

Early Learning Facilities Program

Eligible Organizations
Funding Round Information

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SECTION MANAGER - COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

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Washington State
Department of
Commerce



We strengthen communities



HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS



INFRASTRUCTURE AND BROADBAND



SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE



ENERGY



PLANNING AND TECH ASSISTANCE



COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES



CRIME VICTIMS AND PUBLIC SAFETY



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Today's Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Overview of Early Learning Facility (ELF) Eligible Organizations Grant
3. Q&A

What are ELF Eligible Organizations?

Early childhood
education and
assistance program
providers
(ECEAP)

Working connections
child care providers
(WCCC)

Licensed early
learning centers

Federally recognized
tribes in Washington

Developers of
housing and
community facilities

Community and
technical colleges

Educational service
districts (ESDs)

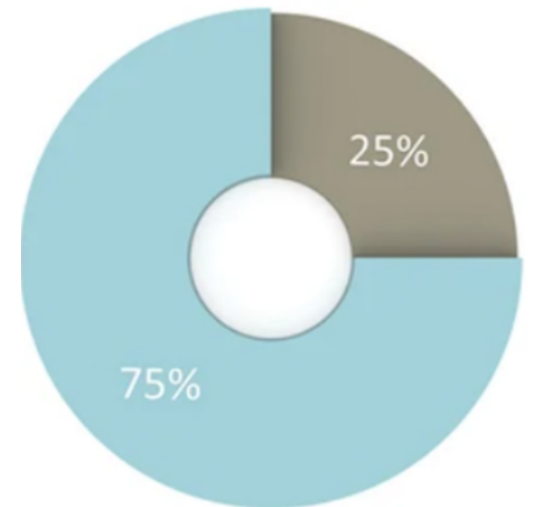
Local governments

Religiously affiliated
entities

Private schools,
charter schools, or
tribal schools not
affiliated with public
school districts

The Early Learning Facilities Program

- This program is funded by the Washington Legislature to address the critical need for early learning opportunities for children from low-income households.
- **Legislation**
 - Intent [RCW 43.31.565](#)
 - Eligible Activities [RCW 43.31.577](#)
- **Goals**
 - Increase subsidized childcare slots for ECEAP and WCCC
 - Encourage economic growth with required matching funds
 - Create more childcare slots in childcare deserts and low income areas
- **Funds Distribution**
 - This is a competitive grant, so only some applications are funded.
 - Grant funds are provided as a **reimbursement** to costs incurred by the grantee
 - Grant funds must be matched by other funding sources 3:1
 - All grant funds will be secured with real estate, typically through a deed of trust to ensure the public benefit of the funds is achieved for at least 10 years



Matching Funds Sources

The match fund requirement is intended to maximize the amount of non-state resources leveraged

- Cash on hand
- Bank loans
- Documented pledge commitments
- The value of land acquired for the project
- Buildings
- In-kind donations
 - Not to exceed 50% of the total matching funds requirement

Matching Funds 25%



ELF 75%

ELF Funding Available



**Up To
\$21,605**

**Facilities
Pre-Design
Grant**

Example:

To conduct feasibility study for creating a child care center or family home.

**Up To
\$216,052**

**Minor
Renovations or
Pre-
Development**

Example:

Upgrading the existing building and the site to meet current requirements.

**Up To
\$2,500,000**

**Major
Construction,
Major
Renovation and
Facility Purchase**

Example:

Construction, major renovation and facility purchase for early learning.

Estimated Funding Round Timeline

Estimated Timeline (All Local Pacific Time)	Activity
August 15, 2023 7:00 AM	Pre-Application opens
September 5, 2023 5:00 PM	Pre-Application <u>Received</u> by Deadline (no exceptions)
August 23 - September 1, 2023	Pre-Applications reviewed for eligibility; General Application released to eligible and non-eligible notified
October 16, 2023 6:00 PM	General Application <u>Received</u> By Deadline (no exceptions)
Mid October – Mid December 2023	General Applications Reviewed & Scored
January 2024	Awarded Applicants Selected
February – March 2024	Awards Announced Unsuccessful Application Debriefings

Preparing to Apply for a Grant and Program Eligibility



Initial Prep for Pre-Application

- Evaluate the Need for Subsidized Early Learning Spaces in Your Community
- Read Program Guidelines & Notice of Funding Opportunity to determine if You Are Eligible
- Review the Pre-Application Questions and General Application Questions in the Notice of Funding Opportunity
- Register For or Check Current Access to ZoomGrants
- Apply!



