

ECEAP REMINDERS & LINKS - MAY 2021



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

ECEAP Reminders & Links – May 2021

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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.

June 15: Teaching Strategies GOLD® Spring Checkpoint

Questions?

Email questions about newsletter topics to $\underline{eceap@dcyf.wa.gov}$ 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 <u>webpages</u>.

UPDATES

DCYF ECEAP and COVID-19

New or Updated COVID-19 Resources

- U.S. Department of Education handbook on <u>strategies for reopening schools</u>.
- Washington State Department of Health (DOH) Child Care, Youth Development, and Day Camps guidance with recommendations for physical distancing, cohorts, and use of sensory materials.
- DCYF COVID-19 fact sheet with required and best practices guidance.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance and related toolkits for child care programs.

COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

See DOH's webpage on COVID-19 vaccines and find an appointment with the WA COVID Vaccine Finder or DOH Vaccine Locator.

Ongoing Communication

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.

Child Care Providers Update Webinars

DCYF and DOH are hosting a webinar in English and Spanish to share updated Child Care Guidance. This is a supportive place for you to ask questions, share concerns, and collaborate with us. Following the webinar, we will post the presentation along with the Q&A to our website located on the right-hand side of the page under Child Care COVID-19 Webinars.

Child Care Providers Webinar - English

May 10, 1 - 2 p.m. Join Here Access Code: 133 246 0086

Password: dcvf21

Call-in Number: 1.360.810.3022

Child Care Providers Webinar - Spanish

May 10, 6 - 7 p.m. Join Here Access Code: 133 909 4640

Password: dcvf21

Call-in Number: 1.360.810.3022

Child Care Grants

Grants are available for licensed child care providers and formal license-exempt family, friends, and neighbor (FFN) providers. The grants are not competitive and will be prioritized based on community needs. The deadline to apply is **noon on May 20**. Find more details <u>here</u>.

ELMS News

2021-2022 School Year Now Available in ELMS

Please check the ELMS' News page and this three-page summary of Starting the New School Year in **ELMS** for more information.

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.

• Product Roadmap: Introducing a New GOLD® Standard. Webinar is open to administrators and teachers: May 24 at 11a.m. and May 27 at 10 a.m.

• Video tutorials: <u>Managing Family Members in MyTeachingStrategies</u>, <u>Engaging in Two-Way Communication with Families</u>, and <u>Sharing Family Activities from your Planning Calendar</u>.

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® <u>Support</u> 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 <u>National Equity Project</u> (NEP) to bring <u>Liberatory Design training</u> to ECEAP contractors through a series of webinars and Professional Learning Communities (PLC). The first session occurred in March and the next is on May 5. 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 May or if you have questions, please email the <u>ECEAP inbox</u> for more details.

- Training from 1 4 p.m. on May 5 and June 2.
- PLCs for training attendees on June 9, 14, and 25.

Addressing Implicit Bias in Suspension

The webinar series with <u>Dr. Rosemarie Allen</u>, CEO of the <u>Center for Equity & Excellence</u> have concluded. These webinars will be posted soon on the <u>ECEAP Equity webpage</u>.

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.

Next Directors Monthly Check-In

June 2 from 9-10 a.m. QRIS Administrator, Rachael Brown-Kendall, will join us to talk about Early Achievers. Please join us if you can.

Family Support Staff Check-ins

Third Thursday monthly. Join May 20 from 9-9:40 a.m. here.

Education Staff Monthly Check-ins and Webinars

Fourth Wednesday monthly. Join May 26 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. here.

2020-21 Mobility Mentoring® Monthly Webinars

Direct Support Staff: May 13, 9 a.m.

Leads: June 10, 9 a.m.

OTHER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Early Achievers Institute

The <u>Early Achievers Institute</u>, May 13-15, 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. Free registration is extended to increase 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. Click <u>here</u> for more information.

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 May 11-12, May 18-19, and May 25-26. The Haring Center also offers follow up mini sessions for internship participants with additional content on behavior and building partnerships with families. Join mini sessions on May 13 and 27. 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 <u>Circle Time Magazine</u>, an accessible, friendly, and fun professional development web series focused on early learning in action.

RESOURCES

Equity

Creating a Welcoming Early Childhood Program for LGBT-Headed Families

Explore this <u>collection of resources</u> from the Head Start Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center to learn ways to enhance relationships with parents who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT). Directors, teachers, providers, and parents will find information and strategies to create an early childhood setting that is welcoming and inclusive, build staff professionalism, and engage all families in your program.

Reflecting on Anti-Bias Education in Action: The Early Years

In this <u>new film</u> from Anti-Bias Leaders In Early Childhood Education, you can watch vignettes of antibias strategies in classroom settings interspersed with teachers reflecting on their practices. The film shifts the focus away from the discussion of experts and on to the voices of teachers committed to advancing equity on a daily basis. Learn more about the importance of teacher reflection on identity, context, and practice in anti-bias education.

Early Childhood Education

DCYF Professional Development Quarterly Newsletter

This quarterly newsletter is designed to keep Washington's early learning community informed of all of the great work pertaining to <u>Professional Development</u>. Access the most recent newsletter <u>here</u>.

Early Math and Numeracy

40 Children's Books That Foster a Love of Math

Storybooks provide a rich opportunity to build not only literacy skills, but also math understanding. Books with math concepts woven into the pictures and storylines can promote children's mathematical thinking and introduce foundational math concepts such as numbers, shapes, patterns, and measurement. Learn more here.