



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CHILD CARE AWARE OF WASHINGTON LAUNCHES NEW ONLINE BUSINESS SUPPORT PORTAL  
FOR CHILD CARE PROVIDERS**

TACOMA, WA – July 12, 2018 – Child Care Aware of Washington today launches a new, free service for child care providers participating in Early Achievers designed to help them manage the business side of their operations. Washington Child Care Business Edge (Edge) is an online portal that provides one-stop shop access to a wide range of tools, resources, tips, discounts, templates and more that will help child care providers manage administrative and business tasks and save valuable time that is better spent focusing on the children and families in their care.

Edge is operated by Child Care Aware of Washington (CCA of WA) and supported by the Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF). It is offered at no cost to licensed child care providers who are participating in Early Achievers, Washington’s framework for improving the quality of child care across the state.

“We are thrilled to launch Edge and help providers spend less time with administrative burdens, like budgeting and ordering supplies and the like, and more time teaching and caring for our state’s youngest children and their families,” said Robin Lester, Chief Executive Officer of CCA of WA.

Edge delivers a wide range of helpful resources, including discounts for child care and office supplies, templates for creating forms, free supports for classrooms such as printable posters, quick links to both federal

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and state regulations, and training supports all in one, easy-to-navigate place.

Edge was created with input from child care providers across Washington who participated via an online survey and through several focus groups. Providers also pilot-tested the platform and found it easy to use and navigate. Here is what one pilot tester said: “As an administrator, it is very helpful to have all of this information in one place.”

Child Care Aware of Washington is a non-profit, 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to connecting families to local, high-quality, licensed child care and early learning programs, and to supporting providers who deliver high-quality care. As a statewide network of six regional agencies, we work side-by-side with child care providers, offering professional development services and higher education scholarships to help them integrate research-based, best practices into their programs. We are committed to ensuring that each and every child in Washington has access to the high-quality care and early learning they need to succeed in school and life. For more information, please visit our website at <http://wa.childcareaware.org> and follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Child-Care-Aware-of-Washington-149636987661/> and on Twitter @childcarewa.

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