

# Student Teacher Stipend Program (STSP)



## Key Questions for LEAs and IHEs

### What does the program provide?

A \$10,000 stipend to eligible student teachers during clinical practice.



### When does it start?

Applications open July 1, 2026, for the 2026–27 academic year.



### Who receives the funding?

LEAs receive grant funds and are responsible for paying student teachers.



## ELIGIBILITY

### Who qualifies?

Candidates in Commission-approved preliminary teaching credential programs completing 500+ of the 600 required hours of clinical practice. Eligible credential areas: Preliminary Multiple Subject, Single Subject, Education Specialist, or PK-3 Early Childhood Education Specialist Instruction credential.

### Who is not eligible?

Intern, Pupil Personnel Services, Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential, Career Technical Education candidates, and Teacher Residents in grant funded programs.

### When does eligibility begin?

When the candidate starts clinical practice on or after July 1, 2026. As such, for purposes of the grant program, we will not be checking on the existence of MOUs.



## APPLICATION & PROCESS

### Who submits the application?

IHEs and LEAs complete a shared application on behalf of the candidate. The IHE initiates the application when the student teacher begins clinical practice, then hands off to the LEA to complete, all within the grants management system.

### Can candidates apply directly?

No.

### What triggers the application?

The candidate begins clinical practice with the LEA partner.

### Are projections allowed?

No. Applications must include identified, active student teachers.



## ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

### What is the IHE's role?

Provide candidate information, verify clinical practice timing, and coordinate with LEAs.

### What is the LEA's role?

Finalize the application, sign the Grant Award Agreement (GAA), receive funds, and pay candidates.

### Do partners need a formal agreement?

Though there should be a formal MOU or partnership agreement, this is not required as a component of the grant program.



## FUNDING & TIMING

### How much is the stipend?

\$10,000 per eligible candidate.

### When do LEAs receive funds?

Typically 50+ days after the Grant Award Agreement (GAA) is signed.

### When should stipends be paid?

After the LEA receives funds, they should distribute the stipend to the candidates.

### Is funding guaranteed?

No. Funds are awarded first come, first served until exhausted.



## PLACEMENT & LOGISTICS

### Can clinical practice span multiple terms?

Yes. Eligibility begins at the start of clinical practice on or after July 1, 2026.

### What if a candidate changes LEAs?

The first participating LEA distributes the full stipend.

### What if a candidate started before July 1, 2026?

They may be eligible if they continue clinical practice on or after that date.



## PROGRAM CONDITIONS

### Is there a service commitment?

No.

### Do candidates repay funds if they withdraw?

No, and they are not eligible for a second stipend.

### Can this be combined with other programs?

Yes, with Golden State Teacher Grant and Classified School Employee Teacher Grants, but not with Commission-funded Residency grants.

## What should LEAs and IHEs do now?



**Align on participation with partners.**



**Confirm agreements and roles.**



**Prepare to identify eligible candidates at placement start.**



**Ensure candidates have required clearance documentation.**



Contact: [STSP@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:STSP@ctc.ca.gov)



**Commission on Teacher Credentialing**