



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC)

July 22, 2025

Special Webinar | 9:30-12 pm

Agenda

| Time | Activity |
|-----------------|--|
| 9:30-9:40 | Welcome & Virtual Meeting Protocols |
| 9:40-10:25 am | Update on FSKA Recommendation Report <u>GOAL/OUTCOME:</u> Members will receive an update on the FSKA report, including how recommendations were aligned with the Early Care and Education Access and Living Wage Implementation Plan, along with highlights of the efforts that helped inform and shape the report. |
| 10:25-11:25 am | Staff Qualifications Workgroup Updates <u>GOAL/OUTCOME:</u> As part of HB 1648 , DCFY has been tasked with establishing a Staff Qualifications Workgroup to help improve qualifications requirements and the verification process. Members will receive an update on the establishment of this workgroup and the next steps. |
| 11:25- 11:45 am | ELAC Orientation for New Members <u>GOAL/OUTCOME:</u> Provide a brief orientation for new ELAC members, including key resources to support their participation and a live Q&A. Returning members are welcome but not required to attend. |
| 12 pm | Closing Remarks & Adjourn |

Executive Committee

Andrea Carrillo – ELAC Member

Dr. Brian Knowles – ELAC Member

Hanna Bruning – Regional Advisor Representative

Tanya Hutton – Regional Advisor Representative

DCYF Staff

Marlene White – marlene.white@dcyf.wa.gov

Erin Kerrigan – erin.kerrigan@dcyf.wa.gov

For general inquiries please email: dcyf.communityengagement@dcyf.wa.gov

Purpose

To build a comprehensive early learning system, ELAC will advise DCYF, engage in open dialogue to raise timely issues and diverse priorities, deliberate on and influence state and local policies and programs, and actively support stronger state and local connections.

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

ELAC is committed to creating a safe, respectful space where all voices are heard without judgment or censorship. Questions and input are welcomed, and active listening is essential as we work together to support whole child outcomes for Washington families. We share responsibility for one another's learning. To support this, all participants agree to:

- Be Present & Engaged
- Be Forward Thinking
- Commit to the WHY? the WHAT? And the HOW?
- W.A.I.T. (Why am I Talking/ Why aren't I Talking?)
- Eliminate Power Dynamics
- Listen for Understanding
- Be a Communication Conduit to Various Communities
- Do Unto Others as You Would Have Them Do Unto You
- Collective Sense-Making Before Decision-Making
- Be Comfortable with Messy Conversations
- Be an Advocate for and an Agent of Change
- Be Solution Focused
- Impact Over Intent, and Repair if Necessary
- Experience Discomfort
- Speak Your Truth
- Be Open to Non-Closure