



Washington State Department of  
**Early Learning**

**Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) Meeting**

October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – 8:30am to 3:30pm – Radisson Hotel Seattle-Tacoma Airport

**State Agency and Partner Updates**

**Agency/Partner Update**

**Department of Early Learning (DEL)**

For more information please contact Justin Montermini at [Justin.Montermini@del.wa.gov](mailto:Justin.Montermini@del.wa.gov)

- **Agency Request Submittals (awaiting Governors Approval)**
  - Creating clarity in statute regarding the license exempt status of private school, school age, and after school programs
  - Technical corrections regarding DELs access to DSHS information while DEL is conducting detailed background checks
- **Other policy considerations**
  - PAG resources and participant supports

**Department of Health & Social Services (DSHS)**

- No updates to share at this time.

**Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)**

For more information please contact Bob Butts at [Bob.Butts@k12.wa.us](mailto:Bob.Butts@k12.wa.us)

- **State-funded Full-day Kindergarten**
  - Approximately 72% of students are funded for the 2015-16 school year. Schools have been identified and approved.
  - 100% of schools will be eligible for state funding in the 2016-17 school year.
    - Application process will occur this winter
    - School districts may decline funding because of classroom space and other issues
  - In 2018-19 school year, full-day kindergarten is to be available to all students statewide.
  - OSPI, in conjunction with Early Learning Directors in Sumner and Bellingham, has created a guide in how to create high quality, rigorous full-day kindergarten classrooms. It is available at:  
<http://www.k12.wa.us/EarlyLearning/FullDayKindergartenResearch.aspx>
- **K-3 Class-size Reduction Funding**
  - Enhanced funding will be available beginning this school year for school districts to lower class-sizes in grades K-3.
  - The funding will be based on district-wide student: certificated teacher ratios in each grade.
  - The funded student: certificated ration varies depending on the grade and whether the schools are high poverty.
  - OSPI is developing the funding criteria for allocating the funds and additional information will be available shortly.

▪ **Capital Funding for K-3 Class-size Reduction and Full-day Kindergarten**

- The legislature appropriated \$200 million for a pilot competitive grant program to add classrooms to help reduce class sizes.
- Criteria for awarding grants will include:
  - Classroom availability;
  - Student-teacher ratios;
  - Poverty; and
  - Ability to raise capital funds in the past ten years
- Additional information is included in Bulletin Number 043-15, released on August 27, 2015

**Department of Health (DOH)**

For more information please contact Maria Nardella at [Maria.Nardella@doh.wa.gov](mailto:Maria.Nardella@doh.wa.gov)

- Two new federal grants were recently awarded to DOH:
- **NEW: Transforming Pediatric Practice Initiative (TPPI).** DOH has been awarded a very competitive Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) grant starting in October 2015 for \$17 million over 4 years. This is the only national grant award to focus on pediatric services. The Grant will:
  - use an innovative payment and service delivery approach
  - test if technical assistance in a specific adaptive learning model will result in pediatric practice transformation with improved health outcomes and reduced costs
  - focus on pediatric primary care and behavioral health clinicians, moving solo practices into an integrated practice network transformation network
- DOH will partner with the WA Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (WCAAP) and Molina as the lead Medicaid Managed Care Organization. The long term TPPI impacts will be to:
  - improve Medical Home Clinical outcome measures (Medicaid Child Quality Core Set)
  - decrease Emergency Department visits and hospitalizations
  - increase short-term and lifespan cost savings

The grant contact is Kathleen Clark ([kathleen.clark@doh.wa.gov](mailto:kathleen.clark@doh.wa.gov)).

- **NEW: Project LAUNCH Expansion Grant.** Healthy Starts & Transitions at DOH is one of five states to receive a Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health) Expansion Grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The four year grant award brings \$680,000 into the state each year to increase child wellness through training and technical assistance to early childhood settings with a focus on developmental screening, mental health consultation, and workforce development. The grant will target early childhood settings that serve infants and toddlers of high risk populations in three communities of Washington – Chelan-Douglas, Benton-Franklin, and North Thurston counties. DOH will work closely with grant partners at Catholic Family and Child Service in Yakima. Until a new Project Coordinator is hired, the grant contact is Maria Nardella ([maria.nardella@doh.wa.gov](mailto:maria.nardella@doh.wa.gov)).

- **Essentials for Childhood** has developed shared metrics, and one of those metrics is Universal Developmental Screening. For more information on Essentials for Childhood visit:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/EssentialsforChildhoodInitiative>

### **Thrive Washington (Thrive)**

For more information please contact Sam Whiting at [Sam@thrivebyfivewa.org](mailto:Sam@thrivebyfivewa.org)

- **Washington Home Visiting Summit:** The state's first Home Visiting Summit was a great success with about 275 home visitors and direct supervisors attending. The two-day gathering was sponsored by Thrive, DEL and the Washington Dental Service Foundation.
- **Early Learning Regional Coalitions:** The quarterly meeting of the Early Learning Regional Coalitions will be held in Spokane on Sept. 30 and focus on planning for 2016. An RFP for CY16 funding is expected at the end of September.
- **Join Us!** There are a number of events coming up to support the professional development of the early learning field. Thrive is helping to sponsor the following:
  - **Young Child Expo: Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 2015 in Spokane.** Thrive board member Beck Taylor, president of Whitworth College, and Thrive President & CEO Sam Whiting will be among the keynote speakers.
  - **Zero to Three National Training Institute: Dec. 2-4, 2015 in Seattle.** The Zero to Three's 30th Annual National Training Institute is being held in Seattle this year! As platinum sponsor of the conference, we will be hosting an evening event. Joining Thrive CEO Sam Whiting in a discussion about making early learning in all 2016 election conversations is Mark Shriver of Save the Children Action Network, Sen. Steve Litzow, and Karen Howard of First Focus.
- **FYI – Washington STEM Summit 2015:** On Dec. 1, our partners at Washington STEM will host their annual STEM Summit to bring together state and national STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) thought-leaders, innovators, and champions who are united by a passion to advance excellence, innovation, and equity in STEM education. The conference will be held on the Microsoft campus from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and is designed for educators, community leaders, school administrators, business leaders, students and policy makers. [www.washingtonstem.com](http://www.washingtonstem.com)