

## Terms and Definitions

**Department** refers to the Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families, DCYF.

**Early learning professionals** are all early learning providers, child care licensing staff, and other professionals in the early learning field.

**Early learning provider** refers to an early learning licensee or designee who works in an early learning program during hours when children are or may be present. Designees include center directors, assistant director, program supervisors, lead teachers, assistants, instructional aides, aides, and volunteers.

**License** means a permit issued by the department legally authorizing an applicant to operate an early learning program.

**Licensee** means an individual or legal entity listed on a license issued by the department, authorized to provide child care or early learning services in a center or family home setting.

**Nonexpiring license** means a license that is issued to an early learning provider following the initial licensing period, pursuant to chapter 43.216 RCW.

**RCW** means Revised Code of Washington.

**Revocation** or **revoke** when used in reference to an early learning provider's licensing status, means an enforcement action by the department to close an early learning program and permanently remove the license.

**Suspend** when used in reference to an early learning provider's licensing status, means an enforcement action by the department to temporarily stop a license in order to protect the health, safety, or welfare of enrolled children or the public.

**WAC** means Washington Administrative Code.