

DCYF Child Care Stabilization Grant “Fast Facts”

Background

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) provided the Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) with federal funds to help child care providers who remain open and able to care for children. These funds are intended to support, stabilize, and strengthen the diverse early learning workforce in a way that rebuilds a stronger child care system and expands access to affordable high-quality care.

DCYF disbursed these funds in the form of the Child Care Stabilization Grant. Child Care Stabilization Grant funds have been distributed to thousands of Washington State child care providers to help stabilize their businesses and workforce. This support of the child care sector is vital to meeting the needs of children and families and our state’s economic recovery.

DCYF opened the Child Care Stabilization Grant for application on Oct. 13, 2021 and closed it on September 30, 2022.

All licensed and certified child care providers in Washington State with an open license in good standing were eligible to apply for the Child Care Stabilization Grant. This included licensed Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) sites. License-exempt Family, Friend, and Neighbor (FFN) providers who served at least one family receiving subsidy in four of the last six months or two of the last three months and have claimed payment for these services through the Social Service Payment System (SSPS) could also apply.

Grant Applications Received

As of September 30, 5,375 licensed and certified providers, and 1,477 FFN providers had applied for the Child Care Stabilization Grant. Applications were reviewed to confirm eligibility before final approval and payment processing. DCYF processed payments once per month.

Total Grant Amount Awarded to Date (\$363,355,750)

As of November 9, 6,852 applications were approved and grant awards were distributed, totaling \$363,355,750 in grant funds. Payments were processed once a month through October 2022.

Grants Awarded by Provider Type

License Type	Total Count	Total Amount	License Capacity
Child Care Center	1,586	\$145,138,500	116,695
Licensed Family Home	3,223	\$171,046,000	31,847
Outdoor Preschool	11	\$498,000	228
School-Age Program	555	\$44,514,500	33,461
Family, Friend, and Neighbor (FFN)	1,477	\$2,158,750	N/A
Total	6,852	\$363,355,750	182,231

*Of these grants, 159 have been awarded to licensed ECEAP providers, totaling \$14,649,000. There are 430 total ECEAP sites, and 174 of them are licensed.

