

Provider Supports Subcommittee Virtual Meeting

April 17, 2024

Welcome to today's webinar.



Please remember to mute your phone and computer upon entry.



We will begin shortly. Thank You!

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Virtual Meeting Protocols

Audio and Video Connection

- Throughout the webinar, please mute yourself unless you are speaking or responding to a question.
- We have Q&A portions dedicated throughout the meeting, but feel free to use the chat box to post questions or comments at any time.
- If for any reason you place the call on hold and music begins to play, your call will be disconnected. You are more than welcome to rejoin the meeting once you are available again.
- Individuals using a webcam or video option will be displayed throughout the meeting.

If you have any questions or technical difficulties, please contact us via the chat box or at dcyf.communityengagement@dcyf.wa.gov.



PURPOSE

The purpose of the group is to discuss and advise on all services around child care; including but not limited to; licensing policy, WAC changes, rules publishing calendar, agency request legislation, administrative concerns, subsidy rules/rates, whole family health, etc.

ESSENTIAL RACIAL EQUITY QUESTIONS



- Is this policy, decision or practice good for kids, families and early learning educators of color?
- Do some kids, families and early learning educators benefit more or less than others?
- Do kids, families and early learning educators of color have access, and if not, why?
- What data and information is missing?
- Are there any unintended consequences?

COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS

Provider Supports Subcommittee of ELAC is dedicated to ensuring a safe environment where quality deliberations take place by allowing every individual the opportunity to be heard without censorship or judgement. All input and questions are encouraged and welcomed. Provider Supports Subcommittee of ELAC is committed to listening to the voices of those gathered to work together to provide whole child outcomes for the families of Washington State. We are responsible for each other's learning. In order to support this process, all participants must agree to be:

- Present
- Brave
- Respectful
- Forward Thinking
- Committed to the WHY? the WHAT? And the HOW?

- Truthful
- An Active Listener
- Open
- A Communication Conduit to Various Communities

- Engaged
- Comfortable with Messy Conversations
- An Advocate for and Agent of Change
- Solution Focused



Introductions

When your name is called, please come off mute and share:

- Your name,
- Where you are located,
- Name of Center/Agency



Review of Meeting Materials

www.dcyf.wa.gov



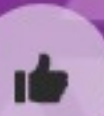
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Revisions to Child Care Basics and School-age Basics

DCYF's Learning Content Manager Leesa Thomas and
Curriculum Coordinator Sue Rose

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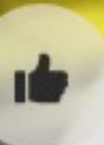
THE REVISION OF BASICS

Provider Supports Meeting

April 17, 2024



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



Presenters

- Leesa Thomas, DCYF
- Dr. Dawn Williams, Cultivate Learning
- Ka'ohe Wong, School's Out Washington

Agenda

- Overview of the revisions
- Seeking your input on content topics
- Next steps

Goals of the Revision

- Update the content
 - Add content on healing-centered and trauma-informed care
- Child Care Basics (CCB) and School Age Basics (SAB) align topics while remaining age-appropriate

CCB and SAB

- Content developed for the audience
- Streamlined
- Aligned content means topic areas are the same but media and/or examples, or activities differ and are designed for the appropriate audience.

Example

CCB

Handwashing

Same slide

SAB

Handwashing

When to Wash Hands: Children

- When arriving at the early learning premises.
- After using the toilet or after diapering.
- After outdoor play.
- Before and after eating or participating in food activities including table setting.
- After gardening activities.
- After playing with animals.
- After touching body fluids (including after nose blowing).
- As needed or required by the circumstances.

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Same content about when to wash hands but different details.

