

Early ECEAP RFA Q&A – Updated November 7, 2019

Questions	DCYF Answers
What is the slot rate?	Early ECEAP provides the opportunity to leverage and maximize resources utilizing multiple funding sources to provide comprehensive services. Pilot sites may layer several funding sources so that seamless services are provided. The slot rate budgeted in the PDG 2.0 grant for Early ECEAP is \$20,000 per slot. In addition, Early ECEAP providers can receive Working Connections Child Care Subsidy for families who qualify, CACFP, and other funding that a site receives for an individual child for the site. Training will be provided on how to layer these funding sources.
Is there funding available to sites that are awarded through this RFA for staff and infrastructure? Or is the only current resource trainings for the selected sites?	If we are able to secure funding in the PDG 2.0 grant, there will be funding to support staff and infrastructure. However, under the current PDG grant, the trainings are only readiness trainings for the selected pilot sites. Under this RFA, DCYF will only provide compensation for travel and hotel expenses. If needed, interpreters will be provided during the trainings.
For the trainings, will compensation/subs be provided to facilitate attendance at the training/s?	Readiness trainings are only for leadership staff that will be responsible for the implementation/oversight of the Early ECEAP pilot at your site. If we receive full-implementation funding under the PDG 2.0 grant, additional resources will be provided for subs.
What is the expectation for the amount of training for sites participating in the pilot? How many trainings? How many hours a week or month will staff need to be attending training?	We are currently working on these details. However, we are planning for up to 2 trainings for a total of 2.5 days for leadership staff to attend. Readiness trainings are only for leadership staff that will be responsible for the implementation/oversight of the Early ECEAP pilot at your site.
Even if funding for slots has yet to be determined, will sites selected for this pilot receive commitments to fund at whatever level they are determined? What is the expected timing for contracts with slots after the readiness training/period has ended?	We anticipate to learn if Washington State is awarded the PDG 2.0 grant in late December 2019. If Washington is successful in receiving the PDG 2.0 grant, we will begin contract conversations with the selected pilot sites between January-March 2020. The PDG 2.0 implementation grant is expected to be three years. We intend to provide contracts for Early ECEAP within the three year period, depending on the level of funding received in the grant.
If we are current ECEAP contractor, we can submit an application with up to three sites (or subcontractors) with three classrooms each (maximum 9 classrooms). Is that a correct interpretation?	You are allowed to submit an application with up to three sites (or subcontractors) with three classrooms each (maximum 9 classrooms).
On the application Exhibit A #4, page 2, there is a box for requested new early ECEAP implementation classrooms. Does this refer to a site that does not yet have a classroom set up?	On the application Exhibit A #4, page 2: Under "Requested new Early ECEAP slots", enter the number of Early ECEAP slots that you are considering for your site, if selected. Under "Requested new Early ECEAP Implementation Classrooms (up to 3)", enter the number of Early ECEAP classrooms you are considering for your site, if selected.
For Early ECEAP, what is the age range of a toddler?	Early ECEAP will serve infants and toddlers. Age range: Children from 6 weeks up to 36 months.
You guys keep referring 'Extended Day' instead of 'Full Day', but also that it only has to be 1380 hours, which would not be extended day. You can get 1380 hours in a year with only 6	Per the RFA, DCYF intends to award slots for comprehensive Early ECEAP services for low-income working families blended with child care based on the successful Early Head Start center-based model funded at the federal level. Early Head Start is a full calendar year program per the Head Start

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<p>hours/day? Is this not intended to be a year-round program? It references being intended for working families, however 6 hours a day is very unlikely to meet a working families’ needs? We are just hoping to clarify exactly what type of staffing model we will need.</p>	<p>Act, and Early ECEAP is also intended to be a full calendar year program. Sites can close during holidays and to provide staff training.</p> <p>Early ECEAP is also intended to be an extended day model. An extended day means that services must accommodate the needs of full time working families, which generally means availability of services for a 10-hour day.</p> <p>The 1380 hours is a very minimum and is not reflective of offering a year round 10-hour day. This is currently what is listed in the Early Head Start Performance Standards, but according to the Region X Office of Head Start, Early Head Start center-based programs in Washington far exceed this number of hours. We will work with the pilot sites selected to adjust these hours to be more reflective of the year-round and extended day model.</p>
<p>Question 7D says ‘contact persons’ & ‘telephone numbers’. Is this contact information within our agency or for the funder of the contract/grant?</p>	<p>The information that should be entered in Question 7D should be from the agency that is directly applying and managing Early ECEAP.</p>
<p>If one of our ECEAP subcontractors applies for Early ECEAP and is awarded in the future, can they remain both an ECEAP Subcontractor and an Early ECEAP Contractor at the same time?</p>	<p>We are allowing a current subcontractor of an ECEAP contractor to apply for Early ECEAP. If an ECEAP subcontractor applies for Early ECEAP and is selected to be part of the pilot, they will be permitted to remain both an ECEAP Subcontractor and an Early ECEAP Contractor at the same time. Example: In Head Start, it is allowable to be a Head Start subcontractor for Head Start, and a contractor for Early Head Start. It was also allowable to for a subcontractor to apply for a Head Start grant directly when that opportunity became available.</p>
<p>“You must currently be executing at least one of the following center-based models: Early Head Start, Head Start, ECEAP, tribally-funded early learning, child care centers or family home providers.” Does this mean that an organization should currently be operating some type of Head Start, ECEAP or tribal program?</p>	<p>To be eligible for the Early ECEAP Pilot you must currently be operating one of the following models:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Head Start, • Head Start, • ECEAP, • Tribally-funded early learning, • Child Care Centers or, • Family Home Provider <p>You don’t have to be providing ECEAP or Head Start/Early Head Start to qualify but you do have to be operating a type of licensed: Child Care Center or be Family Home Provider.</p>
<p>Can I just apply by myself or do I have to partner with others and have multiple sites?</p>	<p>Applicants can apply individually. You do not have to partner with other Family Home Providers or other models to be eligible for Early ECEAP.</p>
<p>Can you let me know what the slot rate is?</p>	<p>AMENDED: We are currently in the process of determining the slot rate. Once we have determined the slot rate, it will be published in the DCYF Head Start Collaboration Office webpage.</p>
<p>We subcontract ECEAP within [our] city, one of our subcontractors wanted to know, if the City does not apply, could they apply as a subcontractor?</p>	<p>A subcontractor or contractor can apply as long as the minimum criteria is met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You must currently be executing at least one of the following models: Early Head Start, Head Start, ECEAP, tribally-funded early learning, child care centers or family home providers. 2) All RFA applicants must meet minimum licensing standards and be enrolled in the Early Achievers program

