
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1723

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By House Early Learning & Human Services (originally sponsored by Representatives Kagi, Walsh, Farrell, Maxwell, Roberts, Freeman, Goodman, Sawyer, Sullivan, Jinkins, Seaquist, Lytton, Haigh, Hunter, Morrell, Sells, Ryu, Morris, McCoy, Reykdal, Tarleton, Tharinger, Pollet, Fey, Moscoso, Bergquist, Ormsby, and Santos)

READ FIRST TIME 02/22/13.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding and streamlining early learning
2 services and programs; amending RCW 43.215.100, 43.215.430, and
3 43.215.545; reenacting and amending RCW 43.215.010, 43.215.020, and
4 43.215.405; reenacting RCW 43.215.135; adding new sections to chapter
5 43.215 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.215 RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 The legislature finds that the first five years of a child's life
10 establish the foundation for educational success. The legislature also
11 finds that children who have high quality early learning opportunities
12 from birth through age five are more likely to succeed throughout their
13 K-12 education and beyond. The legislature further finds that the
14 benefits of high quality early learning experiences are particularly
15 significant for low-income parents and children, and provide an
16 opportunity to narrow the opportunity gap in Washington's K-12
17 educational system. The legislature understands that early supports
18 for high-risk parents of young children through home visiting services
19 show a high return on investment due to significantly improved chances

1 of better education, health, and life outcomes for children. The
2 legislature further recognizes that, when parents work or go to school,
3 high quality and full-day early learning opportunities should be
4 available and accessible for their children. In order to improve
5 education outcomes, particularly for low-income children, the
6 legislature is committed to expanding high quality early learning
7 opportunities and integrating currently disparate funding streams for
8 all birth-to-five early learning services including, working
9 connections child care and the early childhood education and assistance
10 program, into a single high quality continuum of learning that provides
11 essential services to low-income families and prepares all enrolled
12 children for success in school. The legislature therefore intends to
13 establish the early start program to provide a continuum of high
14 quality early learning opportunities for Washington's parents and
15 children.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.215.010 and 2011 c 295 s 3 and 2011 c 78 s 1 are
17 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

18 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
19 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

20 (1) "Agency" means any person, firm, partnership, association,
21 corporation, or facility that provides child care and early learning
22 services outside a child's own home and includes the following
23 irrespective of whether there is compensation to the agency:

24 (a) "Child day care center" means an agency that regularly provides
25 (~~child day care~~) early childhood education and early learning
26 services for a group of children for periods of less than twenty-four
27 hours;

28 (b) "Early learning" includes but is not limited to programs and
29 services for child care; state, federal, private, and nonprofit
30 preschool; child care subsidies; child care resource and referral;
31 parental education and support; and training and professional
32 development for early learning professionals;

33 (c) "Family day care provider" means a child (~~day~~) care provider
34 who regularly provides (~~child day care~~) early childhood education and
35 early learning services for not more than twelve children in the
36 provider's home in the family living quarters;

1 (d) "Nongovernmental private-public partnership" means an entity
2 registered as a nonprofit corporation in Washington state with a
3 primary focus on early learning, school readiness, and parental
4 support, and an ability to raise a minimum of five million dollars in
5 contributions;

6 (e) "Service provider" means the entity that operates a community
7 facility.

8 (2) "Agency" does not include the following:

9 (a) Persons related to the child in the following ways:

10 (i) Any blood relative, including those of half-blood, and
11 including first cousins, nephews or nieces, and persons of preceding
12 generations as denoted by prefixes of grand, great, or great-great;

13 (ii) Stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, and stepsister;

14 (iii) A person who legally adopts a child or the child's parent as
15 well as the natural and other legally adopted children of such persons,
16 and other relatives of the adoptive parents in accordance with state
17 law; or

18 (iv) Spouses of any persons named in (a)(i), (ii), or (iii) of this
19 subsection (2)((~~a~~)), even after the marriage is terminated;

20 (b) Persons who are legal guardians of the child;

