

Department of Early Learning

Policy Title:	10.1.17 Child Fatality and Near Fatality Review				
Procedure:	Attached				
References:	RCW 43.215.490				
Applies To:	Licensing Analyst	Contact:	Licensing Oversight Division		
Effective Date:	01/01/2016	Review Date:	01/01/2017	Created on:	01/01/2016
Reviewed:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RAs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CCSLA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AD				
Director Approved:					

The Department of Early Learning (DEL) is responsible for licensing activities to ensure that standards of health and safety are present in child care facilities in accordance with Washington State law and administrative code (regulations). The term “child care facility” is used to indicate licensed family child care homes, child care centers and school-age programs.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to clarify and standardize the process of fatality reviews in the event a fatality occurs while a child is in the care of a licensed child care or Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) approved by Department of Early Learning. The purpose of the child fatality review is to develop recommendations to DEL and the legislature to strengthen health and safety protection for the children in care. The review will help to identify if there is a need for increased education and training, as well as potential policy or legislative changes.

Policy

DEL personnel are expected to:

- I. Determine when a child fatality or near fatality meets the requirements for a review as defined by Washington state law 43.215.490 RCW.
- II. Convene the child fatality review committee.
- III. Gather all related documents and files and create a chronological case summary.
- IV. Facilitate the fatality review committee meetings and document committee summaries and recommendations.
- V. Prepare the draft report and submit it to the Child Care Statewide Licensing Administrator (CCSLA). The CCSLA will be given an opportunity to review and ask questions or request clarification prior to the finalization and release of the report.
- VI. The report must be delivered to all required legislative committees and posted on the DEL public website.

Attachments

Child Fatality and Near Fatality Review Procedure