -	( ) -	
Where do you work? (check) Child Care Center (state-funded) <input type="checkbox"/>		Family Child Care <input type="checkbox"/>	Child Care Center (non-state funded) <input type="checkbox"/>
Name of Center :		Work Address:	City: Zip Code:
Do you currently hold a Child Development Permit? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		College attending in 2008-2009 School Year: _____	
If yes, which level? _____			
How many <b>College Units</b> did you complete before 6/30/08? Child Development: _____ General Education: _____ AA Degree: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
Which Track Are You Eligible for? Entry <input type="checkbox"/> Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Degree <input type="checkbox"/>			
Language spoken at home: English <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish <input type="checkbox"/>		Do you need Spanish translation? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I am interested in enrolling in the 2008/09 CARES/AB212 Stipend Project. I understand that depending on funding levels, my name may be entered into a pool of applicants that will be selected at random to participate. <b>SIGNATURE:</b> _____ <b>DATE:</b> _____			