Child Care Subsidies
A guide for Licensed and Certified Child Care Centers

Washington State Department of Early Learning
Revised October 15, 2015
# Table of Contents

**Table of Contents**

- Introduction .................................................................................................................. 2
- Roles and Responsibilities ............................................................................................ 3
- Eligibility Determination .............................................................................................. 4
- State Child Care Subsidy Rates ..................................................................................... 7
- Child Care Fees ............................................................................................................. 8
- Billing for Days You Don’t Provide Care ...................................................................... 10
- Subsidized Child Care Billing Rules ............................................................................ 11
- Using Invoice Express .................................................................................................. 13
- Payment Options .......................................................................................................... 13
- Tax Information ............................................................................................................ 13
- Resources ....................................................................................................................... 14
Introduction

This guide provides information about Washington state subsidy eligibility, billing and payment. Refer to this guide when billing for state child care services.

Washington state child care subsidy programs pay for licensed and certified family home child care. Centers in Oregon and Idaho that meet their state's licensing rules may qualify for child care subsidy payments when they care for eligible children who live in Washington.

Child Care Subsidy Programs (CCSP)

The Department of Early Learning (DEL) sets the policies and rules for all child care subsidy programs. The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) determines family eligibility, authorizes child care and pays providers for all child care subsidy programs.

Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) Program

WCCC helps eligible families pay for child care while they participate in approved activities, such as work, training, educational programs and approved TANF activities. Licensed or certified child care providers and Family, Friends and Neighbors (FFN) providers may be eligible to provide child care paid by WCCC.

Seasonal Child Care (SCC)

SCC serves eligible families who are seasonally employed in agricultural occupations. Seasonal workers may also be eligible for WCCC. They may apply for the program that will best suit their child care needs. If a child is eligible and authorized for more than one Washington state child care subsidy program, you may only bill one program. Only licensed or certified providers are eligible to provide child care paid by the SCC program.

SCC provides services to eligible families who live in the following counties:

- Adams
- Benton
- Chelan
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Grant
- Kittitas
- Okanogan
- Skagit
- Walla Walla
- Whatcom
- Yakima

Glossary

CA: Children's Administration

Certified Child Care: DEL-certified tribal, public school and military facility child care programs

DEL: Department of Early Learning

DSHS: Department of Social and Health Services

Licensed Child Care: DEL-licensed child care centers, school-age programs and family homes

NSHB: Nonstandard Hours Bonus

SCC: Seasonal Child Care

SSPS: Social Services Payment System

WAC: Washington Administrative Code

WCCC: Working Connections Child Care

WCIP: Working Connections Information Phone
Children’s Administration (CA) Child Care Programs

CA social workers approve child care services for eligible families. Social workers must verify child care is provided by a qualified provider. Payments to providers are authorized by the child’s assigned social worker and paid by DSHS. Licensed Family Homes (LFH) and Family, Friends, and Neighbors (FFN) providers may be eligible to provide child care paid by CA.

Roles and Responsibilities

Your Responsibilities as a Child Care Center

- Meet Washington’s child care center licensing requirements.
- Meet child care subsidy rules and requirements.
- Keep complete and accurate attendance records for five years according to licensing regulations.
- When asked by DSHS or DEL the center must submit attendance records within 14 calendar days of the request. If the center does not provide the records within 14 calendar days, an overpayment may be written to the center for the entire amount that was billed.

Parents’ Responsibilities

Parents are responsible for completing the application process and forms required to determine eligibility. Families may apply for subsidies in a number of ways:

- DSHS Contact Center: 1-877-501-2233
- Online at Washington Connection
- Fax application to the DSHS Contact Center: 1-888-338-7410

Applications may be picked up at the local Community Services Office (CSO) or you may call to have an application mailed to your home. Deliver or mail a completed paper application to the CSO.