21 (c) Persons who care for a neighbor's or friend's child or
22 children, with or without compensation, where the person providing care
23 for periods of less than twenty-four hours does not conduct such
24 activity on an ongoing, regularly scheduled basis for the purpose of
25 engaging in business, which includes, but is not limited to,
26 advertising such care;

27 (d) Parents on a mutually cooperative basis exchange care of one
28 another's children;

29 (e) Nursery schools (~~(or kindergartens)~~) that are engaged primarily
30 in (~~(educational work)~~) early childhood education with preschool
31 children and in which no child is enrolled on a regular basis for more
32 than four hours per day;

33 (f) Schools, including boarding schools, that are engaged primarily
34 in education, operate on a definite school year schedule, follow a
35 stated academic curriculum, accept only school-age children, and do not
36 accept custody of children;

37 (g) Seasonal camps of three months' or less duration engaged
38 primarily in recreational or educational activities;

1 (h) Facilities providing child care for periods of less than
2 twenty-four hours when a parent or legal guardian of the child remains
3 on the premises of the facility for the purpose of participating in:

4 (i) Activities other than employment; or

5 (ii) Employment of up to two hours per day when the facility is
6 operated by a nonprofit entity that also operates a licensed child care
7 program at the same facility in another location or at another
8 facility;

9 ~~(i) ((Any agency having been in operation in this state ten years
10 before June 8, 1967, and not seeking or accepting moneys or assistance
11 from any state or federal agency, and is supported in part by an
12 endowment or trust fund;~~

13 ~~(j) An agency))~~ A program operated by any unit of local, state, or
14 federal government or an agency, located within the boundaries of a
15 federally recognized Indian reservation, licensed by the Indian tribe;

16 ~~((k) An agency))~~ (j) A program located on a federal military
17 reservation, except where the military authorities request that such
18 agency be subject to the licensing requirements of this chapter;

19 ~~((l) An agency))~~ (k) A program that offers early learning and
20 support services, such as parent education, and does not provide child
21 care services on a regular basis.

22 (3) "Applicant" means a person who requests or seeks employment in
23 an agency.

24 (4) "Conviction information" means criminal history record
25 information relating to an incident which has led to a conviction or
26 other disposition adverse to the applicant.

27 (5) "Department" means the department of early learning.

28 (6) "Director" means the director of the department.

29 (7) "Early achievers" means a program that improves the quality of
30 early learning programs and supports and rewards providers for their
31 participation.

32 (8) "Employer" means a person or business that engages the services
33 of one or more people, especially for wages or salary to work in an
34 agency.

35 ~~((8))~~ (9) "Enforcement action" means denial, suspension,
36 revocation, modification, or nonrenewal of a license pursuant to RCW
37 43.215.300(1) or assessment of civil monetary penalties pursuant to RCW
38 43.215.300(3).

1 ~~((9))~~ (10) "Negative action" means a court order, court judgment,
2 or an adverse action taken by an agency, in any state, federal, tribal,
3 or foreign jurisdiction, which results in a finding against the
4 applicant reasonably related to the individual's character,
5 suitability, and competence to care for or have unsupervised access to
6 children in child care. This may include, but is not limited to:

7 (a) A decision issued by an administrative law judge;

8 (b) A final determination, decision, or finding made by an agency
9 following an investigation;

10 (c) An adverse agency action, including termination, revocation, or
11 denial of a license or certification, or if pending adverse agency
12 action, the voluntary surrender of a license, certification, or
13 contract in lieu of the adverse action;

14 (d) A revocation, denial, or restriction placed on any professional
15 license; or

16 (e) A final decision of a disciplinary board.

17 ~~((10))~~ (11) "Nonconviction information" means arrest, founded
18 allegations of child abuse, or neglect pursuant to chapter 26.44 RCW,
19 or other negative action adverse to the applicant.

20 ~~((11))~~ (12) "Probationary license" means a license issued as a
21 disciplinary measure to an agency that has previously been issued a
22 full license but is out of compliance with licensing standards.

23 ~~((12))~~ (13) "Requirement" means any rule, regulation, or standard
24 of care to be maintained by an agency.

