
DCYF 2024 ARL & DP

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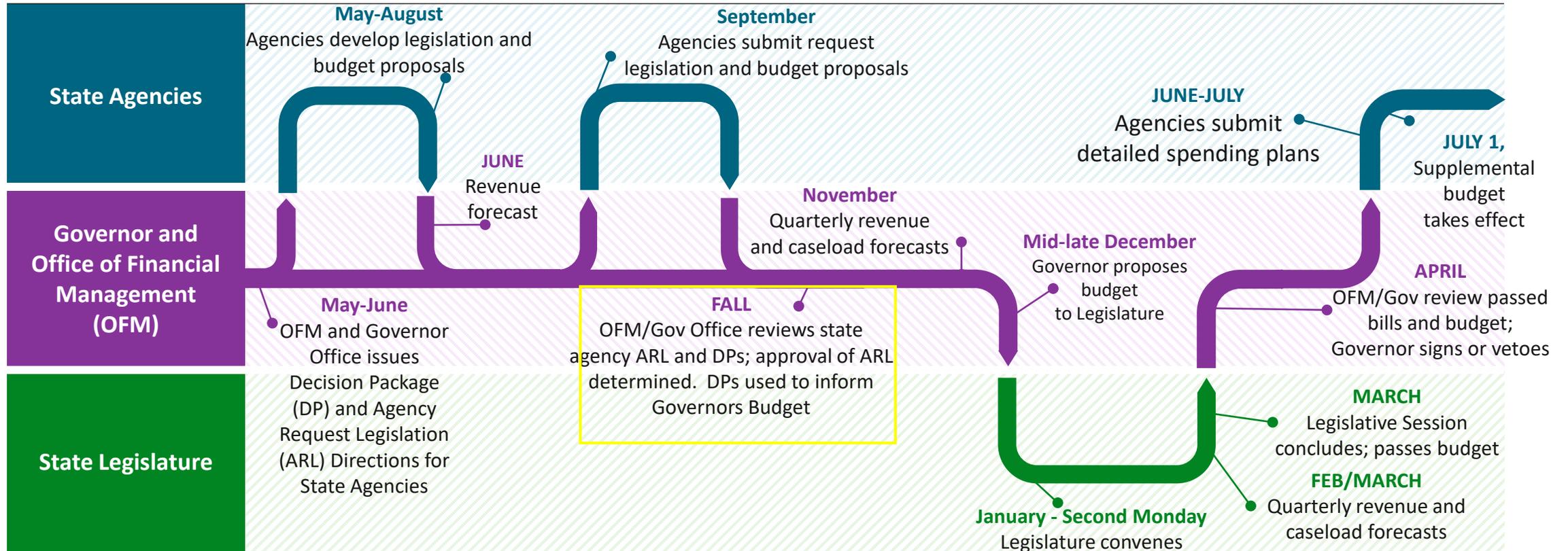
*Indian Policy Early Learning
September 19, 2023*



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



Preparing for Session Supplemental Budget Year Timeline



Guiding Principles for Development

- Prioritize programs and services that reduce racial and ethnic disparities in outcomes and access to services across all DCYF systems of care.
- Prioritize resources that focus on core responsibilities outlined in DCYF's vision and strategic plan.
- Prioritize prevention services and intervention solutions to keep children, youth and families safe in their community and not going deeper into the DCYF system.
- Prioritize funding for programs and policies that have demonstrated their effectiveness in improving outcomes through evidence-based and promising practices.

DCYF Strategic Priorities

EQUITY	Eliminate racial disproportionalities and advance racial equity
INTENTION	Safely reduce the number/rate of children in out-of-home care by half
	Create successful transitions into adulthood for youth and young adults in our care
	Create high quality, integrated B-8 system
CAPACITY	Improve quality and intention of our practice
	Improve quality and availability of provider services



Realities

Supplemental budget year

+

DCYF implementing significant
investments and policy changes

+

Budget/Economic realities

=

Limited scope for requests next session



Agency Request Legislation and Decision Packages

Partnership, Prevention, and Services

- DS Implementation
- Family Reconciliation Services Expansion Sites
- Foster Care SIL (EFC) Maintenance Payments
- Independent Living

Juvenile Rehabilitation

- Class Action Suit – Columbia Legal Services
- Echo Glen Security

DCYF Staff Support

- Employee Safety and Supports

Agency Wide

- Stipends for Lived Experience

Early Learning

- ECEAP Entitlement
- Making Child Care Work for Families
- Supporting Providers for Child Care Access
- **(ARL)** Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT)



ECEAP Entitlement

Decision Package
\$37,039,000

DCYF Strategic Priority Alignment

- Eliminate racial disproportionalities and advance racial equity
- Create a high-quality integrated B-8 system
- Improve quality and intention of our practice
- Improve quality and availability of provider services

What?

