# ECEAP REMINDERS & LINKS – FEBRUARY 2021

Washington State Department of
**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**

*The Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) is Washington's pre-kindergarten program that prepares 3- and 4-year-old children furthest from opportunity for success in school and life.*

# Contents (*Ctrl + click to follow the link*)

## Important Dates

**Feb. 1** (Optional)**:** Request names and contact information through ELMS for recruitment of age-eligible DSHS clients. Email Non-Disclosure and Data Disposition forms to ECEAP@dcyf.wa.gov.

**Within six months of hire and every three years thereafter:** Lead teachers must complete Teaching Strategies GOLD® inter-rater reliability certification.

**Within 90 days** from class start date, enter health screenings, well-child exams and dental screenings in ELMS.

## Questions?

Email questions about newsletter topics to eceap@dcyf.wa.gov or your Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Specialist. For additional information about ECEAP or the Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF), please visit our Contractor webpages.

Washington State Department of
**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**

# Updates

## DCYF ECEAP and COVID-19

*COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution*

The COVID-19 vaccine is now available and the state is working diligently to ensure those most at risk have access to it as soon as possible. Summary information for rollout phases is available on the Washington State Department of Health's (DOH) COVID-19 Vaccine page. Use the DOH Phase Finder to determine eligibility for the vaccine and to sign up to be notified once you're eligible.

*Service Delivery Guidance*

ECEAP contractors should follow the guidance of local health and tribal jurisdictions. Those agencies provide the most specific guidelines for your respective counties. If sites are not providing in-person classroom services in February, please contact your assigned CQI Specialist to share your plan for service delivery, including timelines.

*Ongoing Communication*

Resources and general information are available on the DOH's website. Please reach out to DCYF ECEAP staff with questions, concerns, and ideas. Contact eceap@dcyf.wa.gov, your CQI Specialist, or Karin Ganz.

*No-Cost COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Tests Available*

DOH is partnering with Walgreens to offer no-cost, contactless, same day COVID-19 testing for patients age 3 and up at certain locations across the state. To find a participating Walgreens near you, call 800-925-4733 or visit Walgreens.com/COVID19Testing. When searching for a participating location, select the checkbox labeled "Rapid Antigen Test (BinaxNOW)."

Additional COVID-19 updates will be provided regularly by DCYF to all Reminders and Links subscribers.

## Federal Poverty Level Updated

The 2021 federal poverty guidelines were released with a small increase in the annual income amounts. They are effective for ECEAP on Feb. 1 and were updated in ELMS on that date. ELMS automatically recalculates the federal poverty level for children on your waiting lists or with completed applications, as well as all children entered in ELMS in the future. View the new chart here.

## ELMS News

**Maintaining and prioritizing waiting lists**: Remember to remove children from waiting lists in ELMS when you learn the children no longer need services or have enrolled in Head Start. ELMS will remove children when they are no longer age-eligible. ECEAP waiting lists may include children who are also on Head Start waiting lists.

**Nontraditional remote services (NTRS) reporting**: Reporting NTRS is now part of the Monthly Report in ELMS. This replaces Smartsheet data entry and is only done once each month. To find this, click the Monthly Report tab, select the Site link or Class link to see the new Step 4: Nontraditional Remote Services Reporting section added to the bottom of the page. To complete reporting, click the "Report NTRS provided this month" button and answer the questions in the pop-up window. View an informational webinar about NTRS reporting on DCYF ECEAP's webpage or YouTube. An FAQ document will be released soon.

**Bulk update tip**: Last August, we added a new Informal Family Notes bulk type to the Bulk Update page. To navigate between the bulk types, click the Bulk Update link on the Child tab. On the Bulk Update page, select a Class Name, and then click the Search button. Once you are on the selected class page, you change the bulk type from the Bulk Type dropdown.

