

POLICY

Cancels: Child Care Certification Policy

See also: PRO 10.1.30; RCW 43.216; 110-300; 110-301

Approved by: Luba Bezbordnikova

POL 10.1.30 CERTIFYING TRIBAL PROGRAMS AND PAYMENT ONLY

The Department of Children, Youth, and Families is responsible for licensing activities to ensure that health and standards are present in childcare facilities in accordance with WA state regulations. Tribal Nations on federally recognized Tribal lands are legally exempt from licensing in accordance with WA state regulation. DCYF in coordination with Tribes have established a certification process for Tribal facilities.

- 1. DCYF Will Not License Legally Exempt Early Learning or School-Age Programs in Accordance With RCW 43.216.010**
- 2. DCYF May Certify Exempt Early Learning or School-Age Programs as Meeting Licensing Standards**

Programs may be certified as meeting licensing standards upon request for subsidy payments. The program must be:

- Located within a federally recognized reservation

- 3. DCYF Will Follow Licensing Practices When Certifying Exempt Programs as Meeting Licensing Standards**

DCYF will follow the same licensing requirements, inspection schedule and all other applicable laws as applied to early learning **or school-age** programs licensed by DCYF.

- 4. DCYF Must Ensure Early Learning or School-Age Programs Are Eligible for Certification for Payment Only**

Eligible programs must be:

- Licensed by another entity, certified or approved in accordance with national or state standards, or standards approved by DCYF.
- Operated on the premises where the entity operating the early learning or school-age program has jurisdiction.

- 5. DCYF May Certify An Early Learning or School-Age Program For Payment Only**

Programs may be certified for payment only upon request. The program must be:

- Licensed or certified by an Indian Tribe and located within a federally recognized reservation or on land held in trust such as casinos or smoke shops; or
- Licensed or Certified by the Federal Department of Defense

6. DCYF Will Confirm Programs Are Licensed, Certified or Approved in Accordance with National or State Standards or Standards Approved by DCYF

Programs must be operated on the premises where the Tribe has jurisdiction. DCYF will work with Tribes, when possible, to receive updated confirmation of compliance with Tribal CCDF requirements of programs certified for payment only on their lands, indicated in approved Tribal CCDF Plans or other documentation, every three years.