Parents must:

- Meet program income guidelines and participate in approved activities such as work, training, educational programs and approved TANF activities.
- Use the center’s attendance sheets to sign the child in and out of care. The parent’s signature, times and dates must be included on the sheet.
- Pay the center directly the monthly copayment and for any additional services the family requests. The parent may arrange for a third party to pay some or all of the copayment.
- Report to DSHS within five calendar days a change in child care providers.
- Report to DSHS within 10 days changes in:
  - Number of hours care is needed.
  - Family income, if the change would cause the family to exceed the maximum income eligibility limit. Families may report a decrease in income that may lower their copayment.
  - Family size, such as someone moving in or out of the home.
  - Family’s address or telephone number
  - Work, training, education schedule, and approved TANF activities.
  - Family’s legal obligation to pay child support.
- Report if they lose their job or other approved activity. They may be eligible for a 28-day gap period. Have the parent contact DSHS within 10 days to find out if they qualify.
• Make payment arrangements with the center for care used for personal reasons that are not authorized by DSHS.
• Use child care paid by state child care subsidy only for approved activities outside the family’s home.

**DSHS Responsibilities**
• Determine a family’s eligibility for child care subsidies.
• Authorize child care for approved activities outside the consumer’s home.
• Pay eligible centers for authorized and billed child care services provided to an eligible family.
• Give families and centers at least 10 calendar days’ notice when subsidy benefits end or are reduced before the original end date on the SSPS notice. DSHS does not give families a 10-day notice when the family no longer wants child care subsidies or has not given DSHS their new address.
• Assess overpayments and underpayments.
• Answer questions related to eligibility, authorizations and payments.

**DEL Responsibilities**
• Determine and write policy and eligibility rules for WCCC and SCC.
• Report to the federal government on Washington child care subsidy programs.
• Audit provider payments that may result in an overpayment or underpayment.

**Eligibility Determination**

**Step 1: Family Requests Subsidy**
The family applies for WCCC or SCC subsidies by contacting DSHS in one of three ways:
• Call the Contact Center at 1-877-501-2233.
• Online at [Washington Connection](#).
• Local CSO.

**Step 2: Family’s Eligibility is Determined**
The family completes the application and provides required verification. DSHS gathers information about the household and the parents’ activities and income to determine eligibility. If the family is eligible for WCCC or SCC, the parent receives an award letter. This letter shows the dates the family is eligible for child care and the monthly copayment amount.

The child care subsidy programs will not pay for child care provided before the start date on the award letter. The award letter for the provider is not the SSPS notice, invoice, or remittance advice. You may make private pay arrangements with the family during the time that eligibility is being determined. If the family is not determined to be eligible and not authorized for child care subsidy, you may provide child care with private pay arrangements.

**Step 3: DSHS Verifies Licensing Status**
DSHS verifies the center’s licensing status and child care rates using Part Two of the child care subsidy program application. Part Two may be completed by phone when the family has chosen a licensed center.
Step 4: Child Care is Authorized in the DSHS Social Service Payment System (SSPS)
Contact the Provider Line (1-800-394-4571 or providerhelp@dshs.wa.gov) and give them your email address to receive notification by email for WCCC or SCC child care authorization(s) start, change or end dates.

Step 5: SSPS Notice
The center will receive an SSPS notice in the mail confirming a family’s eligibility and authorization.

Step 6: Authorization to Provide Child Care
The center is authorized to receive payments from DSHS for providing subsidized child care.

Step 7: Invoice Arrives
You will receive an invoice, usually before the last day of each month. The first invoice for a new authorization may not arrive until the middle of the following month.