When to Wash - Staff

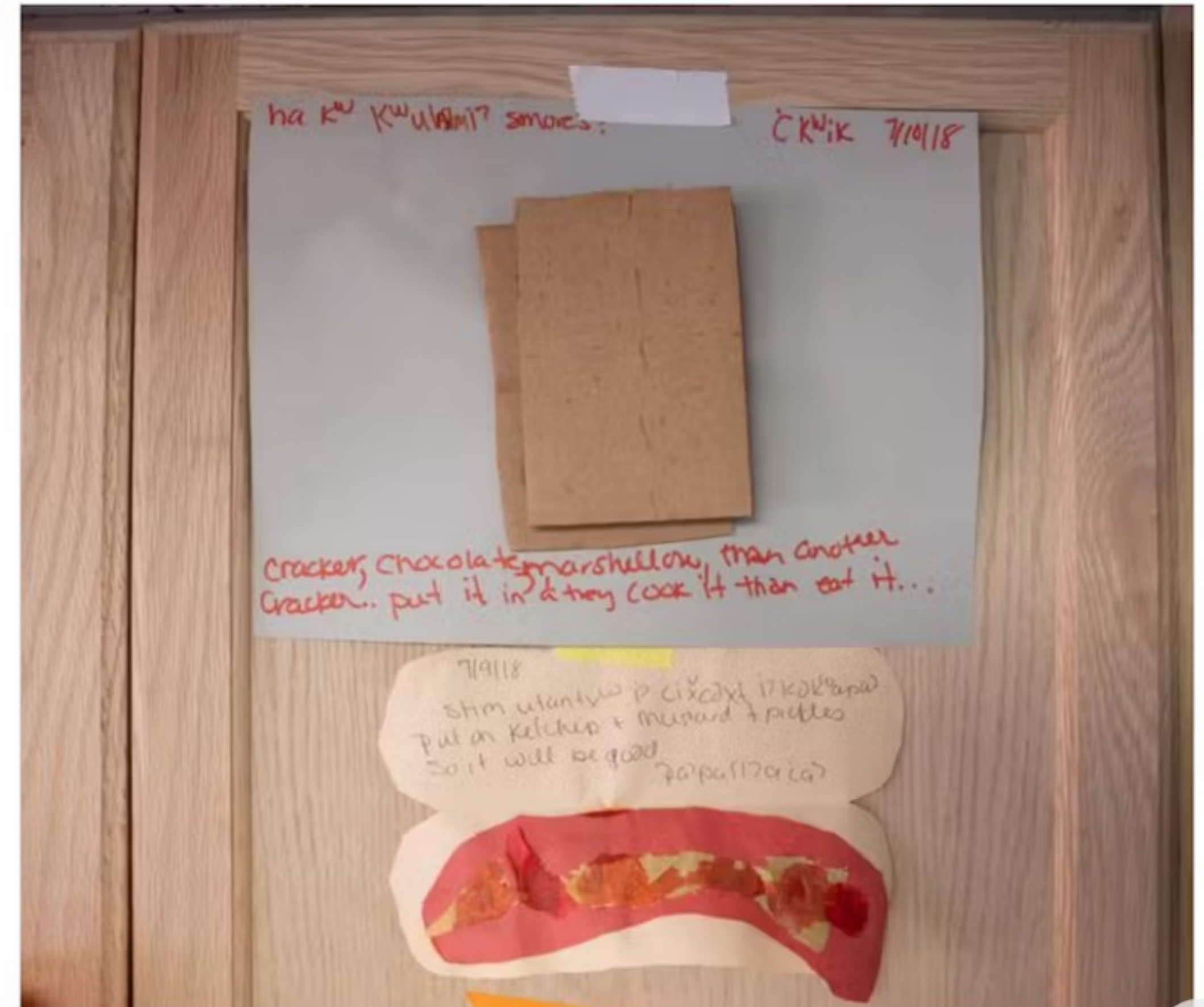
- When arriving at work
- After assisting with toileting
- After personal toileting
- After attending to an ill child
- Before and after preparing, serving, or eating food
- After handling raw or undercooked meat, poultry, or fish
- Before and after giving medication or applying topical ointment
- After handling or feeding animals, handling an animal's toys or equipment, or cleaning up after animals
- After handling bodily fluids
- After using tobacco or vapor products
- After being outdoors
- After gardening activities
- After handling garbage and garbage receptacles
- As needed or required by the circumstances

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Multilingual Content Development

- English, Spanish, and Somali writing teams
- Multilingual design teams, workgroups, and pilots when possible
- Translation, Simultaneous Multilingual Design, Transcreation



Training Formats

- Synchronous and Asynchronous
- CCB and SAB will each remain 30 hours.
- CCB includes content for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and mixed-age groups.
- SAB provides content for school age only programs.