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I am looking over the RFA and I see we are not one of the counties that are listed as in high need. Does this mean we should not apply for this RFA?	We are using multiple data sources in this RFA process and we are aware that sometimes the data used/available does not accurately portray the needs of every community. I would encourage you and others to apply if there is a need in your community for quality child care.
Extended Day for working families	Extended day model for working families. We are following the Early Head Start Program Performance Standards which require 1380 hours of planned class operations for all enrolled children.
Will the RFP for Early ECEAP include a home based model similar to Early Head Start?	Early ECEAP will not include a home base model.
How many openings will be in Yakima?	We do not know this information. The Early ECEAP pilot sites will be selected based on the quality of application. We are using multiple data sources in this RFA process to inform us where high needs communities are located and childcare deserts, refer to the RFA document, but other factors will be taken into account.
Is there a maximum or minimum number of children that are required for this application?	AMENDED. We do not have a maximum or minimum number of children required for this application. Per the RFA, a pilot site can have up to 3 classrooms of Early ECEAP. So for example if a pilot site had one infant classroom of 6 children and two toddler classrooms of 8 children each, the maximum number of Early ECEAP children at a site would be 22.
Is this a full year or school year contract?	The RFA Early ECEAP contract time period is expected to be from December 2019-February 28, 2020. If we are successful in securing implementation funding through PDG 2.0, we hope to award year contracts. However, this level of details will need to be worked out at a later time.
Is this contract only for three months?	The RFA Early ECEAP contract time period is expected to be from December 2019-February 28, 2020
Will eligibility requirements match ECEAP or Early Head Start standards?	Eligibility requirements are aligned with Early Head Start Center Base Performance Standards. Please refer to them until we are able to finalize the Early ECEAP Performance Standards on the DCYF HSCO website.
To qualify as a site, does it just have to be current ECEAP contractor or does the site actually have to be a fully licensed site at this time?	An ECEAP Contractor may apply to participate in the trainings for phased in implementation. However, the sites that will actually deliver services to children and families will need to be licensed and be enrolled in early achievers.
Eligibility for EHS is different than eligibility for ECEAP. Which FPL percentage will be used?	We are currently in the process of finalizing income-eligibility. We will update this information on the DCYF HSCO website, along with the Early ECEAP Performance Standards.
Will the ratio be based on childcare licensing requirements?	AMENDED: The ratio for Early ECEAP is aligned with the Early Head Start Center Base Performance Standards, except for the infants to teacher ratio which the Early ECEAP Design Team recommended we lower to 1:3 with a group size of 6 or 9, depending on the number of teachers.
Can the candidates be a faith based program?	An applicant can be a faith based program.
What is the training and ramp up time period?	We anticipate that trainings will begin in late December - February 28th. After funding is secured, we anticipate that trainings will continue until services to children and families begin.
Will DCYF be providing training for eligible pilot sites?	DCYF and partners will provide the trainings for eligible pilot sites. We are currently in the process of developing a training plan.
Is this expected to be an extended day model or full day model?	Extended day model for working families. We are following the Early Head Start Program Performance Standards which require 1380 hours of planned class operations for all enrolled children.

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Will funding be attached to trainings?	AMENDED: Currently, the Early ECEAP trainings are being developed by DCYF and partners. Funding for the initial 3 months of training is included in the PDG 1.0 grant that DCYF received. If we are able to secure funding for full implementation, we do anticipate that there will be funding attached for staff training and support.
Can either a subcontractor or contractor apply for Early ECEAP?	A subcontractor or contractor can apply as long as the minimum criteria is met: 1) You must currently be executing at least one of the following models: Early Head Start, Head Start, ECEAP, tribally-funded early learning, child care centers or family home providers. 2) All RFA applicants must meet minimum licensing standards and be enrolled in the Early Achievers program
During the Early ECEAP RFA process, will you look at ELMS data for ECEAP applicants?	We will only look at the RFA application and supporting documents submitted. We will not use data found in ELMS because other applicants implementing a different model other than ECEAP do not use ELMS. The applications received will be rated based on the merit of the application and its content.
Question # 5: A-I questions has a limit of 250 words. It will be a challenge to provide answers within the 250-word limit.	We will look at this closely. An update in the HSCO website will be posted if we modify the word count in the RFA application for question #5 A-I.
Has the number of slots for the pilot been decided?	We currently have not determined the number of slots for the Early ECEAP Pilot. This level of information will be determined once we are able to successfully secure funding. Once funding is secured, I anticipate that negotiations will occur with each selected site.
Are we considering smaller rural areas at this time?	Yes, per the Senate Bill and RFA, we are looking at a mix of rural, suburban and urban areas for the pilot sites.