

DCYF's Dual Language Designation



WHAT IS A DUAL LANGUAGE DESIGNATION?

An acknowledgment of practices that meet the needs of multilingual children and families.

Your Early Achievers Quality Recognition Certificate will include your Dual Language Designation and any other specialization that you earn. You can display this achievement in your program so families can see what you have accomplished.

WHY IS DUAL LANGUAGE IMPORTANT?

Dual language learning is an approach where children learn literacy, culture, and content in two languages, typically English and a partner language spoken in the local community. Dual language is the most effective language development model for multilingual learners and the only language model that prevents and fully closes opportunity gaps for multilingual learners and other communities of concern (Collier & Thomas, 2004, 2017; Lindholm-Leary, 2017). Dual language programs are designed for and prioritize multilingual/English learners.

Multilingual/English learners make up 33% of children ages Birth to 8 in Washington state. Families are less likely to enroll their multilingual/English learners in early care and education programs. A recent report shows only one-third of all multilingual/English learners age 3-4 in Washington state participate in Pre-K. To view the report, go to <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/DLL-FactSheet-WA-FINAL.pdf>. DCYF is excited to act upon this research by developing standards and best practices to support early learning programs serving multilingual/English learners.

Definitions

Dual language learning is a model in which children intentionally receive instruction and communication in English and an established partner language. At least half the instruction and communication with children occurs in the partner language.

Tribal language revitalization is the ongoing effort by Tribal nations to preserve their language.

Dual Language Designation background

- The Dual Language Designation is part of Early Achievers Quality Recognition. For more information, go to www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/early-learning-providers/early-achievers/dual-language-learning.
- DCYF collaborated with stakeholders and partners to:
 - Define dual language for early care and education
 - Develop the Dual Language Standards and Best Practices
 - Design training and preparation pathways toward the Dual Language Designation
- DCYF will implement the Dual Language Designation starting with an early adopter phase. Providers that participate in the early adopter phase will provide feedback on the Dual Language Designation process while receiving targeted support from DCYF and partners.



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

How do I earn a Dual Language Designation?

All Early Achievers sites providing dual language or Tribal language revitalization programming can earn a Dual Language Designation through Early Achievers Quality Recognition.

To achieve a Dual Language Designation, programs must:

- Participate in Early Achievers
- Have established program languages as indicated in their policy handbook
- Have at least one bilingual staff using the established program languages OR be a Tribal language revitalization program
- Enroll at least one child who speaks the partner language at home OR be a Tribal language revitalization program
- Agree to submit evidence the program is meeting the Dual Language Program Standards and Best Practices when finalizing Quality Level

Refer to the publication *Community-Driven Outreach and Engagement Strategies for Dual Language Designation* (EL_0066) available online at www.dcyf.wa.gov/publications-library/EL_0066 for more information.

Who can earn a Dual Language Designation Funding Award?

The following Early Achievers program types are eligible for Dual Language Designation Funding Awards while funding is available:

- Licensed, Certified or Certified for Payment Only providers serving children on subsidy
 - Program must have claimed a subsidy payment in the 12 months prior to the award date
- Sites that offer Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) services or Early ECEAP services

How will DCYF Prioritize Funding Awards?

DCYF is committed to advancing racial equity and diversity and will prioritize annual awards based on the following prioritization factors:

1. Tribal Language
2. Zip Code
 - a. Extreme Child Care Access Deserts
 - b. High rate of child maltreatment
 - c. High childhood poverty
 - d. Rural counties
 - e. High concentration of American Indian/Alaska Native, Black, Hispanic, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
 - f. High concentration of children of color under age 15, including multiracial children

PRIORITY 1: Tribal Language Revitalization Program

PRIORITY 2: Licensed and Certified for Payment Only Programs meeting 3 or more of the prioritization factors

PRIORITY 3: Licensed and Certified for Payment Only Programs meeting 2 of the prioritization factors

PRIORITY 4: Licensed and Certified for Payment Only Programs meeting 1 of the prioritization factors

DCYF will distribute funding awards as funding permits.

TIER	REQUIREMENTS	AWARD (PER CLASSROOM OR CARE ENVIRONMENT)	
Commitment Tier	For programs committed to growing their dual language or Tribal language revitalization program.	Dual Language \$2,700	Tribal Language Revitalization \$4,100

Please note: Financial award amounts are available while funding permits.

Additional Tiers and funding award amounts may be developed, pending future funding.

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.

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DCYF PUBLICATION EL_0061 (06-2023)