

DCYF Legislative Update: Mid-Session Webinar

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Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

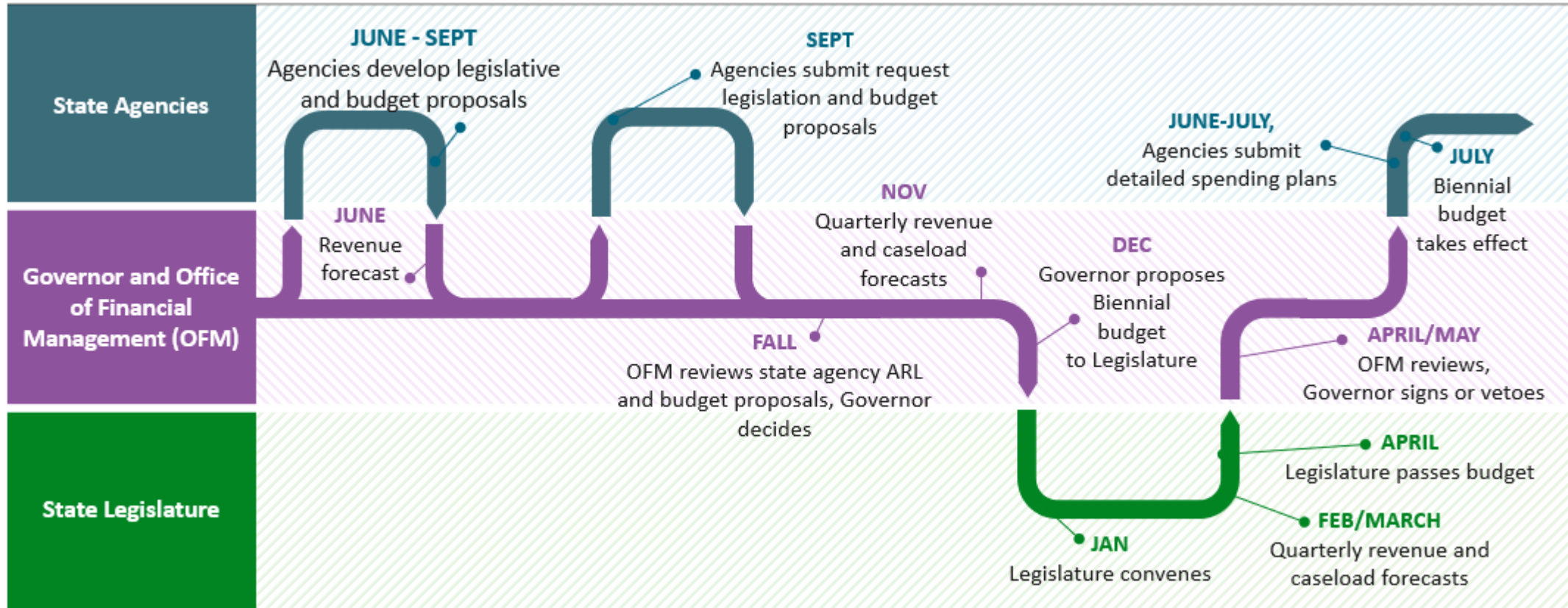
Agenda



- Legislative Session Update
- Current Bill Status
- Proposed Budget Overviews



Preparing for Legislative Session



Realities

- Year one of biennial session, budget setting session, long session
- New administration; significant lawmaker changes
- Current programs are outpacing revenue growth
- Budget proposals see a mix of proposed reductions, new spending and revenue generation