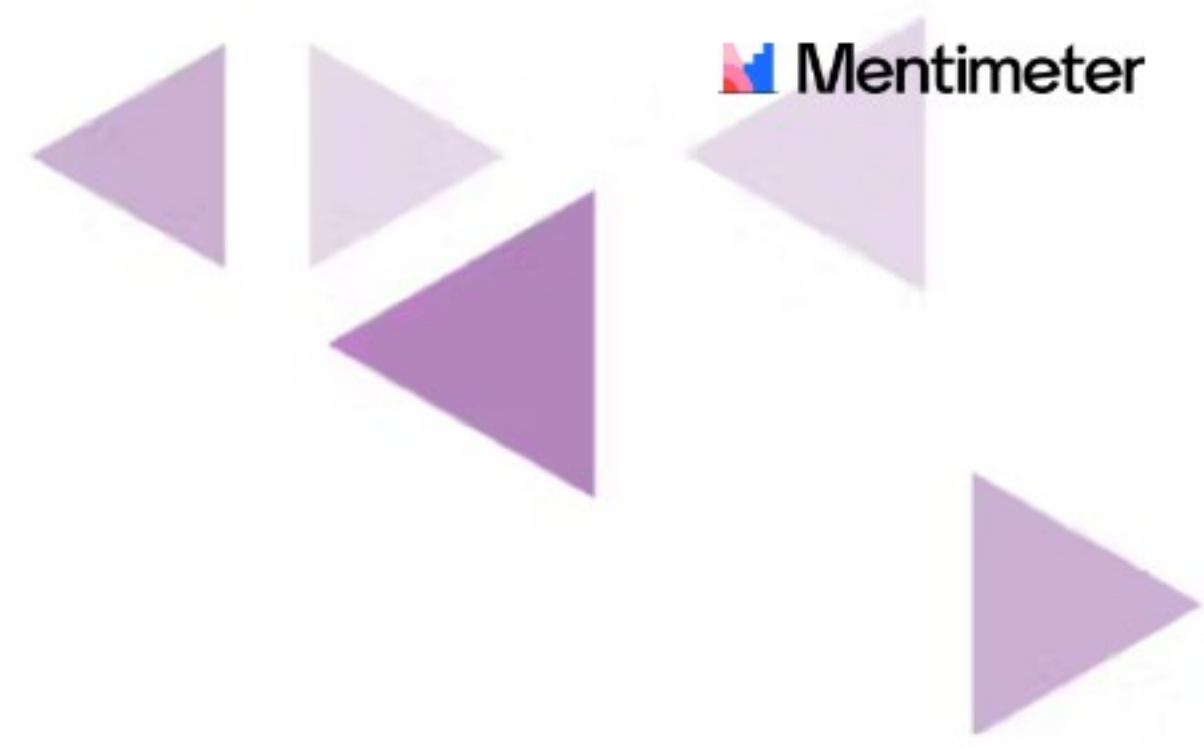
Are these the topics you want in Basics?

What order should the topics be in?

- Equity and Cultural Responsiveness
- Child Growth and Development
- Environments
- Positive Behavior Supports
- Interactions
- Planning
- Relationships with Families, Communities, and Schools
- Health and Safety
- Trauma-informed Care
- Professional Practice
- Youth Empowerment (SAB only)

DISCUSSION

What are your recommendations for engaging providers in the revision?



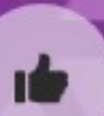
THANK YOU!



Licensing | CPS Investigations FAQ Docs Final Review

DCYF's QA/CQI Program Manager Taylor Nussbaum

www.dcyf.wa.gov



Do you have any additional questions or feedback to share with DCYF regarding this topic?

Why are unfounded outcomes attached to the facility?

What is the appeals process?
How many times can you appeal a decision? What if I disagree, what are my next steps?

Very interested in stats (Ruben) regarding investigations (CPS & LD): % founded, average days to complete; including quickest & longest recorded.

When do unfounded reports get removed from records?
Do they stay in the providers file with DCYF forever?

Why should a complaint against an employee stay with the provider?

Break

The meeting will resume at 11:30 a.m.



Help Me Grow Developmental Screening

DCYF's Help Me Grow Lead Sarah Holdener, and
Help Me Grow WA Network Director at WithinReach Lark Kesterke

www.dcyf.wa.gov





Help Me Grow

WASHINGTON



Hello!

01

HMG in 2.5
Slides

02

CCA &
HMG WA
Partnership

03

Developmental
Screening
Supports for
ECE Providers

04

Discussion



What is Help Me Grow?

- A way to connect families with young children to what they need (free, no eligibility requirements) - statewide
- HMG focuses on four essential service areas:
 - Access to adult and pediatric health services
 - Access to food security supports
 - Access to child development supports
 - Access to family supports
- Navigational infrastructure families and providers (and you!) can use, invested in by several state agencies over many years
 - Statewide contact center and ever-growing network of coordinated access points
 - Reliable early childhood resource directory
 - Robust referral relationships and technology
 - State affiliate capacity and TA

What Help Me Grow is not.

- A program with service delivery
 - Help Me Grow **connects** families to existing services and programs.
- Long-term care coordination
 - Help Me Grow offers several follow-ups to ensure the family reaches the desired service or support.
- DCYF-owned
 - Help Me Grow is a growing system of nonprofit organizations, tribal nations, regional and county level health and social service organizations, providers and provider organizations, and state agencies all working together to serve families in Washington.

WHAT IS HELP ME GROW WASHINGTON?

We weave together state and community systems, providers, and resources to offer a full spectrum of supports to all Washington state families with young children through a coordinated network of entry points. We are a growing system of nonprofit organizations, Tribal nations, regional and county level health and social service organizations, providers and provider organizations, and state agencies all working together to serve families in Washington.

For more information please contact:
HMGWA@withinreachwa.org

WHAT DO WE DO?

With families



- Coordinate access to the essentials (food security, medical care, child development, and family supports)

With communities



- Provide access to funding, data, and resources to connect to other systems and test innovative ideas

With partners and funders



- Build cross referral & specialized pathways, resource directories, and data system connections through partnerships
- Advocate on behalf of families, communities and our partners to build for a better future

WHO DO WE WORK WITH?

