



## Early Learning Advisory Council

The Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC), founding legislation, [RCW 43.216.075](#), was created in 2007. The Council plays a pivotal role in the early learning system as an advisory body to DCYF on statewide early learning issues that contribute to the ongoing efforts of building a comprehensive system of quality early learning programs and services for Washington's young children and families.

ELAC's membership reflects Washington's regional, racial, and cultural diversity and includes parents, child care providers, health/safety experts and legislators, as well as representatives of Tribal Nations, independent schools, the K-12 and higher education systems, early learning regional coalitions (Regional Advisors), and others interested continuing the creation of a statewide early learning system that helps all children realize their full potential. [Read more about ELAC and its work.](#)

ELAC representatives from around the state meet regularly to advise and work with DCYF to assist in policy development and implementation that assist the department in promoting alignment of private and public sector actions, objectives, and resources, so that partners can collectively ensure that all children succeed in school and life.

### **ELAC Membership Requirements**

Members serve two-year terms that expire on June 30<sup>th</sup> of the second year. ELAC members are expected to attend the majority of meetings and be prepared to actively participate. Participants who volunteer in subcommittees or work groups should expect to meet outside of the regular meeting dates.

### **Attendance**

ELAC members and Regional Advisors are expected to attend all regularly scheduled ELAC meetings (both Executive and Public sessions) that take place throughout the year. It is recognized that ELAC members and Regional Advisors may be unable to attend some meetings due to conflicts or unforeseen circumstances. ELAC Members and Regional Advisors are expected to provide written notice to the Executive Committee before the meeting date if they are unable to attend.

Membership seats are unpaid positions, although non-governmental members may be eligible for compensation and reimbursement for travel expenses incurred while carrying out ELAC duties. Members may be eligible for lived experience compensation. DCYF is working on the internal guidelines and process and will have more information in the coming months.

### **ELAC Representation Requirements**

ELAC's membership requirements were updated with the passage of the [Fair Start for Kids Act \(FSKA\)](#). The list below reflects these new representation requirements as of July 2021:



## Required Representation in Order to Fulfill ELAC's Purpose

<u>ELAC SEAT</u>	<u>ELAC SEAT</u>	<u>ELAC SEAT</u>	<u>ELAC SEAT</u>	<u>ELAC SEAT</u>
Department of Commerce	Parent serving on DCYF's Parent Advisory Group (PAG)	The Washington State Women's Commission established under chapter <a href="#">43.119</a> RCW	Organization advocating for expanded learning opportunities and school-age child care programs	An infant or early childhood mental health expert
Department of Health	Parent serving on DCYF's Parent Advisory Group (PAG)	The Washington State Office of Equity established under chapter <a href="#">43.06D</a> RCW	Largest union representing child care providers	Family, Friend, and Neighbor caregiver
Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC)	Private-Public Partnership created in RCW <a href="#">43.216.065</a>	Sovereign Tribal Government	Head Start, Early Head Start, or Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Program	Representative from Prenatal to Three Services
Military spouse liaison created within the Department of Veterans Affairs under RCW <a href="#">43.60A.245</a>	Developmental Disabilities Community representing children and families involved in part C of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	Sovereign Tribal Government – Tribal ECEAP or Head Start Program (IPEL)	Educational Service Districts	A pediatrician
State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)	Developmental Disabilities Community representing children and families involved in part B of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	Washington Federation of Independent Schools (WFIS)	A provider responsible for programs under section 619 of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	Representative of the statewide Child Care Resource and Referral Organization
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)	Early Learning Regional Coalition	Washington Library Association	State agency responsible for part C of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	
House of Representatives – Republican	Early Learning Regional Coalition	Statewide Advocacy Coalition of Organizations that focuses on Early Learning	Representative of the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program	
House of Representatives – Democrat	The Washington State Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs established under chapter <a href="#">43.117</a> RCW	Association representing statewide business interests	Representative of licensed family home providers	
Senate – Republican	The Washington State Commission on African American Affairs established under chapter <a href="#">43.113</a> RCW	Regional business coalition	Representative of child care centers	
Senate – Democrat	The Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs established under chapter <a href="#">43.115</a> RCW	Advocacy organization for immigrants and refugees	Representative from the Home Visiting Advisory Committee established in RCW <a href="#">43.216.130</a>	