Step 8: Complete the Invoice Using Attendance Records
Review daily attendance records in order to determine the number of units to bill based on the child’s attendance, absent days, holidays, professional training days, provider closure days, and the authorization. You must show the days the child is absent on the attendance record. The attendance record must show the parent’s/guardian’s signature and the sign-in and sign-out times for each day the child attended. Complete the invoice, sign and date it. To submit the invoice, you may either call Invoice Express at 1-888-461-8855 or mail it to DSHS at:

State of Washington
Dept. of Social and Health Services ISSD
Data Control
PO BOX 45889
Olympia, WA 98504-5889

Step 9: Payment issued
After DSHS receives the completed invoice, SSPS processes the invoice immediately after the end of the month of service and sends you the payment. Payment distributed through the mail may take up to three business days after processing.

Step 10: Reapplication
Before an eligibility period ends, DSHS sends a re-application packet to families. During the re-application process, DSHS determines if the family is still eligible for child care subsidies.
Families can re-apply:

- By calling DSHS Contact Center at 1-877-501-2233.
- By returning the packet with updated information.
- Online at Washington Connection.

The center and the family will receive a re-application reminder about five weeks before the end of the eligibility period. The center may want to remind families when their eligibility period is near the ending date so they can re-apply in time.

If a family completes the re-application process after the eligibility period end date and there is not a waiting list for the program, child care may be authorized when the family completes the re-application process.

If a family completes the reapplication process after the eligibility period end date and there is a waiting list for the program, the family may be placed on the waiting list and would not be re-authorized until their name is released for processing.
If the center continues to provide care past the eligibility period end date without receiving a re-authorization, DSHS will not pay for the service. The family would be responsible to pay for child care services through private pay. Child care eligibility is not backdated when families re-apply after the eligibility period end date.

SSPS Notices

Once child care is authorized and the information is processed, the center will receive an SSPS notice about a week after the service is authorized. If the center does not receive a notice within two weeks of the family receiving the award letter, call the Provider Line at 1-800-394-4571. Check the SSPS notice to make sure the following information is correct:

- The center’s name
- The center’s provider number
- Services authorized
- Children’s names
- Number of units authorized
- Child care rate authorized
- Begin and end date of the authorization
- Family’s monthly copayment
- Any changes or termination of services

If the SSPS notice is not correct, call the Provider Line at 1-800-394-4571. The center will receive an SSPS notice when there is a change in the authorization or when child care subsidies end.

Checking Application Status

Working Connections Information Phone (WCIP) is automated and available 24 hours per day, seven days per week in English and Spanish. Because of confidentiality, some family information may not be available to the center.

WCIP allows the center to check:

- If an application is approved, denied, pending or closed.
- The effective dates of service.
- The authorized child care services.
- The family’s monthly copayment amount.
- Any special messages related to subsidy programs. To use WCIP, the center will need:
  - The center’s SSPS child care provider number.
  - The center’s Employee Identification Number (EIN).
  - The family’s child care application number found on the SSPS notice.

For Families

To use the Answer Phone, a family will need their client ID number and Social Security Number. The Answer Phone allows families to check:

- If their application is approved, denied, or pending.
- The effective dates of service.
- The child care services authorized.
- The family monthly copayment amount.
State Child Care Subsidy Rates

The center will be paid the authorized payment from DSHS and the monthly copayment from the family. The center is responsible for collecting the copayment from the family. DSHS will not pay the family’s copayment.

Maximum state child care subsidy rates are determined by the region of the state where the care is provided, the child’s age, the amount of care needed and type of child care. DSHS will pay the center the maximum state rate or your private pay rate, whichever is less. The center may not charge the parents the difference between the maximum state child care subsidy rate and your private pay rate.

View child care subsidy rates.

Early Achievers

Early Achievers is Washington’s child care quality rating and improvement system. Providers are given a level rating from 1 to 5. Licensed child care providers who participate in Early Achievers and are rated at Levels 2 or higher receive an additional percent of their monthly subsidy amount. This incentive is percentage of the half-day and full-day amount of subsidized care billed by the provider. It does not include field trip fees, non-standard hour bonuses, special needs, registration, or other increases or bonuses. Early Achievers incentives will be paid separately from regular invoiced payments.

