

Organizational License Pilot

Webinar Q&A

Q: How will you identify providers for the pilot?

A: We are still designing the pilot and application process.

Q: Is the pilot for early learning and school-age programs?

A: Yes. School-age and center programs will be considered. Family homes do not meet the criteria.

Q: Do you believe most participants would be organizations already operating multiple sites, or will there be space for programs looking to expand programming?

A: Programs that are looking to expand programming could be eligible to apply to participate in the pilot. The pilot is open to currently licensed or certified providers, and new applicants wanting to license 3-7 sites for the first time are also eligible.

Q: Can you clarify provider efficiencies?

A: Providers are looking for the DCYF licensing process to be more efficient. This project will focus on identifying ways to streamline the process to license new sites and ways to conduct oversight more efficiently for organizations with multiple sites.

Q: Can you participate in both a workgroup in pilot design and be a pilot participant or only one of the pathways?

A: We are still making that determination at this time.

Q: If you only have two sites, can you participate in the pilot?

A: If you are an organization that has two sites and you want to expand to three sites, you are eligible to apply to participate in the pilot and add the third site under the pilot license. If you only have two sites and do not intend on expanding to three, you are not eligible to apply to participate. You could, however, participate in the project now as an observer group or workgroup participant.

Q: Is there financial help offered to the providers who participate?

A: At this time, there is no funding support directly related to this project for providers.

Q: When do you expect applications for participation to be available?

A: We are finalizing our application process with stakeholder involvement in the coming months. We are hoping to have the application process ready in February 2022.



Q: If a program has more than seven locations, can we still participate in the pilot if we select just seven so we don't go over the max sites allowed?

A: Yes.

Q: Are non-profits qualified to apply to participate in the pilot?

A: Yes, it is outlined in SB 5092 sec 229(19) that the pilot should include *at least* one government child care provider, one for-profit child care provider, and one non-profit child care provider.

Q: What is the rollout timeline?

A: We are collecting feedback and designing the pilot in our first year of the project. In 2022, the pilot will launch, and we will begin data collection. In 2023, data collection will continue, and we will submit a report in 2024.

Q: What are the requirements for participants while a part of the pilot project? How will being part of the pilot project support multi-site programs?

A: Workgroup participants (those who will be assisting in designing the pilot) will be asked to attend and participate in monthly meetings (one to two hours each month) and provide their input and recommendations for the pilot design. The pilot and application process are still being designed. Therefore we do not know the requirements for pilot participants at this time.

Q: How many participants are you planning for this pilot?

A: This is yet to be determined.

Q: How will licensing visits work?

A: We are still designing the pilot. There may be some changes from the current practice for licensing visits.

Q: What are the goals of the program?

A: To streamline the licensing process and identify efficiencies in the ongoing oversight for organizations with multiple sites.

Q: How would this program be impacted with the ongoing universal preschool and other government initiatives that seem to be more about the government entities providing the child care instead of a partnership with the private providers?

A: As this is a licensing-specific pilot, the potential impacts are correlated to only individual licensees under an organizational umbrella at this time. Indirect outcomes as they relate to other government initiatives will be assessed throughout the pilot.

Q: What would the role of “program supervisor” be if a director is shared?

A: Individual sites will still need to meet the current WAC requirements for general staff qualifications for centers or school-age programs.

Q: Is it possible to consider a shared director for a consortium of independent centers? In rural areas, this would be far more important and impactful for increasing financial stability and adequate staffing.

A: An Organizational License would have one owner or entity, but for the individual sites, all current WAC requirements for general staff qualifications for centers or school-age programs must be met. We want stakeholder input to help us finish designing the pilot.