

# Early Childhood Equity Grant Summary 2024-2025

## Fast Facts for 2024-2025 Early Childhood Equity Grant

- Grants awarded for 2024-2025 totaled \$9.8M.
- DCYF provided the application and materials in 6 languages: Arabic, Simplified Chinese, English, Russian, Somali, and Spanish.
- DCYF did quality assurance checks on all applications. DCYF removed applications for the following reasons: not eligible, funds requested for disallowed purposes, incomplete applications, and applications requesting funding outside the allowable range.
- The 2024-2025 Early Childhood Equity Grant will fund 179 applications, totaling \$9.8 million: 45 from Licensed Family Homes, 120 from Child Care Centers, 7 from ECEAP Contractors, 3 from Play and Learn Groups, and 4 from Family, Friend, and Neighbor caregivers.
- The funding will be used to: prevent racial disparities in disciplinary action; increase the use of research-informed social-emotional teaching practices; increase the use of culturally and linguistically responsive practices and decrease bias in the classroom; offer ongoing child assessment and developmental screening; connect families to services and supports that meet health, mental health, financial, or other needs; and to incorporate inclusive practices, culturally and linguistically supportive and relevant practices, or both into early learning program design, delivery, education, training, and/or evaluation.
- The funding will serve 9,125 licensed slots, plus additional children served through Family, Friend, and Neighbor caregivers, ECEAP contractors, and Play and Learn Groups.



## Background

The Early Childhood Equity Grant helps support culturally responsive programming so that children have access to diverse care that meets their needs. Grant funds must be used to incorporate inclusive practices, culturally and linguistically supportive and relevant practices, or both into early learning program design, delivery, education, training, and/or evaluation.

DCYF asked providers to choose one of the following goals for their project: preventing suspension and expulsion; increasing the use of research-informed social-emotional teaching practices; increasing the use of culturally and linguistically responsive practices and decreasing bias in the classroom; offering ongoing child assessment and developmental screening; or connecting families to service and supports that meet health, mental health, financial, or other needs. Providers were also able to generate their own goal. After choosing a goal, providers described a project that would help their facility meet that goal. They then provided information about the funding they would need to complete that project.

## Processing Applications

During the application period, DCYF received 790 applications requesting over \$43 million. Applications were screened for eligibility. DCYF removed applications that were incomplete. Applications from providers who did not meet eligibility requirements, or that requested funds for disallowed purposes, were also removed. After screening applications, 179 were considered complete and eligible. Because the 2024-2025 Early Childhood Equity Grant combined funds from two fiscal years and had additional one-time funding appropriated by the legislature, DCYF was able to fund all eligible applications!