25 (14) "Washington state preschool program" means an education
26 program for children three-to-five years of age who have not yet
27 entered kindergarten, such as the early childhood education and
28 assistance program.

29 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. (1)(a) A legislative task force on early
30 learning is established, with members as provided in this subsection.

31 (i) The president of the senate shall appoint one member from each
32 of the two largest caucuses of the senate.

33 (ii) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint one
34 member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of
35 representatives.

36 (iii) The president of the senate and the speaker of the house of
37 representatives shall jointly appoint:

- 1 (A) One member representing the early learning action council;
- 2 (B) One member representing the Washington state association of
3 head start and early childhood education and assistance program;
- 4 (C) One member from an educational service district;
- 5 (D) One member representing thrive by five;
- 6 (E) One member from the birth-to-three community;
- 7 (F) One member representing the Washington state child care
8 resource and referral system;
- 9 (G) One member who is a child care center provider;
- 10 (H) One member who provides early intervention services to infants
11 and toddlers with disabilities;
- 12 (I) One member representing the office of the superintendent of
13 public instruction;
- 14 (J) One member representing the service employees international
15 union 925;
- 16 (K) One member who is a family child care provider; and
- 17 (L) One member who is a parent who is utilizing a state-funded
18 early learning program.
- 19 (iv) The governor shall appoint one representative from the
20 department of social and health services and the department of early
21 learning.
- 22 (b) The task force shall choose its chair from among its
23 membership. The chair of the house of representatives early learning
24 and human services committee shall convene the initial meeting of the
25 task force.
- 26 (2) The task force shall complete the following objectives:
- 27 (a) Review the existing funding sources, program goals, and
28 restrictions associated with different funding streams for early
29 learning programs and services as identified by the technical working
30 group;
- 31 (b) Identify areas of alignment and conflicts in restrictions and
32 eligibility requirements associated with early learning funding and
33 services;
- 34 (c) Develop recommendations that provide financial compensation to
35 early childhood education professionals who participate and advance
36 through the early achievers program;
- 37 (d) Develop step-by-step recommendations to create an accessible,

1 integrated, high quality, and community-based early learning program
2 for children ages birth-to-five and their families. Reform efforts
3 must include the following components:

4 (i) Full-day and half-day learning opportunities and home visiting
5 programs for children;

6 (ii) A variety of mixed settings for service delivery;

7 (iii) Diverse provider composition; and

8 (iv) A single point of entry for families wanting early learning
9 services.

10 (3)(a) The task force shall direct a technical working group to:

11 (i) Review federal and state early education funding streams;

12 (ii) Develop technical options for aligning eligibility
13 requirements for child care and Washington state preschool;

14 (iii) Examine the feasibility and impact of transferring working
15 connections child care eligibility processes from the department of
16 social and health services;

17 (iv) Develop technical options for system designs that blend and
18 braid disparate federal and state funding streams into a single
19 program, including the option of applying for waivers from existing
20 federal requirements; and

21 (v) Present findings and options to the task force.

22 (b) At a minimum, the technical working group must be composed of
23 financial and policy staff from the department of social and health
24 services and the department of early learning. Legislative staff may
25 provide technical support as needed to the technical working group, at
26 the request of the task force.

27 (4) Staff support for the task force must be provided by the senate
28 committee services and the house of representatives office of program
29 research, with assistance from the department of social and health
30 services and the department of early learning.

31 (5) Nonlegislative members, except those representing an employer
32 or organization, are entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses in
33 accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

34 (6) The expenses of the task force must be paid jointly by the
35 senate and the house of representatives. Task force expenditures are
36 subject to approval by the senate facilities and operations committee
37 and the house of representatives executive rules committee, or their
38 successor committees.

1 (7) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to
2 the early learning and human services committees of the legislature by
3 December 1, 2013.

4 (8) This section expires December 31, 2013.

