



Washington State Department of

**Early Learning**

# Working Connections Child Care Overview

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Senate Ways & Means Committee  
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# About Working Connections Child Care

- ✎ Subsidies that help families with low incomes pay for child care while they work or meet WorkFirst participation requirements
- ✎ State fiscal year 2010 average use per month:
  - ✎ 37,407 families
  - ✎ 64,119 children
- ✎ Funding:
  - ✎ FY09: \$304,070,000
  - ✎ FY10: \$318,673,000

# WCCC child care options

## Eligible families can choose:

- 👉 Licensed or certified child care centers or family home child care providers
- 👉 License-exempt providers that pass background check requirements
- 👉 License-exempt providers include non-relative caregivers who provide care in the child's home, and relative caregivers who provide care in their own home or in the child's home.
- 👉 Licensed family home and license-exempt providers are part of collective bargaining agreement with the state.



# WCCC roles

## DEL:

- 👋 State lead agency for the federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)
- 👋 Sets child care subsidy policy
- 👋 Provides program oversight for child care licensing and early learning services.

## DSHS:

- 👋 Helps families apply for WCCC
- 👋 Determines eligibility and consumer copayments
- 👋 Authorizes child care
- 👋 Pays providers



# WCCC eligibility

To be eligible for WCCC, a person must:

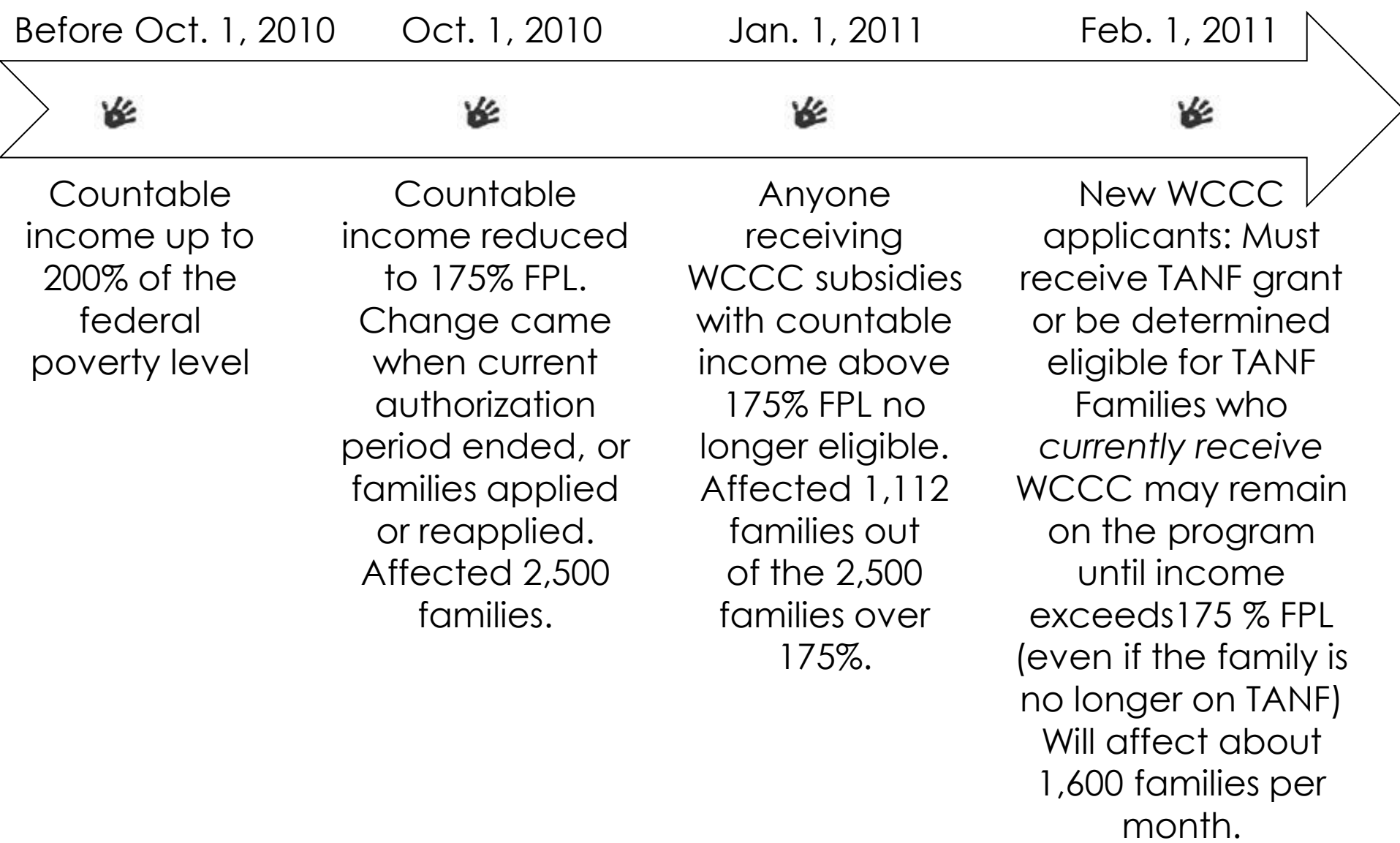
- 👉 Live in Washington, and have one or more children
- 👉 Meet income eligibility requirements
- 👉 Work in legal, income-generating taxable activities, or meet WorkFirst participation requirements
- 👉 Fully complete application and verification process



# WCCC income eligibility requirements

- 👉 Changed in recent months to help address the WorkFirst program budget shortfall and increased caseloads.





# February 1, 2011 changes

- 👉 Families *newly applying* for WCCC must receive TANF grant OR be determined eligible for TANF:
  - 👉 Income eligibility AND resource requirements
- 👉 Families who *currently receive* WCCC may remain on the program until their income is more than 175 percent FPG, even if the family is no longer on TANF.
- 👉 Co-payments increase by \$10 per month for WCCC families who pay \$50 or more a month currently.



# “Determined eligible for TANF”

👤 Families must meet:

👤 Citizenship or alien status requirements

👤 Income and resource requirements:

- ✓ Family size and income. When a household member starts working, half of the earnings are counted against the grant. If a member of the household starts receiving unemployment or another type of unearned income, the entire amount is counted against the grant.
- ✓ Families must have resources of \$1,000 or less.

Resources are things like:

- Checking and savings accounts
- Stocks, bonds, or mutual funds
- Vehicle equity over \$5,000



Family Size	Maximum Countable Income Before Exit WCCC – 175% FPG
↓ (child only case)	\$1,580
2	\$2,125
3	\$2,671
4	\$3,217
5	\$3,761
6	\$4,307
7	\$4,853
8	\$5,397
9	\$5,943
10	\$6,489

[www.del.wa.gov/care/help/connections.aspx](http://www.del.wa.gov/care/help/connections.aspx)



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