

ESHB 2519 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Ways & Means

ADOPTED 03/07/2014

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 26.44 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) The family assessment response worker must assess for child
6 safety and child well-being when collaborating with a family to
7 determine the need for child care, preschool, or home visiting services
8 and, as appropriate, the family assessment response worker must refer
9 children to preschool programs that are enrolled in the early achievers
10 program and rate at a level 3, 4, or 5 unless:

11 (a) The family lives in an area with no local preschool programs
12 that rate at a level 3, 4, or 5 in the early achievers program;

13 (b) The local preschool programs that rate at a level 3, 4, or 5 in
14 the early achievers program are not able to meet the needs of the
15 child; or

16 (c) The child is attending a preschool program prior to
17 participating in family assessment response and the parent or caregiver
18 does not want the child to change preschool programs.

19 (2) The family assessment response worker may make child care
20 referrals for nonschool-aged children to licensed child care programs
21 that rate at a level 3, 4, or 5 in the early achievers program
22 described in RCW 43.215.100 unless:

23 (a) The family lives in an area with no local programs that rate at
24 level 3, 4, or 5 in the early achievers program;

25 (b) The local child care programs that rate at a level 3, 4, or 5
26 in the early achievers program are not able to meet the needs of the
27 child; or

28 (c) The child is attending a child care program prior to
29 participating in family assessment response and the parent or caregiver
30 does not want the child to change child care programs.

1 (3) The family assessment response worker shall, when appropriate,
2 provide referrals to high quality child care and early learning
3 programs.

4 (4) The family assessment response worker shall, when appropriate,
5 provide referrals to state and federally subsidized programs such as,
6 but not limited to, licensed child care programs that receive state
7 subsidy pursuant to RCW 43.215.135; early childhood education and
8 assistance programs; head start programs; and early head start
9 programs.

10 (5) Prior to closing the family assessment response case, the
11 family assessment response worker must, when appropriate, discuss child
12 care and early learning services with the child's parent or caregiver.

13 If the family plans to use child care or early learning services,
14 the family assessment response worker must work with the family to
15 facilitate enrollment.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** No later than December 31, 2014, the
17 department of social and health services and the department of early
18 learning shall jointly develop recommendations on methods by which the
19 department of social and health services and the department of early
20 learning can better partner to ensure children involved in the child
21 welfare system have access to early learning services and
22 developmentally appropriate child care services and report these
23 recommendations to the governor and appropriate legislative committees.

24 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.215.405 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 16 s 4 are each
25 amended to read as follows:

26 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
27 this section apply throughout RCW 43.215.400 through ((43.215.450,
28 ~~43.215.455, 43.215.456,~~) 43.215.457((7)) and 43.215.900 through
29 43.215.903.

30 (1) "Advisory committee" means the advisory committee under RCW
31 43.215.420.

32 (2) "Approved programs" means those state-supported education and
33 special assistance programs which are recognized by the department as
34 meeting the minimum program rules adopted by the department to qualify
35 under RCW 43.215.400 through 43.215.450 and 43.215.900 through

1 43.215.903 and are designated as eligible for funding by the department
2 under RCW 43.215.430 and 43.215.440.

3 (3) "Comprehensive" means an assistance program that focuses on the
4 needs of the child and includes education, health, and family support
5 services.

6 (4) "Department" means the department of early learning.

7 (5)(a) "Eligible child" means a child not eligible for kindergarten
8 whose family income is at or below one hundred ten percent of the
9 federal poverty level, as published annually by the federal department
10 of health and human services, and includes a child whose family is
11 eligible for public assistance, and who is not a participant in a
12 federal or state program providing comprehensive services; a child
13 eligible for special education due to disability under RCW 28A.155.020;
14 and may include children who are eligible under rules adopted by the
15 department if the number of such children equals not more than ten
16 percent of the total enrollment in the early childhood program.
17 Priority for enrollment shall be given to children from families with
18 the lowest income, children in foster care, or to eligible children
19 from families with multiple needs.