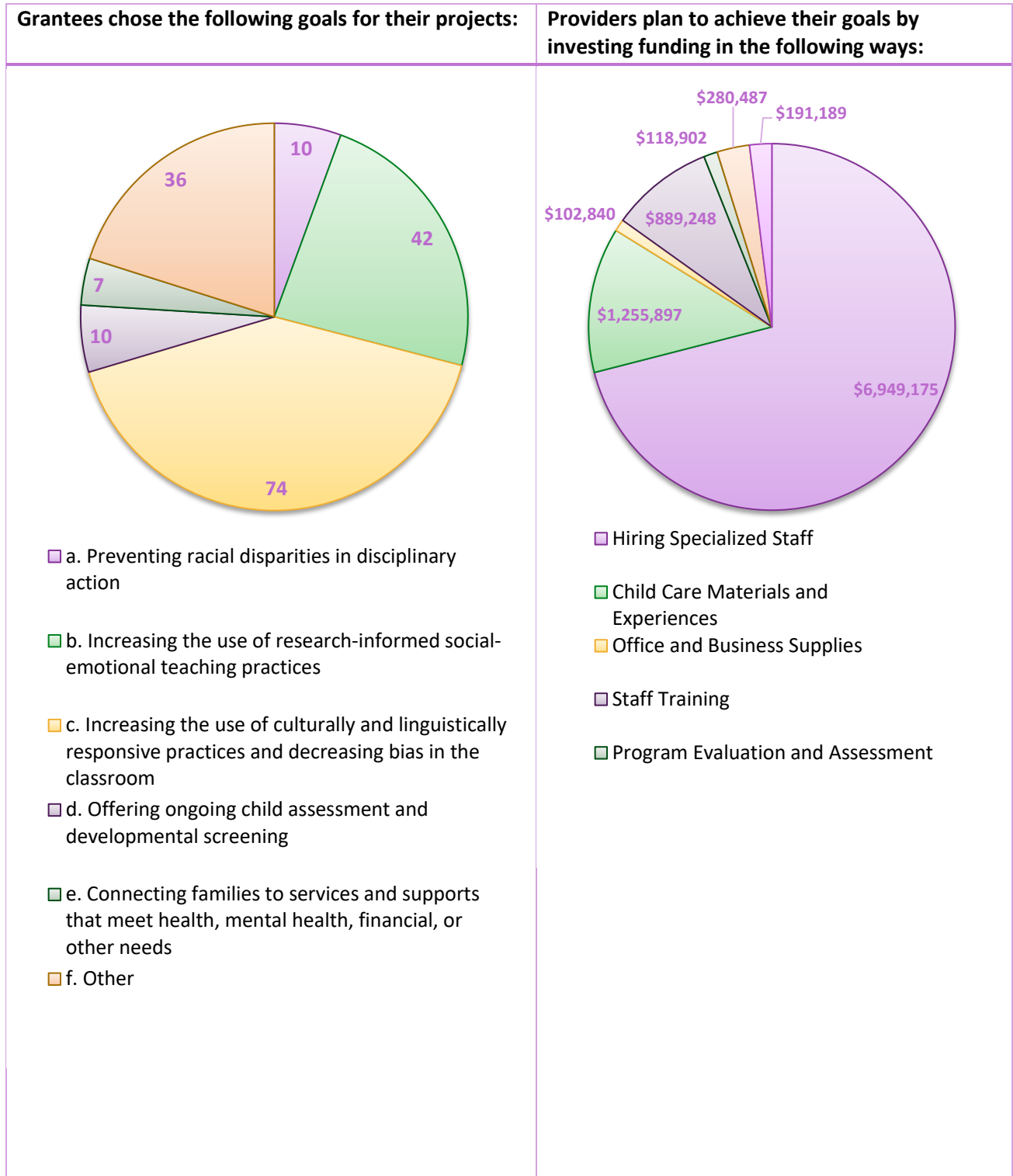
## Funding Decisions

DCYF was able to fund 179 applications, totaling \$9.8 million: 45 from Licensed Family Homes, 120 from Child Care Centers, 7 from ECEAP Contractors, 3 from Play and Learn Groups, and 4 from Family, Friend, and Neighbor caregivers.

Of the 179 funded organizations:

- 179 (100%) serve children who are Black, Indigenous, or Children of Color
- 62 (35%) serve children who are enrolled or eligible for membership in one of the 29 federally recognized tribes in Washington
- 77 (43%) serve children who are experiencing houselessness or homelessness
- 135 (75%) serve children who are receiving state, tribal, or military subsidy
- 74 (41%) serve children who are in an out of home placement due to child welfare involvement
- 175 (98%) serve children who speak a language other than English at home.