Learn more about Early Achievers.

Additional Authorized Child Care

Some children need care for more than 10 hours in a day. To request additional child care, the parent contacts DSHS and provides documentation showing additional hours are needed. The center may be paid more for this type of care if the center has a written policy to charge private paying families a higher rate to care for children more than 10 hours in a day. The state will pay for additional care at the center’s rate or the maximum state child care subsidy rate, whichever is less.

Additional care may be authorized when:

- Care is needed for more than 10 hours and fewer than 15 hours in a day. A half-day of overtime care may be authorized.
- Care is needed for 15 or more hours in a day. Additional overtime care may be authorized.

Child care cannot be authorized for more than 16 hours per day.

Nonstandard Hours Bonus (NSHB)

Sometimes child care is needed during nonstandard hours. Nonstandard hours are defined as:

- Weekday hours before 6 a.m. or after 6 p.m.
- Saturdays and Sundays
- Eligible holidays

The child care subsidy programs may authorize a $75 NSHB if the child needs 30 hours or more of nonstandard care per month, per child. The NSHB is paid on a first come, first serve basis and funding is limited. When NSHB payments are temporarily suspended due to lack of funding, providers may not claim payment for invoices submitted after a cut-off date has been determined. Invoices not received before the cut-off date cannot be claimed in a new fiscal year.

If you are authorized to provide NSHB care, it is recommended that you claim your NSHB on your invoice each month that you provide care.
Billing for the NSHB

The center may bill the NSHB for a child if the center provides 30 or more nonstandard hours of child care that month. Enter “1” in the “Total Units” box on the invoice. If the center provided fewer than 30 hours of nonstandard hours of care that month, do not bill for the NSHB. Enter “0” in the “Total Units” box on the invoice.

Special Needs Child Care

Child care subsidy programs may pay the center an additional rate to care for children up to age 19 who have a verified physical, mental, emotional or behavioral condition requiring a higher level of specialized care. The special needs rate may also be paid for children ages 13 to 19 who are under court supervision. The special needs rate is for care provided above and beyond the daily routine care required. DSHS does not pay for training or equipment to help care for children with special needs. DSHS does not pay for taxes or benefits of staff needed to provide special needs care.

Special needs child care is authorized at Level 1 or Level 2. Either rate is in addition to the standard state child care subsidy rate. The parent or provider may call the local CSO to request the special needs rate, though it is the parent’s responsibility to apply. Once special needs care is authorized the provider will receive the special needs rate as long as the parent continues to agree that the child needs care above and beyond the daily routine required.

- **Level 1 Special Needs rate:** A Level 1 authorization means you will receive the standard state special needs rate.
- **Level 2 Special Needs rate:** The parent works with you, DSHS, and DEL to determine if their child qualifies for the Level 2 special needs rate.

Before the special needs rate can be authorized, DSHS must have:

- The Special Needs Child Care Rate Request form completed separately and signed by the parent.
- The Special Needs Child Care Rate Request form completed separately and signed by the center.
- Written verification from a health, mental health, social service, or education professional with at least a master’s degree, or a registered nurse.

The verification must describe the additional level of specialized care needed in the child care setting above and beyond what the center would provide for children without special needs. The statement cannot be from an individual who is employed by the child care facility.

Bill the same number of units for the special needs authorization as you do for the full-day or half-day. 

[View the Special Needs Child Care Rate Request.](#)

Child Care Fees

Monthly Copayment

Families are required to make a copayment to pay part of the child care cost. The SSPS notice and the invoice list the amount of the family’s monthly copayment. DSHS will not pay the family’s copayment. It is the center’s responsibility to collect the copayment from the family. If a family has more than one child care provider, the copayment is usually assigned to only one of the providers but may also be split between several.