Washington State Department of
**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**

## Early Achievers Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Webpage

Early Achievers launched a webpage to share the revision process that is underway. You'll find videos in English, Spanish, and Somali addressing the process, big picture thinking, and components of Early Achievers. Surveys are available for coaches, providers, and families to share feedback. Continue visiting the CQI page for updates about the progress.

## Teaching Strategies GOLD®

*Teaching Strategies GOLD® and Creative Curriculum® Professional Development (PD)*

PD resources are free for ECEAP users and accessible through teacher GOLD® accounts on the Teaching Strategies® Home Page through the 2020-21 school year. Upcoming webinars and new online resources provided by Teaching Strategies® are posted in the "Messages" section after logging in.

- Upcoming Teaching Strategies® webinars: Generating Fall Outcomes Reports: A Webinar for GOLD® Administrators.
- Teaching Strategies® webinars are available in the TS Archived Webinar Library. This includes Engaging Families While Using GOLD®, Involving Families in Formative Assessment, Support for Teachers and Administrators, and Self-Care for Educators During the Pandemic.
- Video tutorials: Managing Family Members in MyTeachingStrategies®, Engaging in Two-Way Communication with Families, and Sharing Family Activities from your Planning Calendar.

*Teaching Strategies GOLD® Technical Assistance*

- Call the dedicated ECEAP GOLD® line at 844-854-4653 for issues like logging in and general teacher questions.
- For more significant technical issues, submit a case form to the Teaching Strategies® Support Portal.
- Email del.wa@teachingstrategies.com with GOLD® issues or requests for additional portfolios. Include details such as ELMS child IDs, teacher names, and class names. You may include elms@dcyf.wa.gov as an email recipient for additional support.

# DCYF Training Opportunities, Events, and Support

## Address Suspension by Addressing Implicit Bias

**SAVE THE DATE:** Join us for a webinar series with Dr. Rosemarie Allen, CEO of the Center for Equity & Excellence. Dr. Allen's approach supports and reflects many cultural ways of being for children in early childhood classrooms. Learn critical first steps to ensure equitable observation and assessment practices. Register here for upcoming webinars.

- Feb. 19: Implicit Bias and Color Blind Ideology
- Mar. 19: Microaggressions and Cultural Humility
- Apr. 23: Anti-Racist and Anti-Biased Assessments

At the conclusion of the series, recorded webinars will be available on the ECEAP Equity webpage.

## Family Support Documentation Webinar

Please join us for an interactive webinar about documentation in ELMS' Family Support and Mobility Mentoring® tabs. Learn key information about how and why family support notes are vital to high quality, responsive and timely services. Read more and register here for the webinar on March 31 at 1 p.m.

## Directors Bi-Monthly Check-Ins

Ongoing director check-ins are scheduled for Feb. 10 and 24 from 9-10 a.m. Contact your CQI Specialist if you need a meeting invitation. On Feb. 10 Angela Abrams from DCYF Professional Development (PD) will join us to discuss PD updates.

Washington State Department of
**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**

## Recruitment, Eligibility, and Enrollment Staff Monthly Check-ins

Zoom check-ins for recruitment, eligibility, and enrollment staff are held on the first Thursday of the month. Share resources and ideas, find solutions to challenges, and discuss policy and Performance Standards questions. Join the Feb. 4 check-in from 9-10 a.m. here.

## Family Support Staff Check-ins

Zoom check-ins for family support staff are held on the third Thursday of each month. Share ideas and resources, support one another regarding shared challenges, and identify emergent topics in the ever-changing world of family support. Join the Feb. 18 check-in from 9-9:40 a.m. here.

## Education Staff Monthly Check-ins and Webinars

Zoom check-ins for education staff are held on the fourth Monday of each month. Connect with peers and share struggles, strategies, and resources. Join the Feb. 22 check-in here.

Webinars for education staff are on the second Monday of each month. A variety of topics are planned including curriculum, observation, screening, and assessment. Register here:

- Feb. 8, 10 a.m.
- March 8, 10 a.m.
- April 12, 10 a.m.
- May 10, 10 a.m.

