

Report to the Legislature

Blended Funding Report

RCW 74.14A.060
Chapter 219, Laws of 2000, Section 2

December 2015

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Department of Social and Health Services Legislative Report on Blended Funding Projects

December 2015

This document has been prepared in accordance with the requirement of Chapter 219, Laws of 2000, Section 2, which states:

The department shall document the number of children who participate in blended funding projects, the total blended funding amounts per child, the amount charged to each appropriation by program, and services provided to each child through each blended funding project and report this information to the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1st of each year, beginning in December 1, 2000.

This report is the thirteenth in a series of reports to the legislature on the development and implementation of blended funding projects.

Blended funding involves the co-mingling of funds into a single source from which case managers can provide services without regard to relative contributions of the multiple funding sources.

As reported in previous Blended Funding Reports, there are numerous barriers to blending funds across categorical programs and these barriers often create the need for formal waivers of federal requirements, defined eligibility for specific programs, varying interpretations of the amount of flexibility available, and onerous evaluation requirements when flexibility is granted.

For these reasons, few department dollars are available to blend among the various departmental services or with other service programs. The department, in the interest of better coordination of services between service providers, is continuing to encourage initiatives which braid funds and integrate services. Braided funds retain their funding streams, tracking requirements and specific eligibility for services, but are offered as part of a coordinated package of services to shared clients.

At this time, the department does not participate in any programs that blend funds to provide services to children and their families.