

What is ECEAP?

The Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) is Washington's pre-kindergarten program serving at-risk three and four year olds and their families. ECEAP provides children in 36 counties with preschool education, health services, intensive family support, and parent involvement and training. ECEAP addresses the needs of the whole child to ensure that gains are sustained.

For 2014-2015 ECEAP will be serving 10,091 children in three different models – part-day, full school-day, and extended full day/full year for working parents. The Department of Early Learning estimates that only about 42% of eligible children are being served by either Head Start or ECEAP - there are over 28,000 children eligible but unserved. Every year thousands are left on waiting lists.



Who are our families?

92 percent of the children enrolled in ECEAP were living at or below 110% of the federal poverty line (\$21,483 for a family of 3), including two thirds with a family income less than 80% of FPL. Ten percent of ECEAP children had an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) for addressing a disability, 10 percent of the children were homeless, 35 percent speak English as a second language, and 42 percent had parents without either a high school diploma or GED. ECEAP serves Washington's children who are at the highest risk for school failure, and puts them on a path to success in school and life.

ECEAP Gets Results for Our Most At-Risk Children

The 2013-14 ECEAP Outcomes Report found that the program was very successful and that children made incredible progress during the school year in the key areas in which ECEAP programs are evaluated: health outcomes, social-emotional development, and learning outcomes.

In just two examples, in the fall of 2013 only 44% of ECEAP children were at or above their expected age level in literacy development. By spring of 2014, 94% demonstrated these skills, an increase of 50%. In the fall of 2013 only 22.6% of ECEAP children were at or above their expected age level in their ability to use numbers and count. By spring of 2013, 81.3% of ECEAP children demonstrated these key school-readiness skills, an increase of 58.7%.

Making sure kids and families are school-ready is ECEAP's primary objective, and the data shows that programs are achieving that goal. **These end of year results show the impressive short-term results of ECEAP's efforts, and the WSIPP study shows that they last.**