5 **Sec. 4.** RCW 43.215.020 and 2010 c 233 s 1, 2010 c 232 s 2, and
6 2010 c 231 s 6 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

7 (1) The department of early learning is created as an executive
8 branch agency. The department is vested with all powers and duties
9 transferred to it under this chapter and such other powers and duties
10 as may be authorized by law.

11 (2) The primary duties of the department are to implement state
12 early learning policy and to coordinate, consolidate, and integrate
13 child care and early learning programs in order to administer programs
14 and funding as efficiently as possible. The department's duties
15 include, but are not limited to, the following:

16 (a) To support both public and private sectors toward a
17 comprehensive and collaborative system of early learning that serves
18 parents, children, and providers and to encourage best practices in
19 child care and early learning programs;

20 (b) To make early learning resources available to parents and
21 caregivers;

22 (c) To carry out activities, including providing clear and easily
23 accessible information about quality and improving the quality of early
24 learning opportunities for young children, in cooperation with the
25 nongovernmental private-public partnership;

26 (d) To administer child care and early learning programs;

27 (e) To annually review rates for child care compared to market
28 rates and make recommendations to the legislature;

29 (f) To conduct an annual survey of staff compensation in licensed
30 child care programs and the Washington state preschool program,
31 including early achievers and nonearly achievers programs, using data
32 generated by the managed education and registry information tool and
33 the early achievers program and report survey findings to the
34 legislature;

35 (g) To serve as the state lead agency for Part C of the federal
36 individuals with disabilities education act (IDEA);

1 ~~((f))~~ (h) To standardize internal financial audits, oversight
2 visits, performance benchmarks, and licensing criteria, so that
3 programs can function in an integrated fashion;

4 ~~((g))~~ (i) To support the implementation of the nongovernmental
5 private-public partnership and cooperate with that partnership in
6 pursuing its goals including providing data and support necessary for
7 the successful work of the partnership;

8 ~~((h))~~ (j) To work cooperatively and in coordination with the
9 early learning council;

10 ~~((i))~~ (k) To collaborate with the K-12 school system at the state
11 and local levels to ensure appropriate connections and smooth
12 transitions between early learning and K-12 programs;

13 ~~((j))~~ (l) To develop and adopt rules for administration of the
14 program of early learning established in RCW 43.215.141;

15 ~~((k))~~ (m) To develop a comprehensive birth-to-three plan to
16 provide education and support through a continuum of options including,
17 but not limited to, services such as: Home visiting; quality
18 incentives for infant and toddler child care subsidies; quality
19 improvements for family home and center-based child care programs
20 serving infants and toddlers; professional development; early literacy
21 programs; and informal supports for family, friend, and neighbor
22 caregivers; and

23 ~~((l))~~ (n) Upon the development of an early learning information
24 system, to make available to parents timely inspection and licensing
25 action information and provider comments through the internet and other
26 means.

27 (3) Beginning in fiscal year 2014, the legislature shall
28 appropriate funding for the specific purpose of home visiting and
29 parent and caregiver support. When new funds are appropriated, the
30 department must reserve at least eighty percent for home visiting
31 services to be deposited into the home visiting services account and up
32 to twenty percent of the new funds for other parent or caregiver
33 support.

34 (4) Home visiting services must include programs that serve
35 families involved in the child welfare system.

36 (5) Beginning in fiscal year 2014, the legislature shall fund the
37 expansion in the early childhood education and assistance program.

1 (6) Beginning in fiscal year 2014, new funding appropriated for the
2 purposes of expanding the Washington state preschool program and
3 working connections child care must be distributed through a
4 competitive bidding process that provides an incentive to integrate
5 preschool and child care programming to create a full-day high quality
6 early learning program. The Washington state preschool and working
7 connections child care programs meeting the following requirements must
8 be prioritized in accordance with this subsection (6) for funding:

9 (a) Programs offering an integrated full-day early learning program
10 for children birth-to-five years of age; and

11 (b) Programs that have created partnerships with elementary schools
12 and that offer transitional planning and support to children as they
13 advance to kindergarten.

14 (7) The department shall continue to offer half-day preschool
15 programs for children.