Child Welfare & PPS Bills

Bill	Abbreviated Title	Description	Senate	House
SB 5163	Modernizing the child fatality statute	Changes various provisions related to child mortality reviews by the Department of Health impacting DCYF public disclosure workload.	\$199 K	\$0
SB 5149	Expanding the early childhood court program	Expands eligibility to participate in the Early Childhood Court program to allow these courts to serve families with children under age six.	\$22 K	\$ 0
SB 1177	Concerning the child welfare housing assistance program	Requires DCYF to write rules for the Child Welfare Housing Program serve eligible families on the waiting list, subject to appropriation.	\$ 0	\$500 K
HB 1509	Concerning family reconciliation services	Requires DCYF to offer a contract or contacts to provide community-based Family Reconciliation Services in at least one location, subject to appropriation.	\$ 0	\$600 K
SB 5263	Concerning special education funding	Increases the cost multiplier for the Early Support for Infants and Toddlers program to 1.32.	\$47.659 M	\$ 0
HB 1357	Providing special education funding and support	Increases the cost multiplier for the Early Support for Infants and Toddlers program to 1.2 (aligning it with the multiplier for used for students ages 3 to 5 receiving special education services.)	\$ 0	\$15.252 M



Prevention and Child Welfare – Underspend Savings

Item	Senate	House
Intensive Foster Care Assessment	Current funding maintained.	-\$300 K reduction by assuming some recent underspend in the Intensive Foster Care Program contracted with Harborview Center for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress is ongoing.
Sexually Aggressive Youth	-\$170 K reduction by assuming that recent underspend for the Sexually Aggressive Youth program is ongoing	-\$170 K reduction by assuming that recent underspend for the Sexually Aggressive Youth program is ongoing
Guardianship Subsidy Underspend	-\$203 K reduction by assuming recent underspend to implement Chapter 221, Laws of 2023 (SB 5124) that expanded guardianship subsidy eligibility continues into FY 2026.	-\$203 K reduction by assuming recent underspend to implement Chapter 221, Laws of 2023 (SB 5124) that expanded guardianship subsidy eligibility continues into FY 2026.
D.S. Referrals and Transitions	Current funding maintained.	-\$2.000 M reduction by assuming recent underspend of funding provided for DCYF to revise referral and transition procedures for youth entering foster care as part of the D.S. vs. DCYF settlement agreement is ongoing
Caregiver Supports Adjustment	-\$26.542 M reduction in funding for placement supports including case management and case aide support.	-\$2.676 M reduction by eliminating project management for the shift to the new system and reducing funding for placement supports by 10%.



Prevention and Child Welfare – Underspend Savings Continued

Item	Senate	House
Child Specific Underspend	-\$4.000 M reduction by assuming projected underspend in child-specific foster care costs.	Current funding maintained.
"Exceptional" Placement Underspend	-\$5.000 M reduction by assuming projected underspend in Emergent Placement Services (EPS), which is a contracted, short-term placement option for children and youth in foster care when there is no other placement available	Current funding maintained.
Combined In-Home Services (CIHS)	-\$3.800 M reduction by assuming that recent underspend for combined in-home services (CIHS) is ongoing.	-\$2.914 M reduction by assuming that recent underspend for combined in-home services (CIHS) is ongoing.
Child Welfare Program	-\$20.000 M reduction by assuming projected underspend in the Child Welfare Program.	Current funding maintained.



Prevention and Child Welfare – Program Eliminations

Item	Senate	House
Continuum of Care Elimination	-\$188 K elimination of contracted services for physical and sexual assault examinations for Child Protective Services (CPS) referrals in the Spokane area, which can be absorbed within existing resources.	Current funding maintained.
Pediatric Interim Care Elimination	Current funding maintained.	-\$2.594 M reduction by eliminating funding for a contract with a pediatric interim care center.
Intercept Program Elimination	-\$1.422 M reduction by eliminating funding for the Intercept Program, which prevents or limits out-of-home placement for youth involved in child welfare system.	Current funding maintained.
Mentor Washington	Current Funding maintained.	-\$250k reduction by eliminating the Mentor Washington contract work contracted through DCYF.



