



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES**  
Community Services Division  
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June 27, 2008

**TO:** CSD Regional Administrators  
All WorkFirst Staff

**FROM:** Leo Ribas, Director  
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**SUBJECT: LIFE SKILLS AND SUMMER SCHOOL  
BREAKS CHANGES (JULY 2008)**

Effective July 11, 2008, we are planning to implement the following updates:

- **LIFE SKILLS COMPONENT:** Currently, DSHS staff is using the eJAS component code XG (mental health) to identify parents engaged in life skills/soft skills training. Life skills training is a time-limited core activity which falls under the federal category of job search/job preparation. In order to properly track and report this training, a new component code of "LS" has been created.

It is important to note that the new LS component will only be used for parents who are doing independent life skills training, not as part of Job Search or another job readiness activity in which these activities have been integrated.

Life Skills and Summer School Breaks Changes (July 2008)

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It is important to note that the new LS component will only be used for parents who are doing independent life skills training, not as part of Job Search or another job readiness activity in which these activities have been integrated.

This change will be reflected in the WorkFirst Handbook Section 7.3 – Basic Education, Skills Enhancement, High School/GED, and effective July 11, 2008.

- **SUMMER SCHOOL BREAKS:** Parents who are enrolled in school will be required to participate during the summer break. Students may be engaged in approved educational activities, job preparation, or paid or unpaid work activities during the summer break. It is the colleges' responsibility to ensure that students are either engaged in education/training or referred to another appropriate activity.

This change will be reflected in the WorkFirst Handbook Section 7.2 – Vocational Education, effective July 11, 2008.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Stephanie Nielsen at [nielssm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:nielssm@dshs.wa.gov) or (360) 725-4699.

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