



Washington State Department of  
**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**

**Provider Supports Subcommittee**

**Agency Updates**

**February 14, 2024**

**Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) Updates**

**Cost of Care Updates**

- Western Washington University is currently conducting the cost of care survey which will provide updated cost information used in the Cost of Quality Care Calculators. Your participation is very important! Please [click here](#) to access the survey. The survey will remain open through February and participating providers will receive a \$100 Amazon gift card, available when the survey period ends.
- The Early Educator Design Team has made final recommendations for the variables within the cost calculator. A written report from this team will be available soon.
- DCYF will use the updated Cost of Quality Care Calculator and EE Design Team recommendations to develop rate tables based on the cost of quality care. These tables will be used to develop decision packages for the 2025 legislative session.

**Early Childhood Equity Grant Application Available Soon**

The [Fair Start for Kids Act](#) directs DCYF to distribute Early Childhood Equity Grants to eligible applicants to help make Washington's early learning system more inclusive and equitable.

The Early Childhood Equity Grant application will be **available soon**. DCYF will notify providers by email when the application is available. DCYF will offer an application preview, so providers have extra time to see the application questions and plan their responses.

For more information, and to preview the application, visit the [DCYF Early Childhood Equity Grant webpage](#).

**Complex Needs Training Available**

DCYF, in partnership with the University of Washington (UW) Haring Center, will offer training to support child care workers who care for children with complex needs. These trainings will focus on deepening the provider's knowledge in several areas related to individualizing instruction and supporting social-emotional learning.

Training sessions are free to providers. They will be held via Zoom. Training sessions are available in English and Spanish. Please see the flyer ([English](#), [Spanish](#)) to learn about the topics, dates, and to access the registration links.

If you have questions, contact Phoebe Yeung at [pcyeung@uw.edu](mailto:pcyeung@uw.edu).

### **Spanish and Somali Glossaries Now Available!**

DCYF is excited to announce the creation of two glossaries for Washington state's Early Care and Education (ECE) field! The Spanish and Somali glossaries ensure early learning terminology is translated accurately and consistently. The glossaries are located on the [Early Learning Professional Development webpage](#) or, select the direct links below:

- [Spanish Glossary](#)
- [Somali Glossary](#)

Video tutorials will be available soon to help users navigate the early learning language access resources, such as translating DCYF's website to their preferred language, where to find the glossaries, and how to use them.

If you have questions, or would like to recommend terms, email our Language Access Coordinator: Abdullahi Abdullahi at [abdullahi.abdullahi@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:abdullahi.abdullahi@dcyf.wa.gov).

### **Tribal Early Learning Fund (TELF) Now Accepting Applications**

The Tribal Early Learning Fund (TELF) is designed to provide resources to ensure early learning programs can best serve Tribal children, ages prenatal to five, in an inclusive and culturally appropriate manner. **Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 1, 2024.** The maximum award is \$250,000 for category 1, \$100,000 for category 2, and \$75,000 for category 3. The current fiscal year will run from the time of award through June 30, 2024. [You can apply online here.](#)

### **Upcoming Webinar: Child Care Business Supports and Resources**

DCYF and Child Care Aware of WA are excited to partner and offer a webinar focused on the supports and resources available to Early Achievers Participants. This webinar aims to help providers grow and strengthen their child care business! This webinar will focus on:

- Training opportunities to help you run and grow your business and collaborate with fellow providers;
- Business management resources focused on administrative support, such as record-keeping, training staff, payroll, and additional administrative practices; and
- Where to get one-on-one support for these resources and services.

Register Today!

- **English**—Tuesday, Feb. 20 at 6 pm | [Register Here](#)
- **Spanish**—Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 6 pm | [Register Here](#)
- **Somali**—Saturday, Feb. 24 at 11 am | [Register Here](#)

Additionally, past Early Achievers webinars have been recorded and are now available on the [Early Achievers Supports & Resources webpage](#). They focus on *What's Changed and Why*, *Program Profile*, *Video Highlights*, and the *Records Review* component. Most of them are 15-20 minutes long and are available in English, Spanish, and Somali.

### **January is National Radon Action Month**

Did you know that winter is the best time to test your childcare facility for radon? Radon is a naturally occurring gas that comes from soil and rocks. When radon finds its way into your facility, it can collect and build up to unhealthy levels. Over time, exposure to unhealthy levels of radon can cause lung cancer. You can't see, smell, taste or touch radon, so the only way you know if you have it is to test.

The Washington State Department of Health is currently offering a limited supply of FREE radon test kits. To sign up for a free kit: [Radon Test Kit Access Form | Washington State Department of Health](#)  
Want more info? Check out this website [Radon | Washington State Department of Health](#) or reach out to [doh.radon@doh.wa.gov](mailto:doh.radon@doh.wa.gov) or [wcsp@doh.wa.gov](mailto:wcsp@doh.wa.gov)