

Estimated Fiscal Impact of SSB 5237

	Section	Policy	Subject to Approp	Costs (\$M)		
				21-23	23-25	25-27
Fair Start for Kids Account and Oversight	101	Fair Start for Kids Account for child care & early learning purposes (DCYF licensing & research staff, trainings)		\$1.9	\$1.7	\$1.6
	102	Early Learning Advisory Council changes (DCYF research & ELAC coordination)		\$1.2	\$1.8	\$1.8
	Subtotal Fair Start for Kids Account & ELAC Oversight				\$3.1	\$3.5
Working Connections Child Care (WCCC)	201, 501	Income and age eligibility expansion (≤75% state median income (SMI); age 13 by 7/1/2025; 75-100% SMI subject to approp.)	X (75 - 100% SMI)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$686.2
	201	Phased in copayment changes		\$305.9	\$326.2	\$340.6
	202	Student parent work requirement waiver expansion	X	\$0.0	\$95.9	\$95.8
	301	Rate increase (75th percentile by 7/1/2021 and 85th percentile by 7/1/2023)		\$62.1	\$121.3	\$121.3
	306	Nonstandard hours rate model	X	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Subtotal WCCC				\$368.0	\$543.4	\$1,243.9
Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP)	208	Entitlement delay (from 2022-23 school year to 2026-27 school year)		-\$41.5	-\$131.6	\$12.8
	204, 207	Entitlement expansion (2026: ≤ 36% SMI; homeless; or participated in an early intervention program. 2030: ≤ 50% SMI; or Indian and ≤ 100% SMI)				\$119.0
	205	Expanded enrollment (licensing staff cost only)	X	\$0.4	\$0.4	\$0.2
	206	Early entry (IT costs only)	X	\$5.7	\$7.1	\$6.2
	302	Rate increases (5% in 2021-23, 9% in 2023-25)		\$16.7	\$36.1	\$43.4
Subtotal ECEAP				-\$18.7	-\$88.0	\$181.6
Provider Supports	303	Complex needs funds	X	\$14.6	\$15.3	\$17.8
	304	Trauma informed care supports		\$6.5	\$8.5	\$9.0
	305	Dual language rate enhancement (IT costs only)		\$1.5	\$1.8	\$1.6
	307	Equity grants (implementation only)	X	\$5.8	\$6.9	\$6.3
	309, 310	Infant and early childhood mental health consultation	X	\$1.6	\$1.6	\$1.6
	311	Play and learn groups	X	\$0.9	\$2.0	\$2.7
	312	Professional development	X	\$10.4	\$11.3	\$11.1
Subtotal Provider Supports				\$41.2	\$47.4	\$50.1
Prenatal-to-3 Supports	402	Prenatal-to-3 family engagement strategy	X	\$15.0	\$43.0	\$84.6
	403	Birth-to-3 ECEAP for families ≤ 50% SMI	X	\$0.1	\$0.0	\$9.2
	404	Infant rate enhancement (IT costs only)		\$1.4	\$1.8	\$1.5
	405	Early therapeutic and preventative services	X	\$5.0	\$13.7	\$22.4
Subtotal Prenatal-to-3 Supports				\$21.5	\$58.5	\$117.8
Other	103	Inflationary adjustments	X	<i>Indeterminate</i>		
	305, 404	CBAs re. dual language and infant care rate enhancements		<i>Indeterminate</i>		
	308	Technical assistance by Commerce for employer-supported child care	X	\$0.8	\$0.8	\$0.8
	501 - 508	Conforming amendments (staff & IT time)		\$1.1	\$1.0	\$1.0
	601 - 611	Miscellaneous - Federal severability clause; effective dates; codification		\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

TOTAL ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT \$417.0 \$566.7 \$1,598.7

NOTE: All costs are estimates pulled from draft fiscal note backup and narrative for SHB 1213 & SSB 5237, shared by DCYF & OFM on February 12, 2021. Legislative staff corrected errors in calculation where necessary, but did not change departmental assumptions. ECEAP costs listed above do not assume capital needs.

ECEAP Eligibility and WCCC Eligibility & Copays for a Household of Three: Current Law v. SSB 5237 (at full phase in)

SSB 5237 expands ECEAP entitlement to 36% SMI in the 2026-27 school year, and up to 50% SMI in 2030. WCCC eligibility is expanded to 75% SMI in FY26, and up to 100% SMI in FY26 subject to appropriation.

SMI	FPL	Monthly Income	ECEAP Eligibility		WCCC Eligibility		WCCC Copays	
			Current Law	5237	Current Law	5237	Current Law	5237
21%	82%	\$1,501	X	X	X	X	\$15	\$15 or waived
25%	100%	\$1,830	X	X	X	X	\$65	\$15 or waived
28%	110%	\$2,013	X	X	X	X	\$65	\$15 or waived
36%	142%	\$2,590		X	X	X	\$102	\$65
50%	197%	\$3,598		X	X	X	\$606	\$115
51%	200%	\$3,660			X	X	\$642	\$165
60%	236%	\$4,317				X		\$215
75%	295%	\$5,396				X		up to \$378 (7% of income)
100%	393%	\$7,195				subject to approp.		up to \$504 (7% of income)

NOTES: For a household of three, the federal poverty level is at an annual income of \$21,960 (US Health & Human Services). Washington State median income in 2021 is \$86,340 (WA Department of Social and Health Services). WCCC copays are currently capped at \$115 through June 30, 2021, due to a COVID-related emergency rule.