



ECEAP REMINDERS & LINKS – APRIL 2021



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

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

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Important Dates

Within six months of hire and every three years thereafter: Lead teachers must complete Teaching Strategies GOLD® inter-rater reliability certification.

Within 90 days from class start date, enter health screenings, well-child exams, and dental screenings in ELMS.

Questions?

Email questions about newsletter topics to eceap@dcyf.wa.gov or your Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Specialist. For additional information about ECEAP or the Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF), please visit our Contractor [webpages](#).



Updates

DCYF ECEAP and COVID-19

New or Updated COVID-19 Resources

- The U.S. Department of Education released a handbook on [strategies for reopening schools](#). Use this resource as you increase in-person services for children and families.
- On February 10, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) released the latest version of the [Child Care, Youth Development, and Day Camps guidance](#).
- DCYF is updating a [COVID-19 fact sheet](#) with required and best practices guidance to be more inclusive of ECEAP.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently released [new guidance and related toolkits](#) for operating child care programs during the pandemic.

COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

Summary information for vaccine distribution rollout phases is available on DOH's [COVID-19 Vaccine](#) page. Check the [WA COVID Vaccine Finder](#) or DOH [Vaccine Locator](#) to find an appointment.

Ongoing Communication

Resources and general information are available on the DOH [website](#). We will share updates and new resources when available. Please reach out to DCYF ECEAP staff with questions, concerns, and ideas. Contact eceap@dcyf.wa.gov, your CQI Specialist, or [Karin Ganz](#).

ELMS News

2021-2022 School Year Now Available in ELMS

- Be sure to check the year in the upper right corner of ELMS before entering data.
- All sites and classes for the new year must be set up in ELMS by August 15. Summer classes must be set up by July 1. This process automatically sets up the new year in GOLD®.
- When setting up classes, if you don't yet know the names of teaching staff, temporarily enter them as "Placeholder Teacher" or "Placeholder Assistant." Later, return to the Class > Staff, Slots, and Ratio page and enter the correct staff. Do this as early as possible so the correct staff show in GOLD® and in your ELMS Monthly Reports.
- For children who were 2-year-olds and never enrolled, their application will not rollover into the new year. You will need to complete a new prescreen and application for a 3-year-old in ELMS.
- See this three-page summary of [Starting the New School Year in ELMS](#).
- Please check the ELMS' News page for more information.

ECEAP Services by Legislative District

[This publication](#) provides extensive information about ECEAP services, contractors, and subcontractors around the state organized by legislative district.

Teaching Strategies GOLD®

Teaching Strategies GOLD® and Creative Curriculum® Professional Development (PD)

PD resources are free for ECEAP users and accessible through teacher GOLD® accounts on the [Teaching Strategies® Homepage](#) through the 2020-21 school year. Upcoming webinars and new online resources are posted in the "Messages" section after logging in.

- [Upcoming Teaching Strategies® webinars](#): Generating Fall Outcomes Reports: A Webinar for GOLD® Administrators.



- Video tutorials: [Managing Family Members in MyTeachingStrategies®](#), [Engaging in Two-Way Communication with Families](#), and [Sharing Family Activities from your Planning Calendar](#).

Teaching Strategies GOLD® Technical Assistance

- Call the dedicated ECEAP GOLD® line at 844-854-4653 for issues like logging in and general teacher questions.
- For more significant technical issues, submit a case form to the Teaching Strategies® [Support Portal](#).
- Email del.wa@teachingstrategies.com with GOLD® issues or requests for additional portfolios. Include details such as ELMS child IDs, teacher names, and class names. You may include elms@dcyf.wa.gov as an email recipient for additional support.

DCYF Training Opportunities, Events, and Support

National Equity Project Liberatory Design Trainings

DCYF ECEAP is partnering with the [National Equity Project](#) (NEP) to bring [Liberatory Design training](#) to ECEAP contractors through a series of webinars and Professional Learning Communities (PLC). The first session occurred in March and the next is on April 21. Liberatory Design is an approach to addressing equity challenges and change efforts in complex systems with equity leadership habits that can be practiced in our work daily. If you would like to join beginning in April, please email the [ECEAP inbox](#) for more details. Questions? Please contact [Nicole Lor](#) or [Xylora Brownell](#).

- Training from 1-4 p.m. on April 21, May 3, and June 2
- PLCs on June 9, 14, and 25

Address Suspension by Addressing Implicit Bias

SAVE THE DATE: Join us for a webinar series with [Dr. Rosemarie Allen](#), CEO of the [Center for Equity & Excellence](#). Dr. Allen's approach supports and reflects many cultural ways of being for children in early childhood classrooms. Learn critical first steps to ensure equitable observation and assessment practices. Register [here](#) for the upcoming webinar. At the conclusion of the four-part series, recorded webinars will be available on the [ECEAP Equity webpage](#).

- April 23: Anti-Racist and Anti-Biased Assessments

Ongoing Opportunities to Connect

Below are a variety of options to gather with DCYF ECEAP and other ECEAP contractor staff to share updates, resources, challenges, and support.

Directors Bi-Monthly Check-Ins

April 7 and 21 from 9-10 a.m.

