Effective Date of Rule: Thirty-one days after filing.
Purpose: Update chapter 110-15 WAC to explain when and for whom the department provides child care, the child care rates that may be paid, and the tax liability for payments to family, friend, and neighbor child care providers.


Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 74.12.340.

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 21-11-115 on May 19, 2021.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 13, Repealed 3.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 13, Repealed 3.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 31, 2021.

Brenda Villarreal
Rules Coordinator

PART IV. CHILD PROTECTIVE AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES CHILD CARE SUBSIDIES

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-14-078, filed 7/1/19, effective 7/1/19)

WAC 110-15-4500 What ((are the)) types of child care subsidies are available to child welfare program participants? ((This chapter relates to the following subsidies in children's administration (CA))) DCYF may purchase:

Certified on 10/7/2021
(1) Child protective services child care;
(2) Child welfare services child care; and
(3) Employed foster parent child care.


AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-14-078, filed 7/1/19, effective 7/1/19)


"Child" means a person twelve years of age or younger or a person under nineteen years of age who is physically, mentally, or emotionally incapable of self-care as verified by a licensed medical practitioner or masters level or above mental health professional.

("In-home/relative child care provider" means a provider who meets the requirement in WAC 170-290-0130 through 170-290-0167.)

"Parent" means a biological or adoptive parent of a child or an individual who ((have) has) an established parent-child relationship under RCW 26.26.101, unless the legal rights of that person have been terminated or paternity has been disestablished.
WAC 110-15-4510  Child care for child protective services (CPS) and child welfare services (CWS). ((The department)) DCYF may purchase ((CPS/CWS)) child care within available funds for children of families in need of support as part of a ((CPS/CWS)) CPS or CWS case plan. This service is short-term and time-limited. Social workers must determine if other resources are available to meet this need before authorizing payment by the department.

WAC 110-15-4520  What are the maximum child care subsidy rates ((CA)) DCYF pays for child care in a licensed or certified child care center? ((CA)) Maximum child care subsidy rates for licensed child care centers can be found in WAC ((170-290-0200)) 110-15-0200.

WAC 110-15-4525  What are the maximum child care subsidy rates ((CA)) DCYF pays for child care in a licensed or certified family home child care? ((CA)) Maximum child care subsidy rates for licensed or certified family home child care can be found in WAC ((170-290-0205)) 110-15-0205.
When can ((CA)) DCYF pay more than the maximum ((CA)) child care subsidy rate? ((CA)) DCYF pays additional subsidies to a licensed or certified family child care home or center when:

1. Care is for nonstandard hours ((under WAC 388-165-195 and 388-165-200)) as defined in WAC 110-15-0249;
2. A child has a documented special need((s)) under WAC 110-15-0220;
3. Care is not available at the ((CA)) DCYF rate and the provider's usual rate is authorized;
4. The provider is participating in the state's early achievers program and receives tiered reimbursement and state funds are available; or
5. A child registration fee is applicable under WAC 110-15-0245.

To the extent that funds are available, ((CA)) DCYF may pay additional subsidies to licensed or certified family home child care for field trip and quality enhancement fees under WAC 110-15-0247.

How does ((CA)) DCYF pay for nonstandard hour child care? ((CA)) DCYF authorizes the nonstandard hour bonus to licensed or certified child care providers as specified in WAC 110-20-0290.

To the extent that funds are available, DCYF may pay additional subsidies to licensed or certified family home child care for field trip and quality enhancement fees under WAC 110-15-0247.
WAC 110-15-4550 What is the ((CA)) DCYF child care subsidy rate for children with special needs in a licensed or certified child care center? For children with documented special needs, ((CA pays child care subsidies to licensed or certified child care centers as described in WAC 388-165-180. In addition, CA)) DCYF pays the base rate authorized in WAC 110-15-0200 and the lesser of:
  (1) The actual cost of providing the special needs care; or
  (2) The applicable rate listed in WAC ((170-290-0225)) 110-15-0225 (1)(a) or (b).

WAC 110-15-4555 What is the ((CA)) DCYF child care subsidy rate for children with special needs in a licensed or certified family home child care? For children with documented special needs, ((CA pays child care subsidies to licensed or certified family child care homes as described in WAC 388-165-185. In addition, CA pays)) the base rate authorized in WAC 110-15-0205 and the lesser of:
  (1) The actual cost of providing special needs care; or
  (2) The applicable rate listed in WAC ((170-290-0230)) 110-15-0230 (1)(a) or (b).

WAC 110-15-4560 What is the ((CA)) DCYF in-home/relative child care rate for children with special needs? For children with documented special needs, ((CA may authorize payment to in-home/relative child care providers in accordance with)) DCYF pays the base rate authorized in WAC 110-15-0240 and the applicable special needs rate listed in WAC ((170-290-0235)) 110-15-0235.
AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-14-078, filed 7/1/19, effective 7/1/19)

WAC 110-15-4565 What is the maximum child care subsidy rate ((CA)) DCYF pays for in-home/relative child care? ((CA)) DCYF pays the cost of child care directly to the provider as the rate specified in WAC ((170-290-0240)) 110-15-0240.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-14-078, filed 7/1/19, effective 7/1/19)

WAC 110-15-4575 What is the responsibility of ((DSHS)) DCYF regarding child care subsidies for in-home/relative child care? (1) On all payments ((DSHS)) DCYF makes toward the cost of in-home/relative child care, ((DSHS)) DCYF pays the employer's share of:
   (a) Social Security taxes;
   (b) Medicare taxes;
   (c) Federal Unemployment Taxes (FUTA); and
   (d) State unemployment taxes (SUTA) when applicable.
(2) On all payments ((DSHS)) DCYF makes toward the cost of in-home/relative child care ((DSHS)) DCYF withholds the following taxes:
   (a) Social security taxes up to the wage base limit; and
   (b) Medicare taxes.
(3) If an in-home/relative child care provider receives less than ((one thousand one hundred dollars)) the per family threshold allowed by Internal Revenue Service Publication 926, Household Employer's Tax Guide, in a calendar year, ((DSHS)) DCYF refunds all withheld taxes to the provider.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-14-078, filed 7/1/19, effective 7/1/19)

WAC 110-15-4580 When can ((DSHS)) DCYF pay toward the cost of in-home/relative child care provided outside the child's home?

Certified on 10/7/2021
DSHS will pay toward the cost of child care provided in the relative's home by the following adult relative of the child:

1. Siblings and stepsiblings living outside the child's home;
2. Grandparents;
3. Aunts;
4. Uncles;
5. First cousins;
6. Great grandparents;
7. Great aunts;
8. Great uncles; and
9. Extended family members as determined by law or custom of the Indian child's tribe.


REPEALER

The following sections of the Washington Administrative Code are repealed:

WAC 110-15-4515 When are DSHS child care subsidy rates in this chapter effective?
WAC 110-15-4535 What is nonstandard hour child care?
WAC 110-15-4545 How does DSHS determine that a child qualifies for a special needs rate?