



## Early Learning Center Directors Meeting

November 16, 2017 – 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Cedar/Duwamish/Nisqually conference rooms

AGENDA		
Time	Topic	Presenter
1:00-1:30	Welcome, Activation, Updates	Kay Lancaster & Talena Dixon
1:30-2:15	5 Year Goals and School Readiness Goals	Kay Lancaster Merri McBride
2:15-2:30	Break	
2:30-4:00	Active Supervision Training & small group discussions	Ardene Niemer Merri McBride Cheryl Polasek

## Updates:

### ECEAP/Early Achievers Alignment and WAC Negotiated Rulemaking

It's time for an update on the major process DEL has undertaken as a part of the Early Start Act to align childcare regulations (WACs), Early Achievers and ECEAP Standards. This is also an opportunity for you to review what's happening and provide feedback to Lori Pittman ([lpittman@psed.org](mailto:lpittman@psed.org)) on the Licensing WACs or ECEAP/EA alignment. These two processes are happening in parallel, and will have major impacts on our programs both ECEAP and HS/EHS as well as Child Care Center.

### Childcare WAC Negotiated Rulemaking

**Update:** As a refresher, DEL issued draft WACS in early 2017 and went through a preliminary 'weighting' survey process. Since June, 5 negotiating teams (HS/ECEAP/EHS, Parents, DEL Licensing, Childcare Centers, Family Childcare) have been meeting to negotiate and come to consensus on each and every proposed regulation and its 'weight'. At this point the negotiation teams will meet for 3 more, 3-day negotiation meetings (through February) and all the WACs have at least been pre-negotiated in small groups, though there are still many upon which we have not come to consensus. Per the timeline, these WACS will be finished by Feb/March 2018, and will go into effect September 2019.

'**Variance**' for our programs: For HS/ECEAP/EHS and other programs with different program standards (like Montessori) there will be a process after all these rules are negotiated to request a 'variance' on certain rules. So for example, in the WAC it may call for a 'center director' to be onsite at least 50% of

the time. In ECEAP/HS, we may have a supervisor who covers a number of sites (which may be a single classroom) in an area, and the “center director” will not spend 50% of the time at any single location for ECEAP. Therefore we would request a ‘variance’ for that rule, and would not be monitored on it by licensing. Another example would be that Head Start standards require a range of annual trainings like mandatory reporting, blood borne pathogens, etc, which are also required as part of licensing WAC. If the program is in good standing with Head Start, we would request a variance so we would only be monitored on this by Head Start, not both HS and licensing.

It is still unknown exactly how DEL will address the issue of ECEAP/HS programs in K-12 settings, so we want to make sure we call out all elements of the WAC (and EA) that will challenge those programs and partnerships.

**Request to Center Directors:** Now is the time you can get engaged or re-engaged in this important process! Posted on [earlylearningwa.org](http://earlylearningwa.org) is the word version of all the WACs, both ones that have come to ‘consensus’ and those still waiting for consensus. It would be useful if you or someone who knows standards/WACs/compliance on your staff could read this whole thing and **send Lori Pittman ([lpittman@psed.org](mailto:lpittman@psed.org)) your comments about two major things: 1. Is this something that is going to be a major problem for ECEAP or HS/EHS and should be renegotiated or blocked, and 2. Is this something that might make sense for childcare but that we will be requesting a variance.** I have also attached a sample response from Snohomish County, but Lori will accept feedback in whatever way works for you!

#### **ECEAP Standards/Early Achievers Progression**

**Update:** A parallel process to [align Early Achievers and ECEAP standards](#) and create a clear quality progression is currently completed the 3<sup>rd</sup> and last round of meetings, organized by Thrive and the coalitions and by WSA in the case of the King County meetings. A few of you have attended these meetings, but we concerned that not enough of PSED programs have had the opportunity to provide feedback on these proposed changes.

**Request to Center Directors:** Please scroll down to the [bottom of this page](#) to the ECEAP Standards/Early Achievers Progression and “Submit Comments” section, read the proposed changes, and do DEL’s surveymonkey to provide feedback on each section.