



# 2019-21 Biennium Budget Decision Package

**Agency:** 307 - Dept of Children, Youth, & Families  
**Decision Package Code-Title:** BG - SEIU Bargained Training  
**Budget Session:** 2019-21 Regular  
**Budget Level:** Policy Level  
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## Agency Recommendation Summary

The Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) requests \$12 million and 9.0 FTE to support implementation of recently aligned licensing rules that provide a foundation for safe, healthy, and child-focused early learning services in consideration with potential change of practices due to the updates to licensing requirements to the represented licensed Family Child Care Providers. Potential changes may impact in the following four areas: Environmental, Health and Safety; Infant and Enhanced Toddler Supports; Overnight care for Infants; and ADA, Specialty and Individualized Care.

## Program Recommendation Summary

### 030 - Early Learning

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## Fiscal Summary

*Dollars in Thousands*

Operating Expenditures	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Fund 001 - 1	\$7,906	\$4,177	\$1,010	\$1,010
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$7,906</b>	<b>\$4,177</b>	<b>\$1,010</b>	<b>\$1,010</b>
<b>Biennial Totals</b>		<b>\$12,083</b>		<b>\$2,020</b>
Staffing	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
FTEs	9.0	9.0	8.0	8.0
<b>Average Annual</b>		<b>9.0</b>		<b>8.0</b>

Object of Expenditure	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Obj. A	\$612	\$612	\$534	\$534
Obj. B	\$227	\$227	\$200	\$200
Obj. C	\$6,686	\$3,022	\$0	\$0
Obj. E	\$16	\$16	\$14	\$14
Obj. G	\$22	\$22	\$19	\$19
Obj. J	\$65	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. T	\$278	\$278	\$243	\$243

## Package Description

In order to support providers to meet Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) requirements, be in compliance with the child care licensing WAC 110-300, and expand access to high quality care with an emphasis on infants, toddlers and children with special needs, this request addresses specific supports for the four updated licensing requirements to Family Child Care Providers:

**Educational Opportunities and Requirements** – In order to meet CCDF professional development requirements, the state CCDF plan and child care licensing WAC 110-300, DCYF is proposing to implement a progression of professional development that includes a pursuit of post-secondary education with the five-year timeline from the date of licensing or hire. DCYF requests \$2.2 million dollars in each of state fiscal years 2020 and 2021 for Scholarship funds to assist providers in meeting the requirements regarding seeking Early Childhood Education (ECE) certification (initial – 12 credits or short – 8 stackable credits) or equivalencies. In consideration with the workforce qualification and professional development data (MERIT) DCYF is assuming that 992 Family Child Care (FCC) providers will need scholarships:

Family Home Licensee	FY 2020	FY 2021
Scholarships per Year	992	992
Cost Per Scholarship per year (initial certificate)	\$2,213	\$2,213
Total	\$2,195,296	\$2,195,296

**2. Environmental, Health, and Safety** – Washington is required to comply with CCDF health and safety requirements that prevent environmental hazards keeping children in care safe and healthy. Updated child care licensing WAC 110-300 requires providers to improve some components of their current environments to minimize environmental risk factors. DCYF is focusing on the providers who serve the most vulnerable population of children. The agency requests \$2.3 million dollars in state fiscal year 2020 for a one-time payment of \$750 per FCC provider providing care to a child receiving subsidy at least once during the months of April, May, June, or July 2019. Using data from Fiscal Year 2017, DCYF is projecting an eligible provider population of 3,013. This will be an automatic one-time payment issued no later than 90 days after July 2019, or after payment for qualifying care, whichever is later. These funds will be used to meet the updated environmental, health, and safety requirements in chapter WAC 110-300 Foundational Quality Standards for Early Learning Programs.

One-time	# providers serving subsidy in April/May/June/July 2019	FY20 Total
\$750	3,013	\$2,259,750

**3. Infant and Enhanced Toddler Supports** – A large portion of a child’s foundational development occurs from birth to 18 months. Infant and toddler care costs more as the demands for the safe and healthy practices and supervision are much higher. Family child care homes are often a preferred setting for infants and enhanced toddlers. Due to the increased cost of providing care, these providers may experience challenges with organizing a high-quality learning and care experience for infant and enhanced toddlers.

