

COVID-19 Updates for Child Care Providers

July 14, 2020



Welcome to today's webinar.
Please remember to mute your phone and computer upon entry.
We will begin shortly. Thank you!



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Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Virtual Meeting Protocols

Audio and Video Connection

- Throughout the webinar, please mute yourself unless you are speaking or responding to a question.
- We have Q&A portions dedicated throughout the meeting, but feel free to use the chat box to post questions or comments at any time.
- If for any reason you place the call on hold and music begins to play, your call will be disconnected. You are more than welcome to rejoin the meeting once you are available again.
- Individuals using a webcam or video option will be displayed throughout the meeting.

If you have any questions or technical difficulties, please contact us via the chat box or at dcyf.communityengagement@dcyf.wa.gov.



COVID-19 Updates for Child Care Providers

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Agenda



- Webinars – July and August
- Subsidy and Proclamation Updates
- Early Achievers Updates





Subsidy and Proclamation Updates

Enrollment based payments continuing through August 2020

- Licensed providers continue to claim based on enrollment rather than attendance through August 2020.

Effective July 1, 2020:

- **DCYF no longer waiving family co-payments**
- **Families who apply for WCCC must be participating in approved activities**

Please contact the Child Care Provider Line with questions: 1-800-394-4571 or providerhelp@dcyf.wa.gov.

Background checks and Early Achievers proclamations continued through July 2020



Early Achievers Updates



Data Collection on Hold for the Rest of 2020

- Data collection is on hold through the end of 2020.
- A submitted request for onsite evaluation is still required to maintain subsidy timeline requirements and current ratings, even though no data collection is happening at this time.



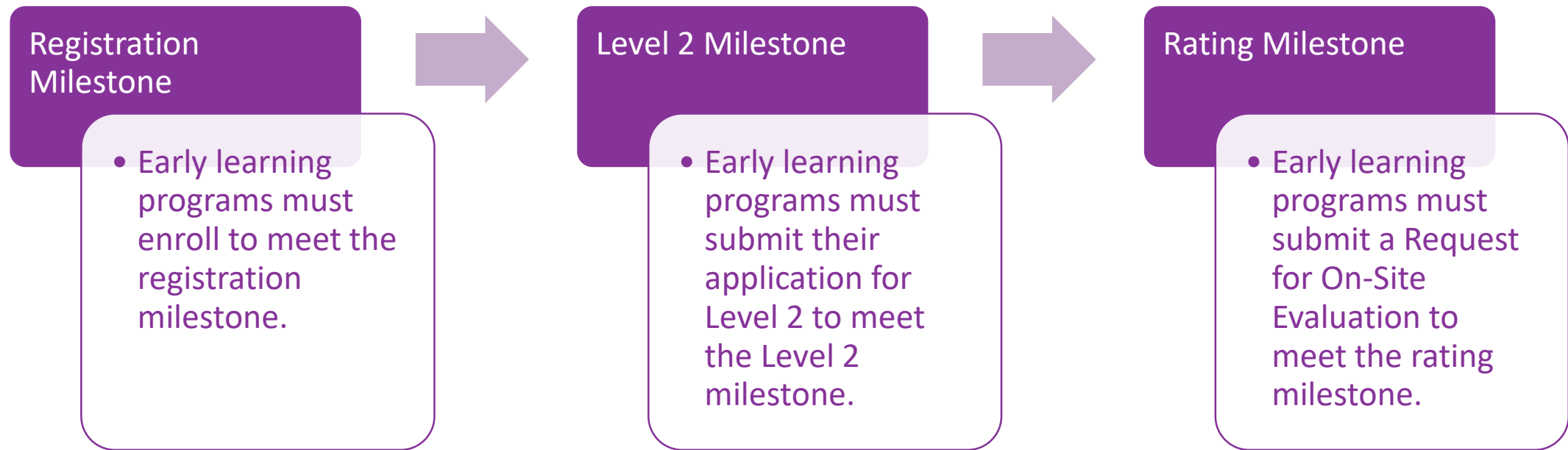
Temporary Suspension of Timeline Requirements

Governor Inslee's Proclamation 20-31 put Early Achievers timeline requirements on hold beginning March 26, 2020, through August 1, 2020. This proclamation:

- Temporarily waives and suspends specific statutes related to Early Achievers in order to minimize barriers for early learning programs.
- This proclamation lifts the Early Achievers timeline requirements for registration, Level 2 and rating through August 1, 2020.

What to Expect When Timelines Resume

- Early learning programs that missed ECEAP or subsidy timeline requirements while the proclamation was in effect will have 30 days from the end of the proclamation to meet their timeline requirement.





Looking Ahead

Our Vision for the Future of Early Achievers

- Recent events have highlighted the need for a new vision of how Early Achievers can best support early learning programs in providing quality care to the children and families they serve.
- During this hold on data collection, we will work with participants and partners to reimagine our coaching, data collection and rating process that:
 - Further individualizes approaches to supporting and recognizing early learning programs' quality improvement efforts.
 - Maintains an active role in addressing issues of equity and systemic racism within the early learning system.
 - Values and incorporates the input of participants.



What We Know

- We want what is best for children to remain at the heart of Early Achievers.
- Early Achievers will continue supporting quality improvement efforts.
- Participants will continue to have access to coaching services.
- Even though data collection processes will change, sites will still earn a facility rating and receive data to support continuous quality improvement.



Moving Forward

We will work together to reimagine the Early Achievers data collection processes and what it means to rate a Level 3 or higher. We will solicit input and reflect what we learn back to the community. This process will inform DCYF decisions for the next iteration of Early Achievers.

During this process we will review:

Standards

Data
Collection

Rating
Feedback

Rating
Cycle

Provider
Role in
Rating

Level 2
Activities



What's Next

- We are committed to communicating with early learning programs throughout this process.
- DCYF will strive to provide advance notice, clear instructions and work to offer a flexible approach before data collection resumes some time in 2021.



Questions?

Work directly with your coach or

Email us at QRIS@dcyf.wa.gov

Call us on our Early Achievers Hotline at 1-866-922-7629



Thank you!

Contact:

dcyf.covid-19@dcyf.wa.gov

