


## Department of Early Learning

<b>Policy Title:</b>	10.1.9 Child Care Certification Policy		
<b>Procedure:</b>	Attached		
<b>References:</b>	RCW 43.215; WAC 170-295; WAC 170-296A; WAC 170-297		
<b>Applies To:</b>	Licensing Staff	<b>Contact:</b>	Licensing Oversight Division
<b>Effective Date:</b>	01/01/2016	<b>Created On:</b>	11/01/2008
<b>Reviewed:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RAs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CCSLA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AD		
<b>Other Review (list)</b>			
<b>Director Approved:</b>			

DEL is responsible for licensing activities to ensure that standards of health and safety are present in child care facilities in accordance with WA state regulations. The term “child care facility” is used to indicate family child care homes, child care centers and school-age programs.

### Purpose

Clarify and standardize the agency process for certification of a facility that is legally exempt from licensing in accordance with WA state regulations. Expectations of DEL personnel are clarified in the attached Child Care Certification Procedure.

### Policy

- I. DEL will not license child care facilities that are legally exempt from licensing per Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 43.215.010.
- II. If requested, DEL may certify a child care facility for payment only, without further inspection, if the facility is:
  - a. Located within the boundaries of a federally recognized Indian reservation and licensed or certified by an Indian Tribe.
  - b. Licensed or Certified by the Federal Department of Defense.
  - c. Approved by the Superintendent of the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), when available.
- III. If requested by the entity, the facility may be certified by DEL as meeting licensing requirements, if it is:
  - a. Located within the boundaries of a federally recognized Indian reservation.
  - b. Licensed or Certified by the Federal Department of Defense.
  - c. Approved by the Superintendent of OSPI, when available.
- IV. All facilities listed in the above sections must be licensed, certified, or approved in accordance with national or state standards, or standards approved by DEL. It must be operated on the premises where the entity operating the facility has jurisdiction.

### Attachments

Child Care Certification Procedure  
 School Based and Military Certification for Payment Only Request Form  
 Tribal Certification Request Letter Template  
 Tribal Certification Letter Template to Tribes