Prevention and Child Welfare – Program Eliminations Continued

Item	Senate	House
Safecare Elimination	-\$200 K reduction by eliminating funding for a Safecare program, an in-home parent training program, in Grays Harbor County that currently has no contracted provider.	-\$200 K reduction by eliminating funding for a Safecare program, an in-home parent training program, in Grays Harbor County that currently has no contracted provider.
Crisis Family Intervention Elimination	-\$238 K reduction by eliminating funding for a short-term counseling service provided to families aimed at reducing conflict	-\$238 K reduction by eliminating funding for a short-term counseling service provided to families aimed at reducing conflict
Family Connections Elimination	-\$1.306 M reduction eliminating the Family Connections Program, which facilitates interaction between foster parents and biological parents of dependent children	No additional reduction; Current funding maintained.
Foster Care Respite Elimination	-\$128 K reduction by eliminating funding for case aides as this is now funded as part of the statewide caregiver support system.	-\$128 K reduction by eliminating funding for case aides as this is now funded as part of the statewide caregiver support system.



Prevention and Child Welfare – Program Reductions

Item	Senate	House
Home Visiting	<p>-\$8.056 reduction to the HVSA by eliminating funding for Prenatal-to-3 Family Engagement strategy added in FSKA.</p> <p>-\$2.5M savings by assuming underspend in the HVSA</p>	No additional reduction; Current funding maintained.
Family Reconciliation Services (FRS)	No change to current funding levels.	<p>-\$1.741 M reduction in funding and 7 FTE are eliminated for the state-operated FRS program, a voluntary program serving runaway adolescents and youth in conflict with their families.</p>
Family Preservation Services (FPS)	-\$6M reduction to FPS by assuming underspend	<p>\$ 2.288 M in funding is provided to continue the FPS rate increase for SFY 2025. This is continued on-going.</p>



Child Welfare and Prevention – New Investment

Item	Senate	House
Plan of Safe Care	\$0	\$1.220 M Funding is provided to expand POSC for substance-exposed infants to all birthing hospitals and for pregnant women in three additional counties
Critical Incident Review Staff	\$322 K Funding is provided for an additional staff member to review critical incidents, which occurs when there is a fatality or near-fatality for a family involved in the child welfare system.	\$322 K Funding is provided for an additional staff member to review critical incidents, which occurs when there is a fatality or near-fatality for a family involved in the child welfare system.
Foster Care Workgroup	\$50 K Funding is provided to convene a workgroup for the purpose of examining the rights of foster youth and to provide a report with recommendations regarding these rights by December 1, 2025.	\$0
Rising Strong	\$3.602 M in funding is provided to continue a grant to a nonprofit organization in Spokane with expertise in the Rising Strong model that provides family-centered drug treatment and housing programs for families experiencing substance use disorder	\$3.602 M in funding is provided to continue a grant to a nonprofit organization in Spokane with expertise in the Rising Strong model that provides family-centered drug treatment and housing programs for families experiencing substance use disorder
Positive Indian Parenting (PIP)	\$889 K in funding for the Positive Indian Parenting Program (PIP), which is an evidence-based program that is used to help Tribal families reunite with their children.	\$889 K in funding for the Positive Indian Parenting Program (PIP), which is an evidence-based program that is used to help Tribal families reunite with their children.
D.S. Compliance	no change to current funding levels	\$18.597 M in funding to continue compliance with the DS Settlement activities.