Families may make payment arrangements with the center for a third party to pay part or all of the monthly copayment. The center may collect the copayment on the same day of the month it collects child care payments from parents who do not receive child care subsidies.
If the center has a written policy to charge a fee for late payments, you can charge the family a late fee if the copayment is paid late. If the family does not pay their copayment, contact the Provider Line. Families may lose child care benefits if they do not pay, or make acceptable arrangements to pay their copayment. You may pursue any available collection effort allowed by law to recoup unpaid copays. If you choose not to collect the copayment, note this in your records and give a copy to the parent. A consumer’s responsibilities regarding the payment of copays can be found in WAC 170-290-0030.

Registration Fee
If the center has a written policy to charge registration fees for private-paying families, the center may bill the state $50 per child or your stated registration fee per calendar year, whichever is less. If the center charges an annual registration fee, call the Provider Line to request reauthorization of the registration fee each year. The center may not bill an additional registration fee when a child remains in your care but changes subsidy programs.

The registration fee may be billed:

- When a child who receives subsidies first enrolls in the center’s care, even if the child does not attend.
- When a child who receives subsidies leaves the center’s care and returns more than 60 days later, even if it is within the same calendar year.
- Each year, if the center has a written policy to charge all families an annual registration fee.

Call the Provider Line at 1-800-394-4571 for more information.

Charges for Additional Services
The center may charge families who receive child care subsidies for the following services only if it also has a written policy to charge private paying families:

- Additional child care for personal reasons, such as personal appointments.
- Field trip expenses
- Optional meal programs the center offers families who do not provide lunch for their child.
- Transportation to and from school or activities.
- Late pick-up of the child after operating hours.
- Late fee for child care copayment.
- Non-sufficient funds (NSF) fees charged by the bank when bank funds are not available.

The center may not charge families who receive child care subsidies:

- A registration fee when it is more than the subsidy program’s maximum registration fee.
- Handling fees to process family payments.
- Fees for materials, supplies or equipment needed to meet licensing requirements.
- Costs for billing disputes between the center and the state.
- Days the center is closed.

Written Policies
As a provider, for all the services where you may charge a fee, you must have in your written policy the amount(s) outlined that you are charging. The charges for private pay families must be consistent with the charges for subsidized families.
When requested by DSHS or DEL, you must submit a copy of your written policy within 14 calendar days of the request. If you do not provide the copy within 14 calendar days, an overpayment may be written to you for the entire amount that you billed the state for that month.

Billing for Days You Don’t Provide Care

Absent Days
If a child who receives state child care subsidies attends the center’s child care for at least one day in the calendar month, when authorized, the center may be eligible to claim absent days that month. To claim an absent day for a child in the center’s care who receives subsidies, the child must be scheduled to attend and authorized for payment on that day. The total number of days billed may not exceed the number of days authorized. Days are defined as calendar days unless otherwise specified.

If the center decides to stop providing care for a child, it may not bill absent days after the date care ends. Some authorizations start after the first day of the month. Do not claim absent days before the authorization start date.

Holidays
If there is an eligible holiday during the period the child is scheduled to attend and on a day where payment has been authorized, count the holiday as if the child attended. If the child is scheduled and authorized to attend over 10 hours on the holiday, you may bill for the overtime care, even if the center is:

- Closed for business on that holiday.
- Open for business but the child does not attend on that holiday.
- Open for business and the child attends on that holiday.

Eligible holidays are:

- New Year’s Day, January 1
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Third Monday in January
- Presidents Day, Third Monday in February
- Memorial Day, Last Monday in May
- Independence Day, July 4
- Labor Day, First Monday in September
- Veterans Day, November 11
- Thanksgiving Thursday, the fourth Thursday in November
- Native American Heritage Day - Friday, the fourth Friday in November
- Christmas, December 25

If the center is open only Monday through Friday and the eligible holiday is on:

- Saturday: the Friday before is the eligible holiday.
- Sunday: the following Monday is the eligible holiday.

If the center is open on weekends, the actual holiday is the eligible holiday.

