



WEIAOB Meeting

Thursday, January 8, 2026
1:00-3:00 PM



Meeting Agenda

- Call to Order and Introductions (*15 min.*)
- 2026 Legislative Session Preview (*30 min.*)
- 2026 Legislative Advisory Committee Summary (*15 min.*)
- 2025 Legislative Report (*30 min.*)
- 2026 Legislative Recommendations (*20 min.*)
- Public Comment (*5 min.*)
- Closing (*5 min.*)



WEIAOB Members

- Jane Broom (Co-chair)
- Rep. Dave Paul (Co-chair)
- Sen. T'wina Nobles
- Sen. Judy Warnick
- Rep. Alex Ybarra
- Ash Awad
- Barbara Hult
- Charles Knutson
- Ruben Flores
- Nate Humphrey
- Dr. Terri Standish-Kuon
- Jeff Vincent
- Bill Lyne
- Eleni Papadakis
- Heather Kurtenbach
- Collin Bannister
- Mollie Kuwahara
- *Business representative (vacant)*



2026 WEIAOB Meeting Dates

- **Thursday, January 8, 1-3 PM (today)**
- Thursday, April 23, 1-3 PM
- Thursday, July 23, 1-3 PM
- Thursday, October 22, 1-3 PM

All meetings will take place virtually.



Presentation and Discussion: 2026 Legislative Session Preview

Joel Anderson



Recent WEIA Revenue Forecasts

Biennium	Mar. 2025	June 2025	Sept. 2025	Nov. 2025
2023-25	\$914,600	\$955,000	\$966,900	\$966,900
2025-27	\$942,600	\$1,562,800	\$1,559,600	\$1,581,500
2027-29	\$1,014,000	\$1,915,000	\$1,908,000	\$1,935,000

(numbers in thousands)

Differences:

Biennium	June 2025	Sept. 2025	Nov. 2025
2023-25	\$40,300	\$11,900	-
2025-27	\$620,100	(\$3,100)	\$21,900
2027-29	\$900,000	(\$7,000)	\$27,000

(numbers in thousands; totals may not add up due to rounding)



Gov. Ferguson's 2026 Supplemental Operating Budget

Measure	2025-27 Operating	2026 Supp. (Proposed)	Difference
Total Budgeted	\$150.4 billion	\$155.2 billion	\$4.8 billion
WEIA Approps.	\$1.58 billion	\$1.70 billion	\$115.1 million

(totals may not add up due to rounding)

- Higher education: **\$116.6 million**
- Other education: **\$1,000**
- Special appropriations to the Governor: **-\$1.491 million**



Gov. Ferguson's 2026 Supplemental Operating Budget (cont.)

Sector	Largest Appropriations from WEIA*
Higher Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• WA Grant caseload adjustment: \$51.2 million (ML)• SBCTC GF-S to WEIA fund shift: \$50 million (CFL, FY26 only)• UW Center for Behavioral Health and Learning: \$15 million (PL)
Special Appropriations to the Governor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• WA Opportunity Scholarship Match Acct.: -\$1.491 million (ML)

*CFL: carryforward level | ML: maintenance level | PL: policy level



Gov. Ferguson's 2026 Supplemental Operating Budget (cont.)

The proposal included new cuts across higher education and other education:

- **5% reductions** for WSAC (\$1.7 million) and WTB (\$193,000)
- **3% reductions** for UW (\$15.8 million) and WSU (\$10.2 million)
- **1.5% reductions** for EWU (\$1.4 million), CWU (\$1.4 million), TESC (\$668,000), WWU (\$1.9 million), and SBCTC (\$18.5 million)



Relevant Pre-filed Legislation

- [HB 2098](#) (Rep. Reed): higher education funding—removes WEIA’s advanced computing surcharge cap
- [SB 5828](#) (Sen. Nobles): WA Grant and CBS awards for private, four-year not-for-profit IHEs
- [HB 2311](#) / [SB 5931](#) (Rep. Ybarra / Sen. Warnick): WEIAOB administrative changes
- [SB 5978](#) (Sen. Hansen): establishing the WA Guaranteed Admissions Program



Presentation and Discussion: 2026 Legislative Advisory Committee Summary

Joel Anderson and Jane Broom



Summary of Work Completed: August 13-December 31

Progress has been made on various Board projects, including:

- Analyzing WEIA appropriations data (2019-21 to present)
- [Presenting on WEIA](#) to the Joint Higher Education Cmte. (Dec. 3)
- Drafting 2026 legislative recommendations
- Drafting and submitting a 2025 legislative report
- Drafting and pre-filing legislation (HB 2311 / SB 5931) to amend the Board's statute ([RCW 28B.77.310](#))



Presentation and Discussion: 2025 Legislative Report

Joel Anderson



Presentation and Discussion: 2026 Legislative Recommendations

Joel Anderson



Public Comment