



Welcome to the second edition of the Professional Development (PD) Newsletter; a quarterly newsletter for Washington's early learning community. The goal of the newsletter is to keep you informed on all of the great work pertaining to Professional Development.

In this newsletter...

- [Updated WAC: Professional Development and Staff Qualifications](#)
- [Community Corner](#)
- [Dual Language Learners \(DLLs\)](#)
- [Tribal Early Learning Language Summit, May 30-31, 2019](#)
- [RBPD: Relationship-Based Professional Development](#)
- [Save the Date for Learning Opportunities](#)
- [Newsletters and Webinars](#)
- [How Are We Doing?](#)

Updated WAC: Professional Development and Staff Qualifications

Deep Dive Learning Opportunities

Last month, the PD team presented in Olympia, Bellevue, Pasco and Spokane on the updated professional development and training requirements in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Foundational Quality Standards for Early Learning Programs ([WAC Chapter 100-300](#)). These presentations covered WAC sections [0100](#), [0105](#), [0106](#) and [0107](#).



Visit the [Standards Alignment Events and Learning Opportunities](#) page on the DCYF website to find standards alignment awareness videos and resources and upcoming Deep Dive Learning Opportunities.

Where to Find Professional Development and Staff Qualifications WACs

[WAC 0100 General Staff Qualifications](#): explains the qualifications and responsibilities for each role in the WAC, including minimum age, education requirements and level of oversight

[WAC 0105 Preservice Requirements](#): explains what an early learning provider must do before working with children, including orientation, background checks and tuberculosis (TB) tests.

[WAC 0106 Training Requirements](#): explains the training requirements an early learning provider completes within three months of hire and any ongoing health and safety training, such as Safe Sleep.

[WAC 0107 In-Service Training](#): explains the annual training requirements for early learning providers.

Quick tip: check the [WAC Definitions in 0005](#) for a list of terms and definitions used throughout the WAC, such as “in-service” training (STARS hours) and “electronic workforce registry” (MERIT).



Information on Updated Staff Qualifications Available

You can find an overview of the updated staff qualifications (education and training requirements) in the Foundational Quality Standards for Early Learning guidebook. The professional development, training and requirements section (in section two of the guidebook) includes the following charts:

- General staff qualifications (minimum age and education requirement) with a completion timeline for each role
- Training requirements (pre-service and in-service) for each role
- Training completion timeline
- Chart of equivalents (lists the alternative degrees, certificates and other credentials that meet the education requirement)



Find the Foundational Quality Standards for Early Learning Guidebook online: [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Somali](#) | [Russian](#)

Quick tip: print the [Role Checklists](#) in the professional development, training and requirements section for a handy way to track your progress on meeting qualifications.

What is an Equivalent?



The updated WAC allows early learning providers to meet staff qualifications with a department recognized equivalent. The equivalents include a department recognized alternative credential and a demonstration of competency.

Alternate Credential: view the "Chart of Equivalents" in section two of the Foundational Quality Standards ([English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Somali](#) | [Russian](#)) for Early Learning to review the degrees, certificates and other credentials that meet the

staff qualification.

Demonstration of competency: this process will allow providers to meet the staff qualification through a demonstration of their knowledge and skill. This process is still under development—stay tuned for more information.

What is EQEL Training?



Enhancing Quality of Early Learning (EQEL) is a new training required for most roles (family home licensees, center directors, assistant directors, program supervisors, lead teachers and assistant teachers) that provides information on environments, interactions and culturally-responsive care. This 20-hour training must be completed within 36 months of being hired in a licensed facility. EQEL hours may count toward the 10 hours of in-service training (STARS hours) required annually.

The professional development team is working with Early Achievers, Head Start and Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) to determine what department recognized alternative options may meet the requirement for Enhancing Quality Early Learning. Stay tuned for more information.

The first 10 hours of this training series will be available in September 2019 and the second 10 hours will be available in March 2020. Early learning providers will have the option to complete

it in-person in English, Spanish and Somali, and online in English and Spanish. And don't forget: completing this series will count for your in-service training requirement (STARS Hours).

WAC-Related Questions?



Check out the [WAC Frequently Asked Questions](#) section of the DCYF website.

If you don't see a question, email dcyf.wacqanda@dcyf.wa.gov.

