

Vision

Children in Washington start kindergarten healthy, capable, and confident in their ability to learn and succeed.

Mission

DEL offers voluntary, comprehensive, high-quality early learning programs and support to families and early learning professionals.

Guiding principles

- ▶ Use the science of early childhood development to inform policy and practice.
- ▶ Focus on the most vulnerable children to help close the opportunity gap.
- ▶ Value our employees, our partners and early learning professionals as integral parts of building a world-class early learning system.
- ▶ Because parents are their children's first and most important teachers, children are best supported in the context of their families.

Goals

Provide voluntary, high-quality early learning opportunities for children and families in Washington.

Support all early learning professionals with research-based professional development and resources to ensure high-quality early learning opportunities.

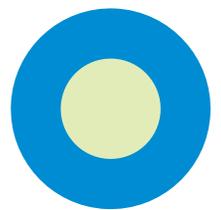
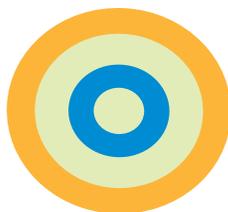
Build public awareness of and support for high-quality early learning opportunities.

Promote system excellence by ensuring DEL is well-managed and supportive of its employees.



Objectives

- ▶ Objective 1.1: Align early learning programs under one quality framework, so that we use a common definition of quality across program settings and maximize system efficiency
- ▶ Objective 1.2: Continue expanding state-funded preschool to reach all eligible children when the program becomes a statutory entitlement (school year 2018-19)
- ▶ Objective 1.3: Support healthy development in strong families through DEL programs and policies
- ▶ Objective 1.4: Build strong pre-K through third-grade instructional alignment to build on development gains made in early learning programs
- ▶ Objective 1.5: Maintain high standards in licensed child care, because health and safety are the foundation of quality
- ▶ Objective 2.1: Enhance access to high-quality professional development opportunities
- ▶ Objective 2.2: Incorporate emerging brain relationship, and developmental science into state policies and procedures
- ▶ Objective 3.1: Build family demand for high-quality early learning programs
- ▶ Objective 3.2: Create partnerships with business leaders based on value of high-quality early learning for their current and future work force
- ▶ Objective 3.3: Strengthen capacity of families and communities to advise, inform and advocate for statewide early learning policies
- ▶ Objective 4.1: Ensure DEL staff have access to training and resources so that they are knowledgeable and offer high-quality service
- ▶ Objective 4.2: Use Lean practices and strategic investment in technology infrastructure and people to make data-driven decisions.
- ▶ Objective 4.3: Support employee growth and satisfaction



Outcome measures

Goal 1

- ▶ Increase state-funded preschool enrollment slots from the 2013 baseline of 8,391 slots to 22,807 slots by 2018-19 school year-to serve 100% of eligible children whose families choose to enroll. (Results Washington)
- ▶ Increase by 2% each year, 2012-13 through 2015, the percentage of children who demonstrate readiness skills for kindergarten in these areas: social-emotional, physical/health, language, cognitive, literacy, and math. (Results Washington)
- ▶ Increase number of early learning providers who achieve level 3 or above in Early Achievers (voluntary quality rating and improvement system) from 2013 baseline of 253 programs to 1,471 programs by December 2018. (Results Washington)
- ▶ Increase the number of parents/families who have access to support through voluntary home visiting services by 10% from 2013 baseline by December 2015. (Results Washington)
- ▶ 100% of child care facilities are monitored on time (centers, family homes and school-age).
- ▶ 100% of families eligible for 12 months of uninterrupted Working Connections Child Care subsidies receive that continuous care.
- ▶ 20% WCCC subsidies awarded as slots based on quality versus vouchers by 2015.
- ▶ Increase from 50% to 75% number of subsidized children served in Early Achievers facilities who are in Level 3 or higher facilities by 2016.

Goal 2

- ▶ Increase the number of professionals completing the stackable certificates:
 - Initial certificate – increase 15%
 - Short-term certificate – increase 10%
 - State certificate – increase 10%
- ▶ Increase the number of professionals completing an AA degree in ECE by 15%.
- ▶ Increase the number of professionals completing a BA degree in ECE by 20%.

Goal 3

- ▶ Increase by 25% families who ask about quality when contacting the Child Care Aware of Washington Family Resource Center by 2016.
- ▶ At least 25% of Washington families say they chose early learning programs based on quality by 2016.

Goal 4

- ▶ Increase percentage of state employees satisfied with their job from 69% to 72% by January 2016. (Results Washington goal)
- ▶ 100% annual employee evaluations completed on time.