



Washington State Department of **CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**

Joint Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) And Provider Supports
Subcommittee Meeting
December 3, 2024

State Agency and Partner Updates

Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) Updates

Join the Virtual Community Child Care Forum – Tonight!

This is a great opportunity to meet DCYF leadership, connect with local licensing administrators and licensors, get the latest updates, ask questions, and share your experiences. We look forward to seeing you online!

- ***New Date*: Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2024**
- **Time: 6 to 7:30 p.m.**
- **[Registration Link](#)**

This event will be hosted in English, Spanish, and Somali. If you need another language to participate, please email us at dcyf.communityengagement@dcyf.wa.gov by Tuesday, Nov. 19.

Questions? Please send them in advance.

To make sure that DCYF captures as many of your questions as possible, please feel free to send them to us beforehand. While we may not get to every question during the forum, we will do our best to address as many as possible.

Submit your questions here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7W3B5HG>

Who Should Join?

Forums are open to licensed child care centers, family homes, outdoor nature-based providers, school-age providers, and certified providers on tribal lands.

Need Assistance?

For more details, visit our [Community Child Care Forums webpage](#).

If you have questions, or require an alternate format for this information, need language interpretation services, or need another accommodation or modification to participate in this event, please contact dcyf.communityengagement@dcyf.wa.gov.

Rule Making Update

Proposed Rules

Licensing Division updates to training requirements, capacity waivers for family home child care programs, prohibiting behaviors, WACs

The DCYF Licensing Division filed [WSR 24-22-108](#) to open the public comment period on proposed revisions to rules on:

WACs 110-300-0106 and WAC 110-301-0106:

- The language is being amended to allow a three-month timeframe to obtain training requirements for child care and early learning programs, specifically including first-aid and CPR certification.

WAC 110-300-0358 will allow DCYF to:

- Issue capacity waivers to allow no more than 16 children in a family home child care program, and only after meeting all requirements.
- Require better coordination between DCYF, child care providers, and local building authorities.
- Revise requirements for emergency preparedness with this waiver.

WAC 110-300-0331, WAC 110-301-0331, and WAC 110-302-0331:

- The language of the WAC does not clearly forbid child care providers from harming children. This rule change requires an immediate and permanent change to the WAC chapters to protect children from harm.

To participate in the permanent rulemaking process for these rules, the last day to submit feedback on the proposed rules is Tuesday, December 10, 2024. You can provide feedback using one of the following methods:

- [Submit your comments online.](#)
- Email dcyf.rulescoordinator@dcyf.wa.gov.
- Leave a voicemail message. Call 360-972-5385 and provide an email address when leaving a message so that we can respond to your comment.

Equal weight is given to all comments, whether they are made online, by email, or voicemail.

Water Testing for Lead and Copper Offered to Child Care Programs

Child care and early learning programs in Washington state are required to test their drinking water for lead and copper when seeking licensure and every six years after. The Washington State Department of Health offers free lead and copper testing for drinking and cooking water, which fulfills [WAC requirement 110-300-0235](#). To register for this program, fill out the interest form found here: [Lead in Child Care Drinking Water | Washington State Department of Health](#) Questions? Reach out to leadfreekids@doh.wa.gov

Additional State Agency/Partner Updates

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

View the Special Education monthly updates for November [here](#).

A spotlight within our Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) update includes the newly released [Myths and Facts in ECSE Edition](#).

There are multiple definitions for inclusion and for the purposes of this document we are seeking to align these definitions of inclusion as follows: *All young children with disabilities should have access to high-quality inclusive early childhood programs that provide individualized and appropriate support so they can fully participate alongside their peers without disabilities, meet high expectations, and achieve their full potential.*

Additional Resource: [Extended Myths & Facts About Inclusionary Practices in Washington](#)

OSPI Inclusionary Practices Original Films Project

OSPI is partnering with communities and schools across Washington state to build a more inclusive, supportive educational system that increases opportunities for each and every student.

Watch the video to learn more about the power of inclusive education and its impact on students, families, and communities; [Inclusionary Practices | OSPI](#).

If you would like to share your story of inclusion, please contact Dr. Tania May, OSPI Assistant Superintendent of Special Education, at tania.may@k12.wa.us.

OSPI Early Learning Division Resources:

[Early Learning in Washington State](#)

[Early Learning Resources](#)

For more information, please contact Ryan Guzman at Ryan.Guzman@k12.wa.us

Department of Health (DOH)

- **New web page!** DOH has recently launched a web page dedicated to [Early Care and Education | Washington State Department of Health](#). The web page contains links to key health-related resources and frequently used health and safety guides for early care and education partners. For questions or other inquiries about this site, please contact the DOH school engagement team at k12engagement@doh.wa.gov
- **New newsletter!** DOH has created a new quarterly newsletter focused on Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN). The first edition of the newsletter is found here: [WA DOH CYSHCN Communication Network Newsletter](#). If you would like to be added to distribution list, please sign up through the [Washington State Department of Health \(govdelivery.com\)](#) page.

For more information or questions, please contact Astrid Newell and Angie Funaiole at astrid.newell@doh.wa.gov and angie.funaiole@doh.wa.gov

Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA)

No updates to share at this time.

For more information, please contact Olivia Burley at Olivia.burley@dva.wa.gov

Department of Social and Health Services

No updates to share at this time.

For more information, please contact Christian Carvajal at Christian.carvajal@dshs.wa.gov.