



Washington State Department of

Early Learning

Working Connections Child Care Overview

House Early Learning & Human
Services 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:

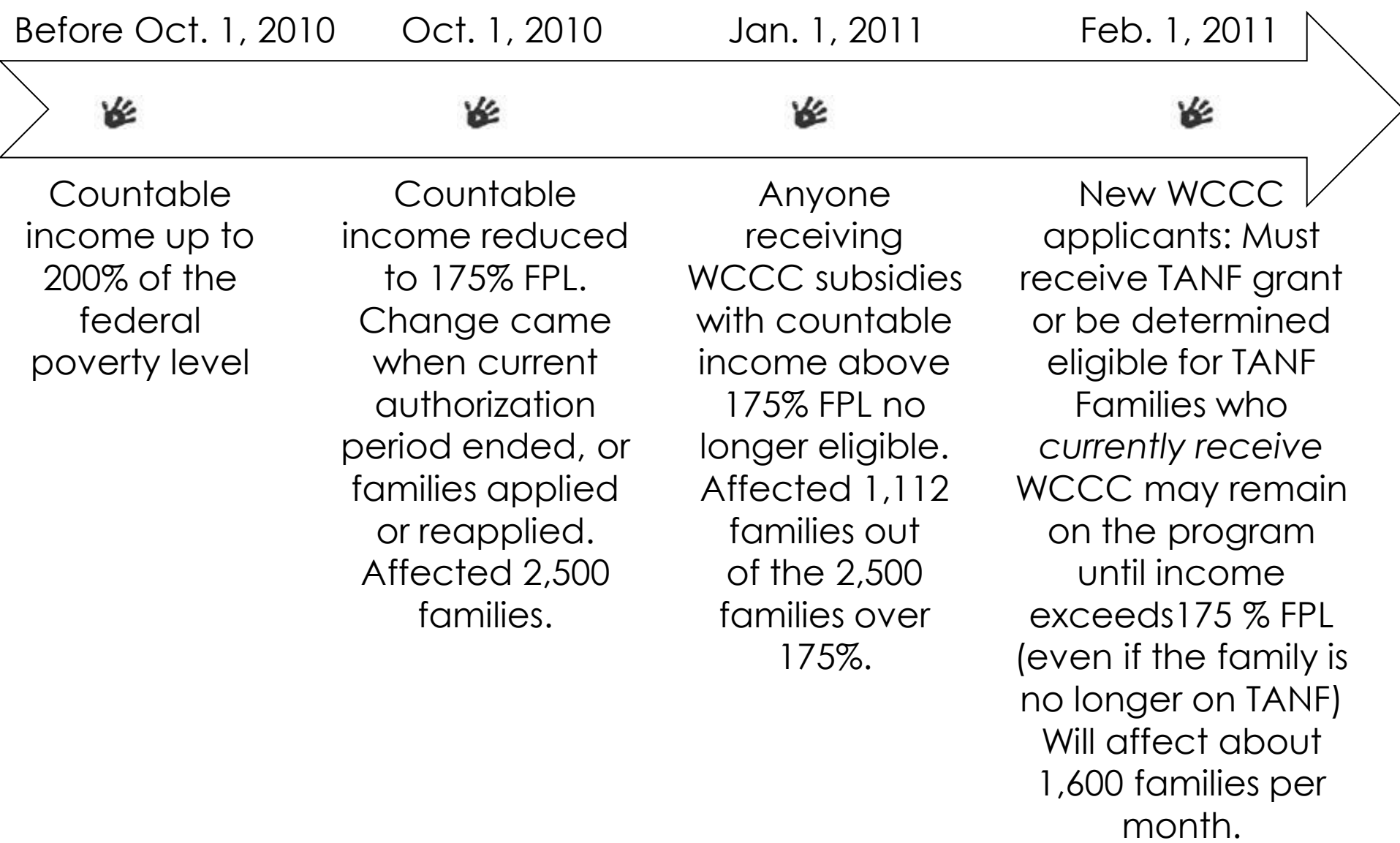
- 👉 Live in Washington, and have one or more children
- 👉 Meet income eligibility requirements
- 👉 Work in legal, income-generating taxable activities, or meet WorkFirst participation requirements
- 👉 Fully complete application and verification process



WCCC income eligibility requirements

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





Before Oct. 1, 2010

Oct. 1, 2010

Jan. 1, 2011

Feb. 1, 2011



Countable income up to 200% of the federal poverty level

Countable income reduced to 175% FPL. Change came when current authorization period ended, or families applied or reapplied. Affected 2,500 families.

Anyone receiving WCCC subsidies with countable income above 175% FPL no longer eligible. Affected 1,112 families out of the 2,500 families over 175%.

New WCCC applicants: Must receive TANF grant or be determined eligible for TANF Families who *currently receive* WCCC may remain on the program until income exceeds 175 % FPL (even if the family is no longer on TANF) Will affect about 1,600 families per month.

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



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