

Provider Supports Subcommittee of ELAC

Feedback Loop

Date: September 16, 2026

Follow-up items from the July 15 Meeting

July 15 agenda here:

https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/07152026_PS_Agenda.pdf

Cost of Quality Child Care & Market Rate Study

- **During a previous meeting, it was stated that providers could charge families less than the amount reimbursed by DCYF. As a result of that statement, several regions have been affected, and it has created confusion among providers. Could DCYF please provide an official clarification on this policy and explain what steps will be taken to ensure that information shared during meetings is accurate, clear, and consistent across all regions?**
 - For Working Connections Child Care (WCCC), DCYF pays providers the applicable subsidy rate based on the provider rate tables, regardless of the provider's private-pay rate. **Providers are not required to increase their private-pay rates when DCYF increases its subsidy rates.** [Please see the communication previously shared with providers.](#)
 - Since March 2022, providers participating in the child care subsidy program through DCYF have been reimbursed according to the provider rate tables. The current provider rate tables are available on the [Working Connections Child Care \(WCCC\) webpage](#).
 - DCYF recognizes the importance of providing clear and consistent information to providers. We will work to ensure that guidance shared during meetings is aligned with current policy and communicated consistently across regions. If you have questions, please call 1-800- 394-4571, or email providerhelp@dcyf.wa.gov.

Early Achievers Overview

- **How many providers accept subsidy? How does that compare to participating or rated in EA (which is required, right?)**



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

- The Early Achievers data dashboard provides a snapshot of Early Achievers participation, quality levels, and facility type. The point-in-time data is updated monthly. You can access it here: [Early Achievers Data Dashboard](#).
- [RCW 43.216.085](#) requires early learning programs that accept state funding to enroll in Early Achievers and meet participation timelines.
- **Is there a dedicated space or resource where providers can learn more about the Early Achievers program and receive answers to these logistical questions?**
 - There are many Supports and Resources available on the DCYF website: [Early Achievers | Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families](#).
 - Early Achievers participants are also encouraged to reference the Operating Guidelines as it is designed to:
 - Help early learning programs understand key components of Early Achievers and how to participate successfully.
 - Provide a detailed overview of Early Achievers policies, expectations and procedures.
 - Serve as a reference tool throughout participation.
 - You may also find the Operating Guidelines under Supports and Resources: Early Achiever's Participant Operating Guidelines - [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Somali](#).
- **Did the Dual Language Designation webinars occur, and are recordings available that we could reference in this Feedback Loop?**
 - The resources, including the presentation and Questions & Answers (Q&A) from the recent Dual Language Designation webinars are available on [this webpage](#). The recordings can also be found here:
 - English – <https://youtu.be/URBLHpNHsH8>
 - Spanish – <https://youtu.be/M849VPR2Rt0>
 - Somali - <https://youtu.be/-CRRwKUn6BQ>
 - For more information, visit the [Dual Language Designation Webpage](#) or contact QRIS@dcyf.wa.gov.

Coordinated Recruitment and Enrollment (CRE): DCYF, Child Care Aware of WA, The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), and the Association of Educational Service Districts (AESD)

- **DCYF is involved in recruitment for TK?**

- No. Child Care Aware of Washington, Education Service Districts (ESD), DCYF, and OSPI collaborate on supporting families with making informed decisions about accessing early care and education opportunities within Washington's mixed-delivery system that best meet the needs of the child and family.
- **What is required by CCDF and what does DCYF voluntarily share with the public in Child Care Check?**
 - Under 45 CFR 98.33, DCYF is required to post a localized list of all licensed child care providers, provider quality level, results of monitoring and inspection reports for all eligible and licensed child care providers (except for relative FFNs), specifically the following:
 - (i) Information on the date of such inspection;
 - (ii) Areas of compliance and non-compliance;
 - (iii) Information on corrective action taken by the State and child care provider, where applicable;
 - (iv) Any health and safety violations, including any fatalities and serious injuries occurring at the provider, prominently displayed on the report or summary; and
 - (v) A minimum of 3 years of results where available.
 - See here for more information: [eCFR:: 45 CFR 98.33 -- Consumer and provider education.](#)
- **Who inputs items into Child Care Check? We were told First Time Forgiveness things would not show up there. My licenser says she cannot add or remove info into Child Care Check, so who does that?**
 - Information about child care licenses, inspections, and First Time Forgiveness shown on Child Care Check comes directly from DCYF systems. It is not entered manually. Child Care Check displays information from licenses, inspection reports, and inspection checklists.
 - Child care providers can update some information through the WA Compass Provider Portal, including their facility description, website, languages spoken, and certifications.
 - If there is an issue with information that is showing on Child Care Check, we recommend that the individual reach out to the following email so we can review the information: check@dcyf.wa.gov