
HOUSE BILL 1739

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Representatives Dent and Eslick

1 AN ACT Relating to instruction for child care providers; and
2 adding a new section to chapter 43.216 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.216
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) By December 1, 2023, the department must create an
7 instructional handbook for all child care providers. The handbook
8 must provide educational material on the following topics related to
9 care of children:

10 (a) Health, safety, and nutritional needs of children;

11 (b) How to establish a nurturing relationship; and

12 (c) The fundamentals of instruction.

13 (2) The handbook must be made available free of charge in both
14 physical and online formats.

15 (3) A child care provider is exempt from any requirement to
16 obtain an early childhood education certificate if, by July 1, 2024,
17 for persons employed as a child care provider prior to January 1,
18 2024, or within the first six months of hire, for persons employed on
19 or after January 1, 2024:

1 (a) The provider has read the handbook and has submitted to the
2 department a signed attestation indicating that they have read the
3 handbook; and

4 (b) The child care center director or center assistant director
5 has submitted to the department a signed attestation that the
6 provider has read the handbook and has implemented the instructional
7 material.

8 (4) For purposes of this section:

9 (a) A "child care provider" includes an employee of a child care
10 center who provides direct care to children; and

11 (b) A "child care center" includes a child day care center, an
12 outdoor nature-based child care provider, or a family day care
13 provider.

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