

Using Teaching Strategies GOLD™ in ECEAP 2015-16

All ECEAP uses GOLD™: All ECEAP contractors use Teaching Strategies GOLD™ Online under the DEL license to assess all ECEAP children. This allows us to report statewide ECEAP child assessment results and increases alignment with the Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS).

DEL Purchases ECEAP Child Portfolios: DEL pays Teaching Strategies, LLC directly for “child portfolios” for your funded ECEAP slots. When a child exits ECEAP, their record is archived and the portfolio will be available for the next child. Contractors may purchase additional child portfolios for other funding sources from Teaching Strategies, LLC at the discounted DEL rate of \$9.95 per slot. If you need additional ECEAP or other portfolios, contact del.wa@teachingstrategies.com.

Subscription Agreements: ECEAP contractors receive a subscription agreement listing your total number of GOLD™ Online “child portfolios.” For some contractors, this includes your ECEAP slots and additional slots you purchase.

ELMS to GOLD™ Data Feed: For ECEAP children, all site, class, teacher and child data is entered into ELMS and imported nightly into GOLD™. Enter all changes in ELMS only.

- If a child is already in GOLD™, it will be matched and the ECEAP information will be in the same portfolio as their earlier information (NEW for Winter 2015-16).
- ECEAP will automatically be marked as the Funding Source (NEW for winter 2015-16).
- If you transfer a child between classes in ELMS or change anything in ELMS, it automatically updates GOLD™.
- Child portfolios are automatically archived in GOLD™ after you exit them in ELMS. Do not archive or delete any portfolios for ECEAP children. Archiving is free and unlimited.

ChildPlus Bridge: During 2015-16, the four contractors using the ChildPlus bridge may continue to use this bridge and keep their child portfolios under the DEL license. Please contact ChildPlus directly to discuss that agreement and pay related fees. If using the ChildPlus bridge, it is essential that you:

- Make sure first names, last names and birthdates exactly match GOLD.
- Mark the Funding Source as ECEAP for all ECEAP children.
- Archive children who attended ECEAP when they leave the program; do not delete their portfolios. Archiving is free and unlimited under the DEL license. GOLD™ Administrators should only delete a child’s portfolio if they never attended a class or if it is a duplicate record with no data. Portfolios can be un-deleted within 90 days.

Teacher logins in GOLD™

- Teachers have separate logins for ELMS and for GOLD™.
- Usernames are FirstnameLastnameECEAP with no spaces or hyphens.
- NEW for all lead teachers: Please enter an email address on their ELMS “Edit Staff” page in the Contact Information section “Email- Office” field. This email address is available to Teaching Strategies to contact teachers when necessary.

Training: DEL will pay for two days of in-person *Teaching Strategies GOLD™* training for ECEAP lead teachers, assistant teachers, education/child development coordinators, and directors. There are multiple training sessions scheduled between fall 2015 and spring 2016.

- Watch ECEAP *Reminders and Links* for GOLD™ implementation tips and registration information for training opportunities and live online webinars for teachers and administrators.

Resources:

- DEL will provide each lead teacher with a copy of *Objectives for Development and Learning* if the teacher does not already have this.
- Users can access all GOLD™ ongoing training features, including narrated training modules, brief tutorials, webinars, and printable instruction guides.
 - The **Online Guide for Administrators** provides detailed, screen-by-screen guidance for entering sites, teachers/administrators, classes, and children.
 - **A Teacher’s Quick-Start Guide** offers detailed, screen-by-screen guidance for setting up your classes to finalizing data and generating reports.
 - View recorded **Reports Orientations or Teacher Orientations** or register to watch a live orientation. Upon request and availability, orientations are available in Spanish.
 - **Time-Saving Features** includes quick tips to gather and enter assessment information.
 - The **GOLD™ Basic online course includes video clips and activities to practice using the 4-step assessment cycle.**

Inter-Rater Reliability: Lead teachers must complete [GOLD™ Online Interrater Reliability Certification](#) within six months of their training or within six months of the beginning of the school year. This strengthens the accuracy of the statewide data. There is no cost for the interrater reliability test and it is available in English and Spanish on the GOLD™ website.

