

2022 Legislative Session - Internal Webinar Q&A

2022 Legislative Session Wrap Up Webinar

Q: Were any of the decision packages relevant to private providers (I am thinking of the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) Quality Support Rate in particular)? Do those funds ever flow to private providers, or is all of that specifically for Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) state employees?

A: The ECEAP quality supports decision package was for all ECEAP providers

Q: Do the Behavior Rehabilitation Service (BRS) rate increases include medically fragile contract rates?

A: No, Medically Fragile is a separate rate. The rate was last updated in 2019.

Q: In looking at the 2022 supplemental operating budget. I thought I saw the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Sec 227 (38) about \$23 million for quality enhancement and compliance. Then in (34) another \$1 million for updated standards. Can you clarify when possible about all ICWA? Thank you.

A: Actually this is not an accurate description of these provisos or the way the Legislature funded the ICWA DP.

Proviso 227 (38) is the proviso to increase rates for Family Time providers. Included in this proviso is about \$931,000 to begin addressing the need for family visitation to be a culturally appropriate service when a child is an Indian child under ICWA. That is what the reference to ICWA pertains to.

Proviso 227 (34) is for the Workload Study (a part of which is studying the true impact of the supreme court decisions on ICWA.

The ICWA funding was not proviso-ed. It is in the agency detail and backups.

Q: How many staff impacted by Naselle closure?

A: At this early stage [as of 3/11/2022], DCYF has not yet developed implementation plans. There are currently 33 youth in residence at Naselle Youth Camp, and the facility employs 93 JR staff.



Q: Who is the provider receiving the startup funds in Vancouver?

A: At this early stage [as of 3/11/2022], we are not sure at this time.

Q: Are the 16% rate increases listed as rate increases for child care centers only?

A: Yes, it is for child care centers only.

Q: Will there be guidance or requirements around how the BRS/Treatment Foster Care (TFC) funds are spent? (there was specific guidance around staff pay for group care. Is there anything similar for BRS/TFC?)

A: That is a program question as the team is working on implementation now. That will be answered in upcoming provider conversations. I would encourage you to send that question to your BRS contact.

Q: Can you talk about if/how the Imagination Library and Reach Out and Read will interface? Thank you!

A: DCYF's Family Support Team will work to ensure that the work of Imagination Library and Reach out and Read will complement and enhance each other. Coordination between the programs will begin once DCYF has selected the nonprofit to implement the Imagination Library program established through 2068.

Q: Regarding SB 5793, does DCYF have any funds available to begin providing stipends, even without much of a state investment this session?

A: It will depend on what we need funds for. We have more work to do on implementing this. We will need more funds to ensure we are providing stipends and resources to those who are participating in advisory bodies.

Q: I don't understand ECEAP slots and the conversion. It looked like there were 777 conversion slots of part time to full time. How does that work on the ground? What is the implementation of that? What is an example of a flexible slot?

A: Through the Request for Proposals (RFP) process of current ECEAP providers, we will ask if providers want to convert any slots to full day slots. For providers who want to retain their part day slots, that happens during the annual renewal process. There are enrollment requirements by date, the flexible slots intend to allow a pot of slots that can be given to sites that have capacity and have a new family in the area that needs that slot.

Q: Will you be providing a list of folks who are point on implementation of various bills and provisos?

A: Please reach out to dcyf.govaffairs@dcyf.wa.gov if you have questions about specific bills, and we will be able to provide you with detailed information about implementation status and contact people.

Q: Can you clear up what happened to Parent Mentoring Program funds. Did those Provisos pass?

A: In the proposed senate budget, there was some language around dollars for a parent mentoring program, the proposed house budget made some investments in the family connections program. These were not included in the final budget.

Please reach out to **dcyf.govaffairs@dcyf.wa.gov** if you have any other questions or need more up-to-date information about any bill or proviso.