

## Early Childhood Education Workforce Council

The Department of Early Learning is excited to announce the creation of an Early Childhood Education Workforce Council.

### **What is the ECE Workforce Council?**

The Early Childhood Education Workforce Council supports the development of Washington’s qualified, diverse and competitively compensated educators across all early learning settings. The council will focus on ensuring that the degrees, certificates, and endorsements for early learning are progressive, valued, and transferable.

The ECE Workforce Council will provide advice and recommendations to the Department of Early Learning, other education-related state agencies, colleges and universities pertaining to:

- **Early Learning Competencies, Credentials, and Standards:** Updating and refining early learning educator competencies, credentials and standards to meet the required knowledge and skills for early learning educators;
- **Career Pathways:** Providing access to efficient career pathways through the alignment of standards, clear articulation between higher education preparation programs leading to degrees, certificates and endorsements for early learning professionals that are progressive, valued and portable;
- **Culturally Responsive Professional Development:** Informing culturally responsive professional development as it relates to curriculum, access and best practices for adult learning, increasing opportunities for demonstrating mastery of competencies;
- **Workforce Expansion:** Informing strategies to expand the supply of highly qualified and skilled early learning educators.

### **Who will make up the ECE Workforce Council?**

Community Partners, State and Federal Representation will appoint their Council Members. All others interested in being members will apply with the application found here

[www.del.wa.gov/sites/default/files/public/ProfessionalDevelopment/Early\\_Childhood\\_Education\\_Workforce\\_Council\\_Community\\_Application.pdf](http://www.del.wa.gov/sites/default/files/public/ProfessionalDevelopment/Early_Childhood_Education_Workforce_Council_Community_Application.pdf)

#### **State and Federal Representation**

- Department of Early Learning
- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Professional Educator Standards Board
- State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
- Office of the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board
- Head Start Collaboration Office
- Education verification representative

#### **Community Organizations**

- Service Employees International Union 925
- Child Care Aware

- Thrive Washington

#### **College and University Representatives**

- Community and Technical College Early Childhood Education program.
- University Early Childhood Education program that issues teaching certificates and ECE endorsements.
- University Early Childhood Education program that does not issue teaching certificates and ECE endorsements.

#### **Community and Provider Representatives**

- Childcare provider
- Tribal early childhood provider
- Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) provider

- Head Start provider
- State-approved trainer

**What are the expectations of selected council members?**

- Attend four quarterly in-person meetings per year
- Be familiar with several of the following workforce initiatives: licensed child care, stackable certificates, Early Achievers, NAEYC professional standards, Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP), Core Competencies for Early Learning Professionals, Early Learning Regional Coalitions, Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC), teacher certification process and endorsements.

**Will I be compensated for my work on this council?**

Workforce Council positions are unpaid, although provider positions may be eligible for reimbursement for travel expenses incurred while attending required meetings, as funding allows. Lodging and meal expenses will be reimbursed based on state per diem rates and in adherence with DEL policy. Current rates for travel can be accessed [here](#).

**If selected, what is the length of my term?**

The Council will stagger membership terms, with the possibility to reapply for membership. In order to retain council knowledge and advance the work, terms will be either two year or three year terms.

**How can I participate if I am not selected?**

Members of the public, including stakeholders, subject matter experts, and community partners may attend the ECE Workforce Council meetings. These individuals do not have voting rights, but public comment is encouraged.