



FIRST 5 ALAMEDA COUNTY: CORPS AA DEGREE PROGRAM SUMMARY

Program Description

The Child Development Corps was initially launched by First 5 Alameda County Every Child Counts (F5AC) May 2000, as a systems change initiative. It was designed to build a network of Early Care and Education providers, to advance professional development through both formal and informal educational opportunities and to increase retention of teachers in Alameda County. The program was replicated by most county commissions with state matching funds.

F5AC conducted an intensive review of the first four years of the Corps by convening community input and workgroup sessions to address the limitations of the Corps. Although retention increased over the first four years of the program, new memberships declined. In addition, there was a lack of intentionality in student course selection and concerns about declining revenue and sustainability.

In 2006, the program was re-designed and re-named the Corps AA Degree Program. The re-design addressed declining student enrollment and retention in the Corps by targeting assistance to students who are having difficulty meeting professional development goals and general educational requirements at the community colleges.

In the re-designed program, a Corps AA Degree Program participant may receive between \$650 and \$1,600 per year upon initial enrollment and between \$650 and \$2,500 per year thereafter in incentive stipends. Stipends are awarded based on the number of units earned toward an AA degree. The program also provides students with individual education and professional development advising from Corps-funded Community College Professional Development Coordinators on college course selection and the Child Development Permit. Students may also receive support from the Corps funded Resource & Referral Agency Career Advisors who provide foreign transcript evaluation and additional informal training opportunities.

This report contains three years of data (2006-09) and represents only the new Corps AA Degree Program.

Corps AA Degree Program Criteria

Criteria for participation in the Corps AA Degree Program include:

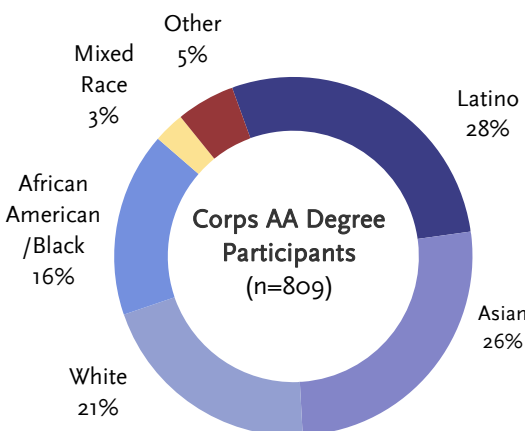
1. Current employment of at least 15 hours per week in an eligible child care program in Alameda County
 2. Employment at the same child care program for at least 9 months at time of enrollment
 3. At least 6 ECE units and a valid Child Development Permit (with less than 6 ECE units, a permit is not required)
- OR
4. A degree in an unrelated field and less than 32 ECE units

Participant Demographics

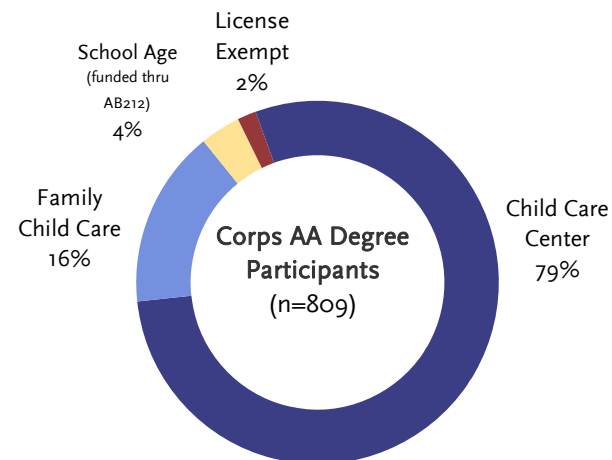
Since 2006, 809 ECE students have participated in the Corps AA Degree program.

Who are the Corps AA Program participants?

Race/Ethnicity of Corps AA Degree Participants (2006-09)



Provider Type of Corps AA Degree Participants (2006-09)



- 48% of participants spoke English as their primary language
- 20% of participants spoke Spanish as their primary language
- 10% of participants spoke Chinese (not-specified, Cantonese or Mandarin) as their primary language
- The remaining 22% spoke other languages, such as Farsi, Urdu, Arabic, Cambodian, Punjabi, Hindi and Tagalog

Education level and Child Development Permit level of program participants upon entry:

- 65% entered the program with a high school degree, with or without some college
- 33% entered with a college degree in an unrelated field (either an AA, BA, some graduate school or a graduate degree)
- 13% of students did not have a Child Development Permit upon entry into the program

CHILD DEVELOPMENT PERMIT MATRIX LEVEL AT ENTRY INTO CORPUS AA	PERCENT OF STUDENTS
No permit	13%
Assistant Teacher	15%
Associate Teacher	51%
Master Teacher	8%

What were the results of three years of the Corps AA Degree Program?

- 59% of participants have re-enrolled, which indicates they remained in the same child care position
- Because the last enrollment of 183 (22%) of the participants was at least 2 years ago, these participants are considered unlikely to ever return to the program

Achievement of Permit/Increase in Permit Level

122 of 415 (29%) students obtained their Child Development Permit for the first time or progressed to a higher permit level while participating in the Corps AA Degree Program.

- 31 students who had not received a Child Development Permit before, obtained one for the first time
- 91 students who already had a Child Development Permit moved to a higher Permit level

Achievement of AA degree

As of summer 2009, 42 of the 809 participants have earned the AA degree:

- 33 of the 42 graduates (79%) had previously earned a college level degree in an unrelated field
- 33 of the 42 graduates (79%) were center-based providers

Cost of the Corps AA Degree Program from 2006-2009

STIPENDS	OTHER EXPENSES (approximate)	TOTAL
\$2,202,706	\$5,270,000	\$7,474,444