- 1. Infant/Enhanced Toddler Provider Incentive.** DCYF requests \$1.3 million dollars in state fiscal year 2020 to fund a \$300 provider incentive per infant or enhanced toddler receiving subsidy that FCC providers accept into care. DCYF assumes 4,491 infants will either be in care or enter care between July 2019 and June 2020. This incentive will be available for Family Child Care Providers between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020.
- 2. Overnight Care for Infants** – DCYF requests \$118,000 in state fiscal year 2020 and \$62,000 in state fiscal year 2021 for a one-time \$300 recognition payment to FCC providers providing overnight care for infants. The payment will be based off the parent schedule as reported at the time of authorization. Overnight care is defined as care provided between the hours of 9:00 pm and 5:00 am.

**4. ADA, Specialty and Individualized Care** – A child's initial experiences with early childhood education and care determine the degree to which he or she feels connected to his/her family and community. When a child is experiencing a high degree of inclusiveness during the early years, it positively shapes his/her future learning and life trajectory. Children of all abilities who attend inclusive early childhood programs are better equipped to learn, live, and work in inclusive communities. The availability of high quality inclusive early care and education programs is a goal DCYF has for all children, and is well aware of the components that must be in place to create an inclusive environment:

- 1. Access.** Providing access to a wide range of learning opportunities, activities, settings, and environments is a defining feature of high quality early childhood inclusion.
- 2. Participation.** Even if environments and programs are designed to facilitate access, some children will need additional individualized accommodations and supports to participate fully in play and learning activities with peers and adults.
- 3. Supports.** In addition to provisions addressing access and participation, an infrastructure of systems-level supports must be in place to undergird the efforts of individuals and organizations providing inclusive services to children and families.

While our state has made some progress toward this goal, we still have much to accomplish. In particular, we see a growing need for Family Home Providers be ready and equipped to serve children with different needs and abilities.

The Department of Children, Youth, and Families has an obligation to meet training and staff qualification requirements as an outcome of the new aligned standards. The aligned standards also include federal requirements for training that are tied to the parameters for funding for the Child Care Development Block Grant. To ensure direct service providers are meeting state and federal requirements, we must provide the training needed to meet compliance.

1. **Online Learning** – DCYF requests \$120,000 in state fiscal year 2020 and \$120,000 in state fiscal year 2021 to provide online learning of 125 hours of new training content required by the new aligned standards, and include CCDF required federal training.
2. **Training Delivery** – DCYF requests the FTEs detailed below to deliver new required training to family home assistant teachers, lead teachers, assistant directors and licensed exempt providers as required by new aligned standards and federal health and safety requirements.
3. **Recording Education** – DCYF requests \$500,000 in state fiscal year 2020 and \$500,000 in state fiscal year 2021 for additional Education Verification requirements to record education electronically for all family home providers as required by the new aligned standards and to implement and monitor the new competency based education equivalency program.

## Assumptions and Calculations

### Expansion or alteration of a current program or service:

See attached

### Detailed assumptions and calculations:

See attached

### Workforce Assumptions:

See attached

## Strategic and Performance Outcomes

### Strategic framework:

This proposal aligns with the Results Washington Goal #1.1: "Increase by 2 percent each year, the percentage of children who demonstrate readiness skills for kindergarten."

### Performance outcomes:

The department expect that this investment will increase the quality of child care within the Family Child Care provider community.

## Other Collateral Connections

### Intergovernmental:

Not applicable

### Stakeholder response:

The department anticipates support from licensed family home child care providers.

### Legal or administrative mandates:

This proposal is the result of bargaining with the Service Employees International Union, Local 925.

### Changes from current law:

Not applicable

### State workforce impacts:

Not applicable

**State facilities impacts:**

Not applicable

**Puget Sound recovery:**

Not applicable

## Reference Documents

- Additional Backup Calculations.xlsx
- Data Template.xlsm

## IT Addendum

**Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?**

No