Early Learning Bills

Bill	Title	Description
HB 1314	Early learning facilities grant and loan program.	Makes changes to the Early Learning Facilities (ELF) program including establishment of an Emergency Fund; clarifies ECEAP conversion qualifies for ELF; makes Tribal Compact Schools eligible for the ELF Public School District program; and changes the match requirements.
HB 1351	Adjusting age requirements for accessing ECEAP.	Adjustments allow for enrollment of eligible three-year-olds who turn three during the school year after the August 31 deadline. Clarifies this population is not part of the entitlement.
HB 1489	Adjusting implementation dates for programs related to ECE and child care.	Adjusts ECEAP eligibility and delays ECEAP entitlement. Adjusts income eligibility and implementation dates for the WCCC program.
HB 1648	Modifying child care provider qualifications.	Delays the staff qualification requirement timeline for child care providers, adjusts length of experience-based competency demonstration, creates workgroup for staff qualification and verification process improvement.
SB 5030	Vital records access.	Waives fees for accessing vital records. Also allows for the acceptance of alternative documents to show a child's age or date of birth for enrollment in ECEAP.
SB 5769	Addressing transition to kindergarten programs.	Beginning in the 2025-26 school year, caps enrollment in TTK programs at the amount specified in the omnibus appropriations act. Directs OSPI in collaboration with DCYF to develop a recommended plan for phasing in program.
SB 5752	Modifying child care and early childhood development programs.	Makes a number of modification to early learning programs. Clarified ECEAP entitlement definition. Requires the department to write rules for compliance with new CCDF requirements. Increases the frequency for the MRS/COQ report to every 2 years. Requires DCYF to conduct a pilot to increase access to school-age-only child care programs.



Early Learning – Eligibility Changes

Item	Senate (SB 5752)	House
Eligibility Expansion to 75% SMI	Savings achieved by delaying income eligibility expansion up to 75 percent state median income (SMI) until July 1, 2029	Savings achieved by delaying income eligibility expansion up to 75 percent state median income (SMI) until July 1, 2029
Child Care Employees Eligibility	Savings achieved by removing child care employees from the expanded eligibility category for WCCC.	Maintains eligibility for child care employees
Registered Apprenticeships Eligibility	Savings achieved by removing those enrolled in registered apprenticeships from the expanded eligibility category for WCCC.	Maintains eligibility for those enrolled in a registered apprenticeship
Family Copayments	Savings achieved with the increase of copays amount October 1, 2025. Additional savings achieved by increasing co-payments again October 1, 2026.	Maintains current co-payment schedule
ECEAP Entitlement	Entitlement is delayed to 2030-31 school year for all children defined as entitled	Entitlement is delayed to 2030-31 school year for all children defined as entitled



Early Learning – Program reductions

Item	Senate (SB 5752)	House
Trauma Informed Care Enhancement	-\$4.9M reduction to TIC, eliminated for center-based providers and retained for family child care	-\$1.184 M in savings related to trauma informed payments.
Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation	-\$6.42M reduction in IECMH Consultation funding.	-\$320 K reduction in funding to Tribal IMC program by assuming underspend
Dual Language Designation	-\$6.4M reduction to DL, eliminated for centers-based providers and retained for family child care	-\$3.2M reduces funding by 50% for dual language rate enhancement.
Early ECEAP	-\$9.254 M funding for Early ECEAP eliminated	-\$9.254 M funding for Early ECEAP eliminated



Early Learning – WCCC Rates

Item	Senate	House
Center-Based Rates	Delays base rate increase to the 85th percentile of the Market Rate Survey (MRS) until July 1, 2026	Delays base rate increase to the 85th percentile of the Market Rate Survey (MRS) until July 1, 2026
WCCC – Rate alignment	\$0	-\$4.039 M savings achieved by removing the hold harmless for subset of providers that have current rates that exceed the 85th percentile of MRS starting FY27
CBA – Family Home Providers	Full funding provided for Collective Bargaining Agreement	Full funding provided for Collective Bargaining Agreement



Early Learning – ECEAP and ECLIPSE funding

Item	Senate	House
ECEAP – Rates	10% rate increase for school-day slots in FY26	5% rate increase for school-day slots in FY26, additional 5% increase in FY27
ECEAP – Slot Reduction	Reduce 3,245 part-day slots in FY26	Reduce 2,350 part-day slots in FY26
ECEAP – Slot Increase	Increase 1,200 school-day slots in FY26	Convert 250 part-day to school-day slots in FY27
ECEAP Complex Needs Fund	\$0	-\$198 K reduction (projected underspend)
Early Childhood Intervention and Prevention Services - ECLIPSE	\$0	-\$528 K reduction (projected underspend)



