

Report to the Legislature

**Washington's WorkFirst Program
2015-17 Spending Plan**

(Section 207(1) of ESSB 6052 from the 2015 Legislative Session)

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Economic Services Administration
PO Box 45440
Olympia, WA 98504-5440
(360) 902-8077



Washington's WorkFirst Program

2015-17 Spending Plan Narrative

Prepared by the Department of Social and Health Services
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For the 2015-17 Biennium, the format for the WorkFirst Spending Plan has been revised to align with the WorkFirst budget provisos for the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Economic Services Administration (ESA). These provisos are included in Section 207(1) of ESSB 6052 from the 2015 legislative session. WorkFirst funding that is not included in the ESA budget provisos is shown under "Other" on the revised Spending Plan.

Economic Services Administration

Assistance to Clients (ESSB 6052, Section 207(1)(b))

Biennial Total: \$316,849,000

This budget proviso includes funding for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and State Family Assistance (SFA) grants and funding for the Diversion Cash Assistance Program.

WorkFirst Services (ESSB 6052, Section 207(1)(c))

Biennial Total: \$170,923,000

This budget proviso includes funding for WorkFirst welfare to work services (e.g., employment and training services and barrier removal services) and Tribal TANF programs (to meet the state Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funding requirement for Tribal TANF programs in RCW 74.08A.040).

WorkFirst employment and training services are provided by the Employment Security Department, Department of Commerce, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, DSHS, and other contractors that provide direct services to WorkFirst clients (including LEP Pathway services for persons with limited English proficiency). In Washington State, 10 Tribes and one Tribal consortium (South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency or SPIPA) operate 11 Tribal TANF programs.

As compared to State Fiscal Year 2015, funding for services provided by the Department of Commerce is reduced by 8.2% for State Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017.

Child Care (ESSB 6052, Section 207(1)(d)&(f))

Biennial Total: \$448,979,000

This budget proviso designates funding for subsidized child care for low-income working families through the Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) program. This proviso also includes funding pursuant to an agreement between the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 925 and the State of Washington for health benefits, training, and non-standard hour bonus pay for eligible licensed child care providers.

Total spending for WCCC subsidies for the 2015-17 Biennium is forecasted to be \$600,679,000. Of this amount, \$426,750,000 is included in this ESA budget proviso (d), with an additional amount provided for the Early Start Act in proviso (f)*. An additional \$151,700,000 is included for WCCC subsidies in a budget proviso for the Department of Early Learning (ESSB 6052, Section 615(5)(a)).

*Note: Proviso (f) is a budget proviso only, not part of the spending plan. Costs for child care related to the Early Start Act are in section (d) of the spending plan.

Administration and Overhead (ESSB 6052, Section 207(1)(e)&(f))

Biennial Total: \$163,558,000

The budget proviso (e) designates funding for WorkFirst and WCCC administration and overhead. These funds will be applied to the salaries and benefits, travel and other costs (e.g., supplies, equipment, postage, utilities, building lease costs and maintenance) associated with personnel involved in the administration of the WorkFirst program, including ESA employees who provide direct services to WorkFirst families. Responsibilities of other personnel include fiscal and programmatic oversight, technical assistance, ongoing review, monitoring, data collection and program reporting, and collection of client overpayments. Administrative costs and savings for the Early Start Act are included in proviso (f)*.

*Note: Proviso (f) is a budget proviso only, not part of the spending plan. Costs for administration of the Early Start Act are in section (e) of the spending plan.

Other

Tribal TANF - Federal

Biennial Total: \$47,574,000

The amount of the federal TANF block grant that is awarded to Tribes operating Tribal TANF programs in Washington State.

Early Learning – Child Care Subsidy

Biennial Total: \$151,700,000

Department of Early Learning funding dedicated to child care subsidies.

Early Learning – DSHS Overhead

Biennial Total: \$2,018,000

Department of Early Learning funding to support DSHS's overhead costs related to administration of the WCCC subsidy program.

DSHS – Overhead

Biennial Total: \$23,728,000

Funding to support DSHS-wide indirect costs as well as some direct costs charges such as those from the Office of the Attorney General, Department of Enterprise Services, and the State Auditor's Office.

DSHS – Children's Administration

Biennial Total: \$68,496,000

TANF funding that partially funds direct social service staff including Child Protective Services, Child Welfare Services, and Family Reconciliation Services.

2015-17 WorkFirst Spending Plan

Conference Budget

February 2015 Forecast

	2015-17 Biennium		
	2016	2017	2015-17
DSHS - Economic Services Administration (ESA)			
ESA - Assistance to Clients (3ESSB 5034, Section 207(1)(b))			
TANF Grants	157,274	151,571	308,845
Diversion Assistance	4,002	4,002	8,004
Subtotal - ESA Assistance to Clients	161,276	155,573	316,849
ESA - WorkFirst Services (3ESSB 5034, Section 207(1)(c))			
Tribal TANF - State MOE	12,305	12,305	24,610
DSHS - Interpreters	1,209	1,209	2,418
DSHS- Local Contracts	6,460	6,311	12,771
DSHS - Limited English Proficiency (LEP)	5,600	5,600	11,200
ESD - Job Search & Placement	15,418	15,418	30,836
SBCTC - Education & Training	14,601	14,601	29,202
Commerce Dept - Subsidized & Community Employment, LEP	27,853	27,853	55,706
Home Visits - FOI	1,350	1,350	2,700
Home Visits - Homeless	740	740	1,480
Subtotal - ESA WorkFirst Services	85,536	85,387	170,923
ESA - Child Care (3ESSB 5034, Section 207(1)(d)&(f))			
Child Care Subsidy	203,025	234,559	437,584
Child Care Health Care & other (CBA)	5,698	5,697	11,395
Subtotal - ESA Child Care	208,723	240,256	448,979
ESA - Overhead and Administration (3ESSB 5034, Section 207(1)(e))			
DSHS Staffing Operations	75,099	75,157	150,256
DSHS Office of Financial Recovery	505	505	1,010
Subtotal - ESA Overhead and Administration	82,499	81,059	163,558
Total - ESA (3ESSB 5034, Section 207(1)(a))	538,034	562,275	1,100,309
Other			
Tribal TANF - Federal	23,787	23,787	47,574
Early Learning - Subsidy - Regular	75,850	75,850	151,700
Early Learning - DSHS Overhead	1,009	1,009	2,018
DSHS - Overhead	11,864	11,864	23,728
DSHS - Children's Administration	34,248	34,248	68,496
OFM/Special Approps IT Pool - ESAR Phase II and III	870	870	1,740
OFM/Special Approps IT Pool - Interface with EBT	1,129	523	1,652
FAR	3,301		3,301
Total - Other	152,058	148,151	300,209
Total WorkFirst Spending Plan	690,092	710,426	1,400,518
*Total Child Care Subsidy			
ESA	208,723	240,256	448,979
Early Learning - Subsidy - Regular	75,850	75,850	151,700
Total Child Care Subsidy	284,573	316,106	600,679