

How Does CFE Work?

CFE replicates ECEAP's whole child model, which is aligned with nationally researched programs that show exceptional returns on investment in early learning.

How is CFE Funded?

Local government, school districts, institutions of higher education and nonprofit organizations fund CFE.

CFE Quality Assurance

To maintain the quality of early learning services, all ECEAP performance standards, policies, procedures, monitoring and administration apply to CFE.

CFE Fund Management Process

There is an Early Start account where all CFE funds are deposited and a fund management system for all CFE funds.

CFE Cost Per School Year

MODEL	HOURS	COST/YEAR
Part Day	3	\$8,237
School Day	5.5 - 6.5	\$11,309 (avg.)
Working Day	10	\$17,656 (avg.)



For more information, visit: www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/early-learning-providers/eceap/community-funded-eceap

Email: eceap@dcyf.wa.gov

COMMUNITY FUNDED ECEAP



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

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What is Community Funded ECEAP?

The unmet need for high-quality early learning opportunities led to the creation of Community Funded ECEAP (CFE). RCW 43.216.080 (app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=43.216.080) created additional early learning opportunities by allowing local governments, school districts, institutions of higher education (app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=28B.10.016) and nonprofit organizations to contribute funds to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) to expand access and eligibility of the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP).

CFE Process

To get the process started, providers will learn how CFE works, gather the required information and documentation and seek funding sources. Providers must complete the following: expression of interest, application site approval (if new provider), agreement of payment. Upon approval, the provider can then implement the program.

CFE Contracting Structure

The contracting structure for CFE is the same as the traditional state funded ECEAP. CFE contractors operate CFE-funded slots or sites directly or through subcontracts with partners.

Why Community Funded ECEAP?

- CFE addresses the increasing need for high-quality early learning by creating opportunities for more children who are ready for preschool – particularly 4-year-olds not currently served.
- According to DCYF's ECEAP and Head Start annual Saturation Study, each year a large number of children are not served by state-funded ECEAP or Head Start.
- Despite the Washington State Legislature's commitment to early learning and ECEAP services, there are still early learning gaps that exist for many preschool children in communities across Washington.
- Families who are living in poverty are struggling as the reduced rate lunch cost goes up. Being at 185% of the federal poverty level (\$47,638 for a family of four) and higher, families continue to struggle.
- Hardworking families are still unable to make ends meet and need accessible high-quality preschool programming for their children.

