

Council-approved proposals for the 2026 legislative session
(* = agency requested legislation)

	Council Recommendation	Governor's Proposal
Guarantee WA Grant for Passport to Careers recipients* Qualify students automatically for maximum WA Grant awards based on their eligibility for the Passport to Careers program	No cost	Approved ¹
Restore Regional Partnerships funding Reinstate partial funding to support effective strategies that serve learners' access to education and training	\$1.25 million	Not funded

Other proposals submitted by WSAC for the 2026 legislative session
(* = agency requested legislation)

	Estimated Cost	Governor's Proposal
Strengthen student consumer protections* Require viable teach-out opportunities for students facing an institutional or academic program closure ²	No cost	Approved
Improve WEIAOB administration and operations*³ Make technical adjustments to streamline Workforce Education Investment Accountability and Oversight Board (WEIAOB) meetings	No cost	Approved
Recover remaining WA529 Invest startup costs⁴ Eliminate WA 529 Invest's initial fund deficit to ensure sustainability	\$525,000	Not funded

¹ Fiscal note was updated to be approximately \$60,000 per fiscal year, which WSAC intends to cover within existing resources.

² Provisions would only apply to non-public degree-granting institutions due to an exemption in underlying law ([Chapter 28B.85 RCW](#)).

³ Submitted on behalf of the WEIAOB.

⁴ Submitted on behalf of the WA529 Committee.

Other notable higher education proposals by Gov. Ferguson

	Recipient of Funding	Gov. Ferguson's Proposal
Center for Behavioral Health and Learning Training the next generation of behavioral health workers and providing specialized care for individuals with complex needs	UW	\$15 million
Adult education and skills training Providing academic instruction and education services to help individuals qualify for living wage jobs	SBCTC	\$2.7 million
Behavioral health workforce pathways in Central Washington Expanding access to mental and behavioral health degree pathways to address workforce shortages, especially in rural and underserved areas	CWU	\$425,000