

Draft Equity Statement for Council Consideration

8/14/2020

WSAC is prioritizing racial equity as a necessary part of our goal to increase student postsecondary [credential attainment to 70%](#), especially because, for Washington State residents who are Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander, regardless of immigration status, only 50% or less currently have a postsecondary credential. As a Council, we recognize the historic and current institutional and structural racism in our country and acknowledge our complicity in maintaining this reality by upholding policies, processes and practices that have created barriers on the path to this goal for Black Students, Indigenous Students, Latinx Students, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Students, regardless of immigration status, and their families and communities. We hold ourselves accountable to eliminating these barriers by:

- Building authentic, long-term, relationships with Black Students, Indigenous Students, Latinx Students, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Students, regardless of immigration status, in service of co-creating new and equitable policies, practices and processes informed by those who have been most impacted.
- Prioritizing and advocating for funding and resources for systems change in support of Black Students, Indigenous Students, Latinx Students, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Students.
- Collecting and sharing racially disaggregated data and bringing awareness of the opportunity gaps and progress made with organizational partners to invoke advocacy and action.
- Ensuring the Council and Executive Leadership reflect the racial diversity of the students and communities they serve.
- Engaging in long-term and continuous assessment of progress.