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## State Advisory Council (SAC) grant

Washington was awarded \$1.7 million in federal funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to support our work building an early learning system. The money goes to each state's State Advisory Council (SAC), which in Washington is ELAC. The grant requires a 70 percent non-federal share/match (for Washington, about \$3.5 million).

The funding will be used to support the following activities:

- Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) activities and implementation
- State-local coordination and planning
- Preschool through third grade (PreK-3rd) alignment
- Washington early learning guidelines
- Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS)

In order to comply with federal State Advisory Council requirements, ELAC will be responsible for a number of activities over the next two years to include:

- Developing recommendations on increasing participation in child care and early education programs, including outreach to underrepresented and special populations;
- Developing recommendations on the development of a unified data collection systems for public early childhood and development programs and services;
- Developing recommendations on statewide professional development and career advancement plans for early childhood education; and
- Facilitating the development or enhancement of high-quality systems of early childhood education and care designed to improve school readiness.

For more information about ELAC or Washington's State Advisory Council grant, visit our website at:

<http://del.wa.gov/partnerships/elac/Default.aspx>