ELF Eligible Organizations Program Eligibility

- Applicants must currently be or intend to be
 - Active participants in good standing with the [Early Achievers Program](#)
 - Early Childhood Education Assistance ([ECEAP](#)) provider and/or
 - Working Connections Child Care ([WCCC](#)) eligible to receive state subsidies
 - Licensed through the [Department of Revenue](#) to conduct business in Washington State
 - Prepared to coordinate with contractors to ensure state prevailing wage is being paid ([LNI Prevailing Wage Look\up](#))



Eligible Costs

Commerce can only reimburse for expenses incurred after July 1, 2022

- Real property purchase
- Feasibility planning
- Project design
- Professional construction management
- Construction costs
- See the [ELF web page](#) for full Program Guidelines



Examples of Projects with Eligible Costs

- Acquisition of a building to convert to an Early Learning Facility
 - If a residence is purchased for use as a facility, the building can no longer be used as a personal residence
 - All acquisition projects must have a current appraisal (within the last 6-9 months)
- Upgraded cooking area to a commercial kitchen
- Renovation to an existing early learning facility to provide additional ECEAP/WCCC slots



ELF Eligible Organizations – Ineligible Costs

All our grants are intended to fund “bricks and mortar”

- Internal administrative costs, in-house labor, or activities
- Computers
- Rolling stock (such as vehicles)
- Lease payments for rental of equipment or facilities
- Any maintenance or operating costs, or the moving of equipment, furniture, etc., between facilities
- Land only



Examples of Previously Funded Projects

- **Bethel Kids Learning Center**
 - Chehalis, Washington
 - Added five single-wide mobiles and renovated them to add additional classroom space



Examples of Previously Funded Projects

- **Kaleidoscope Preschool**

- Eastsound, Washington (San Juan) - Kitchen renovation & energy efficiency upgrades



Examples of Previously Funded Projects

- **Pateros Treehouse**
 - Pateros, Washington (Okanogan County)
 - Acquisition (site purchase) and renovation of a church for conversion to a childcare facility



Q&A Time



Process and Technical Assistance



Washington State
Department of
Commerce

For all program-related questions, please email
earlylearningfacilities@commerce.wa.gov

For all zoom grants technical assistance

QUESTIONS@ZOOMGRANTS.COM OR 866-323-5404 X2

For all DCYF- ECEAP related questions please email

dcyf.eceap@dcyf.wa.gov

For Licensing Questions:

jody.hitchings@dcyf.wa.gov

For all DCYF-WCCC Call the Child Care Subsidy Contact
Center at 1-844-626-8687.

www.commerce.wa.gov



Thank you for attending!

Supplemental DCYF Information

Licensing, ECEAP, and Child Care Need





Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Grace Ssebugwawo, DCYF

Community Funded ECEAP/ Early Learning Facilities Program Specialist

Jody Hitchings, DCYF

Pre-Licensing Unit Supervisor

DCYF's Mission, Vision, and Values

- **Mission:** Protect children and strengthen families so they flourish.
- **Vision:** All Washington's children and youth grow up safe and healthy—thriving physically, emotionally, and educationally, nurtured by family and community.
- **Values:** Inclusion, Respect, Integrity, Compassion, Transparency



Early Learning Facilities Critical need



- **Healthy and Safety**
- **Classroom Space**
- **Addressing Facility Inequities**
- **ECEAP Entitlement – 2026**
- **Additional Facilities**

ELF Path to ECEAP Entitlement

- **Facilities** part of the ECEAP Entitlement Roadmap.
- Facilities continue to be a **critical need** to meet ECEAP Entitlement
- The need **to expand** by several thousand slots in the next four years, **creates immense** need for ECEAP facilities.