DCYF requires increased investments to continue building a flexible, responsive, and robust system that better supports ECEAP and other early learning providers to meet entitlement.

Why?

- ECEAP is proven to get kids furthest from opportunity ready for kindergarten.
- Enables the next phase of ECEAP expansion toward meeting entitlement in the 2026-27 school year as required by FSKA.

Components:

- **Sustainable ECEAP Slot Rate:** A 19% increase in School Day ECEAP slot rates and a 28% increase in Working Day ECEAP slot rates to reach the full rate increase recommended in the ECEAP Cost Study
- **Expansion of Slots:** 200 School Day and 50 Working Day slots in addition to the 500 School Day slots already allocated in the 2023-25 Biennial Budget
- **Quality Supports Funding:** Funding to cover quality requirements related to expanding slots

Making Child Care Work for Families

Decision Package
\$12,597,000

DCYF Strategic Priority Alignment

- Eliminate racial disproportionalities and advance racial equity
- Create a high-quality integrated B-8 system
- Improve quality and intention of our practice
- Improve quality and availability of provider services

What?

A multi-pronged approach to simplify and standardize child care subsidy and Early Learning programs.

Why?

- Ensure that our most vulnerable children have access to high quality care
- Simplify provider and family experience with the subsidy system
- This proposal aligns eligibility rules across ECEAP and WCCC while also further supporting WCCC eligibility when families are participating in ECEAP, Early ECEAP, Head Start, and Early Head Start.

Components:

- Funds and 4.75 FTE to further support families with access to high quality early learning programs
- Allows participation in ECEAP, Early ECEAP, Head Start, and Early Head Start as an approved activity for WCCC (*Supports ~166 Families*)
- Provides households with a child who was receiving protective services one full WCCC eligibility period following permanency by adoption or guardianship (*Supports ~1,000 families*)
- Excludes child support, Social Security, and Supplemental Security Income payments for ECEAP and WCCC. (*Supports ~1542 Children*)

Supporting Providers for Child Care Access

Decision Package
\$23,758,000

DCYF Strategic Priority Alignment

- Improve quality and availability of provider services
- Improve quality and intention of our practice
- Eliminate racial disproportionalities and advance racial equity
- Create a high-quality integrated B-8 system

What?

DCYF is proposing to simplify some administrative processes to reduce the burden for providers who participate in subsidy and to provide targeted supports to make it feasible for providers to serve specific populations of children.

Why?

Access to high-quality childcare for families can be limited by structural constraints on providers. This is especially true for providers serving children on WCCC and those serving infants/toddlers.

Components:

- Expand infant access through providing contracted slots for infants receiving protective services and increasing the infant rate enhancement to \$500
- Increasing the nonstandard hours rate bonus to \$500
- Aligning overpayment collection with federal requirements
- Shared services and technical assistance to access funding and resources

Early Support for Infants and Toddlers

*Agency Request Legislation
& Decision Package
\$4,185,000*

DCYF Strategic Priority Alignment

- Create a high-quality B-8 system

What?

To support the use of the Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) State Special Education 0-3 funding for the full months of service provided to eligible infants and toddlers.

Why?

- Current law limits DCYF and local ESIT provider agencies from counting eligible children for the full number of months they receive services
- If this proposal is funded, ESIT providers will receive payment for the true amount of services they provide to eligible children and families.

Components Include:

- A request to revise RCW 43.216.580 to define children to be receiving early intervention services “...if the child has received services within the same month as the monthly count day, which is the last business day of the month”.

Stipends for Lived Experience

Decision Package
\$2,042,000

DCYF Strategic Priority Alignment

- This request supports all six of DCYF strategic priorities

What?

Engaging and supporting lived experts who are members of existing and planned advisory groups, per SB 5759 (2022).

Why?

- To ensure the participation of lived experts in an advisory capacity and allows DCYF to acknowledge their contributions and expertise.
- Dedicated, sufficient resources for effective engagement, consistent compensation, and the reduction of barriers to meeting participation.

Components Include:

- One FTE to fulfill all fiscal needs associated with tracking and processing payments
- One FTE to facilitate all needs of the advisory groups; tracking attendance, number of payments made, preparation of A19s, and reporting to the Office of Equity
- Resources for compensation of lived experts

One Pager Overviews of 2024 DP/ARL

- One-page summaries of all DCYF's 2024 legislative requests will be linked from the DCYF Government Affairs webpage.
- These will be added as they are completed – please check back or reach out if you would like more details on any proposal.



THANK YOU

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Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

A photograph of a white card with the words "Thank you" written in blue cursive. The card is placed on top of a brown envelope. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

Thank you