Early Achievers COVID-19 Updates

Early Achievers Timeline Requirements to Resume

Gov. Inslee's <u>Proclamation 20-31</u>, which put a hold on Early Achievers timeline requirements beginning March 26, 2020, will remain in effect until **July 1, 2022**. At that time, providers that accept child care subsidy and/or provide Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) services will have **30 days** to meet any timeline requirements they may have missed while the proclamation was in effect.

To help you understand what will happen once the proclamation ends, we have compiled a list of next steps and frequently asked questions. If you have a specific question that we have not listed here, please feel free to contact the Early Achievers team at QRIS@dcyf.wa.gov for help.

What to Expect

If you missed an ECEAP or subsidy milestones while the proclamation was in effect, you will have **30** days from the end of the proclamation to meet your timeline requirements.

- If you missed your registration milestone, you must <u>register</u> for Early Achievers by July 31, 2022, to meet the registration milestone.
- If you missed your milestone to submit your Request for Quality Recognition (formerly Level 2
 Activities), you must submit an <u>Early Achievers Request for Quality Recognition</u> by July 31, 2022,
 to meet your milestone.
- If you missed your milestone to finalize your mandated quality level, submitting the <u>Early Achievers Request for Quality Recognition</u> (formerly the Early Achievers Request for On-Site Evaluation) by July 31, 2022, will maintain subsidy or ECEAP eligibility and current quality levels until a new quality level is finalized.
 - If your Request for Quality Recognition is withdrawn, you will lose subsidy or ECEAP eligibility until a new Request is submitted.

If you have questions about your timeline, please contact QRIS@dcyf.wa.gov.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I have been closed for several months and my enrollment is very low. My milestone is approaching. Should I still submit my **Early Achievers Request for Quality Recognition**?

A: Yes! Submitting a Request for Quality Recognition puts you in the queue to begin your Program Profile, the first step in your quality recognition cycle. This will meet the requirement for your quality level milestone and allow you to continue accepting subsidy. It will also allow those early learning programs that have not passed the 30-month time limit to continue receiving the 2% tiered subsidy reimbursement.



For early learning programs approaching their quality level expiration, a submitted Request for Quality Recognition will prevent program quality levels from expiring and allow providers serving subsidy to continue receiving tiered reimbursement and Quality Improvement Awards.

Q: I missed multiple milestones during the proclamation. Do I need to submit multiple applications?

A: Possibly. If you have been accepting subsidy or providing ECEAP services for more than 12 months and are not yet enrolled in Early Achievers, you may need to register for Early Achievers and submit the Request for Quality Recognition in order to maintain your eligibility. If you still have questions about your timeline, you can contact the QRIS inbox at QRIS@dcyf.wa.gov.

Q: I already submitted an Early Achievers Request for On-Site Evaluation. Do I need to submit an Early Achievers Request for Quality Recognition?

A: No. The Early Achievers Request for Quality Recognition has replaced both the Level 2 Application and the Early Achievers Request for On-Site Evaluation (EAROSE). If you already submitted the EAROSE, you are in the queue and do not need to complete a new application.