20 (b) Subject to the availability of appropriations specifically for
21 this purpose, the department may include as an eligible child, a child
22 who is not otherwise receiving services under (a) of this subsection,
23 but is receiving child protective services under RCW 26.44.020(3), or
24 family assessment response services under RCW 26.44.260. If included
25 as an eligible child, these children shall receive priority services
26 under (a) of this subsection.

27 (6) "Family support services" means providing opportunities for
28 parents to:

29 (a) Actively participate in their child's early childhood program;

30 (b) Increase their knowledge of child development and parenting
31 skills;

32 (c) Further their education and training;

33 (d) Increase their ability to use needed services in the community;

34 (e) Increase their self-reliance.

35 **Sec. 4.** RCW 43.215.405 and 2014 c . . . s 3 (section 3 of this
36 act) are each amended to read as follows:

1 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
2 this section apply throughout RCW 43.215.400 through 43.215.457 and
3 43.215.900 through 43.215.903.

4 (1) "Advisory committee" means the advisory committee under RCW
5 43.215.420.

6 (2) "Approved programs" means those state-supported education and
7 special assistance programs which are recognized by the department as
8 meeting the minimum program rules adopted by the department to qualify
9 under RCW 43.215.400 through 43.215.450 and 43.215.900 through
10 43.215.903 and are designated as eligible for funding by the department
11 under RCW 43.215.430 and 43.215.440.

12 (3) "Comprehensive" means an assistance program that focuses on the
13 needs of the child and includes education, health, and family support
14 services.

15 (4) "Department" means the department of early learning.

16 (5)((+)) "Eligible child" means a child not eligible for
17 kindergarten whose family income is at or below one hundred ten percent
18 of the federal poverty level, as published annually by the federal
19 department of health and human services, and includes a child whose
20 family is eligible for public assistance, and who is not a participant
21 in a federal or state program providing comprehensive services; a child
22 eligible for special education due to disability under RCW 28A.155.020;
23 and may include children who are eligible under rules adopted by the
24 department if the number of such children equals not more than ten
25 percent of the total enrollment in the early childhood program.
26 Priority for enrollment shall be given to children from families with
27 the lowest income, children in foster care, or to eligible children
28 from families with multiple needs.

29 ~~((b) Subject to the availability of appropriations specifically~~
30 ~~for this purpose, the department may include as an eligible child, a~~
31 ~~child who is not otherwise receiving services under (a) of this~~
32 ~~subsection, but is receiving child protective services under RCW~~
33 ~~26.44.020(3), or family assessment response services under RCW~~
34 ~~26.44.260. If included as an eligible child, these children shall~~
35 ~~receive priority services under (a) of this subsection.))~~

36 (6) "Family support services" means providing opportunities for
37 parents to:

38 (a) Actively participate in their child's early childhood program;

- 1 (b) Increase their knowledge of child development and parenting
2 skills;
3 (c) Further their education and training;
4 (d) Increase their ability to use needed services in the community;
5 (e) Increase their self-reliance.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Section 4 of this act takes effect June 30,
7 2018."

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8 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "programming;" strike the
9 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 43.215.405 and
10 43.215.405; adding a new section to chapter 26.44 RCW; creating a new
11 section; and providing an effective date."

EFFECT: Removes certain dates. Allows, instead of requires, a family assessment response worker to make child care referrals for nonschool-age children to certain licensed child care programs that rate at a level 3, 4, or 5. Requires a family assessment response (FAR) worker to, when appropriate, provide referrals to certain child care programs, instead of making every effort. States that prior to closing the family assessment response case, the FAR worker must, when appropriate, discuss certain services, instead of requiring the FAR worker to discuss certain services. Removes the word successful from the FAR worker's obligation to facilitate service enrollment. Adds a new section requiring DSHS and DEL to jointly develop recommendations on methods by which DSHS and DEL can achieve certain goals and requires that these recommendations be reported. Removes children involved in the child welfare system from definition of eligible child as it relates to the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP). Restores current law definition of eligible child and priority services. Allows the department to include in the definition of eligible child, a child who is not otherwise receiving services under the ECEAP and who is either receiving child protective services (CPS) or FAR, subject to the availability of appropriations

specifically for this purpose and gives the children receiving CPS or FAR services priority services under ECEAP until June 30, 2018.

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