



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES
Public Disclosure

1500 Jefferson St. SE • PO Box 40992 • Olympia WA • 98504-0992

May 17, 2023

Ashley Oberholtzer
[REDACTED]

Subject: Request for Records/ARRTS # 202304-PRR-813

Dear Ashley Oberholtzer,

The Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) received your request for records on April 25, 2023.

In your request, you asked for

"DCYF implemented a provisional hire background check process for early learning child care. I do not request the MERIT provisional hire background check tracker itself, as it contains personally identifiable information. I only request a count of the following data within it:

1. *Between 29 February 2020 and 01 October 2021, how many total early learning background checks were initiated under a provisional hire process or under Administration for Children and Families fingerprint waiver? Of those:*
 - a. *How many background checks have incomplete fingerprints (only an NDOB/instate check is complete)?*
 - Of those, what date was the oldest initiated?*
 - b. *How many staff were hired under this process?*
 - c. *How many hired staff have yet to submit fingerprints?*
 - d. *How many hired staff ended their employment without completing fingerprints?*
2. *Between 01 October 2021 and 25 April 2023, how many total early learning background checks were initiated under the provisional hire process? Of those:*
 - a. *How many background checks have incomplete fingerprints (only an NDOB/instate check is complete)?*
 - Of those, what date was the oldest initiated?*
 - b. *How many staff were hired under this process?*
 - c. *How many hired staff have yet to submit fingerprints?*
 - d. *How many hired staff ended their employment without completing fingerprints?*

If your agency withholds any of the requested information, it must cite the relevant exemption and explain how it applies to the withheld information under RCW 42.56.210(3). Please note that the Department must conduct a sufficient search for the requested information and the search must be reasonably calculated to uncover all relevant information. Neighborhood Alliance v. Spokane County, 172 Wn.2d 702, 261 P.3d 119 (2011)."

These records are being released pursuant to RCW 42.56. Some exemptions may be applicable to other state or federal laws.

Per the Background Check Unit:

MERIT is the source of employment records; however, it is not reflective of actual hiring.

Item 1

(a) – the answer to this question is ZERO (0). All applicants that were originally submitted as FP that were reverted to NDOB during the proclamation were then required to complete FP and if they did not they were archived and do not have a cleared status.

(b-d) we do not collect hire information.

Item 2

(a) – the answer to this question is ZERO (0). If an applicant does not complete the fingerprint process their application is archived, they do not have a cleared status. There is no interim or provisional process in EL like there is in CW.

(b-d) we do not collect hire information.

If there are additional records that you believe exist, please let us know and we will attempt to locate them.

If you disagree with any denial of records under your request, you may ask for a review under WAC 110-01-0270 by writing to:

Jody Arndt
DCYF Public Disclosure Appeals Officer
PO Box 40992
Olympia, WA 98504-0992

Respectfully,

Glenda Markham

Glenda Markham | FRA Supervisor

Administrative Services | Public Disclosure

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Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES