

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**HOUSE BILL 1237**

Chapter 39, Laws of 2021

67th Legislature  
2021 Regular Session

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS—DEFINITION

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 25, 2021

Passed by the House February 3, 2021  
Yeas 94 Nays 1

LAURIE JINKINS

**Speaker of the House of  
Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 29, 2021  
Yeas 49 Nays 0

DENNY HECK

**President of the Senate**

Approved April 14, 2021 3:22 PM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 1237** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BERNARD DEAN

**Chief Clerk**

FILED

April 15, 2021

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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HOUSE BILL 1237

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Passed Legislature - 2021 Regular Session

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2021 Regular Session

By Representatives Eslick, Senn, Leavitt, Callan, Ortiz-Self, Rude, Davis, Santos, Rule, Goodman, and Riccelli

Read first time 01/18/21. Referred to Committee on Children, Youth & Families.

1 AN ACT Relating to defining family resource centers; amending RCW  
2 43.330.010; reenacting and amending RCW 74.14C.010 and 43.216.010;  
3 and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) This act is intended to provide a  
6 common definition for family resource centers across Washington state  
7 in an effort to establish a core set of principles for existing and  
8 newly forming family resource centers.

9 (2) The legislature finds that family resource centers are  
10 effective in supporting communities when adhering to the following  
11 principles:

12 (a) Equality;

13 (b) Mutual respect;

14 (c) Families are resources to other families and the community;

15 (d) Strengthening families' cultural, racial, and linguistic  
16 identities;

17 (e) Embedding programs in the community;

18 (f) Fairness;

19 (g) Responsiveness;

20 (h) Accountability;

21 (i) Mobilization of formal and informal resources; and

1 (j) Flexibility.

2 (3) The legislature further finds that families and parents are  
3 primarily responsible for supporting children's development and well-  
4 being at all ages and stages, and for preparing a child for success  
5 in school and life. However, many families may benefit from voluntary  
6 preventative or enriching support.

7 (4) The legislature finds that family resource centers play a  
8 critical role in:

9 (a) Preventing child abuse and neglect;

10 (b) Strengthening children and families;

11 (c) Connecting family-impacting agencies and programs;

12 (d) Creating opportunities for community-level coordination; and

13 (e) Creating connections to resources and support systems.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.14C.010 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 6 s 511 are each  
15 reenacted and amended to read as follows:

16 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
17 this section apply throughout this chapter.

18 (1) "Community support systems" means the support that may be  
19 organized through extended family members, friends, neighbors,  
20 religious organizations, community programs, cultural and ethnic  
21 organizations, or other support groups or organizations.

22 (2) "Department" means the department of children, youth, and  
23 families.

24 (3) "Family preservation services" means in-home or community-  
25 based services drawing on the strengths of the family and its  
26 individual members while addressing family needs to strengthen and  
27 keep the family together where possible and may include:

28 (a) Respite care of children to provide temporary relief for  
29 parents and other caregivers;

30 (b) Services designed to improve parenting skills with respect to  
31 such matters as child development, family budgeting, coping with  
32 stress, health, safety, and nutrition; and

33 (c) Services designed to promote the well-being of children and  
34 families, increase the strength and stability of families, increase  
35 parents' confidence and competence in their parenting abilities,  
36 promote a safe, stable, and supportive family environment for  
37 children, and otherwise enhance children's development.

38 Family preservation services shall have the characteristics  
39 delineated in RCW 74.14C.020 (2) and (3).

1           (4) "Family resource center" means a unified single point of  
2 entry where families, individuals, children, and youth in communities  
3 can obtain information, an assessment of needs, referral to, or  
4 direct delivery of family services in a manner that is welcoming and  
5 strength-based.

6           (a) A family resource center is designed to meet the needs,  
7 cultures, and interests of the communities that the family resource  
8 center serves.

9           (b) Family services may be delivered directly to a family at the  
10 family resource center by family resource center staff or by  
11 providers who contract with or have provider agreements with the  
12 family resource center. Any family resource center that provides  
13 family services shall comply with applicable state and federal laws  
14 and regulations regarding the delivery of such family services,  
15 unless required waivers or exemptions have been granted by the  
16 appropriate governing body.

