



Washington State Department of Early Learning

Early Childhood Education Assistance Program (ECEAP) Pilot Overview



Project Purpose

To help child care providers prepare to offer ECEAP services integrated within their current curriculum, the Department of Early Learning has contracted with ESD 112 and Community Minded Enterprises to work with Child Care Aware of Washington and a group of stakeholders to develop training and technical assistance supports that augment those already provided through Early Achievers.



Early Childhood Education & Assistance Program



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In addition to separate pilots in Spokane (in which SEIU is working with four family child care homes [FCCHs] with SEIU as the ECEAP contractor) and in Pierce/King Counties (where PSESD is working with three FCCHs) as subcontractors, this project will pilot intensive supports for ten or more providers to move down one of two pathways:

1.) an affiliation with other child care homes/centers (piloted in Northeast Washington), or

2.) as a subcontractor to an existing contractor (piloted in Southwest Washington).

The pilot's specific goals are to:

- Research business models and articulate contractor, subcontractor and affiliated contractor roles
- Understand what child care providers need to successfully implement ECEAP
- Review current tools to develop a Child Care Provider ECEAP Readiness Toolkit
- Implement a successful pilot in the two regions and prepare to expand the pilot if/as refined



Development of Tools and Processes

Processes - The project will use several mechanisms to research, draft and refine the processes and tools that can best support our child care partners as ECEAP providers, including:

- [Research](#) – Project team work groups are exploring methods and tools that promote high-quality services
- [Provider Focus Groups](#) – Groups of interested providers will explore the benefits ECEAP can provide and identify questions, concerns and needs the intensive supports should address
- [Advisory Committee](#) – An advisory committee with insights from different parts of the early learning system will meet three or four times and will use ad hoc groups between meetings to inform the pilot
- [WSA Directors' Workshop](#) – A session at a fall 2015 WSA meeting will explore ideas for bringing child care providers in as successful subcontractors and/or bolstering their success as an affiliated group

Results – The project will use these mechanisms to develop processes and tools that can continue to be refined and expanded to support child care providers in their path to integrate ECEAP services.

- [Child Care Provider ECEAP Readiness Toolkit](#) - A pre- and post readiness self-assessment, a mid-course survey, and other specific tools to lead potential ECEAP providers through the process
 - [Community Resource Enhancement](#) – Engagement processes that strengthen community agency collaboration with child care providers to deliver family support and health services
 - [Training Curricula and System Enhancements](#) – Training curricula that include: child care WAC and ECEAP Performance Standard alignment and monitoring; purchase/provision of family support and health services; budget develop and cost allocation; data sharing; and, contracting and finance
 - [Intensive Technical Assistance and Coaching](#) – Coaching on areas like: policy and procedure development, multiple funding sources; meeting ERS/CLASS goals; and, reflective supervision
 - [Provider Engagement and Recruitment](#) – Outreach, informational sessions, and peer networking
 - [Pilot Refinement](#) – Feedback from participating providers, advisory committee and community partners and success data from pilot participants
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