- Saturday through Sunday and the holiday is on Sunday, then you claim Sunday as the eligible holiday.
- If you are open on the eligible holiday and choose to claim an alternate day as the holiday within the same month of the official holiday, you may bill for that day. You must be closed on the day you claim as the official holiday.
• You are open Saturday through Sunday and the eligible holiday is Sunday. You close on Monday for the holiday. You can claim Monday as the holiday but not Sunday. You may not claim two days for one eligible holiday.

Professional Training Days
A professional training day is a day the center is closed so its employees can attend training. The center may bill for up to three professional training days each year. If a child is authorized to attend on a day the center is closed for professional training, the center may bill the state as if the child attended, including overtime care. Any days in excess of three that the center closes for training are considered closure days and cannot be billed.

Closure Days
The center will not receive subsidy payment on days the center is closed for reasons other than professional training days or eligible holidays.

Subsidized Child Care Billing Rules

Daily Attendance Records
As a provider it is your responsibility to follow WAC 170-290-0034 when billing for payment.

A child’s presence in the center’s care must be documented daily by the child’s parent or guardian or an authorized person by signing in and out each child who attends. The parent, guardian or authorized person must use his/her full signature when signing the child in and out. When a child arrives at or leaves the child care center due to school or offsite activities as authorized by the parent, the center or its staff must sign the child out and in upon return to the child care.

Refer to the center’s attendance records and the rules in this guide for billing requirements. The center’s attendance records must support its billing. You must show the days the child is absent on the attendance record. The attendance record must show the parent’s/guardian’s signature and the sign in and sign out times for each day the child attended. The center may receive an overpayment or underpayment notice if its attendance records are reviewed and they do not support the billing.

Bill only when the child has attended at least one day in that month. Return the center’s invoice promptly. Invoices are only valid for 12 months after the actual date of service.

The sample attendance sheet may be used for school-age children and other children who need to be signed in and out of the child care more than once per day.

View a sample attendance record form.

Billing for Care that Starts After the First Day of the Month
When an authorization starts after the first of the month, the center may not count the days before the authorization begin date as absent days. To determine the maximum number of days the center can bill that month, count the days the child attended for the remainder of the month plus absent days, holidays, or professional training days that the child was authorized for payment and scheduled to attend.

Billing for Care that Ends Before the Last Day of the Month
Some authorizations end before the last day of the month. The center may not bill for any absent days, holidays or professional training days that occur after the authorization ends.

Planned and Unplanned Termination of Child Care Subsidy
Sometimes a family becomes ineligible for child care subsidy before the end of the authorization period. When this happens, DSHS will notify the center of an unplanned termination of child care the same time the family is notified. If the center has given an email address to DSHS, the center will receive notifications by email rather than standard mail.
DSHS is required to give child care providers a 10 calendar days' written notice prior to an unplanned termination. If the center does not receive 10 days’ notice from DSHS, the center can bill for care for days that would equal the 10 days in lieu of the notice.

If the center receives notice after the termination date, the center may bill DSHS for the care it provided after the unplanned termination and prior to the date the center received the notice. Parents may be responsible for any overpayments that occur during this timeframe.

Bill based on each child’s physical attendance and care. The center’s records should reflect each child’s attendance, absences and the center’s closure days, including holidays and professional training days.

Underpayments

Underpayments may occur because you:

- Made a mistake on your invoice that caused you to be underpaid.
- Did not receive payment for everything you claimed on the invoice.
- Were paid incorrect rates.

Follow the steps below if you believe you have been underpaid:

- Check your records to see if the child’s name appeared on the invoice within 12 months after the date of service.
- Compare your attendance records to your invoice to see if you were underpaid.
- Call the Provider Line at 1-800-394-4571 to report an underpayment.

Note: To correct an underpayment, providers must submit an invoice for payment to the State for child care services no later than 12 months after the date of service.