16 (8) The department's programs shall be designed in a way that
17 respects and preserves the ability of parents and legal guardians to
18 direct the education, development, and upbringing of their children,
19 and that recognizes and honors cultural and linguistic diversity. The
20 department shall include parents and legal guardians in the development
21 of policies and program decisions affecting their children.

22 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 43.215 RCW
23 to read as follows:

24 Funds distributed to the general fund pursuant to RCW 69.50.540
25 must be utilized to phase in an integrated high quality continuum of
26 early learning program, called early start, for children birth-to-five
27 years of age. Components of early start include, but are not limited
28 to, the following:

- 29 (1) Home visiting and parent education and support programs;
30 (2) The early achievers program described in RCW 43.215.100;
31 (3) Integrated full-day, high quality early learning programs; and
32 (4) High quality preschool for children whose family income is at
33 or below one hundred thirty percent of the federal poverty level.

34 **Sec. 6.** RCW 43.215.100 and 2007 c 394 s 4 are each amended to read
35 as follows:

- 36 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this

1 specific purpose, the department, in collaboration with community and
2 statewide partners, shall implement a voluntary quality rating and
3 improvement system, called the early achievers program, that is
4 applicable to licensed or certified child care centers and homes and
5 early education programs.

6 (2) The purpose of the ((voluntary quality rating and improvement
7 system)) early achievers program is: (a) To give parents clear and
8 easily accessible information about the quality of child care and early
9 education programs, support improvement in early learning programs
10 throughout the state, increase the readiness of children for school,
11 and close the disparity in access to quality care; and (b) to establish
12 a common set of expectations and standards that define, measure, and
13 improve the quality of early learning settings.

14 (3) Participation in the early achievers program is voluntary for
15 licensed or certified child care centers and homes.

16 (4) By fiscal year 2015, Washington state preschool programs
17 receiving state funds must enroll in the early achievers program and
18 maintain a minimum score level.

19 (5) Child care providers who participate in the early achievers
20 program and maintain levels 3, 4, or 5 are eligible to apply for
21 contracted child care slots.

22 (6) Before final implementation of the ((voluntary quality rating
23 and improvement system)) early achievers program, the department shall
24 report to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the
25 legislature. Nothing in this section changes the department's
26 responsibility to collectively bargain over mandatory subjects.

27 **Sec. 7.** RCW 43.215.405 and 2010 c 231 s 7 are each reenacted and
28 amended to read as follows:

29 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
30 this section apply throughout RCW 43.215.400 through 43.215.450 and
31 43.215.900 through 43.215.903.

32 (1) "Advisory committee" means the advisory committee under RCW
33 43.215.420.

34 (2) "Approved programs" means those state-supported education and
35 special assistance programs which are recognized by the department as
36 meeting the minimum program rules adopted by the department to qualify

1 under RCW 43.215.400 through 43.215.450 and 43.215.900 through
2 43.215.903 and are designated as eligible for funding by the department
3 under RCW 43.215.430 and 43.215.440.

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

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

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

21 (6) "Family support services" means providing opportunities for
22 parents to:

- 23 (a) Actively participate in their child's early childhood program;
- 24 (b) Increase their knowledge of child development and parenting
25 skills;
- 26 (c) Further their education and training;
- 27 (d) Increase their ability to use needed services in the community;
- 28 (e) Increase their self-reliance.

29 **Sec. 8.** RCW 43.215.430 and 1994 c 166 s 8 are each amended to read
30 as follows:

31 (1) The department shall review applications from public or private
32 nonsectarian organizations for state funding of early childhood
33 education and assistance programs (~~and award funds as determined by~~
34 ~~department rules and based on~~). The department shall consider local
35 community needs (~~and~~), demonstrated capacity (~~to provide services~~),
36 and the need to support a mixed delivery system of early learning when
37 reviewing applications.

1 (2) The department shall increase the base slot rate for the
2 Washington state preschool program to align with the average head start
3 federal funding rate per child with the head start program slot rate.