Recruitment, Eligibility, and Enrollment Staff Monthly Check-ins

First Thursday monthly. Join April 1 from 9-10 a.m. [here](#).

Family Support Staff Check-ins

Third Thursday monthly. Join April 15 from 9-9:40 a.m. [here](#).

Education Staff Monthly Check-ins and Webinars

Fourth Monday monthly. Join April 26 from 10-11 a.m. [here](#).

2020-21 Mobility Mentoring® Monthly Webinars

Direct Support Staff: [April 8, 9 a.m.](#) and [May 13, 9 a.m.](#)

Leads: [June 10, 9 a.m.](#)



Other Training Opportunities

2021 Special Education WAC Revisions

Join OSPI Special Education on April 8 for an overview of the 2021 revisions to the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) [Chapter 392-172A](#), Rules for the Provision of Special Education. Learn about WAC changes that support inclusive practices to improve outcomes for students with disabilities. The webinar includes time for participants' feedback and questions on how changes may impact services and instruction. Read more and register [here](#).

Early Achievers Institute

Save the Date for the next Early Achievers Institute, May 13-15. This institute will build the capacity of educators by providing training to support resilience and well-being with an underlying goal to de-stigmatize access to mental health care. We will be extending free registration and increased capacity for Washington State educators. This institute is for all early and school-age providers who serve children from birth-12 in Washington State, including, but not limited to, Early Achievers providers and will include a track for coaches as well. Click [here](#) for more information.

Early Achievers Coach Framework Training

UW Cultivate Learning's next Early Achievers coach framework training will be held via Zoom on April 8-9. This training is required for new coaches. Participants attending both days receive STARS credit. Register [here](#).

Haring Center Individualization Internships for Coaches and Teachers

Haring Center Individualization Internships were extended to include teachers who have an Early Achievers Coach.

The two-day virtual internship focuses on individualization and inclusion of children with different learning and behavioral needs into early learning and care settings. Explore strategies to deepen support of social-emotional learning and addressing challenging behavior for young children with disabilities and for those who learn differently. [Register](#) for two-day internships on April 6-7, 20-21, and 27-28.

The Haring Center also offers follow up mini sessions for internship participants with additional content on behavior and building partnerships with families. Mini sessions are open to anyone who has completed an internship. Join mini sessions on April 22 and 29. Email [Phoebe Yeung](#) for more information.

Early Achievers Coach Supports

Early Achievers is partnering with UW Cultivate Learning and Child Care Aware of WA to offer weekly webinars for coaches. Learn how to navigate the Early Achievers Revisions as we move to the early adopter phase in the spring. Past webinars featured the Coaching Companion, Early Achievers Program Profile, Records Review and Coaching Cycles. Webinars are recorded and posted in Coaching Companion. Weekly webinar links are emailed to coaches. Email ECEAP@dcyf.wa.gov to be added to the coach mailing list.

Circle Time Magazine

Visit [Circle Time Magazine](#), an accessible, friendly, and fun professional development web series focused on early learning in action.



Resources

Equity

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Anti-Hate Statement and Resources

On March 23, NAEYC's Asian Interest Forum, in solidarity with the People of Color Caucus, released a statement condemning the tragic murders in Atlanta, Georgia, which resulted in eight deaths, including six Asian women. Read the statement and find resources [here](#).

Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC)

AAJC is sponsoring events specific to Anti-Asian, Asian American, and xenophobic harassment. There are several interactive trainings on bystander intervention and conflict de-escalation along with other resources. [Find more here](#).

Cultivating the Genius of Black Children

Drawing on research, experience, and observations, [Cultivating the Genius of Black Children](#) is a practical, hands-on resource with effective strategies and best practices to help early childhood educators create learning environments in which Black children can thrive.

Early Childhood Education

Grants for Arts Integration in Early Learning Classrooms

Washington State-based public schools, school districts, Educational Service Districts, tribal schools, or 501(c)(3) early learning centers serving students preschool through 3rd grade are eligible to apply. Access more information [here](#).

Request for Applications for Native American Community Empowerment Grants

The Notah Begay III Foundation is pleased to offer up to five 22-month grants of \$200,000 through its [Community Empowerment Grants](#). This funding supports Native American communities and/or organizations engaged in efforts to measurably impact the health of Native American youth through physical activity, healthy nutrition, youth development, and cultural connections.

Early Math and Numeracy

How Parents Can Help Kids Rebuild Math Skills

The extended break from full-time in-person learning has left many parents worried about how the coronavirus pandemic has affected their children's education, and what they can do to help bridge learning gaps. Learn more [here](#).

Health

Food Security: P-EBT Now Available for 2020-21 School Year

Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) for school year 2020-21 is coming soon! Children will receive P-EBT benefits if they are eligible for free or reduced price school meals and their school is closed or has reduced in-person attendance hours. The changes for P-EBT this year:

- Families do not need to apply for P-EBT this year, but they need to ensure the child's school has a current mailing address.
- The P-EBT card is separate from the EBT (Quest) card.

Monthly benefit amounts range from \$25 to \$123 and cards are expected to be mailed beginning in April. Families can swipe a P-EBT card and receive [SNAP Market Match](#) and [Complete Eats](#). Visit www.dshs.wa.gov/PEBT for more information.