Families with young children

First and foremost, we serve all families in Washington and provide them access to support services when they need them

Community & local organizations

Early childhood & learning coalitions, local health care providers, caregivers and social service providers & navigators, and others

Regional & statewide, and Tribal partners

Regional and statewide agencies and initiatives focused on health, child welfare, early learning and development, and family supports¹

Advocacy & funders efforts

Coordinate funding requests from regional and local systems; align goals and narratives to reflect localized needs to communicate with funders and legislature



¹ Local health jurisdictions (LHJs), county-level Accountable Communities of Health (ACHs), regional Family Resource Centers (FRCs), and early learning coalitions

WHAT IS OUR PLAN?



EQUITY-BASED TARGETED UNIVERSALISM

- Based on universal goal that all families in WA have access to what they need when they need it
- Identify targeted populations that experience racial, systemic, or structural barriers to accessing these services



SPECIALIZED REFERRAL PATHWAYS

- Design outreach, navigation, and support services to meet the unique needs of targeted populations
- Develop statewide partnerships to support pathways



COMMUNITY-LED & TRIBAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Build community-level and Tribal community systems to help families access localized essentials
- Coordinate access with connection points to regional and statewide resources, when needed



GOVERNANCE & COMMUNICATIONS

- Build a governance model with community partners, parent and caregiver voices, and state/regional leaders
- Establish two-communication channels, peer learning networks, and deep listening



SPECIAL PROJECTS FUNDING

- Build a process for communities to access catalytic funding, resources, and support to develop local systems (e.g., navigation support, resource directories, outreach efforts)



COORDINATE REQUESTS

- Work with communities to highlight local gaps & needs
- Coordinate a systems wide request for funding based on local, regional, and statewide plans



What are Specialized Referral Pathways?

- Although universally offered, HMG also sustains **specialized pathways for populations of focus** across the public health, early learning, education, health care and social service sectors.
- On-ramps **efficiently built** upon the base HMG system that are designed to connect families to tailored services and supports throughout their communities.
- Examples:
 - Substance-exposed infants and their families (Plan of Safe Care)
 - Pregnant individuals experiencing substance use disorder
 - TANF recipients with young children
 - Childcare providers seeking support with developmental screening

Child Care Aware
of WA
&
HMG WA
System
Partnership

Funded through PDG

Pilot testing warm referrals between the two systems

Ultimate deliverable: Implementation Roadmap

Template for future partnership

Developmental Screening Supports for ECE Providers Statewide

Funded through CCDF

Building upon existing HMG WA
infrastructure

Exploring tiered developmental screening
supports for ECE providers (all voluntary)

Current phase: all about listening, learning,
partnership-building, and iterative testing

Why focus on Developmental Screening?

- We can give every child a strong start when we monitor their development, celebrate their strengths, and act early when they need extra support.
- Regular screenings show how children are doing with language, movement, thinking, and interacting with others – serving as a tool and resource for providers.
- Developmental screening directly supports Early Achievers' Quality Standards around Child Outcomes.
- Developmental screening supports DCYF's goal around Kindergarten Readiness.

Initial Pilot

May-June 2024

- Help Me Grow Washington has an ASQ Online Enterprise account and is testing offering this service free of charge to ECE providers.
- Anticipated learnings:
 - How successful was the pilot in supporting low-income infants and toddlers to access developmental screening and related support?
 - What value did ECE providers get from the pilot?
 - How successful were we in centering equity?
- 10 ECE providers will participate and will be compensated for their time and efforts. More opportunities are coming!

ECE Survey in May 2024

- Available in English, Spanish and Somali
- Better understand demand for free online access to ASQ
- Better understand supports needed to engage in developmental screening
- Help us identify those interested in participating in future pilots
- First 150 respondents will receive a \$25 e-gift card

Let's Build Together!



- What questions are coming up for you around this project?
- What other developmental screening work is happening that we should be aware of?
- As we plan for additional pilots, who or what feels important to prioritize?
- What communication channels with ECE providers exist?
- How would you like to be informed of project updates?

Questions?

