

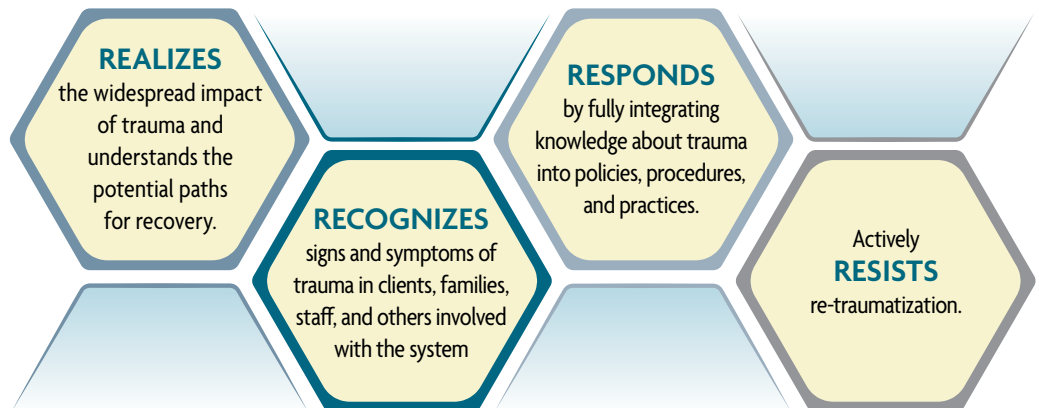


# DCYF Financial Awards for Trauma-Informed Care

Early learning providers with trauma-informed knowledge and skills help protect children from trauma's impacts. Through The Fair Start for Kids Act (Senate Bill 5237), DCYF is growing trauma-informed care supports for eligible providers. This includes rulemaking and distributing financial awards for completing DCYF-recognized trauma-informed education and training. For more information on Senate Bill 5237, go to [https://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2021-22/Pdf/Bills/Session Laws/Senate/5237-S2.SL.pdf?q=20220831075852](https://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2021-22/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/Senate/5237-S2.SL.pdf?q=20220831075852).

## What is Trauma-Informed Care?

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) uses the “Four ‘Rs’” to define trauma-informed care. A trauma-informed organization, according to SAMHSA:



## Trauma-Informed Care Award Eligibility:

In order to receive an award, eligible individuals must have:

- An active job role in MERIT ([MERIT.dcyf.wa.gov](https://merit.dcyf.wa.gov)). Active job role means the individual is currently employed and associated with a facility/site.
- The active job role in MERIT must be confirmed or verified. A confirmed role in MERIT means employment information was confirmed by the employer or licensee. A verified role in MERIT means the employment information was verified by a DCYF licensor or MERIT administrator.
- Completed tax forms provided by DCYF-contracted training partners who will contact eligible individuals

Qualifying roles include employees or owners of eligible program types. Eligible program types include:

- Licensed or certified child care center, family home provider, or outdoor nature-based care accepting state subsidy;
- ECEAP, Early ECEAP, and Tribal ECEAP
- License-exempt family friend and neighbor



## What Does it Mean to Accept State subsidy?

At the time of the award, you must work in a program with children receiving subsidy, and the program has **claimed** payment in at least one month of the past 12 months prior to the award date. For more information on how to claim a payment please see: [www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/ssps](http://www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/ssps)



### The following roles are eligible:

Licensed, license-exempt, certified, ECEAP/Early ECEAP	ECEAP/Early ECEAP/Tribal ECEAP	Early Achievers Coach <sup>1</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Owner</li> <li>• Licensee</li> <li>• Director</li> <li>• Assistant director</li> <li>• Program supervisor</li> <li>• Lead teacher</li> <li>• Assistant teacher</li> <li>• Aid</li> <li>• Site coordinator</li> <li>• Lead staff or group leader</li> <li>• License-exempt family friend and neighbor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistant teacher</li> <li>• Child development/education manager</li> <li>• Family Support Manager</li> <li>• Family Support Staff</li> <li>• Health Advocate</li> <li>• Lead teacher</li> <li>• Site Contact Manager</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Care Aware regional office Early Achievers coach.</li> <li>• Birth-to-3 Quality Initiatives coach</li> <li>• Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant (IECMH-C) (training awards only)</li> <li>• ECEAP coach</li> </ul>

## How will DCYF Distribute Trauma-Informed Care Awards?

While funds are available, DCYF will provide awards of up to \$1,200 to individual eligible providers with trauma-informed knowledge and skills gained through recognized training and education.

**Eligible individuals who have the approved education or training completed and recorded in MERIT will be contacted and do not need to apply for or request the award.**

*Eligible* means:

- You have an eligible role listed above.
- You have a MERIT account with an active job role that is confirmed or verified in MERIT.
- You have approved training recorded in your MERIT professional record.

