



What is Early Achievers?

Early Achievers is a framework for improving the quality of early care in Washington State. It gives participating child care professionals access to coaching, professional development and a tangible way to demonstrate their commitment to providing quality care and education for young children.

What is an On-Site Evaluation Visit?

Child care and early learning programs that participate in Early Achievers receive on-site evaluation visits from the University of Washington's (UW) data collection team. The purpose of the evaluation visit is to observe and gather information about the program in order to validate a program's quality and provide an Early Achievers rating. This rating will be used in the next phase of Early Achievers which will focus on setting goals to continue improving the quality of care provided for your child.

What happens during an On-Site Evaluation Visit?

- UW data collectors observe a typical day in the classroom, doing their best to stay out of the way and not disrupt the children's typical daily schedule.
- Data collectors conduct observations using the following tools:
 - Environment Rating Scale (ERS): evaluates the materials available to children and how the children and the teachers interact with these materials.
 - Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS): looks at the interactions between children and teachers and how these interactions relate to the children's development and learning.
- Data collectors review files that the child care program has identified to show how the program is meeting quality standards and demonstrate services provided.

During this process, data collectors:

- Will not use individual child names in the documentation of their visit.
- Will not use identifiable child information in their observations.
- Will not look at any child's files without signed parent/guardian consent.
- Will not remove any documents from the facility.

What are the parent interviews and how can you volunteer?

As part of the evaluation process, parents can volunteer to participate in a phone interview with data collectors or share information by completing a survey online. During the interview parents are asked about the supports and services their program is providing to them and their child. You can volunteer to participate by completing the parent interview portion of the parent consent form.