



**Whatcom
Healthy
Children's
Fund**

Caring today, shaping tomorrow



Whatcom Kids First Subsidy



1. Outreach and enrollment campaign



2. Tuition discounts families that are income eligible not currently served through WCCC



3. Cost of care augmentation for providers serving the most costly age groups

Subsidy Update

What was:

WA State Subsidy increase from 0-60% to 75% SMI

WCHCS Local Subsidy Recommendation 75%-85% SMI +

Rate Augmentation for providers serving kids 0-3 on Working Connections Child Care (WCCC)

State Funded Pre-K Programs Growing

What is:

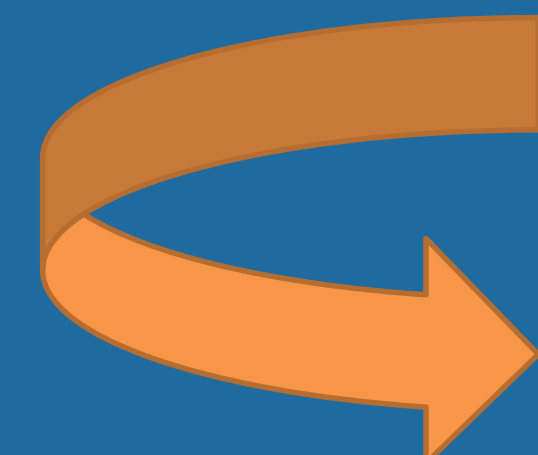
WA State Subsidy remained at 0-60%

Drastic Cuts to State Funded Pre-K Programs and Early Learning

What is recommended moving forward:

Subsidy 60%-75% SMI

Rate Augmentation 0-5 for Child Care Providers serving Children on WCCC



Subsidy Update

Original Recommendation

Activity	Yearly Cost	Number of Children Served + 20% Uptake
Tuition Discount to families at \$300 per month children age 0-5 at 61%-75% of SMI	\$1,339,296	400
Rate Augmentation to providers at \$300 serving kids 0-3	\$1,821,600	506
TOTAL	\$3,160,896	906

Final Recommendation

Activity	Yearly Cost	Number of Children Currently Served
Tuition Discount to families at \$300 per month children age 0-5 at 61%-75% of SMI	\$1,339,296	400
Rate Augmentation to providers at \$300 (0-1), \$200 (2-3) and \$100 (3-5) per month for each enrolled WCCC	\$1,920,000	1007
TOTAL	\$3,259,296	1407



Whatcom Healthy Children's Fund

July 18, 2024

Initiative to repeal Whatcom County child care tax

KIE RELYEA

GOVERNANCE

child care initiative repeal tax levy Whatcom County

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Nearly \$100 million hangs in balance as the County Council launches a legal challenge to the deadline to put the measure on the November ballot

THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

Support for at-risk Whatcom County children remains, thanks to recent ruling | Opinion

BY PROTECT WHATCOM KIDS
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GOVERNMENT

Levy money could fund child care subsidies for parents and providers

Whatcom County will finalize plan for Healthy Children's Fund feature next week

Nov. 13, 2024 10:00 p.m.



The new Early Learning Center at the Bellingham Public Schools district office welcomed its first group of kids this September. Whatcom County intends to subsidize child care to help working families and providers. (Halley Hoffman/Cascadia Daily News)



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Whatcom Healthy Children's Fund

What Whatcom Families Should Know About the Healthy Children's Fund

By LocalTalk Contributor