## 2020-21 Mobility Mentoring® Monthly Webinars

The following are Mobility Mentoring® webinars for direct support staff and leads. Additional webinars may be added for direct support staff during the pandemic.

*Mobility Mentoring® Webinars for Direct Support Staff*

- Feb. 11, 9 a.m.
- April 8, 9 a.m.
- May 13, 9 a.m.

*Mobility Mentoring® Webinars for Leads*

- March 11, 9 a.m.
- June 10, 9 a.m.

# Other Training Opportunities

## Revised Trainer Standards Webinar

The State-Approved Training (SAT) standards allow DCYF to ensure that all state-approved trainers are consistently offering high-quality learning experiences. The Trainer Standards Workgroup recently drafted revised trainer standards. Join the DCYF PD team to learn about where this resource is headed and how it will be used. This webinar is intended for trainers, coaches, and other RBPD professionals. Join here on Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. This webinar will introduce:

- Changes made to standards, including the addition of a virtual learning competency.
- Development of an anti-bias and anti-racism standard.
- The use of leveling to show a progression of knowledge and skills.

## Dual Language (Spanish/English) Early Childhood Education Classes

Lake Washington Institute of Technology is offering an information session for child care providers who speak Spanish or who are interested in the dual language college course model. Join via Zoom on Feb. 4 from 6:15-7:15 p.m. Contact Renee Almatierra to register.

Washington State Department of
**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**

## Early Achievers Monthly Coach Webinars
University of Washington (UW) Cultivate Learning provides monthly community of practice webinars for Early Achievers coaches. Join here on Feb. 22 from 3-4:30 p.m.

## Early Achievers Coach Framework Training
UW Cultivate Learning is providing coach framework training via Zoom on Feb. 18-19. Participants attending both days receive STARS credit. Register here.

## Haring Center Individualization Internships for Coaches
The two-day internship focuses on individualization and inclusion of children with different learning and behavioral needs into early learning and care settings. Explore strategies to deepen support of social-emotional learning and addressing challenging behavior for young children with disabilities and for those who learn differently. Register for internships on Feb. 2-3, Feb. 9-10, and Feb. 23-24.

The Haring Center also offers follow up mini sessions for internship participants with additional content on behavior and building partnerships with families. Join mini sessions on Feb. 11 and 25. Email Phoebe Yeung for more information.

## Early Achievers Coach Supports
Early Achievers is partnering with UW Cultivate Learning and Child Care Aware of WA to offer webinars for coaches. Learn how to support navigation of the Early Achievers Revisions as we move to the early adopter phase in the spring. December's webinars featured the Coaching Companion with an overview and interactive 'playground' where coaches may explore the functionality of the revised platform. Please continue to engage with the platform and to share if areas of support are identified. January's Coach Support Series webinar recordings will be available soon and include:
- Revision Workgroup Updates and Myth-Busting
- Sneak Peek at January's DCYF Early Achievers Webinar for Providers and Introduction to the Program Profile
- Making the Most of Virtual Coaching and Coaching for Equity Resource Linking

## Circle Time Magazine
Visit Circle Time Magazine, an accessible, friendly, and fun professional development web series focused on early learning in action. Receive STARS credits by completing knowledge checks at the end of each episode.

# Resources

## Equity
*Pronouns Matter*
Visit mypronouns.org, a website that discusses the use of personal pronouns, explains how to use gender inclusive language, and shares additional resources and links related to gender equity.

*New Webinar Series for Black Parents and Families*
This series offers honest conversations for and between Black parents. Participants share strength-based, culturally responsive ideas and reflect on and share their experiences as Black families. Register for the series starting Feb. 15.

## Early Math and Numeracy
*Book Ideas for Early Math Learning*
Erikson Institute Early Math Collective Series: Book Ideas for Early Math Learning is a series that encourages using stories to infuse the early years with mathematical learning. From the infant years until children are putting together more advanced numeracy concepts in elementary school, books can be a gateway for early math discussions.

Washington State Department of
**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**