



Help is Here: Stipends
Valencia College's Accelerated Skills Training Program (ASTP)
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Customers
November 12, 2020

1. What are the benefits of enrolling in a limited-time Accelerated Skills Training Program (ASTP) offered by Valencia College?

Valencia College's Accelerated Skills Training Programs focus on intensive, hands-on training designed to help you enter a new career field or advance your current skillset. You'll have the opportunity to earn industry-recognized credentials, train in essential workplace skills and receive job placement support.

You will have the potential to earn higher pay in as little as four to 13 weeks with training programs in high-demand fields with average entry level salaries between \$12-\$20 per hour.

2. How do I qualify to receive a stipend payment?

CareerSource Central Florida (CSCF) has received additional funding from Orange County Government to support residents in the Help is Here program. Only individuals who are enrolled in the [limited-time Accelerated Skills Training Programs offered by Valencia College](#) (ASTP) at the Orange County Convention Center are eligible to receive the stipend.

Orange County residents must also:

- Meet CSCF's Help is Here program qualifications.
- Be qualified and enrolled in Help is Here by Dec. 31, 2020.
- Be enrolled in a limited time Valencia College training program no later than Dec. 31, 2020.

3. How do I qualify for CSCF's Help is Here program?

To qualify for the Help is Here program, individuals must be at least 18 years of age or older and able to work in the U.S., must be able to verify Orange County residency, and must be able to verify they have been impacted by COVID-19 (loss of job or reduced hours). Residents must apply for the Help is Here program by Dec. 31, 2020.

Individuals can visit the [Help is Here website](#) for more information or call 1-800-757-4598 (press option 6).

4. How much is the stipend payment?

Eligible Orange County residents will receive a \$125 stipend for every week they are enrolled in one of the limited time Valencia College training program options held at the Orange County Convention Center through Help is Here up until Jan. 31.

Stipend is only available for Valencia College's Accelerated Skills Training classes held at the Orange Convention Center. Eligible Orange County residents will receive a \$125 stipend for every week they are enrolled in these Valencia College training programs through Help is Here up until Jan. 31, 2021. Stipend payments will cease upon completion of the training program, even if such completion occurs prior to Jan. 31, 2021.

5. When and how will I receive the weekly stipend?

Participants will receive a debit card, and dollars will be loaded weekly based on participant activity. The stipend is intended to help the individual cover other costs while they are in training at the Valencia ASTP Orange County Convention Center.

6. How long will the stipend payments be provided?

Residents must be enrolled into the Help is Here program to be qualified to receive the \$125 stipend for every week they are actively enrolled in one of the Valencia ASTP training courses offered. The stipend will be provided until completion of a training course and / or up until Jan. 31, 2021.

7. Which ASTP training programs offered by Valencia College do I need to be enrolled in to receive a stipend?

Enrollment is available in more than 10 technical skills training courses, which will begin to be offered beginning Nov. 30, 2020. The ASTP program lengths vary from four to 10 weeks and includes assistance with career consultation and job search services.

Limited time Valencia College Accelerated Skills Training programs include:

- Carpentry
- Masonry
- Commercial Truck Driving
- IT / Network Support Specialist
- Medical Office Specialist
- Clinical Medical Assisting
- Microsoft Specialist Certification
- Distribution Operations Technician
- Electronic Board Assembly
- Certified Production Technician
- Apartment Maintenance Technician

Additional details about the training programs can be [found here](#).

8. When and where do these training courses take place?

Valencia College ASTP begin Nov. 30, 2020 at the Orange County Convention Center. More information regarding the training courses will be provided by Valencia College upon enrollment.

9. If I am enrolled in the Valencia ASTL training program that is completed after Jan. 31, 2021 will I still receive stipend payments after January 31, 2021?

No. Stipends will not be paid after Jan. 31, 2021 even if the training course has not been completed.

10. If I complete a Valencia training program prior to Jan. 31, will I receive stipend payments until Jan. 31?

No. Stipend payments will cease upon completion of the training program residents are enrolled in, even if such completion occurs prior to Jan. 31, 2021.

11. I am currently enrolled in a different course at Valencia College ASTLP. Do I qualify for a stipend?

Stipend is only available for Valencia College's Accelerated Skills Training classes held at the Orange Convention Center. Eligible Orange County residents will receive a \$125 stipend for every week they are enrolled in these Valencia College training programs through Help is Here up until Jan. 31, 2021. Stipend payments will cease upon completion of the training program, even if such completion occurs prior to Jan. 31, 2021.

Only individuals enrolled in the [limited time Valencia College Accelerated Skills Training Programs](#) taking place at the Orange County Convention Center through CSCF's Help is Here program qualify for the weekly stipend payments.

12. Are there any stipulations to how I use the stipend payments provided to me?

No. There are no requirements for how the stipend payments can be used.

13. How can I apply for a training program and to receive the stipend?

To learn more and apply for CSCF's Help is Here program, limited time Valencia ASTP courses, and the stipend payments, visit www.careersourcecentralflorida.com/helpishere or call 1-800-757-4598 (press option 6).

14. If I have questions about my stipend payments, who should I contact?

Participants should work directly with their CSCF Career Consultant.

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