1. Early Achievers Coaches must have their training and education recorded in MERIT unless other verification is approved from DCYF, but they do not need to have an active role. DCYF will work with certified and ECEAP programs who are license-exempt, school districts or school day programs to verify records for eligible awards.

## Approved Trauma-Informed Education and Training

- **Education Awards:** this type of award recognizes the educational achievements awarded by educational institutions, in the form of degrees or certificates. Once your education is verified in MERIT, you may be eligible to earn this award.
- **Training Award:** this type of award compensates providers for completing DCYF-recognized trainings.

### Trauma-Informed Education & Training Specific Awards

Education Award(s)	
Bachelor's degree or higher in infant and early childhood mental health	\$1,200
Training Award(s)	
<b>TRAININGS RECOMMENDED BY TRIBES THAT ARE ALIGNED WITH TRAUMA-INFORMED AND HEALING-CENTERED PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES.</b>	Varied award amounts.
<b>EMERGING TRAINING CATEGORY</b> <i>(Only one training from this category may receive a financial award)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WAPM Implementing Inclusive + Equitable Pyramid Model Practices UPDATE (Modules 1 and 2)</li> <li>• At least two PREPARE for Care training sessions (6 hours each)</li> <li>• Conscious Discipline               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Start Strong: SEL Foundations and Resiliency in Infants and Toddlers, for ages birth-to-3</li> <li>– Building Resilient Schools and Homes</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Mobility Mentoring Foundation Course Online (For ECEAP and Early ECEAP providers only)</li> <li>• Filming Interactions to Nurture Development (FIND)</li> <li>• DCYF-approved Helping Children Develop Social Emotional Skills – Provided in Spanish and Somali</li> </ul>	\$800
<b>ADVANCED TRAINING CATEGORY</b> <i>(Only one training from this category may receive a financial award)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DCYF-approved Trauma Informed Care Modules – Advanced Series (All four sessions)</li> <li>• At least four PREPARE for care training sessions (6 hours each),</li> <li>• DCYF-approved Prenatal and Infant Mental Health (20 hours) – Provided in Somali and Spanish</li> <li>• Pyramid Model Prevent Teach Reinforce for Young Children (Prerequisite is the Pyramid Model module 1 and 2)</li> </ul>	\$1,200

#### What languages are the trainings offered in?

- Some training will be available in Spanish and Somali as indicated in MERIT.
- A language interpreter may be provided for any training eligible for an award. Contact your trainer or training organization for additional information.

#### How will I know the training is eligible for an award?

- All approved training or education must be recorded and verified in MERIT, DCYF's Workforce Registry.
- All approved training must be delivered by a DCYF-contracted training organization, a DCYF approved provider, a DCYF state-approved trainer, or a DCYF-approved proprietary training entity.



## When will I receive my award?

Awards are processed monthly. DCYF and your training organization need time to process these awards, so you can expect it will take up to three months to receive your award.

## Do I have to pay taxes on my award?

Yes, when contacted about receiving your award, your training organization will help you to complete needed forms.

## What else should I know?

- Providers who wish to complete the trainings listed may do so in order to receive a financial award.
- For updates about trauma-informed care, go to [www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/earlylearning-profdev/workforce-preparation/trauma-informed-care](https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/earlylearning-profdev/workforce-preparation/trauma-informed-care).

## Where can I find training that is eligible for an award?

Use the Find Training search tool in MERIT for approved options at <https://apps.dcyf.wa.gov/MERIT/Search>.

Check that the training listed states it is eligible for a TIC award.

## Questions?

Contact MERIT at [merit@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:merit@dcyf.wa.gov)

**Reminder:** All eligible providers will be contacted, you do not need to do anything to request or apply for an award.

If you have completed training you believe is approved you can:

- Make sure you have an active job role in MERIT<sup>2</sup> that is confirmed or verified.  
*If you need assistance, visit the website ([www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/earlylearning-profdev/merit](https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/earlylearning-profdev/merit)) for step-by-step instructions or contact MERIT.*
- Make sure you can see the training in your professional record.  
*If you don't see this in your professional record, you can contact the trainer or contact MERIT with a copy of your training certificate.*
- Please wait until May 1, 2023 before reaching out if you haven't been contacted.

2. Early Achievers Coaches must have their training and education recorded in MERIT, but they do not need to have an active role. DCYF will work with certified programs and ECEAP programs who are license-exempt, school districts or school day programs to verify records for eligible awards.

DCYF does not discriminate and provides equal access to its programs and services for all persons without regard to race, color, gender, religion, creed, marital status, national origin, sexual orientation, age, veteran's status, or presence of any physical, sensory, or mental disability.

If you would like free copies of this publication in an alternative format or language, please contact DCYF Constituent Relations at 1-800-723-4831 or email [communications@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:communications@dcyf.wa.gov).

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