For more information, please contact:

Lark Kesterke

Help Me Grow Washington Network Director

WithinReach

LarkK@withinreachwa.org

Sarah Holdener

Help Me Grow Lead

WA State Dept of Children, Youth & Families

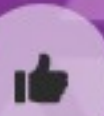
sarah.holdener@dcyf.wa.gov



End of Session Update and Next Biennium Planning

DCYF Senior Policy Advisor Melissa Cheesman and
Assistant Secretary of Early Learning Nicole Rose

www.dcyf.wa.gov



End of Session Webinar - 2024

Melissa Cheesman

Senior Policy Advisor

Nicole Rose

Assistant Secretary of Early Learning

April 17, 2024



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

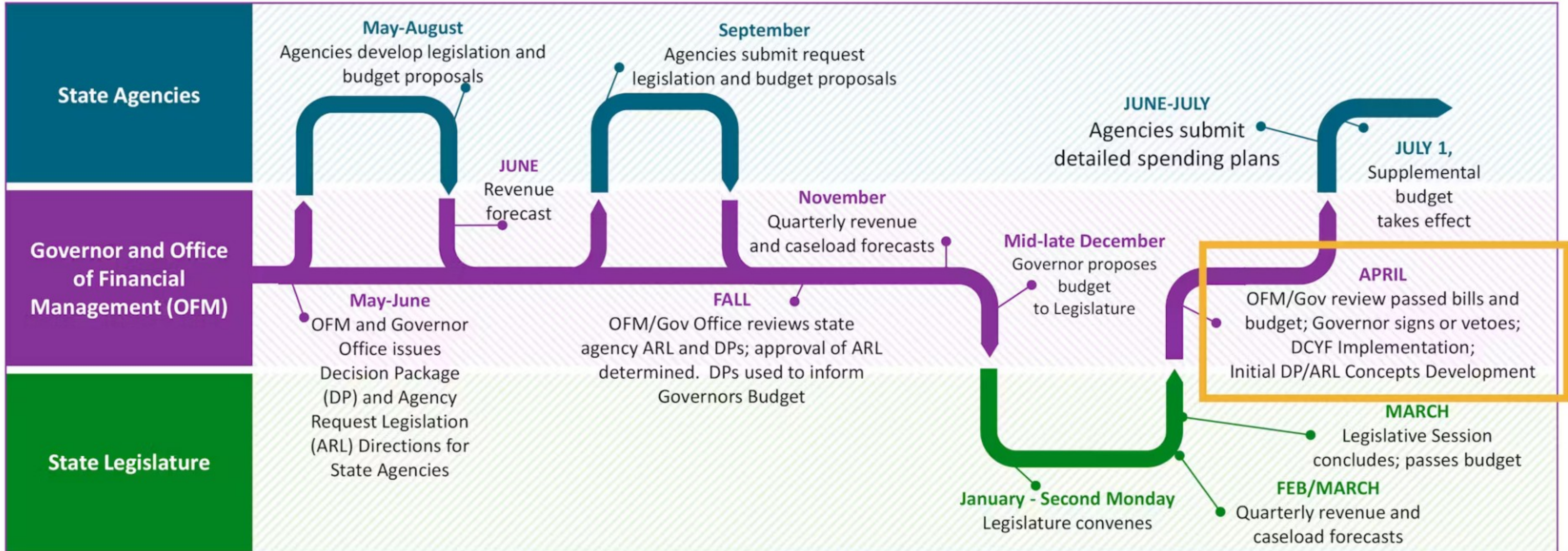


Agenda



- Legislative Session Update
 - Current Early Learning Bills
 - Early Learning Budget Overview
- Decision Package/Agency Request
 - Concept walk-through
 - Q/A

Preparing for Session Supplemental Budget Year Timeline



Realities

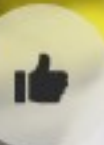
Supplemental budget year
+
DCYF implementing significant
investments and policy changes
+
Budget/Economic realities
=
Limited scope for requests session



2024 Legislative Update: End of Session



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Early Learning - Bills

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Description
1916	Early Supports for Infants and Toddlers <i>DCYF ARL</i>	\$4.3M is provided to adjust funding eligibility criteria to reflect a child is receiving early intervention services if the child has received services within the same month as the monthly count day.
1945	WCCC Eligibility	Establishes that families receiving basic food benefits are eligible for WCCC (Nov 1, 2024), Early ECEAP (Nov 1, 2024), and ECEAP (required Aug 1, 2030)
2111	Reorg Subsidized Child Care Statute	This bill reorganizes several RCW pertaining to Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) Eligibility. These changes do not change the eligibility or requirements impacting WCCC and repeals 2 expired statutes.
2124	WCCC Expand Approved Activity	\$1.2M is provided to support and expand access to child care and early learning programs by expanding WCCC approved activities to include Early ECEAP and Early Head Start and WCCC eligibility for ECEAP and Head Start Providers.
5774	Fingerprint Access in DCYF offices	\$254K is provided to increase the capacity to conduct timely fingerprint-based background checks for prospective child care employees and other programs by establishing capacity in DCYF offices.
2195	Early learning Facilities (ELF) Program Modifications	Makes a few changes to the ELF program implementation.

