

# Fair Start for Kids Act – Implementation Timeline



**JULY 2021**

- Expands approved activities and removes work requirements for student parents accessing Working Connections Child Care
- Increase rates to the 85th percentile for licensed centers and family home providers
- ECEAP slot rates increase by 10%
- Child Care Subsidy copays are waived July, August, and September

**FALL 2021**

- Child care stabilization grants
- Complex needs funds to support ECEAP and child care providers
- Early childhood equity grants

**OCTOBER 2021**

- Child Care Subsidy income eligibility to 60% state median income (SMI)
- Child Care Subsidy copay steps align with conversion to SMI

**JANUARY 2022**

- Expand community-based option for ECE initial certificate completion



**JULY 2022**

- Dual language rate enhancement
- Infant care incentive
- Trauma-informed care supports
- ECEAP slot rate increase
- Develop community-based training for equivalent to ECE short certificate
- Continued expansion of community-based training for equivalent to ECE initial certificate

**JULY 2023**

- Child Care Subsidy 50%-60% SMI copay step increases to \$165

**JULY 2025**

- Child care subsidy income eligibility to 75% SMI

**JULY 2026**

- ECEAP eligibility increases to 36% SMI, allowing voluntary entitlement
- ECEAP eligibility increases to 50% SMI, when accompanied by additional qualifying factors
- Early ECEAP expansion

**JULY 2030**

- ECEAP eligibility increases to 50% SMI, allowing voluntary entitlement



If you would like copies of this document in an alternative format or language, please contact DCYF Constituent Relations (1-800-723-4831 | 360-902-8060, [ConstRelations@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:ConstRelations@dcyf.wa.gov)).

DCYF PUBLICATION EPS\_0059 (08-2021)



Washington State Department of  
**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**