

## How Does CFE Work?

CFE replicates ECEAP's whole child model, which is aligned with nationally researched programs that show exceptional returns on investment in early learning.

## How is CFE Funded?

Local government, school districts, institutions of higher education and nonprofit organizations fund CFE.

## CFE Quality Assurance

To maintain the quality of early learning services, all ECEAP performance standards, policies, procedures, monitoring and administration apply to CFE.

## CFE Fund Management Process

There is an Early Start account where all CFE funds are deposited and a fund management system for all CFE funds.

## CFE Cost Per School Year

MODEL	HOURS	COST/YEAR
Part Day	3	\$8,237
School Day	5.5 - 6.5	\$11,309 (avg.)
Working Day	10	\$17,656 (avg.)



For more information, visit: [www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/early-learning-providers/eceap/community-funded-eceap](http://www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/early-learning-providers/eceap/community-funded-eceap)  
Email: [eceap@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:eceap@dcyf.wa.gov)

# COMMUNITY FUNDED ECEAP



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

*If you would like copies of this document in an alternative format or language, please contact DCYF Constituent Relations (1-800-723-4831 | 360-902-8060, [ConstRelations@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:ConstRelations@dcyf.wa.gov)).*



## What is Community Funded ECEAP?

The unmet need for high-quality early learning opportunities led to the creation of Community Funded ECEAP (CFE). RCW 43.216.080 ([app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=43.216.080](http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=43.216.080)) created additional early learning opportunities by allowing local governments, school districts, institutions of higher education ([app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=28B.10.016](http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=28B.10.016)) and nonprofit organizations to contribute funds to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) to expand access and eligibility of the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP).

### CFE Process

To get the process started, providers will learn how CFE works, gather the required information and documentation and seek funding sources. Providers must complete the following: expression of interest, application site approval (if new provider), agreement of payment. Upon approval, the provider can then implement the program.

### CFE Contracting Structure

The contracting structure for CFE is the same as the traditional state funded ECEAP. CFE contractors operate CFE-funded slots or sites directly or through subcontracts with partners.

### Why Community Funded ECEAP?

- CFE addresses the increasing need for high-quality early learning by creating opportunities for more children who are ready for preschool – particularly 4-year-olds not currently served.
- According to DCYF's ECEAP and Head Start annual Saturation Study, each year a large number of children are not served by state-funded ECEAP or Head Start.
- Despite the Washington State Legislature's commitment to early learning and ECEAP services, there are still early learning gaps that exist for many preschool children in communities across Washington.
- Families who are living in poverty are struggling as the reduced rate lunch cost goes up. Being at 185% of the federal poverty level (\$47,638 for a family of four) and higher, families continue to struggle.
- Hardworking families are still unable to make ends meet and need accessible high-quality preschool programming for their children.