Early Learning – Grants and Enhancements

Item	Senate	House
Equity Grants	-\$5.248 M elimination of equity grants	No change to funding levels.
Complex Needs Fund	No changes to current funding levels.	-\$5 M reduction in funding by 20% for childcare complex needs grants
Early Learning Facilities – Technical Assistance	No change to funding levels	-\$692 K reduction in funding for ELF technical assistance by assuming underspend



Early Learning – Other Programs

Item	Senate	House
Professional Development	No changes to funding levels	-\$4.3 M reduction in funding for amounts contracted for professional development
Facilitated Play and Learn Groups	-\$1.32 M reduction in Fair Start for Kids (FSKA) funding to program	-\$770K reduction in Fair Start for Kids (FSKA) funding to program
Coordination Recruitment and Enrollment - Transition to Kindergarten (TTK)	No changes to funding levels	-\$2.398 M removes all funding for TTK Coordinated Enrollment
Washington Communities for Children (WCFC)	\$2 M added for Washington Communities for children services	\$300 K funding is provided to continue WCFC services



Early Learning - Capital Investments

Item	Senate	House
Early Learning Facilities Fund Grant Program (ELF)	\$60 M funding provided solely for the ELF program. Up to 3.5 percent of funding may be used by DCYF to provide technical assistance	\$46.5 M funding provided solely for the ELF program. Up to 4 percent of funding may be used by DCYF to provide technical assistance
ELF Capital Readiness Pilot Program	Not included.	\$350 K provided solely for the ELF capital readiness pilot program. Commerce will administer the program in partnership with DCYF
ELF Emergency Grants	\$3 M in funding provided for emergency grants pursuant to HB 1314	\$3 M in funding provided for emergency grants pursuant to HB 1314
ELF Minor Renovation Grants	\$10 M funding provided for minor renovation grants	\$7.35 M funding provided for minor renovation grants



Juvenile Rehabilitation Bills

Bill	Abbreviated Title	Description	Senate	House
SB 5278	Juvenile Rehabilitation	Establishing a "Rated Bed Capacity" for DCYF JR institutions and creates pathways for the agency to address overcrowding at JR facilities.	\$518 K	\$0
SB 5296	Juvenile Offenses	Creates pathways for a young person to avoid JR institutional commitment, including directing DCYF to contract with counties to serve some individuals with shorter sentences. Creates opportunity for mid-point review of juvenile sentences.	\$5.480 M	\$0
SB 5032	Juvenile Rehabilitation Ombuds	Expands the duties of the office of the family and children's ombuds to include juvenile rehabilitation facilities operated by the department of children, youth, and families.	\$421 K	\$0
HB 1827	Basic Education/Juvenile Justice	Modifies the duties and timeline related to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction assuming responsibility for the delivery and administration of basic education to certain justice-involved students.	\$0	\$0
HB 1815	Prison Riot Offenses	Excludes facilities operated by DCYF or county juvenile detention facilities from the definition of "correctional institution" for the purposes of the charge of Prison Riot. The bill is retroactive to convictions or adjudications and offenses that have been charged.	\$0	\$0
HB 1391	Court Alternatives/Youth	Removes successful diversions from a youth's criminal history, prohibits parents and guardians from preventing a juvenile from entering a diversion agreement. Creates new diversion data reporting requirements for the Administrative Office of the Courts.	\$0	\$0
SB 5128	Juvenile Medicaid Reentry	Specifies requirements to suspend - rather than terminate - the Medicaid status of a person in confinement in an institution operated by DCYF.	\$0	\$0
SB 5694	Boiler Operator Cert.	Establishes a boiler operator certification program, and funds training requirements.	\$5 K	\$0