Grants Awarded by Subsidy versus Private Pay

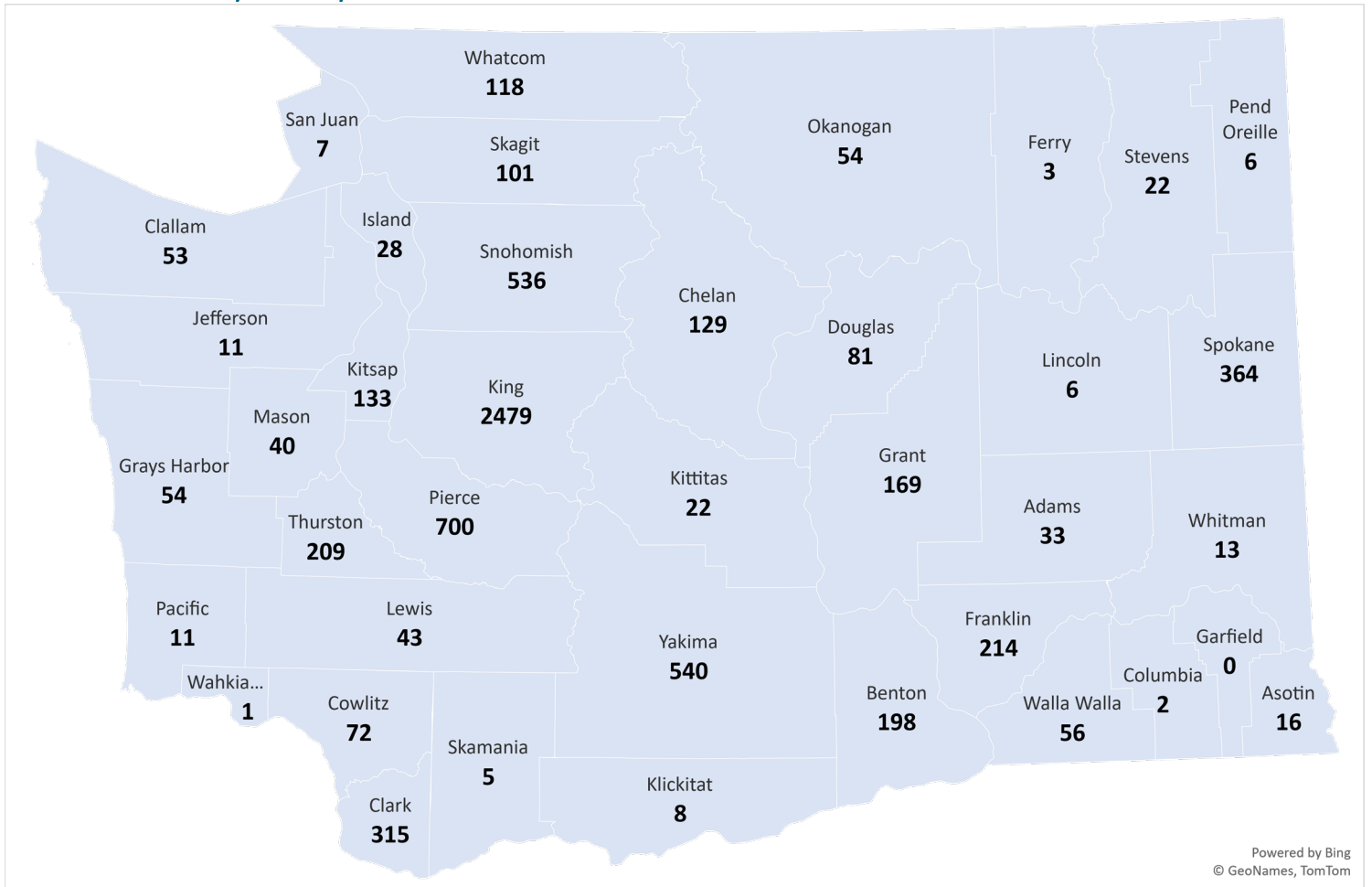
Subsidy Status	Total Count	Total Amount	License Capacity
Subsidy Child Care Centers	1,007	\$97,485,500	76,102
Subsidy Licensed Family Homes	2,155	\$123,370,000	21,508
Subsidy Outdoor Preschool	3	\$141,000	104
Subsidy School-Age Programs	450	\$36,760,500	27,537
Subsidy FFN	1,477	\$2,158,750	N/A
Total Subsidy	5,092	\$259,915,750	125,251
Private Pay Child Care Centers	579	\$47,653,000	40,593
Private Pay Licensed Family Home	1,068	\$47,676,000	10,339
Private Pay Outdoor Preschool	8	\$357,000	124
Private Pay School-Age Programs	105	\$7,754,000	5,924
Total Private Pay	1,760	\$103,440,000	56,980

Grant Awards and Amounts Awarded by Child Care Subsidy Region*:

Stabilization Grant	Grant Awards	Grant Amounts Awarded
Region 1	530	\$25,117,250
Region 2	1,036	\$50,087,250
Region 3	805	\$44,864,000
Region 4	2,445	\$150,547,500
Region 5	833	\$40,393,250
Region 6	839	\$36,178,750
Spokane	364	\$16,167,750

*Data shown includes both subsidy and private pay child care providers.

Grants by County



Outreach and Resources Offered to Providers

DCYF offered provider webinars in English, Spanish, and Somali to share about the grant application process. DCYF contracted with Voices of Tomorrow and The Imagine Institute to provide extensive outreach and technical assistance, including assistance in the provider’s language, guidance on preparing for and accessing the application, and on spending and saving receipts. Technical assistance was available one-on-one or in small groups, as well as in person, virtually, or over the phone.

DCYF provided translated materials in Somali and Spanish. Here is a list of the resources made available:

- Dedicated Webpage – available in multiple languages through Google Translate Tool
- Provider Frequently-Asked Questions Document – English, Spanish, and Somali
- Application Step-by-Step Guide – English, Spanish, and Somali
- Provider Webinars – available in English, Spanish, and Somali
- Dedicated email inbox for application questions
- Online Application in WA Compass Provider Portal – available in multiple languages through Google Translate Tool
- Online application for Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers through SmartSheet
- Translated paper applications available in Spanish and Somali