

Santa Clara CARES 2.0

Program Summary

Overview

Santa Clara CARES 2.0 is a program designed to support early educators pursuing a college degree by providing individualized educational planning services. Stipends will be offered to participants who complete coursework identified in their Professional Development and Education Plan (PDEP), as long as funding is available. Currently, CARES 2.0 does not provide stipends to support training or other professional development activities that are not related to obtaining a college degree. CARES 2.0 has an ongoing enrollment system and there is no specific application period; participants may access the program at anytime during the year. Stipends will be issued throughout the year.

Colleges partnering with CARES 2.0

- De Anza College
- Foothill College
- Gavilan College
- Mission College
- National Hispanic University
- San Jose City College
- San Jose State University
- West Valley College

Minimum Enrollment Requirements

Participants must:

- Be employed at a licensed center-based program/agency or family child care home/business in Santa Clara County and work directly with a group of children under age 5* for a minimum of 15 hours per week
- Work directly with children and hold a position traditionally referred to as assistant/aide, associate teacher, teacher, master/head teacher, site supervisor, assistant director, program director, substitute, family child care owner, or family child care staff
- Be at least 18 years of age and have a Social Security Number

Note there are additional requirements for eligibility to receive a stipend. See Stipend Eligibility Requirements on back of this page.

*Early educators working with school-age children in state-subsidized after-school, center-based programs are eligible to apply.

Enrollment Process

Participants enroll in CARES 2.0 by completing an Enrollment Form and developing a PDEP with a CARES 2.0 college representative. The PDEP is a comprehensive education plan that specifies the courses needed to complete a college degree or to enter a college degree program. Participants who participated in the Santa Clara CARES program prior to September 2009 may already have a PDEP developed at their local college. This plan needs to be updated to participate in CARES 2.0.

Participants who are planning to complete their degree at a college partnering with CARES 2.0 must meet with a college representative to complete or update their PDEP. Once participants have completed or updated their PDEP, they will receive a Participant

Summary, which will outline the requirements they need to complete and the specific courses that are eligible for a stipend.

When developing a PDEP, the college representative may find it necessary for the participant to complete additional requirements that will help identify the courses necessary to complete a degree. These additional requirements may include:

- Completing a college placement test(s)
- Meeting with a counselor to develop an education plan
- Having transcripts from a country other than the United States formally translated and evaluated for U.S. equivalencies

Note: Completing additional requirements does not increase your stipend amount.

Participants who are working toward a degree at a college not listed above must email the CARES 2.0 staff at santaclaracares@wested.org to determine if they are eligible to participate. If participants do not have access to email, they may call (408) 299-1700 to contact a CARES 2.0 staff member.

Stipend Enrollment Requirements

In addition to the minimum enrollment requirements, a participant must meet the following requirements to be eligible for a stipend:

- Complete a course(s) with a grade of "C" or above that was identified on their Participant Summary and any additional requirements assigned by the college representative
- Possess a valid California Child Development Permit
- Have worked consistently within the same program for a minimum of 15 hours per week for at least the last 9 months

Requesting a Stipend

The Participant Summary will identify courses that are eligible for a stipend. Once participants complete a stipend-eligible course(es) and any additional requirements assigned by the college representative, they must have their PDEP updated to have their stipend request submitted for approval and payment. Participants must also submit an Employment Verification Form and a W-9 Form. These forms are available at the CARES 2.0 website at www.santaclaracares.org. Participants may request a stipend any time after completing new coursework identified on their Participant Summary.

Note

If the number of eligible applicants exceeds the amount of available funds, stipend amounts will be reduced to ensure every eligible applicant receives a stipend.

Determining Stipend Amounts

Courses that are eligible for a stipend are identified on the Participant Summary. Stipend amounts are based on the number of units completed and are calculated by multiplying the number of eligible units completed times the per-unit rate:

$$\text{Number of eligible units completed} \times \text{per-unit rate} = \text{stipend}$$

CARES 2.0 provides higher stipends for the following courses: general education, basic skills, and English as a Second Language (ESL). The following chart shows the current per-unit rate:

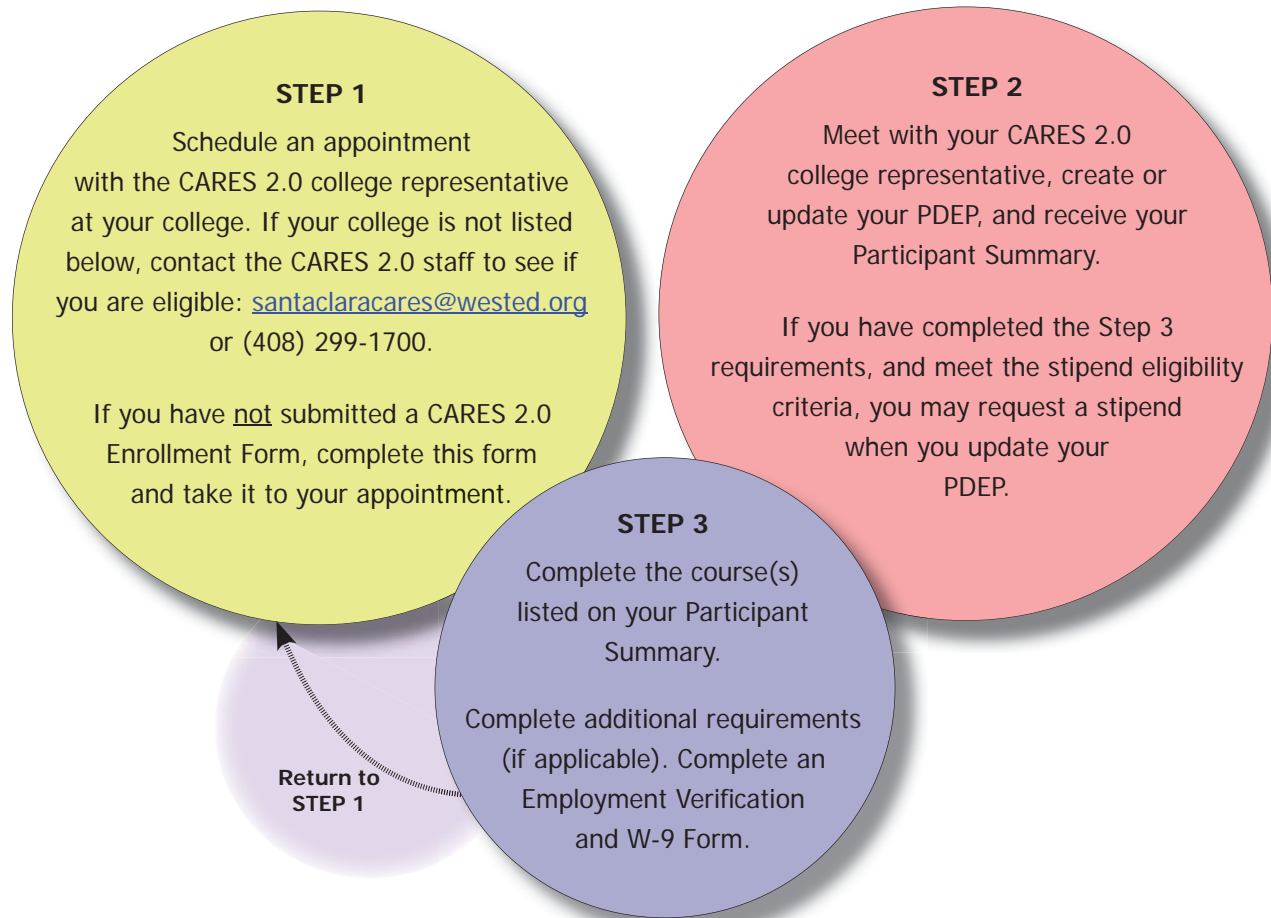
Course type (Must support advancement toward a degree)	Per semester unit	Per quarter unit
Child Development/ECE (or equivalent) or Elective courses required for degree	\$200.00	\$134.00
General Education	\$250.00	\$167.50
English as a Second Language (ESL) (or equivalent)	\$250.00	\$167.50
Basic Skills (or equivalent)	\$250.00	\$167.50

Examples of Stipend Amounts

Semester Units
Complete a 3 semester unit child development course and receive a \$600 stipend: 3 units x \$200 per unit = \$600
Complete a 5 semester unit ESL course and receive a \$1,250 stipend: 5 units x \$250 per unit = \$1,250
Complete a 3 semester unit child development course and a 4 semester unit general education course and receive a \$1,600 stipend: 3 CD units x \$200 per unit = \$600 4 GE units x \$250 per unit = \$1,000 Total = \$1,600
Quarter Units (De Anza and Foothill Colleges)
Complete a 4 quarter unit child development course and receive a \$536 stipend: 4 units x \$134 per unit = \$536



Summary of Santa Clara CARES 2.0 Process



Santa Clara CARES 2.0 College Contacts

College	Contact	Phone	Email
De Anza College	Diane Langfelder	(650) 365-0347	diandwriter@comcast.net
De Anza College	Fatemeh Zarghami	(408) 864-8999 Ext. 3118	fzarghami@earthlink.net
Foothill College	Marian Browning	(650) 949-6962	caresprogram@foothill.edu
Gavilan College	Marlene Bumgarner, EdD	(408) 848-4805	mbumgarner@gavilan.edu
Mission College	Camilla Weiberg (Valenzuela)	(408) 855-5256	camilla_valenzuela@wvm.edu
National Hispanic University	Edirle Menezes, PhD	(408) 729-2204	emenezes@nhu.edu
San Jose City College	Mary Conroy, PhD	(408) 298-2181 Ext. 3866	mary.conroy@sjcc.edu
San Jose City College	Maricela Martinez	(408) 288-3798	maricela.martinez@sjcc.edu
San Jose State University	Toni Campbell, PhD	(408) 924-3725	camptoni@cruzio.com
West Valley College	Terry Shue	(408) 741-2007	terry_shue@westvalley.edu
West Valley College	Katherine Moore-Wines	(408) 741-4601	katherine_moore-wines@westvalley.edu

Note: The CARES 2.0 Enrollment Form is available at www.santaclaracares.org or call 408-299-1700.