

On May 9, 2018, DEL filed proposed rule language without weights. DEL expects to conduct a weight validation study after the rules take effect. Following the study, the aligned rules will be amended to include weights.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-300-0080 Family support self-assessment. An early learning provider must assess their program within one year of being licensed, or within six months of the date this section becomes effective, to identify ways to support the families of enrolled children. A provider must complete the strengthening families program self-assessment, or an equivalent assessment, applicable to the early learning program type (center or family home). **Weight #1**

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NEW SECTION

WAC 170-300-0085 Family partnerships and communication. (1) An early learning provider must communicate with families to identify individual children's developmental goals. **Weight NA**

(2) An early learning provider must attempt to obtain information from each child's family about that child's developmental, behavioral,

health, linguistic, cultural, social, and other relevant information. The provider must make this attempt upon that child's enrollment and annually thereafter. **Weight #3**

(3) An early learning provider must determine how the program can best accommodate each child's individual characteristics, strengths, and needs. The provider must utilize the information in subsection (2) of this section and seek input from family members and staff familiar with a child's behavior, developmental, and learning patterns. **Weight #3**

(4) An early learning provider must:

(a) Attempt to discuss with parents or guardians information including, but not limited to:

(i) A child's strength in areas of development, health issues, special needs, and other concerns;

(ii) Family routines or events, approaches to parenting, family beliefs, culture, language, and child rearing practices;

(iii) Internal transitions within the early learning program and transitions to external services or programs, as necessary;

(iv) Collaboration between the provider and the parent or guardian in behavior management; and

(v) A child's progress, at least two times per year. **Weight #3**

(b) Communicate the importance of regular attendance for the child; Weight #3

(c) Give parents or guardians contact information for questions or concerns; Weight #3

(d) Give families opportunities to share their language and culture in the early learning program; Weight #3

(e) Arrange a confidential time and space for individual conversations regarding children, as needed; Weight #3

(f) Allow parents or guardians access to their child during normal hours of operation, except as excluded by a court order; and Weight #5

(g) Communicate verbally or in writing:

(i) Changes in drop-off and pickup arrangements as needed; and

(ii) Daily activities. Weight #5

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