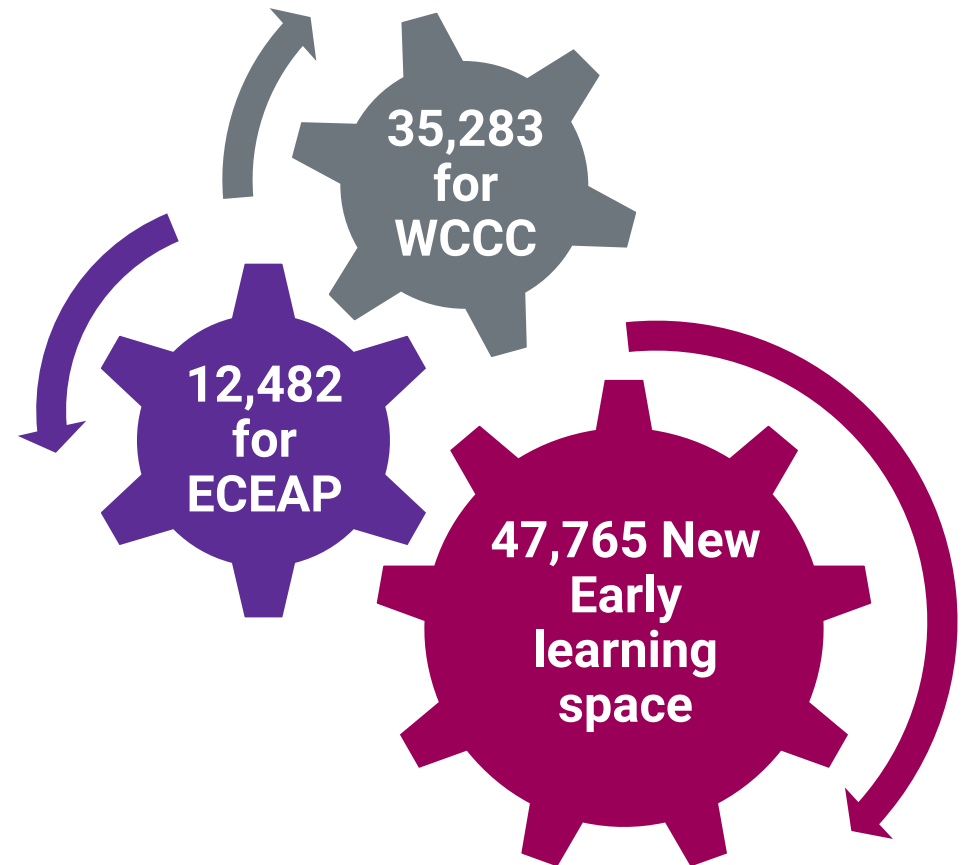
Early Learning Facilities Estimates

- **DCYF- Western Washington University (WWU)**

- WWU - Estimates that **47,765** new early learning spaces
 - **12,482** for ECEAP
 - **35,283** for WCCC
- In approximately **1,883** new early learning facilities will be needed.

These facilities include mix of

- New constructions,
- Renovation of existing facilities to add space
- and/or the expansion of existing facilities
- Acquisitions.



DCYF –Head start/ ECEAP-Saturation Study



- **Updates**
- Produced annually by DCYF
- **Estimates**
- Estimates eligible children by school district boundary not yet served by ECEAP or Head Start by
- **Determine**
- Used in determining location of ECEAP expansion slots

