



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Provider Supports Subcommittee
Agency Updates
March 19, 2025

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

Updates from Early Learning Division

New DCYF ECEAP Annual Report

DCYF recently released the [2023-24 ECEAP Annual Report](#) showing the difference ECEAP makes in child development, kindergarten readiness, child health, and family resilience and well-being.

Electronic Attendance State System Spring 2025 Update

The updates below are coming to the state's electronic attendance system Spring 2025.

What's New for Providers?

Maintenance:

- Electronic Attendance is getting a new "look and feel" upgrade for its user interface. **KinderConnect** and **KinderSign** will function the same but will have a slightly different appearance.

Enhancement:

- The **KinderSmart** Registration Form will be more conveniently located at the top of the Sponsor Detail screen.
- **KinderConnect** Announcements and Messages will be more prominently displayed on the home screen.
- Resetting a forgotten password: **KinderConnect** will now send a One-Time Password to the email

What do providers and families need to be prepared for during the update Spring 2025?

- Be ready for the system to be down for a weekend evening – specific date to be determined. **KinderConnect**, **KinderSign**, and **KinderSmart** will be unavailable during the planned outage.
- We anticipate an extended maintenance upgrade window that will take several hours.
- Specific time information will be provided on the **KinderConnect** home screen closer to outage.
- If you need to sign children in and out of care while the system is down, keep paper records and input them into **KinderConnect** when the system is available again, as per [Procedure 404 Electronic Attendance-Internet or System is Unavailable](#) (pg. 21).

- Please remember to add a note, “System down for upgrade” to the added records in KinderConnect.

Resources and other information will be shared via email with providers who currently use the Electronic Attendance System. For questions, contact eas.servicedesk@dcyf.wa.gov.

Continuous Support for Children with Developmental Needs Through Age 6: Expanding Payment criteria for occupational therapy

The Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) has amended **WAC 182-545-200** to expand payment criteria for occupational therapy. Specifically, the rule change updates **subsection (4)(j)(iv)** to increase the eligible age for receiving occupational therapy services in natural environments from “age two or younger” to “age six or younger.” This change, effective **January 1, 2025**.

Why did HCA make this change?

The [updated rule](#) addresses a gap for children ages three to five years old. Outpatient rehabilitation providers are now permitted to provide care in a community setting (including daycare) up to age 6. Children who continue to have developmental needs and remain in child care until age 6 will no longer have a gap in service before entering kindergarten.

What are developmental services?

Outpatient rehabilitation services, such as:

- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Speech therapy

Read the update from the Health Care Authority here:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAHCA/bulletins/3cb78c4>

Rule Making Updates

Recently Filed Rules—March 5: Training Requirements

Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) Licensing Division Child Care filed [WSR 25-05-054](#) for an expedited rule change to correct an error and better clarify the rule language. The changes are minor and do not affect the content.

The affected rules are Chapter 110-300 Foundations Quality Standards for Early Learning Program: WAC 110-300-0106 Training Requirements and Chapter 110-301 WAC Foundational Quality Standards for School-Age Programs WAC 110-301-0106.

Submit Comments

To participate in the permanent rulemaking process for these rules, the last day to submit feedback on the proposed rules is Saturday, April 12, 2025. You can provide feedback using one of the following methods:

- [Submit your comments online](#).
- Email dcyf.rulescoordinator@dcyf.wa.gov.
- Leave a voicemail message. Call 360-972-5385 and provide an email address when leaving a message, so that we can respond to your comment.

Equal weight is given to all comments, whether they are made online, by email, or voicemail.

DCYF Semi-Annual Rule Making Agenda, January 1 – June 30, 2025

The [DCYF Semi-Annual Rulemaking Agenda, January-June 2025](#) represents DCYF rule making that is anticipated or currently under development. There may be additional rule making activities needed to implement legislative actions, comply with federal mandates, or meet unforeseen circumstances.

Washington Administrative Code Updates Affecting Child Care and Early Learning

The following WAC changes are now in effect: Prohibited behavior and discipline, and physical separation of children - [110-300-0331](#); [110-301-0331](#); [110-302-0331](#).

Multi-License Feature

DCYF Licensing Division finalized rules that allow a family home to be licensed for both foster care and child care: [WAC 110-148-1330](#), [WAC 110-300-0425](#), [WAC 110-300-0430](#). Multi-Licensing is the approval of a licensee to hold more than one out-of-home care license (e.g. family home foster care license, and one or more licensed- or certified-child care licenses). Multi-Licensing removes barriers, making it easier for families to operate both as a foster care and child care provider. Families with multiple DCYF licenses can provide seamless and continuous care and support to children and youth. For more information on Multi-Licensing, please [see this fact sheet](#), available in multiple languages, or check out the new Multi-License web pages for [foster care](#) and [child care](#) webpages.

For questions about DCYF rules, contact dcyf.rulescoordinator@dcyf.wa.gov. To receive regular Rule Making Updates, [subscribe here](#).