Senate Bill 6109/Fentanyl Response Services

Abbrev. Title	Description
Public Health Nurse Pilot	\$1.35M is provided to establish a pilot for public health nurses to support caseworkers in engaging and communicating with child welfare-involved families about the risks of fentanyl and other child health and safety concerns.
Safety Plan Participants	\$1.5M is provided to establish a pilot program for third-party safety plan participants to support safety planning in child welfare cases.
Home Visiting Contracted Slots	\$1.6M is provided to start-up targeted contracts with existing home visiting programs in 4 locales with the historically highest rates of child welfare screened-in intake; targeted to families experiencing high-potency synthetic opioid-related substance use disorder.
Childcare Contracted Slots	\$1.6M is provided for contracted childcare slots for infants in child protective services in locales with the historically highest rates of child welfare screened-in intake due to the exposure or presence of high-potency synthetic opioids in the home, which may be used as part of a safety plan.
Intercept Evidenced-Based Pilot Program	\$972K is provided for two pilot programs to implement an evidence-based, comprehensive, intensive, in-home parenting services support model to serve children and families from birth to age 18 who are involved in the child welfare, children's mental health, or juvenile justice systems.
Legal Liaisons	\$875K is provided for at least one legal liaison in each DCYF region to work with both the department and the office of the attorney general for the purpose of assisting with the preparation of child abuse and neglect court cases.



Early Learning – Rate Adjustments

Abbrev. Title	Description
Non-Standard Hours Rate	\$778K is provided to increase the rate from \$135 to \$150 effective July 1, 2024.
Infant Rate Enhancement	\$6.2M is provided to increase the rate from \$90 to \$300 effective July 1, 2024.
ECEAP Rate Increase	\$8.3M is provided to increase school day slots by 5% and working day slots by 9% effective July 1, 2024.



Early Learning Investments

Abbrev. Title	Description
Professional Development	\$2.5M is provided to contract with an entity for expanding the number child care providers.
Coordinated Recruit and Enroll (CRE)	\$1.4M is provided to contract with an entity to support coordination on recruitment and enrollment.
Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation	\$1.75M is provided, to include \$150k specifically to support rural schools and rural communities with consultation.
Spokane Focused Workforce	\$250K is provided to pilot a program to increase the child care workforce and capacity in the greater Spokane area.
Snohomish County Planning	\$200K is provided for the early learning coalition to develop a leadership team to strengthen the Early Learning community in Snohomish.
Inclusion Mentorship Contract	\$650K is provided for mentorship to providers to develop skills and knowledge to effectively care for and educate children with disabilities, developmental delays, or challenging behaviors.
Imagination Library	\$500k is provided in FY 2025 for the Imagination Library. <i>*This funding is in addition to a \$1m investment in 2023</i>



Other Agency Investments - Early Learning

Abbrev. Title	Description	Agency
Essential Workers Analysis	<p>\$250K is provided for a feasibility analysis of expanding or modifying program inclusion of essential workers, including but not limited to child care workers.</p>	<p>Office of the Insurance Commissioner</p>
Early Achiever Scholars Point of Contact	<p>\$801K is provided for community college staff to recruit, advise, and support early achiever scholars completing their early childhood qualifications.</p>	<p>Board of Community and Technical Colleges</p>
Coordination	<p>\$150K is provided annually for staff and administrative costs to engage and coordinate with respect to transition to kindergarten and early learning programs (chapter 420, Laws of 2023).</p>	<p>Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction</p>



Other Agency Investments – Early Learning – Department of Commerce

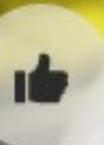
Abbrev. Title	Description
Early Learning Facilities Competitive Grants	<p>\$4.5M is provided for assistance in designing, constructing, purchasing, expanding, or modernizing public or private early learning education facilities for eligible organizations.</p> <p><i>Up to 4% of this funding may be used DCYF to provide technical assistance to providers interested in applying for the early learning facility grant or loan program.</i></p>
Early Learning Facilities Minor Renovation Grants	<p>\$2.35M is provided for assistance for non-expansion minor early learning facilities renovations.</p>
Construction Onsite/Near Site Pilot Program	<p>\$325K is provided to contract for and implement a pilot program for onsite or near-site child care facilities to serve children of construction workers.</p>

