

Comparison of WSAC’s Strategic Action Plan Recommendations and the 2017-19 Final Operating Budget

Affordability

WSAC Recommendation	Final Legislative Budget
Maintain the commitment to <i>College Bound Scholarship</i> students.	\$45 M for expected caseload in the College Bound Scholarship.
Fully fund the State Need Grant program to serve all eligible students, restore one-time funding and ensure grants keep pace with tuition.	<p>\$38 M to State Need Grant to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain 2015-17 service levels. • Increase awards with tuition. • Increase award amounts for students attending four-year private non-profit schools to the award level of research schools. <p>\$12 M to serve an additional 875 eligible students in each year of the 2017-19 biennium.</p>
Maintain a stable, <i>predictable tuition</i> policy.	<i>Tuition increases at 2.2% and 2.0%</i> , per College Affordability Program (CAP) at public institutions.
Provide ample funding for higher education to <i>maintain quality</i> .	\$10 M in inflation adjustments to the CAP tuition reductions from 2015-17 budget.
Maintain state match for private donations raised for the <i>Washington State Opportunity Scholarship</i> and expand eligibility to technical degrees.	\$15 M to match private donations for current program. Eligibility not expanded.

Readiness

WSAC Recommendation	Final Legislative Budget
Expand <i>dual credit</i> opportunities for low-income students.	No additional funding provided.
Invest in <i>K12 counseling</i> and high school completion efforts. Provide <i>opportunity gap</i> innovation grants.	\$82 M to OSPI to reduce class sizes in CTE courses. \$223 M for the Learning Assistance Program for services for students in high-poverty schools. \$27 M increase for transitional bilingual program for middle and high school students. \$1.5 M to SBCTC to expand MESA program, supporting secondary students in math/science and engineering.

Completion

WSAC Recommendation	Final Legislative Budget
Invest in SBCTC's <i>Guided Pathways</i> initiative to increase completions.	\$3 M for Guided Pathways initiative.
Expand <i>I-BEST</i> program for students in short-term programs.	\$1.5 M for I-BEST expansion.
Expand successful postsecondary <i>student supports</i> within four-year institutions.	\$1 M in student success funding for WWU.

Employment

WSAC Recommendation	Final Legislative Budget
Provide <i>work-based learning</i> opportunities by expanding State Work Study.	No additional funding provided at postsecondary level.
Expand investments in fields with anticipated <i>workforce shortages</i> .	<p>\$5 M to UW for WWAMI medical education in Spokane.</p> <p>\$8 M to UW to expand family medicine residence slots in Washington.</p> <p>\$10 M to WSU for Elson Floyd School of Medicine.</p> <p>\$4.5 M to UW for Regenerative Medicine Institute.</p> <p>\$3.5 M to WSU to develop a software engineering and data analytics program at the University Center in Everett.</p> <p>\$2 M to UW for undergraduate enrollments in STEM fields.</p>