Juvenile Rehabilitation

Item	Senate	House
Harbor Heights	\$27.501 M provided solely for DCYF to open and operate a 48-bed living unit, a modular building, and recreation area at the Stafford Creek corrections center in Aberdeen.	\$26.469 M provided to open a secure 48-bed living unit on the campus of the Stafford Creek Corrections Center, which is assumed to be operational by May 15, 2025
Classification Specialists	\$814 K provided for three classification specialists to create and operate a formal classification process to provide more frequent individualized security-level reviews so that youth are in the appropriate placement during their sentence.	\$814 K provided for three classification specialists to create and operate a formal classification process to provide more frequent individualized security-level reviews so that youth are in the appropriate placement during their sentence.
Behavior Management System Staff	\$528 K provided for two infraction specialists to create and implement an infractions policy to respond to incidents of violence or harmful behaviors.	\$528 K provided for two infraction specialists to create and implement an infractions policy to respond to incidents of violence or harmful behaviors.
Opioid Use Intervention	\$2.096 M provided for a contract to provide opioid use disorder post-release education and intervention services.	\$2.096 M provided for a contract to provide opioid use disorder post-release education and intervention services.
Opioid Use Disorder Medical Staff	\$652 K provided for medical personnel to provide medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) education and treatment	\$1.302 M provided for medical personnel to provide medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) education and treatment.
Surveillance Records System	<i>Not Included</i>	\$3.967 M is provided for: a new system that combines video recording and storage into one platform, complete with data protections; and technician positions for security IT infrastructure.
Echo Glen Security	\$3.494 is provided for additional security equipment, services, and to contract for security staff to enhance security measures at the Echo Glenn Children's Center until a fence is constructed around the facility.	\$3.494 is provided for additional security equipment, services, and to contract for security staff to enhance security measures at the Echo Glenn Children's Center until a fence is constructed around the facility.

Juvenile Rehabilitation – Proviso Changes

Item	Senate	House
JR Capacity Needs Assessment Model	<p>Within existing resources, DCYF must, having collaborated with DOC, develop a JR capacity needs assessment model for secure facilities, community residential facilities, and community transition services.</p> <p>This model will provide DCYF with a predictive tool to show how many beds are needed at various security levels over a 10 fiscal year period.</p>	<i>Not included</i>
JR Proposal for Future Growth	<p>Within existing resources, DCYF shall develop a proposal for future capacity growth. This proposal must evaluate the feasibility of using existing state-owned facilities, including the property and facilities of Mission Creek corrections center for women, Larch corrections center, Ahtanum View reentry center, Peninsula reentry center, Tri-Cities reentry center, and Brownstone reentry center.</p> <p>The department must submit a report to the office of financial management and the appropriate committees of the legislature.</p>	<p>Within existing resources, the department shall develop a proposal for future capacity growth. This proposal must evaluate the feasibility of using existing state-owned facilities, including the property and facilities of Mission Creek corrections center for women.</p> <p>The department must submit a report to the office of financial management and the appropriate committees of the legislature.</p>
Kitsap Credible Messenger Program	\$500 K to continue funding the credible messenger mentorship organization located in Kitsap county to provide peer counseling, peer support services, and mentorship for at-risk youth and families.	-\$500,000 - Item removed from budget
Underspend Sweep	<i>Not included</i>	-\$11.6M in projected underspend removed from the JR budget.