Q/A

25-27 Draft Decision Package Concepts



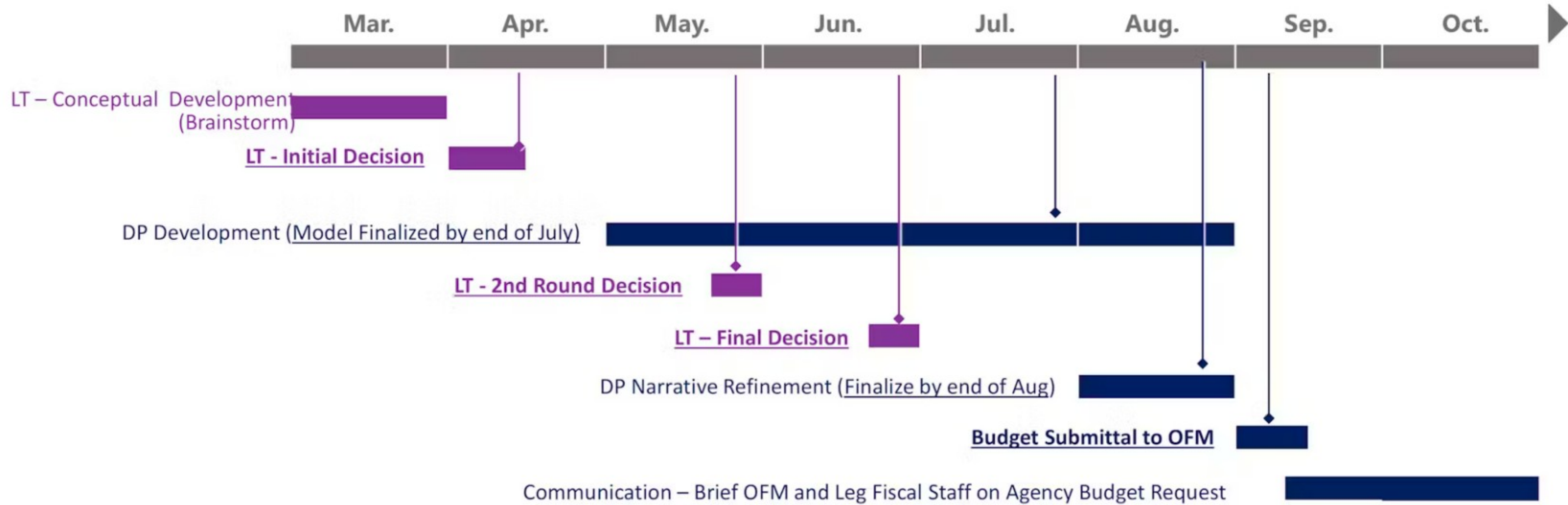
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Purpose of our time:

- Share the agency Decision Package / Agency Request Legislation process
- Share draft decision package concepts and connections to the FSKA recommendations*
 - Items connected to FSKA recommendation will include an *
- Time for questions on draft concepts or the FY24 supplemental budget

Proposed Decision Package and Agency Request Legislation Timeline for 2025–27 Biennial Session



Fair Start for Kids Act (FSKA) - RCW 43.216.749 and 43.216.1368

Child care subsidy rates—Use of cost model.

(1) It is the intent of the legislature to systemically increase child care subsidy rates over time until rates are equal to the full cost of providing high quality child care.

(2) Beginning July 1, 2021, child care subsidy base rates must achieve the 85th percentile of market for licensed or certified child care providers. The state and the exclusive representative for family child care providers must enter into bargaining over the implementation of the subsidy rate increase under this subsection.

(3)(a) The department shall build upon the work of the child care collaborative task force to develop and implement a child care cost estimate model and use the completed child care cost model to recommend subsidy rates at levels that are sufficient to compensate licensed or certified child care providers for the full costs of providing high quality child care. The department shall consider:

(i) Adjusting rates to reflect cost of living such as area median income, cost of living by zip code, and grouping by categories such as rural, suburban, or urban; and

(ii) Incorporating the rate model for nonstandard child care hours developed under section 306, chapter 199, Laws of 2021.

(b) The department shall build upon the work of the child care collaborative task force to evaluate options to support access to affordable health care insurance coverage for licensed or certified child care providers.

(4) This section does not interfere with, impede, or in any way diminish the right of family child care providers to bargain collectively with the state through the exclusive bargaining representatives as provided for under RCW [41.56.028](#).

Child care subsidy eligibility — expanded eligibility

(1) It is the intent of the legislature to increase working families' access to affordable, high quality child care and to support the expansion of the workforce to support businesses and the statewide economy.

(2) Beginning October 1, 2021, a family is eligible for working connections child care when the household's annual income is at or below 60 percent of the state median income adjusted for family size and:

(a) The child receiving care is: (i) Less than 13 years of age; or (ii) less than 19 years of age and has a verified special need according to department rule or is under court supervision; and

(b) The household meets all other program eligibility requirements.

(3) Beginning July 1, 2025, a family is eligible for working connections child care when the household's annual income is above 60 percent and at or below 75 percent of the state median income adjusted for family size and:

(a) The child receiving care is: (i) Less than 13 years of age; or (ii) less than 19 years of age and has a verified special need according to department rule or is under court supervision; and

(b) The household meets all other program eligibility requirements.