- ECEAP Contractors must ensure lead teachers maintain reliability certification.
- DEL strongly encourages Teachers to select the interrater reliability certification for the age group “preschool, including dual-language learners and children with disabilities.”
- The online test includes three child portfolios to rate at your own pace within the six month time period. It does not include the content areas which you are not required to rate for ECEAP children: Social Studies, Science and Technology, or The Arts.
- The process takes about four hours.

- Teachers must score 80% to achieve certification and may repeat the test as many times as necessary. If the teacher does not pass, DEL suggests they continue to practice the skills, consult with their education coordinator, or use additional professional development modules in GOLD™ Online.
- Education/child development coordinators are encouraged to test “reliable” as well, so they can fully support their teaching staff in using GOLD™.

Teacher Responsibilities:

- Teachers are required to observe children throughout the school year and enter observations in the online version of GOLD™.
 - From *Objectives for Development and Learning* “For some objectives, seeing a child perform a skill once is sufficient to make an informed decision. Other objectives need more evidence and documentation. There is no set number of observations or amount of documentation that must be collected in related to each objective.”
- Teachers rate all objectives within the following areas: Social Emotional, Physical, Language, Cognitive, Literacy, and Mathematics. The remaining GOLD™ areas of development and learning (Science and Technology, Social Studies and The Arts) are optional for 2015-16.
- Teachers finalize their ratings for each child quarterly.
 - The Summer checkpoint, for Extended Day full-year ECEAP only, is due August 31.
 - The Fall checkpoint is due November 15 (change to November 25 for 2015 only).
 - The Winter checkpoint is due February 28.
 - The Spring checkpoint is due May 30.
- Teachers must finalize the checkpoint in Teaching Strategies GOLD™ Online for all children who attended class for two or more weeks before the due date.
- Teachers must complete the Home Language Survey on all children. If indicated based on this, teachers must assess children’s English language acquisition using objectives 37 and 38 and use the information to plan to support children’s language and literacy acquisition.
- Teachers are encouraged, but not required, to assess Spanish-speaking children with the Spanish language and literacy objectives.
- Ask your DEL Pre-K Specialist if you have questions about these requirements for implementing GOLD™.

ECEAP Contractor Responsibilities: Contractors must analyze aggregate child assessment data to inform:

- Teaching practices
- Curriculum decisions
- Professional development and staff training plan
- Program planning, including their service delivery plan

Engaging Families:

- The Family Conference Form is an optional GOLD™ resource. It is a great way for teachers to share assessment information with families and engage in collaborative goal setting.
- Contractors may choose to give parents access to the GOLD™ Family website. The site allows families to use the GOLD™ messaging system and event calendar, view weekly planning forms, documentation, and reports.

Kindergarten Transition: When a child moves on to kindergarten, an electronic “ECEAP WaKIDS end of PreK report” is available to each child’s kindergarten teacher participating in WAKIDS in GOLD™ online. This is automatic; you do not need to do anything. This is based on an agreement between DEL and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

Tips:

- GOLD™ online has spell and grammar check in many text boxes, including the Documentation tab.
- Contractors can create a variety of standard and customized reports in GOLD™:
 - Assessment Status
 - Widely Held Expectations
 - Performance and Growth
 - Growth
 - Growth Export (Raw Data)
 - Alignment
 - Individual Child
 - Snapshot
 - Goals
 - Comparative

Technical Assistance:

- Email del.wa@teachingstrategies.com directly to resolve issues. They respond Monday through Thursday 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Friday 5:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Pacific Time.
 - You may cc elms@del.wa.gov if you choose.
 - Only send each issue once, so Teaching Strategies can respond efficiently.
 - Be sure to include all details in the email such as name of the site, class, teacher and, if applicable, child. For example, send the ELMS ID numbers for children who are missing from GOLD™, instead of just writing that children are missing.

DEL Access to GOLD™ Data: DEL has permission to access child data entered under the DEL license according to the "Addendum to Online Services Agreement" that you signed with Teaching Strategies, LLC. Check with your agency and other funding sources such as Head Start, regarding confidentiality policies that may apply.