4 **Sec. 9.** RCW 43.215.545 and 2006 c 265 s 204 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 The department of early learning shall:

7 (1) Work in conjunction with the statewide child care resource and
8 referral network as well as local governments, nonprofit organizations,
9 businesses, and community child care advocates to create local child
10 care resource and referral organizations. These organizations may
11 carry out needs assessments, resource development, provider training,
12 technical assistance, and parent information and training;

13 (2) Actively seek public and private money for distribution as
14 grants to the statewide child care resource and referral network and to
15 existing or potential local child care resource and referral
16 organizations;

17 (3) Adopt rules regarding the application for and distribution of
18 grants to local child care resource and referral organizations. The
19 rules shall, at a minimum, require an applicant to submit a plan for
20 achieving the following objectives:

21 (a) Provide parents with information about child care resources,
22 including location of services and subsidies;

23 (b) Carry out child care provider recruitment and training
24 programs, including training under RCW 74.25.040;

25 (c) Offer support services, such as parent and provider seminars,
26 toy-lending libraries, and substitute banks;

27 (d) Provide information for businesses regarding child care supply
28 and demand;

29 (e) Advocate for increased public and private sector resources
30 devoted to child care;

31 (f) Provide technical assistance to employers regarding employee
32 child care services; and

33 (g) Serve recipients of temporary assistance for needy families and
34 working parents with incomes at or below household incomes of ~~((one))~~
35 two hundred ~~((seventy-five))~~ percent of the federal poverty line;

36 (4) Provide staff support and technical assistance to the statewide

1 child care resource and referral network and local child care resource
2 and referral organizations;

3 (5) Maintain a statewide child care licensing data bank and work
4 with department licensors to provide information to local child care
5 resource and referral organizations about licensed child care providers
6 in the state;

7 (6) Through the statewide child care resource and referral network
8 and local resource and referral organizations, compile data about local
9 child care needs and availability for future planning and development;

10 (7) Coordinate with the statewide child care resource and referral
11 network and local child care resource and referral organizations for
12 the provision of training and technical assistance to child care
13 providers; ~~((and))~~

14 (8) Collect and assemble information regarding the availability of
15 insurance and of federal and other child care funding to assist state
16 and local agencies, businesses, and other child care providers in
17 offering child care services;

18 (9) Beginning in January 2014, increase the base rate for all child
19 care providers by ten percent;

20 (10) Provide tiered subsidy rate enhancements to child care
21 providers if the provider meets the following requirements:

22 (a) The provider meets quality rating and improvement system levels
23 2, 3, 4, or 5;

24 (b) The provider is actively participating in the early achievers
25 program;

26 (c) The provider continues to advance towards level 5 of the early
27 achievers program; and

28 (d) The provider must complete level 2 within eighteen months or
29 the reimbursement rate will return the level 1 rate; and

30 (11) Require exempt providers to participate in continuing
31 education.

32 **Sec. 10.** RCW 43.215.135 and 2012 c 253 s 5 and 2012 c 251 s 1 are
33 each reenacted to read as follows:

34 (1) The department shall establish and implement policies in the
35 working connections child care program to promote stability and quality
36 of care for children from low-income households. Policies for the
37 expenditure of funds constituting the working connections child care

1 program must be consistent with the outcome measures defined in RCW
2 74.08A.410 and the standards established in this section intended to
3 promote continuity of care for children.

4 (2) Beginning in fiscal year 2013, authorizations for the working
5 connections child care subsidy shall be effective for twelve months
6 unless a change in circumstances necessitates reauthorization sooner
7 than twelve months. The twelve-month certification applies only if the
8 enrollments in the child care subsidy or working connections child care
9 program are capped.

10 (3) Beginning August 1, 2013, the department shall provide a ten
11 percent increase in the working connections child care subsidy rate to
12 those providers who accept children eligible for the subsidy.

13 (4) Beginning August 1, 2013, working connections child care
14 providers must receive a five percent per child increase in the subsidy
15 rate for achieving level 2 in the early achievers programs. Providers
16 must complete level 2 and advance to level 3 within eighteen months in
17 order to maintain this increase.

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