Capital Investments

Item	Senate	House
Additional Juvenile Rehabilitation Capacity	\$150 K is provided to develop a proposal for future capacity growth.	\$3 M – Mission Creek Predesign, Design, and Recommendations for living units, recreation, programming, medical, and behavioral health. DCYF shall submit an estimate of anticipated construction costs in the 2026 supplemental budget and a full plan that includes a construction schedule for consideration in the 2027-2029 biennial budget.
6-Year Statewide Facilities Master Plan	\$250 K - This project proposes the Department expand its capital footprint thoughtfully using an evidence-based approach. This project will hire consultants with expertise in Master Planning for Children and Family serving organizations.	\$250 K - This project proposes the Department expand its capital footprint thoughtfully using an evidence-based approach. This project will hire consultants with expertise in Master Planning for Children and Family serving organizations.
Green Hill School HVAC Upgrade	\$4.5 M - Necessary upgrades to the HVAC system to improve air quality and reduce risk of airborne communicable virus	\$1.1 M - Necessary upgrades to the HVAC system to improve air quality and reduce risk of airborne communicable virus
Green Hill School Visitor Screening and Security Improvements	\$4.5 M - To modify the building and interior spaces in such as way that visitors, including employees, can be properly screened before entering the campus grounds or contacting clients.	\$4.5 M - To modify the building and interior spaces in such as way that visitors, including employees, can be properly screened before entering the campus grounds or contacting clients.
Echo Glen HVAC Replacement	\$8.2 M - Necessary replacement to the HVAC system to provide adequate heating and air quality in the recreation building.	\$8.2 M - Necessary replacement to the HVAC system provide adequate heating and air quality in the recreation building.
Echo Glen Central Family Visiting Center	\$250 K - This project proposes remodeling an existing mothballed building 4 located near central campus into a central location for family and professional visits.	\$250 K - This project proposes remodeling an existing mothballed building 4 located near central campus into a central location for family and professional visits.
Echo Glen Secure Facility Improvements	\$800 K – Provided to reconfigure parking near the new single point of entry to campus	\$800 K – Provided to reconfigure parking near the new single point of entry to campus

Program Support

Item	Senate	House
Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System (CCWIS)	\$66.186 M is provided for the next phase of the CCWIS IT project	\$33.093 M is provided for the next phase of the CCWIS IT project. This is half of the funding requested in this biennium.
Team Child Detention Release Proviso	<i>Reduction Not included</i>	-\$1.400K reduction in Detention Release funding
Social Security Benefits	\$113 K in funding is provided for the department to adopt rules to establish procedures for children and caregivers to request and receive disbursement of social security and other public benefits. (One-time.)	Within existing resources, the department will provide information to youth and caregivers on how to become the representative payee for benefits when exiting foster care and update the implementation plan for conserving public benefits.
LifeSet	-\$4.64 M funding is removed for the LifeSet program, which is a community-based program that supports young people in foster care as they transition into adulthood.	<i>Reduction Not included</i>
Independent Living Investment	\$1.5 M in funding is provided to maintain the rate increase for providers passed in 2024.	<i>Rate increase not included</i>



Other Agency Budgets

Item	Senate	House
Insurance Commissioner Study <i>(OIC)</i>	\$350 K to study the feasibility of using a joint underwriting association to provide insurance coverage for child care centers, group foster homes, family child care homes, child and youth serving organizations, and child placement services.	Not included.
Gender Responsive Programming for Juvenile Rehabilitation <i>(Commerce)</i>	\$300 K provided for a grant to a Seattle-based nonprofit that seeks to improve the status of girls in Washington state. Funding may be used for development of an online train-the trainer program for counselors to facilitate healthy relationship skill building girl groups in the juvenile rehabilitation system.	Not included.



DCYF Staffing Impacts

Increases for all state employees:

- Effective July 1, 2025, all ranges and steps of the General Service Salary Schedule will be increased by 3%
- Effective July 1, 2026, all ranges and steps of the General Service Salary Schedule will be increased by 2%

Increases for some state employees:

- New Pay Range for some classifications including but not limited to:
 - Juvenile Rehabilitation Counselors (1,2,&3); Juvenile Rehabilitation Officers (1,2,3,&4); Public Health Advisors (3&4); Social Service Specialists (1,2,3,&4)s; Administrative Assistants (1,2,3,4,&5); Customer Service Specialists (1,2,3,&4); Fiscal Analysts (1,2,3,&4); and, Human Resource Consultant (1&2)

Reductions/furloughs for some employees:

- In **Senate budget only**, state employees shall furlough 13 days during the period of July 2025 – June 2026

Administrative Efficiencies – Agency Staffing Reduction proposals:

- Number of Staff Reductions proposed by the **Senate** is 14 (PS)
- Number of Staff Reductions proposed by the **House** is 44 (23 in CW, 0 in JR, 7 in EL, and 14 in PS)



THANK YOU!

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CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES