

February 22, 2010

Dear Tulare County Child Development Division Contractor:

The Tulare County Child Care Planning Council is currently involved in a project that directly affects your child care staff. The 2000-2001 Budget Act allocated \$15 million for child care worker retention programs (AB 212). Funds were allocated to Local Child Care and Development Councils based on the percentage of state-subsidized center-based child care funds received in that county. The goal is to increase retention of qualified staff that work directly with children, in state-subsidized center-based child care programs.

Since 2002 the Council has disbursed stipends to qualified applicants working in state-subsidized center-based programs in Tulare County. The Council has additional funds to disburse and will be rewarding qualified individuals working in state-subsidized center-based classrooms. Stipends will be disbursed based on the priorities as indicated on the application. ***Please be advised that the priorities and disbursement of stipends have changed from previous years.***

Enclosed are applications for disbursement. Due to the changes from previous years, please instruct staff to review the eligibility, priorities and instructions carefully as applications must be complete and correct in order to be processed. ***For NON- TCOE/TCCCEP employees the BLUE application must be utilized.*** As noted on the application, applicants are responsible for ensuring that their application is submitted and received by the deadline of 5:00 PM Friday, March 19, 2010.

If you have any questions or require additional applications, please contact me at [tshirley@cc.tcoe.org](mailto:tshirley@cc.tcoe.org) or 651-1723.

Sincerely,

Tina Shirley, MSW  
Planning Council Coordinator  
Tulare County Office of Education