Overpayments

Overpayments may occur because you:

- Billed for more days than a child or children were authorized to attend.
- Do not have any attendance records.
- Do not have attendance records that match your billing record. Refer to WAC 170-290-0034.
- Received payment for incorrect rates.
- Do not have proper receipts to support payments.
- Do not have policies to support fees charged

Call the Provider Line at 1-800-394-4571 to report an overpayment if your attendance records do not match the amount you were paid.

You will receive a Vendor Overpayment Notice if you were overpaid. The Vendor Overpayment Notice will also instruct you on how to repay the overpayment amount. A payment plan may be available.

It is important to follow the timeframes on the back of your overpayment notice to file a hearing. If you have questions about the overpayment, call the telephone number on the notice.
There are directions on the Vendor Overpayment Notice that outline how to dispute the overpayment. The administrative hearing process is the method to use to dispute an overpayment. If overpayments are not resolved through an administrative hearing, you must repay the money.

**Using Invoice Express**
- Call Invoice Express: 1-888-461-8855
- [How to Use Invoice Express](#)
- [Invoice Express Brochure](#)

**Payment Options**

**Checks mailed by U.S. Postal Service**
The center should receive a check by mail approximately 10 business days after DSHS receives your invoice. DSHS cannot guarantee a delivery date for checks sent by the U.S. Postal Service.

**Direct Deposits**
The center may choose to have payments deposited into a checking or savings account. Checks are deposited on the fifth business day after the invoice is processed by DSHS.

Learn more about direct deposits:
- [On DSHS’ website](#)
- By calling 360-664-6161
- Request information in writing at:
  DSHS-SSPS Attn: Direct Deposit Desk
  P.O. Box 45812
  Olympia, WA 98504-5812

If you request information in writing, please include in your request:
- Your center’s name
- A written request for direct deposit forms
- Your center’s SSPS Provider Number
- A mailing address including city/state/zip code
- A phone number with area code

**Tax Information**
The center will be mailed a record of the payments that DSHS has sent you, called a Remittance Advice. It includes a list of deductions that can be used for tax purposes. The center will receive an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Tax Form 1099 when the center’s child care subsidy payments from DSHS total $600 or more in a calendar year. The 1099 will be mailed no later than January 31. The 1099 includes child care payments the center received from DSHS. Keep the center’s 1099 for tax reporting. If you have tax questions, [contact the IRS](#).
Resources

DSHS: [www.dshs.wa.gov](http://www.dshs.wa.gov)

**Working Connections Information Phone (WCIP) for Child Care Providers:** 1-866-218-3244
Available 24 hours a day for WCCC and SCC in English and Spanish

The following information is available after the family’s case has been processed:

- Family's authorization
- Copayment
- Case status
- Effective dates of coverage

**WCCC Provider Line:** 1-800-394-4571 Email: [providerhelp@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:providerhelp@dshs.wa.gov) Fax: 1-888-338-7410

- Special needs rate request.
- Status of a WCCC or SCC application or review.
- Paymentauthorization or billing.
- Provide information about your rates.
- Report a mistake on a current authorization.
- Ask questions about an authorization or billing.

**DSHS Children’s Administration**

Reporting Abuse and Neglect: 1-866-ENDHARM or 1-866-363-4276

[Report suspected child abuse or neglect online](http://www.dshs.wa.gov)

**DSHS Customer Service Center:** 1-877-501-2233 Fax 1-888-338-7410

Families may apply for services or report changes.

**WCCC and SCC Answer Phone for Families:** 1-877-980-9220

Families authorized for WCCC or SCC may check on their case status

**Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction**

**Child Care Food Program:** 360-725-6206

Provides federal funds to serve nutritious meals and snacks through the Child Care Food Program

**DEL:** 1-866-482-4325

- [www.del.wa.gov](http://www.del.wa.gov)
- DEL licensing and subsidy rules
- Information for child care providers