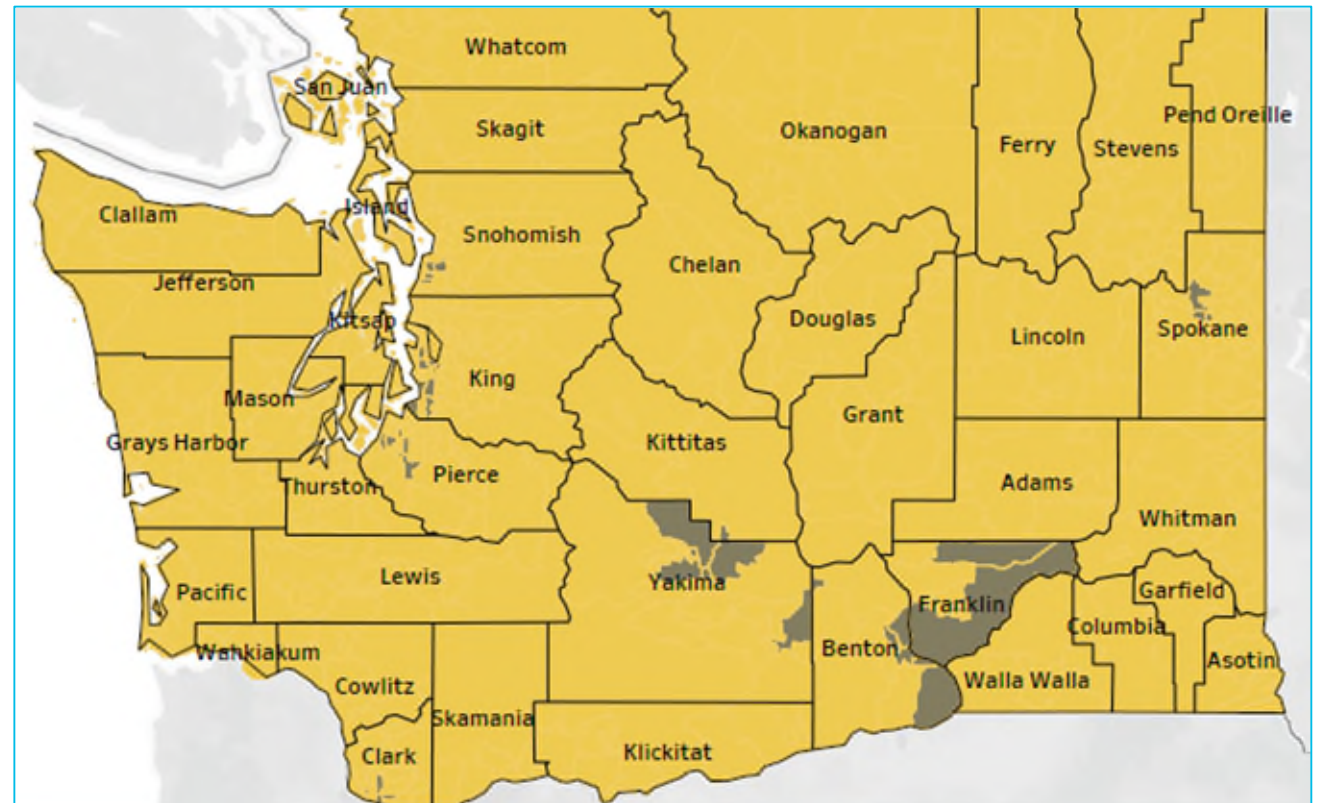
Saturation study

Extreme Child Care Desert

Extreme child care desert is defined by Office of Innovation, Alignment, and Accountability (**OIAA**) as a zip code without available childcare surrounded by zip codes without available childcare.

In 2019 DCYF identified 35 extreme child care deserts

[2020 State wide Needs Assessment.](#)



Child Care Need and Supply Data

Chelan, Yakima and Lincoln county



Name	Served	Subsidy	Private	Eligible	Estimated Need Met
Chelan County			38	90	45.56%

Name	Served	Subsidy	Private	Eligible	Estimated Need Met
Yakima County	187	9	178	254	73.62%

Name	Served	Subsidy	Private	Eligible	Estimated Need Met
Lincoln County	2	0	2	16	12.50%

[Child Care Need and Supply Data.](#)

Early Learning Facilities Grant: Addressing the facilities need.

- **By providing financial assistance** to enable ECEAP contractors and WCCC providers to:
 - Expand,
 - Remodel,
 - Construct,
 - Purchase early learning facilities and classrooms



Benefits of the ELF- Program & ECEAP

- Creates more opportunities for high quality early childhood education spaces
- Improves high-quality early childhood education settings
- Enhances children's safety and provides a healthy learning environment
- Decreases learning barriers



DCYF Pre-Licensing Services

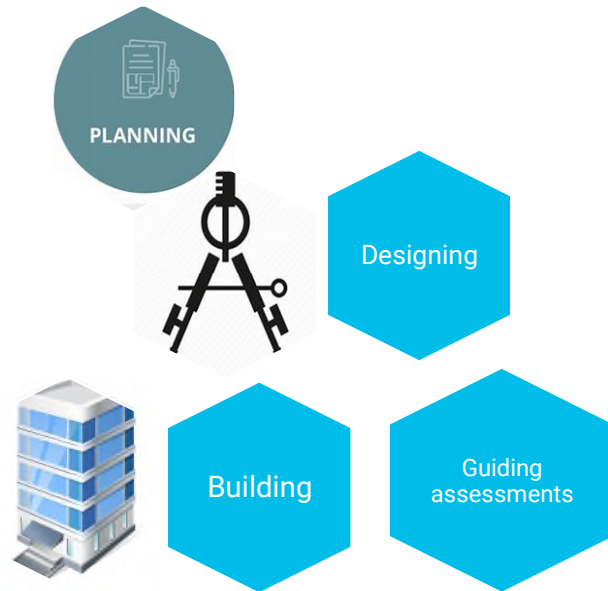
DCYF supports ELF grant recipients by offering technical assistance and resources.

Technical assistance focus areas:

- Site selection and feasibility
- Facility design and development
- Licensing requirements
- Licensing processes



Developing an early learning facility



- **Guiding assessments**
 - *A Site Analysis*
 - *Feasibility Study*
 - [Early Learning Providers Facility development.](#)



Site Analysis, Feasibility Study, and Plan Review

- **Typically conducted by a professional architectural firm or civil engineering firm.**
 - Applicable local zoning
 - Building codes
 - Regulations
 - Project goals,
 - Project budget
 - Site conditions
- **DCYF provides Technical assistance.**



How ELF recipients required to be or become Licensed childcare/Early learning

- **Online orientation,**
- **Two e-learning modules.**
 - (a viable in English, Spanish and Somali).
- **Get Orientation completion certificate(s)**
- **When ready apply for a license**
 - email a copy of the orientation completion certificate(s) to dcyf.providerportal@dcyf.wa.gov to get access to the provider portal and online application.
 - <https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/early-learning-providers/licensed-provider/licensing-process>