17           (c) Each family resource center shall have one or more family  
18 advocates who screen and assess a family's needs and strengths. If  
19 requested by the family, the family advocate shall assist the family  
20 with setting its own goals and, together with the family, develop a  
21 written plan to pursue the family's goals in working towards a  
22 greater level of self-reliance or in attaining self-sufficiency.

23           (5) "Imminent" means a decision has been made by the department  
24 that, without intensive family preservation services, a petition  
25 requesting the removal of a child from the family home will be  
26 immediately filed under chapter 13.32A or 13.34 RCW, or that a  
27 voluntary placement agreement will be immediately initiated.

28           ~~((+5))~~ (6) "Intensive family preservation services" means  
29 community-based services that are delivered primarily in the home,  
30 that follow intensive service models with demonstrated effectiveness  
31 in reducing or avoiding the need for unnecessary imminent out-of-home  
32 placement, and that have all of the characteristics delineated in RCW  
33 74.14C.020 (1) and (3).

34           ~~((+6))~~ (7) "Out-of-home placement" means a placement in a foster  
35 family home or group care facility licensed pursuant to chapter 74.15  
36 RCW or placement in a home, other than that of the child's parent,  
37 guardian, or legal custodian, not required to be licensed pursuant to  
38 chapter 74.15 RCW.

39           ~~((+7))~~ (8) "Paraprofessional worker" means any individual who is  
40 trained and qualified to provide assistance and community support

1 systems development to families and who acts under the supervision of  
2 a preservation services therapist. The paraprofessional worker is not  
3 intended to replace the role and responsibilities of the preservation  
4 services therapist.

5 ~~((8))~~ (9) "Preservation services" means family preservation  
6 services and intensive family preservation services that consider the  
7 individual family's cultural values and needs.

8 ~~((9))~~ (10) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department.

9 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.330.010 and 2014 c 112 s 401 are each amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
12 this section apply throughout this chapter.

13 (1) "Associate development organization" means a local economic  
14 development nonprofit corporation that is broadly representative of  
15 community interests.

16 (2) "Department" means the department of commerce.

17 (3) "Director" means the director of the department of commerce.

18 (4) "Family resource center" means a unified single point of  
19 entry where families, individuals, children, and youth in communities  
20 can obtain information, an assessment of needs, referral to, or  
21 direct delivery of family services in a manner that is welcoming and  
22 strength-based.

23 (a) A family resource center is designed to meet the needs,  
24 cultures, and interests of the communities that the family resource  
25 center serves.

26 (b) Family services may be delivered directly to a family at the  
27 family resource center by family resource center staff or by  
28 providers who contract with or have provider agreements with the  
29 family resource center. Any family resource center that provides  
30 family services shall comply with applicable state and federal laws  
31 and regulations regarding the delivery of such family services,  
32 unless required waivers or exemptions have been granted by the  
33 appropriate governing body.

34 (c) Each family resource center shall have one or more family  
35 advocates who screen and assess a family's needs and strengths. If  
36 requested by the family, the family advocate shall assist the family  
37 with setting its own goals and, together with the family, develop a  
38 written plan to pursue the family's goals in working towards a  
39 greater level of self-reliance or in attaining self-sufficiency.

1       (5) "Financial institution" means a bank, trust company, mutual  
2 savings bank, savings and loan association, or credit union  
3 authorized to do business in this state under state or federal law.

4       (~~(+5)~~) (6) "Small business" has the same meaning as provided in  
5 RCW 39.26.010.

6       **Sec. 4.** RCW 43.216.010 and 2020 c 270 s 11 are each reenacted  
7 and amended to read as follows:

8       The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
9 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

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

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

17       (b) "Early learning" includes but is not limited to programs and  
18 services for child care; state, federal, private, and nonprofit  
19 preschool; child care subsidies; child care resource and referral;  
20 parental education and support; and training and professional  
21 development for early learning professionals;

22       (c) "Family day care provider" means a child care provider who  
23 regularly provides early childhood education and early learning  
24 services for not more than (~~(twelve)~~) 12 children in the provider's  
25 home in the family living quarters;

26       (d) "Nongovernmental private-public partnership" means an entity  
27 registered as a nonprofit corporation in Washington state with a  
28 primary focus on early learning, school readiness, and parental  
29 support, and an ability to raise a minimum of (~~(five million~~  
30 ~~dollars)~~) \$5,000,000 in contributions;

31       (e) "Service provider" means the entity that operates a community  
32 facility.

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

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

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

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

1 (iii) A person who legally adopts a child or the child's parent  
2 as well as the natural and other legally adopted children of such  
3 persons, and other relatives of the adoptive parents in accordance  
4 with state law; or  
5 (iv) Spouses of any persons named in (a)(i), (ii), or (iii) of  
6 this subsection, even after the marriage is terminated;  
7 (b) Persons who are legal guardians of the child;  
8 (c) Persons who care for a neighbor's or friend's child or  
9 children, with or without compensation, where the person providing  
10 care for periods of less than (~~twenty-four~~) 24 hours does not  
11 conduct such activity on an ongoing, regularly scheduled basis for  
12 the purpose of engaging in business, which includes, but is not  
13 limited to, advertising such care;  
14 (d) Parents on a mutually cooperative basis exchange care of one  
15 another's children;  
16 (e) Nursery schools that are engaged primarily in early childhood  
17 education with preschool children and in which no child is enrolled  
18 on a regular basis for more than four hours per day;  
19 (f) Schools, including boarding schools, that are engaged  
20 primarily in education, operate on a definite school year schedule,  
21 follow a stated academic curriculum, and accept only school age  
22 children;  
23 (g) Seasonal camps of three months' or less duration engaged  
24 primarily in recreational or educational activities;  
25 (h) Facilities providing child care for periods of less than  
26 (~~twenty-four~~) 24 hours when a parent or legal guardian of the child  
27 remains on the premises of the facility for the purpose of  
28 participating in:  
29 (i) Activities other than employment; or  
30 (ii) Employment of up to two hours per day when the facility is  
31 operated by a nonprofit entity that also operates a licensed child  
32 care program at the same facility in another location or at another  
33 facility;  
34 (i) Any entity that provides recreational or educational  
35 programming for school age children only and the entity meets all of  
36 the following requirements:  
37 (i) The entity utilizes a drop-in model for programming, where  
38 children are able to attend during any or all program hours without a  
39 formal reservation;

1 (ii) The entity does not assume responsibility in lieu of the  
2 parent, unless for coordinated transportation;

3 (iii) The entity is a local affiliate of a national nonprofit;  
4 and

5 (iv) The entity is in compliance with all safety and quality  
6 standards set by the associated national agency;

7 (j) A program operated by any unit of local, state, or federal  
8 government;

9 (k) A program located within the boundaries of a federally  
10 recognized Indian reservation, licensed by the Indian tribe;

11 (l) A program located on a federal military reservation, except  
12 where the military authorities request that such agency be subject to  
13 the licensing requirements of this chapter;

14 (m) A program that offers early learning and support services,  
15 such as parent education, and does not provide child care services on  
16 a regular basis.

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

19 (4) "Certificate of parental improvement" means a certificate  
20 issued under RCW 74.13.720 to an individual who has a founded finding  
21 of physical abuse or negligent treatment or maltreatment, or a court  
22 finding that the individual's child was dependent as a result of a  
23 finding that the individual abused or neglected their child pursuant  
24 to RCW 13.34.030(6)(b).

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

28 (6) "Department" means the department of children, youth, and  
29 families.

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

33 (8) "Early childhood education and assistance program contractor"  
34 means an organization that provides early childhood education and  
35 assistance program services under a signed contract with the  
36 department.

37 (9) "Early childhood education and assistance program provider"  
38 means an organization that provides site level, direct, and high  
39 quality early childhood education and assistance program services



1 under the direction of an early childhood education and assistance  
2 program contractor.

3 (10) "Early start" means an integrated high quality continuum of  
4 early learning programs for children birth-to-five years of age.  
5 Components of early start include, but are not limited to, the  
6 following:

7 (a) Home visiting and parent education and support programs;

8 (b) The early achievers program described in RCW 43.216.085;

9 (c) Integrated full-day and part-day high quality early learning  
10 programs; and

11 (d) High quality preschool for children whose family income is at  
12 or below (~~one hundred ten~~) 110 percent of the federal poverty  
13 level.

14 (11) "Education data center" means the education data center  
15 established in RCW 43.41.400, commonly referred to as the education  
16 research and data center.

17 (12) "Employer" means a person or business that engages the  
18 services of one or more people, especially for wages or salary to  
19 work in an agency.

20 (13) "Enforcement action" means denial, suspension, revocation,  
21 modification, or nonrenewal of a license pursuant to RCW  
22 43.216.325(1) or assessment of civil monetary penalties pursuant to  
23 RCW 43.216.325(3).

