

Enhanced Respite Services

ERS enable Developmental Disabilities Administration-enrolled children access to short-term respite in a state-contracted and licensed staffed-residential setting. Services assist with behavioral stabilization and provide families with a data summary report upon discharge which recommends effective supports and strategies to address the child's challenging behaviors. ERS provide a break in caregiving for the families/caregivers.

A child may access ERS up to thirty days per calendar



Eligibility Requirements

- The child is determined eligible for DDA services per Chapter 388-823 WAC
- The child is at high risk of institutionalization and/or out-of-home placement
- The parents/caregivers have accessed available services the client is eligible for, including those available through private insurance, medicare, the medicaid state plan, and DDA The child must be at least eight years of age, or between ages 18 and 20 and enrolled in school

Quality Assurance Oversight

- Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- Department of Children, Youth, and Families
- Washington State Department of Health
- DDA Office of Compliance, Monitoring, and Training
- DDA Office of Quality Assurance and Communications

Stakeholders

- Individuals receiving services
- Families of program participants
- Advocacy organizations
- Contracted Enhanced Respite Services providers
- Department of Children, Youth, and Families
- DSHS' Behavioral Health Administration
- Washington State Health Care Authority
- Pediatric hospitals

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In 2020, Enhanced Respite Services were provided in multiple locations statewide to more than 21 clients. This number is lower than previous years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.