Community Corner



It's very important that we ensure all providers who need to meet training requirements are successful the first time around so they can spend more of their time focusing on the children. –Nora Terrones

Meet Melanie White Gómez and Nora Terrones who both support the early learning field and provide direct Spanish assistance to our Latinx providers. They're collaborating over the support services they offer to our providers.

We Want to Hear from The Field

Please send pictures, updates or exciting news related to PD and they'll be featured in June's PD Newsletter. Send your information to marlene.white@dcyf.wa.gov.

Translations in the field

The PD team works on many projects that are typically translated into Spanish and Somali. Do you come across words that just don't make sense or translate well?

Please let us know. We are working to keep a glossary of terms to help with this.

Send any terms to marlene.white@dcyf.wa.gov.



Dual Language Learners (DLLs)

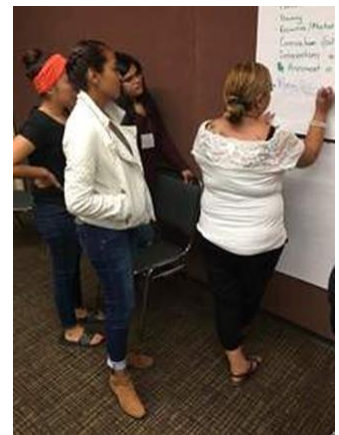


House Bill 1445 concerning dual language (DL) in early learning passed into law July 2017 requiring DCYF to 1) work with community partners to support outreach and education around the benefits of DL learning (DLL), 2) create training and PD resources and 3) support teachers and coaches.

Since inception, the work around DLL has been heavily community-driven and community-informed, bringing together providers, Washington State tribes, coaches, trainers, community-based organizations, the Office of the

Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) as well as language enthusiasts.

Training was developed and is currently undergoing revisions and we're currently working on several initiatives around outreach, family engagement and communications.



Are you interested in taking the DLL Training? The DLL training series will be available in mid to late April 2019.

The DLL series provides 12 STARS hours if completed fully.

To find the training, click on "Find Training" in [MERIT](#). Once there, look for:

- Dual Language Learners - A Training for Early Learning Professionals
- Dual Language Learning - Community of Practice and Capstone



Tribal Early Learning Language Summit, May 30-31, 2019



May 30-31, 2019
Silver Reef Casino
Ferndale, WA

**ekwost isuwa
xechngi'ng**
– Teach with Purpose

For more information
and to register go to:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/QSDQ7MT



The Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF), in partnership with the Lummi Indian Nation and the Office of Head Start, is excited to announce that registration for the upcoming Language Summit is now open.

- [Read the flyer](#)
- [Register attendees](#)

This information can also

be found on the DCYF website under [Tribal Relations](#).

RBPD: Relationship-Based Professional Development

Have you heard of RBPD or Relationship-Based Professional Development? We're in the process of revising the RBPD Competencies for early learning providers.

This guide will provide important information for those who support providers through relationship-based learning. Stay tuned: the revised RBPD Competencies will be available this summer.

For more information about this initiative check back on our [Support Early Learning Providers webpage](#).



Save the Date for Learning Opportunities

The PD team is hosting live, interactive webinars the **third Tuesday of every month** for the remainder of this year. Each month, we'll focus on a different topic and we will release the webinar details ahead of time.



- **May:** Tuesday, May 21
- **June:** Tuesday, June 18
- **July:** Tuesday, July 16
- **August:** Tuesday, Aug. 20
- **September:** Tuesday, Sept. 17
- **October:** Tuesday, Oct. 15
- **November:** Tuesday, Nov. 19
- **December:** Tuesday, Dec. 17

These MERIT-focused webinars will cover different applications in MERIT, such as education verification, facility site tab, professional record and more.

Newsletters and Webinars



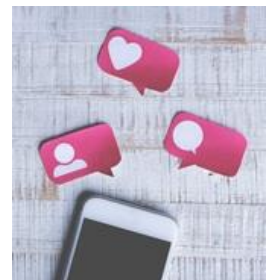
A complete list of all of the PD newsletters and webinars can be found on our [Newsletters and Webinars webpage](#).

How Are We Doing?

Please tell us how we are doing or offer suggestions by taking this short survey.

Please note: the survey is in English.

[Take survey here!](#)



Stay Connected

To be added to the PD Newsletter subscription list or to manage your subscription, please email Marlene White at marlene.white@dcyf.wa.gov.