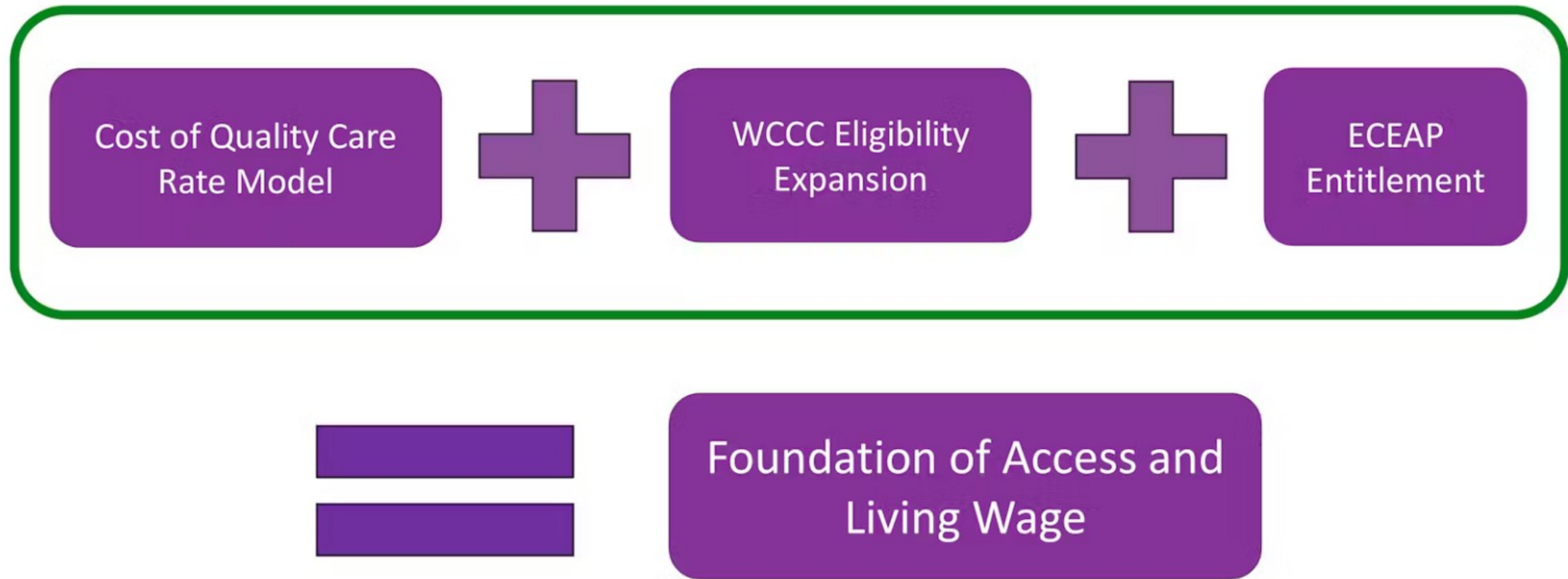
(4) Beginning July 1, 2027, and subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, a family is eligible for working connections child care when the household's annual income is above 75 percent of the state median income and is at or below 85 percent of the state median income adjusted for family size and:

(a) The child receiving care is: (i) Less than 13 years of age; or (ii) less than 19 years of age and has a verified special need according to department rule or is under court supervision; and

(b) The household meets all other program eligibility requirements.



Adding it All Up for 2025-27 and beyond



**Early
Learning
Division
Draft
Decision
Package
Concepts
for 2025-27**

ECEAP Entitlement*

WCCC Eligibility Expansion*

Cost of Quality Care Model*

CCDF Updated Regulations*

Child Welfare Child Care

2025-27 Early Learning Draft Decision Package Concepts

- Working Connections Child Care Eligibility Expansion to 75 percent*
SMI (ELAC FSKA) – family of three is \$6,321 per month - \$75,852
 - ~9,500 families
- ECEAP Entitlement* – Slots, rates, and supports to meet entitlement
- Cost of Quality Child Care Rates* – Personnel, Non-personnel, Quality Enhancements

2025-27 Early Learning Draft Decision Package Concepts

- Child Care Development Fund Federal Compliance*
 - Enrollment based pay, and prospective provider subsidy payment
 - ECE services through grants and contracts for underserved geographic areas, infants and toddlers, and children with disabilities
 - 12-month eligibility – children added during eligibility period
- Child Welfare/Child Care – Merge child welfare subsidy with WCCC
 - Provide continuity of care and access to high quality early learning for children in out of home placement through permanency

Q/A



Thank you!

Contact:

Melissa Cheesman
melissa.cheesman@dcyf.wa.gov

Nicole Rose
Nicole.rose@dcyf.wa.gov



Do you have any additional questions or feedback to share with DCYF regarding this topic?

Are the ECEAP Scholarship supports for AA or BA level degrees or both?

What are DCYF's current estimates for WCCC eligible families? (eligible but cannot find childcare)...How many families are receiving WCCC subsidies now?



2



Meeting Follow Up & Closing Remarks

Thank you for your participation today!

Next Meeting:
Tuesday, June 11, 2024