

# Steps to Receive CARES Funding

## 1. You should apply for CARES if:

- ~ You are at least 18 years old.
- ~ Provide early care and education services to children ages 0 to 5 years of age in Amador County for a minimum of 15 hours per week, and at least 9 months of the year.
- ~ Agree to complete Track requirements demonstrating progress on the Child Development Matrix.

## 2. Meet with your assigned CARES

### Advisor:

- ~ **NOTE:** Your CARES Advisor or CARES Professional Growth Advisor will work with you to complete a Professional Development Growth Plan; or update your Professional Development Growth Plan and provide assistance in meeting the requirements of the Child Development Permit Matrix.
- ~ Call Chris Cowan, CARES Coordinator at (209) 223-1624 if you have any questions or to set up an appointment to see if you are eligible to be in the CARES Program.

## 3. Annual Eligibility Requirements:

- ~ Stipends are awarded based on the completion of unit bearing college coursework, **from April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**, and must receive a "C" grade or better.

### Stipend Levels

**FFN Track-** Family, Friend, & Neighbor- must complete at least 6 hours of training. Applicants may receive a \$50 gift card (maximum of 4 per year, 6 per year for lone Caregivers) for each 6 hours of training activities.

- These activities may include:
- ~ School Readiness Playgroups
  - ~ Nutrition/Cooking classes
  - ~ Family Resource workshops

- ~ Music & Movement workshops
- ~ Other applicable workshops include CPIN, Kids in Common, etc.

**Track 2 (Entry Level)-** License and license-exempt center-based staff with less than 6 ECE units must complete 3 ECE/GE units that are applicable toward applying for a Child Development Permit.

- ~ Meet with CARES Advisor.
- ~ \*By third year, must complete ECERS or other approved self- evaluation tool.
- ~ Attend all CARES required meetings.

**For Family Child Care-** 1st year: 1 unit or 18 hours Professional Development; 2nd year-: 2 units or 24 hours Professional Development; 3rd year-:3 units or 36 hours of Professional Development; 4th year: 4 units or 54 hours of Professional Development (units must be applicable towards a Child Development Permit).

- ~ Meet with CARES Advisor.
- ~ \*By third year, must complete ECERS or other approved self- evaluation tool.
- ~ Attend all CARES required meetings.

**Track 3 (Permit Level)-** License and license-exempt FCC and center-based staff with a minimum of 6 ECE units must complete 6 ECE/GE units that are applicable toward applying for a Child Development Permit. You must have proof that you applied for a Child Development Permit or will apply for a Child Development Permit.

- ~ Meet with CARES Advisor.
- ~ \*By third year, must complete ECERS or other approved self- evaluation tool.
- ~ Attend all CARES required meetings.

**Track 4 (Degree Level)-** Licensed and license exempt FCC and center based staff with a minimum of 6 ECE units must complete 6 ECE/GE units that are applicable toward a BA. You must have a minimum of a Teacher Level Permit (Child Development Matrix).

- ~ Meet with CARES Advisor.
- ~ \*By third year, must complete ECERS or other approved self- evaluation tool.
- ~ Attend all CARES required meetings.

**Track 5 (Professional)-** License and license-exempt FCC and center based staff with a minimum of a Master Teacher Permit and a Bachelors degree or above.

- ~ \*By 1<sup>st</sup> year, must complete ECERS or other approved self- evaluation tool.
- ~ Attend all CARES required meetings.
- ~ Choose from one of the following- CARES Advisor; join the California Mentor Program, or Leadership Project.

## 4. Submit the following documentation to HRC Child Care Resources by March 31, 2008:

- ~ Attach Certificates of Completion for workshops/trainings attended (Copies Only)
- ~ \*If applicable-ECERS, FCCERS, or ITERS self-assessment and improvement plan for your current site
- ~ Official, web-based transcripts, or CARES Course Verification Form showing course completion with a "C" or better.

~ Mail information to:  
 HRC Child Care Resources,  
 Attn: Chris Cowan  
 PO Box 216  
 Sutter Creek, CA 95685

### Incentive Amounts:

FFN Track \$50-\$300  
 Track 2 \$150-\$350  
 Track 3 \$500-\$800  
 Track 4 \$900-\$1500  
 Track 5 \$800 +

### Additional CARES Stipends:

Longevity- 3 years or more providing child care in Amador County	\$200
lone Target Incentive- For providing child care in lone, Buena Vista or Camanche	\$250
Serves Spanish speaking children and families-Communicates with families in Spanish	\$200
Serves a child with Special Needs	\$200
Serves children who are Infant/Toddler under the age of 2	\$200
lone School Readiness Recruit- Participants who recruit another participant in lone	\$100
Serves children before 6am, after 6pm or weekends	\$200
Mileage to and from college classes- outside the county- 1 time per week	\$200
Mileage to and from college classes- outside the county- 2 times per week	\$300
CARES Advisor (Maximum of 6 Advisees per Advisor)	\$100 per Advisee
*Self Evaluation Tool (Tracks 2-4 only, only is in the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> year of CARES)	\$25