24 (14) "Extended day program" means an early childhood education  
25 and assistance program that offers early learning education for at  
26 least (~~ten~~) 10 hours per day, a minimum of (~~two thousand~~) 2,000  
27 hours per year, at least four days per week, and operates year-round.

28 (15) "Family resource center" means a unified single point of  
29 entry where families, individuals, children, and youth in communities  
30 can obtain information, an assessment of needs, referral to, or  
31 direct delivery of family services in a manner that is welcoming and  
32 strength-based.

33 (a) A family resource center is designed to meet the needs,  
34 cultures, and interests of the communities that the family resource  
35 center serves.

36 (b) Family services may be delivered directly to a family at the  
37 family resource center by family resource center staff or by  
38 providers who contract with or have provider agreements with the  
39 family resource center. Any family resource center that provides  
40 family services shall comply with applicable state and federal laws

1 and regulations regarding the delivery of such family services,  
2 unless required waivers or exemptions have been granted by the  
3 appropriate governing body.

4 (c) Each family resource center shall have one or more family  
5 advocates who screen and assess a family's needs and strengths. If  
6 requested by the family, the family advocate shall assist the family  
7 with setting its own goals and, together with the family, develop a  
8 written plan to pursue the family's goals in working towards a  
9 greater level of self-reliance or in attaining self-sufficiency.

10 (16) "Full day program" means an early childhood education and  
11 assistance program that offers early learning education for a minimum  
12 of ~~(one thousand)~~ 1,000 hours per year.

13 ~~((16))~~ (17) "Low-income child care provider" means a person who  
14 administers a child care program that consists of at least ~~((eighty))~~  
15 80 percent of children receiving working connections child care  
16 subsidy.

17 ~~((17))~~ (18) "Low-income neighborhood" means a district or  
18 community where more than ~~((twenty))~~ 20 percent of households are  
19 below the federal poverty level.

20 ~~((18))~~ (19) "Negative action" means a court order, court  
21 judgment, or an adverse action taken by an agency, in any state,  
22 federal, tribal, or foreign jurisdiction, which results in a finding  
23 against the applicant reasonably related to the individual's  
24 character, suitability, and competence to care for or have  
25 unsupervised access to children in child care. This may include, but  
26 is not limited to:

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

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

30 (c) An adverse agency action, including termination, revocation,  
31 or denial of a license or certification, or if pending adverse agency  
32 action, the voluntary surrender of a license, certification, or  
33 contract in lieu of the adverse action;

34 (d) A revocation, denial, or restriction placed on any  
35 professional license; or

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

37 ~~((19))~~ (20) "Nonconviction information" means arrest, founded  
38 allegations of child abuse, or neglect pursuant to chapter 26.44 RCW,  
39 or other negative action adverse to the applicant.

1       (~~(20)~~) (21) "Nonschool age child" means a child who is age six  
2 years or younger and who is not enrolled in a public or private  
3 school.

4       (~~(21)~~) (22) "Part day program" means an early childhood  
5 education and assistance program that offers early learning education  
6 for at least two and one-half hours per class session, at least  
7 (~~three hundred twenty~~) 320 hours per year, for a minimum of  
8 (~~thirty~~) 30 weeks per year.

9       (~~(22)~~) (23) "Private school" means a private school approved by  
10 the state under chapter 28A.195 RCW.

11       (~~(23)~~) (24) "Probationary license" means a license issued as a  
12 disciplinary measure to an agency that has previously been issued a  
13 full license but is out of compliance with licensing standards.

14       (~~(24)~~) (25) "Requirement" means any rule, regulation, or  
15 standard of care to be maintained by an agency.

16       (~~(25)~~) (26) "School age child" means a child who is five years  
17 of age through (~~twelve~~) 12 years of age and is attending a public  
18 or private school or is receiving home-based instruction under  
19 chapter 28A.200 RCW.

20       (~~(26)~~) (27) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department.

21       (~~(27)~~) (28) "Washington state preschool program" means an  
22 education program for children three-to-five years of age who have  
23 not yet entered kindergarten, such as the early childhood education  
24 and assistance program.

Passed by the House February 3, 2021.  
Passed by the Senate March 29, 2021.  
Approved by the Governor April 14, 2021.  
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