



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

Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) Meeting
Oct. 1, 2024

State Agency and Partner Updates

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

Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

- The [FFPSA](#) team is drafting a 5-Year Family First Prevention Plan for 2025 to 2029, which will further guide the implementation of prevention services focused on keeping families together and out of the child welfare system.
- To get an overview and help inform this plan, they are hosting in-person, regional collaborative forums open to anyone with a shared interest in these efforts. [Register Today](#) or [sign up](#) to be a volunteer.
- Please send any questions to dcyf.familyfirstact@dcyf.wa.gov

Additional State Agency/Partner Updates

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

[OSPI Special Education Update - September 2024 \(govdelivery.com\)](#)

Access the guidance document [Ensuring Access and Positive Outcomes for All Young Children: Using Data to Understand and Eliminate the Use of Exclusionary Discipline Practices](#) (dasycenter.org).

[ECSE Office Hours](#)

During these office hours, districts are invited to share current barriers and successes relating to Part C to B transition, Child Find procedures, data submission, and more.

Effective July 29, 2024, OSPI published permanent rules consistent with the criteria identified in [House Bill 1550 \(HB 1550\)](#) as passed by the legislature.

- [Transition to Kindergarten: Washington Administrative Code \(WAC\) Chapter 392-425](#)
- [RCW 28A.300.072 Transition to Kindergarten](#)

Visit the [OSPI TK web page](#) for updated TK guidance, including the new [Transition to Kindergarten: Minimum Standards and Requirements](#).

For more information about TK, please contact Samantha Bowen at samantha.bowen@k12.wa.us

To learn more, or if you have questions for OSPI, please contact Ryan Guzman at Ryan.Guzman@k12.wa.us

Department of Health (DOH)

Department of Health continues to support several initiatives and programs that focus on early childhood health and family well-being. Some current topics and weblinks include:

Partnering with local Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) coordinators to help families connect to resources and supports.

- [Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs | Washington State Department of Health](#)

Promoting Universal Developmental Screening:

- [Universal Developmental Screening — A Strong Start for Children | Washington State Department of Health](#)

Promoting and aligning initiatives/programs with the Washington State Early Learning Coordination Plan.

- [Earling Learning Coordination Plan for Washington State | Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families](#)

For more information, please contact Astrid Newell and Angie Funaiole at astrid.newell@doh.wa.gov and angie.funaiole@doh.wa.gov.

Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA)

WDVA's Military Spouse Initiative includes a workgroup of partners focused on advocating for affordable and accessible quality childcare options for military families. For more information on the workgroup and initiative, visit [Washington State Child Care for Military Families Workgroup | WDVA](#) or contact Olivia Burley at Olivia.burley@dva.wa.gov.

For more information about military fee assistance program for community-based childcare providers, visit [Work with Military Children | MCC Central \(disa.mil\)](#).

Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)

- A signed statement is now required from a household before DSHS can issue food benefits to replace food that was purchased with food assistance but lost due to a household disaster or misfortune. See DSHS Memo, below, for more information.
- The application process has been [streamlined](#) for *in loco parentis* caregivers to receive cash assistance for a child or children in their care. Headquarters staff made updates to two procedures, [TANF - In Loco Parentis Procedure](#) and [TANF – In Loco Parentis CSD HQ Staff](#)

[Procedure](#), and there is new canned text in Barcode that staff must use when corresponding with *in loco parentis* applicants.

For more information, please contact Christian Carvajal at Christian.carvajal@dshs.wa.gov.



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION
Economic Services Administration
Post Office Box 45440 Olympia WA 98504-5440

Aug. 1, 2024

TO: CSD Regional Administrators
CSD CSO Administrators
CSD CSC Administrators
HCS Regional Administrators
CSD All Staff
DDA Financial Eligibility and Policy Staff

FROM: Brice Montgomery, Interim Director
Community Services Division, ESA

Kristin Byrne, Deputy Director of Field Operations
Home and Community Services, AL TSA

Jaime Bond, Director, Division of Field Services
Developmental Disabilities Administration

SUBJECT: REPLACING FOOD LOST IN A HOUSEHOLD DISASTER

Effective Aug. 1, 2024, a signed statement is required from a household prior to issuing food benefits to replace food which was purchased with food assistance and lost due to a household disaster or misfortune.

Why is this happening?

Federal rules require a signed statement from a household prior to issuing replacement benefits for food destroyed in a household disaster or misfortune. Department rules must align with the CFR.

How does this affect staff?

Households may report the loss of food purchased with food benefits, due to a household disaster or misfortune, verbally or in writing. The report must be made within 10 days of the loss.

Additionally, a signed statement attesting to the loss must be received from the household within 10 days of the date the loss was reported. Benefits cannot be replaced prior to timely receipt of the signed statement.

The signed statement must include all of the following:

- The head of household's signature
- The date(s) food purchased with Basic Food benefits was destroyed

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REPLACING FOOD LOST IN A HOUSEHOLD DISASTER

AUGUST 1, 2024

- The value of food lost in the disaster (purchased with food benefits)
- The cause of loss or misfortune

The DSHS 12-008 has been revised and may be used for this purpose. Use of the form is not required if an alternate signed statement includes all the other required information. A verbal signature can also be obtained by phone and documented, following the script and form linked in the [Replacing ACES Issued Food Benefits Lost in Household Disaster or Misfortune](#) procedure.

What changes were made?

- [WAC 388-412-0040 Can I get my benefits replaced?](#)
- EA-Z Manual: [Replacement](#)
- [DSHS 12-008](#) has been revised and may be used to meet the requirements for a signature.
- Procedure Handbook: [Replacing ACES Issued Food Benefits Lost in Household Disaster or Misfortune](#)

Where can I find more information?

The "[Replacing Food Benefits That Were Destroyed or Lost Due to Disaster or Misfortune](#)" desk aid is a great resource.

Please let your supervisor or lead worker know if you have any questions.

cc:

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Alexis Marx
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