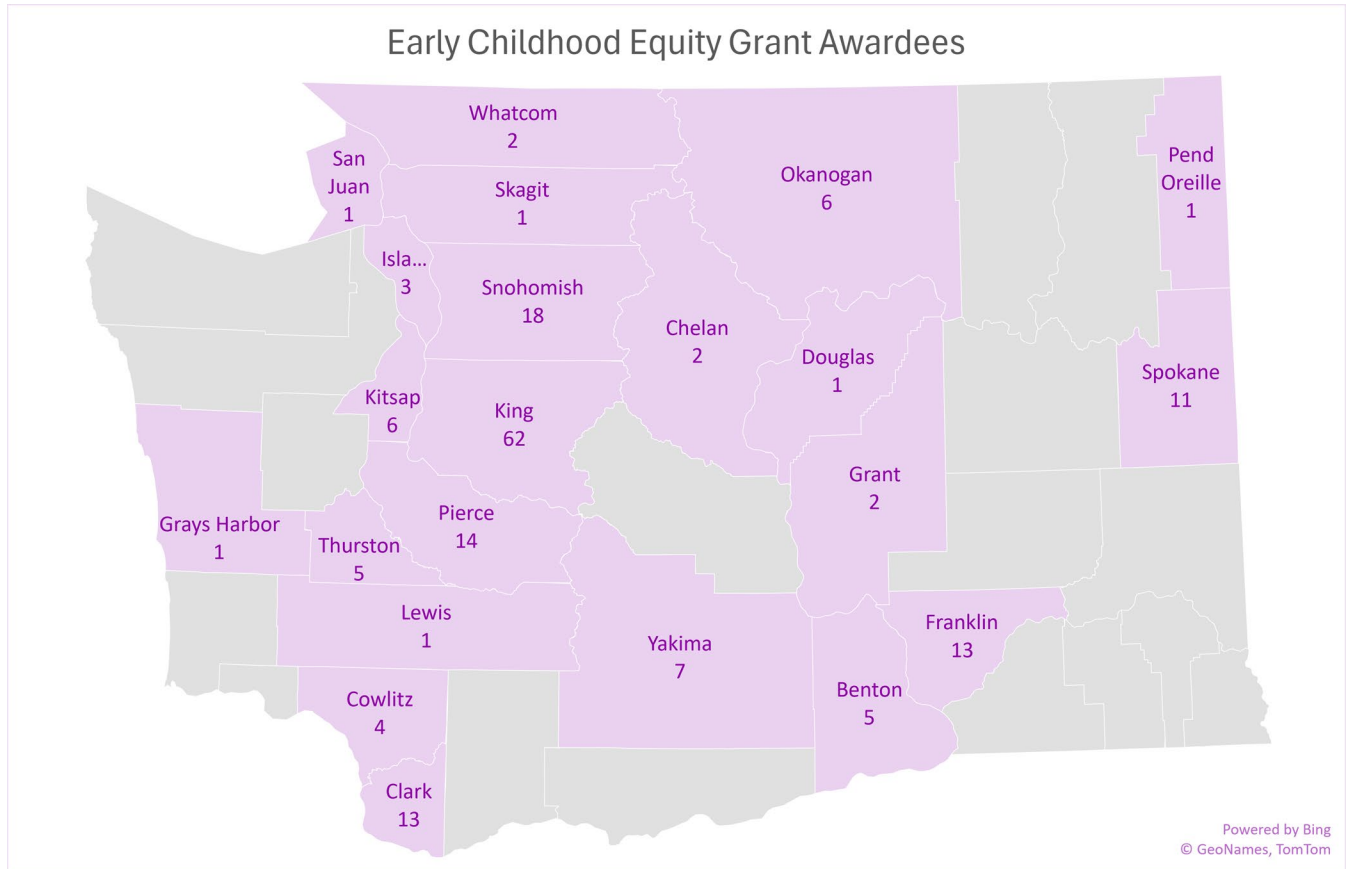
The following gives more detail about the goals chosen by grantees and how they plan to spend the funds:



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Early Learning Division | Approved for distribution by Amy Russell, Early Learning Division Deputy

Grantees are located in 22 of Washington's counties:



## Next Steps

Starting with the 2024-2025 Early Childhood Equity Grant, grantees are now required to attend a special technical assistance session before payment can be processed. Grantees will learn about grant management and DCYF's receipt review process. This will help make sure that providers understand the grant process and funding rules before funds are sent.

We expect that the Early Childhood Equity Grant will open again in spring 2025.