

A Message from the Washington State Department of Early Learning:

At the Department of Early Learning (DEL), we believe parents are their children's first and most important teachers. The DEL Parent Advisory Group (PAG) is a sounding board for decisions, ideas and questions that shape the future of DEL. Parental involvement in decision-making is the key to having policies and programs that support families' strengths and needs.

We are seeking up to fifteen parents and family caregivers of children, from birth through nine years old, to participate as members of the Parent Advisory Group. The PAG will meet by phone and in person. Our first conference call will be held on August 12, 2015 and first in-person meeting will be held October 7, 2015.

The location is to be determined.

PAG members will represent the unique experiences and perspectives of their families, including but not limited to:

- Rural, remote, urban and military communities;
- Access a variety of early learning services for their children or not currently connected to services;
- Have diverse family structures (for example, headed by both or single parents, grandparents, kinship care, foster parents, or are blended families);
- Experience with immigration and being new to a community;
- Impacted by incarceration;
- Cultural, linguistic and ethnic diversity;
- Have children with varying developmental and special needs.

Please see the [PAG Recruitment Information](#) flyer for more information.

If you have questions or would like to learn more, please e-mail PAG@DEL.WA.GOV

To Apply: Fill out and return the [PAG Recruitment Form](#) by **June 30, 2015**.

More About PAG

DEL's [founding legislation](#) states that DEL "shall include parents and legal guardians in the development of policies and program decisions affecting their children." The advisory group has advised the agency on a variety of issues, including:

- [Child Care Check](#)
- [Early Achievers](#), Washington's child care quality rating and improvement system
- DEL's [Child Care and Development Fund plan](#)
- Washington's [Early Learning Plan](#)
- [Negotiated Rulemaking](#) for Family Home Child Care
- Working Connections Child Care call centers
- [School-age Rules \(WAC\)](#) rewrite