

ECEAP School Day Hours: Information Sheet

ECEAP

Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) is Washington's pre-kindergarten program that prepares 3- and 4-year-old children from families furthest from opportunity for success in school and in life.

ECEAP Performance Standards

PAO-28 Early Childhood Education Service Delivery

The requirements in PAO-28 intend to ensure contractors use an early learning framework that ensures developmentally appropriate early childhood education while also meeting dosage requirements for ECEAP services.

ECEAP Performance Standards are informed by [RCW 43.216.010\(16\)](#), and require school day ECEAP programs to operate a minimum of:

- 5.5 hours per day,
- four or five days per week, and
- a minimum of 1,000 hours per year.

Effective July 1, 2025, changes were made to PAO-28 based on feedback received from ECEAP contractors who participated in the ECEAP Performance Standards Workgroup. Contractors requested more flexibility in educational activities to meet the 1,000-hour requirement.

Language was added in PAO-28 to clarify that programs may count up to 10 closure days toward the minimum 1,000 hours for activities such as parent-teacher conferences that are planned and scheduled by ECEAP staff to discuss children's educational needs or progress, screening days, family orientation, and events where families and children are engaged in educational activities under the direction of ECEAP staff.

Guidance for ECEAP Contractors

- Contractors may start school day classes as early as July to ensure they meet the required annual dosage requirements.



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

- Contractors must provide families with an annual calendar of planned days of closure at the start of each year.
- ECEAP providers who operate school day classrooms in licensed child care facilities that accept Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) subsidy, may layer subsidy for eligible ECEAP children.
 - Learn more about Working Connections Child Care Subsidy at:
<https://dcyf.wa.gov/services/early-learning-providers/subsidy>
 - Providers with questions may call the Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP) Provider Line at 1-800-394-4571 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or email
ProviderHelp@dcyf.wa.gov.

Resources for Families

For families who need information or help applying for Working Connections Child Care (WCCC): Visit <https://www.washingtonconnection.org> or call the Customer Service Contact Center at 1-844-626-8687 (TTY: 1-800-833-6388) for assistance. Additional information for families is available at <https://dcyf.wa.gov/services/earlylearning-childcare/getting-help/wccc>.