

GLOSSARY OF FREQUENTLY USED ACRONYMS AND TERMS

CACFP: Child and Adult Care Food Program

CHP: Child Health Plan. Completed for children with allergies and health issues

Component: Head Start offers services to families in specialty areas or “components”: Child Development, Family Support, Health/Nutrition and Mental Health

CPS: Child Protective Services. The division of DSHS that serves abused and neglected children.

DAP: Developmentally Appropriate Practice is a term that defines early childhood learning approaches based on the age and the growth of the child

DSHS: the State of Washington’s Department of Social and Health Services

ECEAP: Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program. This is the state funded sister program of Head Start

EHS: Early Head Start serves families from pregnancy through 3 years old

ELAC: Early Learning Advisory Council. A statewide council, appointed by the governor, that provides input and recommendations to the Department of Early Learning.

ELL: English Language Learners

ELP: Early Learning Plan. The 2007 Washington Legislature asked DEL and ELAC to develop a statewide early learning plan that ensures school readiness for all children in Washington.

EPSDT: Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment. Also known as a “well child exam”

ESI-R: Early Screening Inventory – Revised. A standardized developmental screening tool used in many districts to identify possible developmental concerns in Head Start children.

IEP: Individualized Education Programs are developed for children who are assessed by the district special education program and determined to be in need of specialized services to meet the child’s individual goals

ILP: an Individualized Learning Plan is developed by the teaching staff and parents for each child based on identified areas of growth

LEA: Local Education Agency (school district)

NCP: Nutrition Care Plan

OSPI: Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. OSPI oversees Kindergarten-12th grade education in Washington.

PCP: A Primary Care Provider is a person's regular physician/medical care provider

PIR: the Program Information Report consists of information gathered at the centers, compiled using Child Plus, and used for reporting purposes at the program level

Policy Council: A parent or family member from each Head Start center and each program model in that center serves as a representative to Policy Council, which is a monthly meeting to consider policy, budget, program models, program goals, etc.

RCW: Revised Code of Washington

Self-assessment: An annual process at each center to solicit feedback from families and staff regarding Head Start services and how they are provided. Goals are developed and pursued for the program year

TANF: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (previously "welfare")

USDA: The United States Department of Agriculture maintains contracts to provide meals to school children. Some Head Start centers carry USDA contracts individually or through the ESD

WAC: Washington Administrative Code

WCCC: Working Connections Child Care. Subsidy program that helps low-income working parents pay for child care.

WIC: Women, Infants, and Children is a nutrition program for low-income mothers and their children from prenatal to 5 years-old

WSA: Washington State Association of Head Start and ECEAP

WSTC: Washington State Head Start/ECEAP Training Consortium (part of WSA)