

ECEAP Definition of an Indian Child

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Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

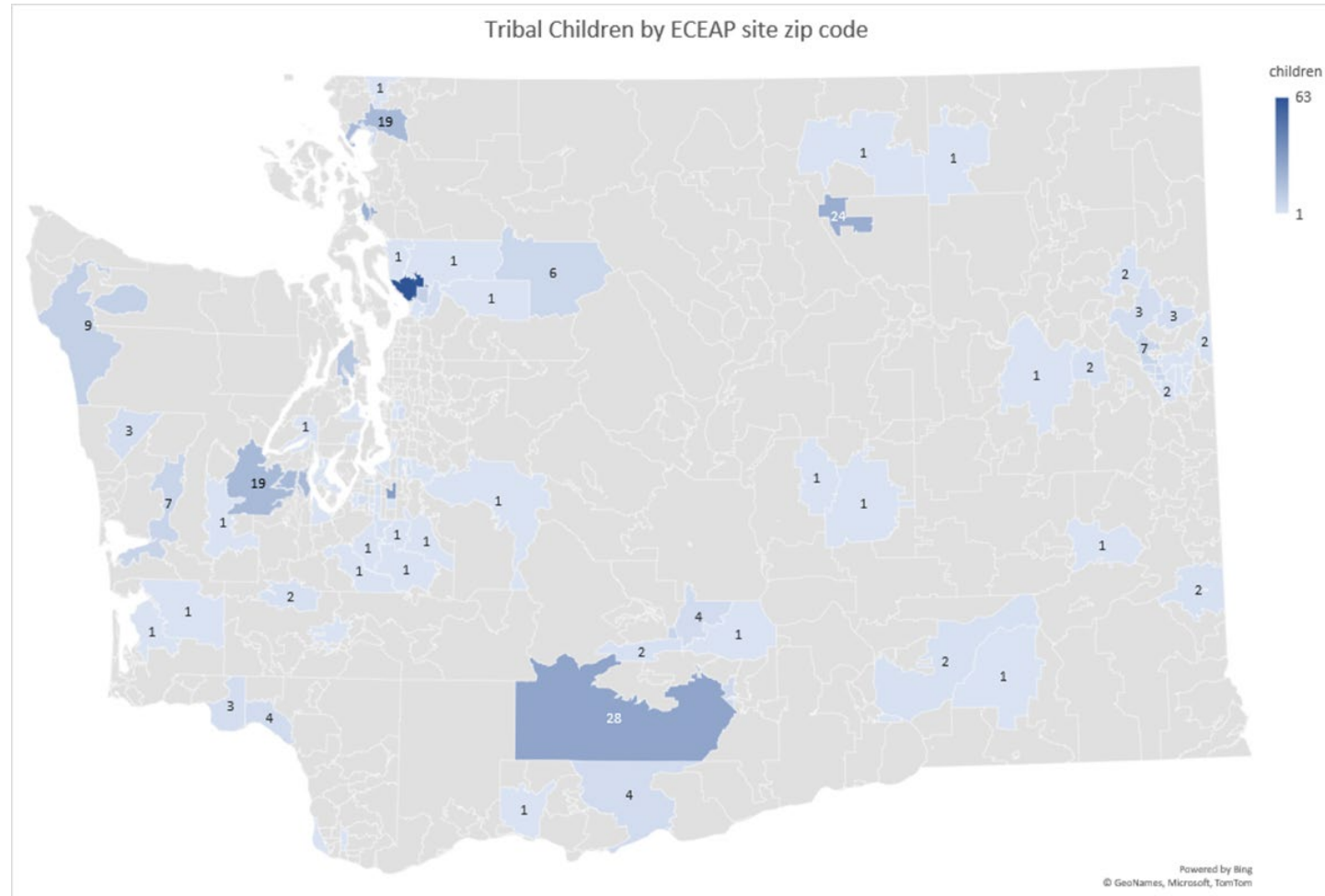
Fair Start for Kids Act Language

(e) Is Indian as defined in rule by the department after consultation and agreement with Washington state's federally recognized tribes pursuant to section 207 of this act and is at or below 100 percent of the state median income adjusted for family size;

Sec. 207. INDIAN CHILD DEFINITION.
(1) The department must consult, and obtain the advice and consent of, the governing bodies of the state's federally recognized tribes in developing an agreed-upon definition of the term "Indian" for the purposes of RCW 43.216.505 and, by July 1, 2024, must adopt the definition in rule.



Where Tribal children from Washington Tribes attend ECEAP



ECEAP Definition of an Indian Child for the Fair Start Act Timeline



Proposed Definitions

For Sovereign Nations Providing ECEAP Services

As sovereign nations, ECEAP sites run by Tribal Nations must provide definition of an Indian child for their ECEAP programming. Tribal Nations will submit these definitions to DCYF and provide updated definitions as appropriate.

For Non-Tribal Providers Serving Tribal Children (including Tribal Non-Profit providers)

"Indian child" is defined as any unmarried and unemancipated Indian person who is under age 18 and is, as determined by the Indian child's tribe or tribes, one of the following:

1. A member of an Indian tribe; or
2. Is eligible for membership in an Indian tribe.



Evidence of Tribal Status

If the family has evidence of Tribal status:

- Parents will complete a form with the child's Tribal status and provide evidence of Tribal status
- The ECEAP site staff will review this information and verify ECEAP eligibility

If the family does not have evidence of Tribal status:

- Parents complete a form with the child's Tribal status, share why they are not able to provide evidence of Tribal status, and attach any available evidence
- This information will be sent to the state ECEAP team to verify ECEAP eligibility



Next Steps

- Share definitions with Tribal lobbyists
- Share definitions with other Tribal advisory groups
- Meet with Urban Native programs
- Tribal consultation
- Rules process to create a WAC
- Database development to add the definition to ELMS the ECEAP database that is use for ECEAP enrollment



Questions?



Thank you!

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