

# Early Achievers Tiered Reimbursements

---

Enrolled providers who serve children receiving Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) or Seasonal Child Care subsidies will receive a 2% increase to the subsidy base rate, beginning with the first full month of subsidy service. To maintain this subsidy increase, providers who accept subsidy payments must submit an Early Achievers Request for Quality Recognition or advance to a Quality Level 3 or higher within 30 months of enrolling in Early Achievers or submitting their first subsidy invoice, whichever comes later. If a provider withdraws and re-enrolls in Early Achievers, the 30-month timeline continues based on the first enrollment date.

Child care centers and family home child care that receive a Quality Level 3 through 5 and serve children receiving WCCC, Seasonal Child Care, or Child Welfare subsidies are eligible to earn a higher incentive added to the base rate as follows:

#### Family home child care:\*

- Level 3: 12% above the base rate
- Level 3+: 15% above the base rate
- Level 4: 17% above the base rate
- Level 5: 20 % above the base rate

#### Child care center:

- Level 3: 8% above the base rate
- Level 3+: 8% above the base rate
- Level 4: 15% above the base rate
- Level 5: 20 % above the base rate

Each tiered reimbursement rate includes a percentage increase in subsidy rate over the current base rate. Any time the base rate increases, the additional incentive is applied over the higher base rate.

\*Family home child care tiered reimbursement rates are negotiated by SEIU 925.

## Tiered Reimbursement Monthly Payments

Tiered reimbursements are paid out for a full month of participation. If a provider receives a higher finalized Quality Level after the second day of the month, they would not be eligible for the higher rate until the following month. For example, if a provider finalized a Quality Level on August 2, they would be eligible to begin receiving tiered reimbursement in September.

Tiered reimbursement payments are received two months after the month of service and are a separate payment from a provider's regular subsidy payment. This means that eligible participants providing subsidy services in September would receive their subsidy payment in October but get their Early Achievers tiered reimbursement payment in November.

Please call the Early Achievers hotline at 1-866-922-7629 or contact the QRIS inbox at [QRIS@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:QRIS@dcyf.wa.gov) with any questions. Be sure to have your name, Provider ID, and SSPS # readily available when inquiring about tiered reimbursement payments.

