

CCW Cross-Agency Work Group (CAWG) Meeting Agenda
Thursday, February 19, 2026 | 9:00 AM- 10:30 AM

Meeting Purpose:		
This CAWG meeting includes agency and legislative updates, highlighting impactful examples of career-connected learning partnerships at the regional and state levels. Agencies will review and evaluate progress on duties and responsibilities and discuss additional ways to collaborate across agencies.		
Meeting Participants:		
Time	Agenda Topic	Speaker
9:00-9:05 AM	Welcome & check-in, Introduce yourself in chat Consent to record meeting	Inez Olive (WSAC)
9:05-9:25 AM	WSAC Legislative Update	Joel Anderson (WSAC)
9:25-9:45 AM	Agency updates	All members
9:45-10:10 AM	<p><u>Small Group Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15-mins in breakout room <p>Group 1 - Evaluation To ensure CCW is delivering a ROI, what data do we need to collect? What specific programs should CCW evaluate to understand long-term effectiveness for our students and industry partners?</p> <p>Group 2 - Funding and Sustainability With a limited budget, how should CCW balance program expansion with system optimization—how do we balance scaling program offerings with strengthening statewide navigation, advising, access, and alignment? What agency policy solutions can improve student access and outcomes within existing resources?</p>	<p>Inez Olive (WSAC) and Andrew Clemons (ESD)</p> <p>All Working CAWG Members</p>
10:10-10:25 AM	Group Debrief	Inez Olive (WSAC), Andrew Clemons (ESD) and all Agencies
10:25 - 10:30 AM	Closing Next All CAWG Meeting April 16, 2026 Next CAWG Working Group Meeting June 18, 2026	Inez Olive (WSAC)

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Documents for Reference for Discussion Groups

[CAWG AI Meeting Summary - October 23, 2025](#)

[SWOT Analysis, Questions Note Catcher](#)

Relevant Files

[By topic - CAWG Duties and Responsibilities RCW 28C.30.040 August 2025 - Google Sheets](#)

[Career connected learning cross-agency work group—Duties and responsibilities. - Google Sheets](#)

Information to inform discussion:

SWOT Analysis, Questions Note Catcher

CCW Scope

- 100% of all young adults (ages 29 and under) will experience career explore and prep by 2030
- 60% of all young adults will experience career launch

CCW Measurement Considerations:

Employability skills—communication, teamwork, reliability, problem-solving, adaptability, digital literacy, and professional habits—as explicit learning objectives, aligned and integrated into statewide frameworks such as:

- *Career Readiness standards (OSPI CTE Program Standards, Advance CTE)*
- *Employability and essential skills are defined by employers and sector intermediaries.*
- *National frameworks like NACE and Advance CTE*

These expectations are consistent across K–12, CTC, and employer-based learning and are embedded into program design from the start.

Measurement systems that capture career readiness development competencies, include:

- *Performance-based rubrics for reliability, communication, and teamwork*
- *Employer evaluations tied to shared competencies*
- *Student self-reflection tools to demonstrate growth*
- *Digital badges or micro-credentials for career readiness competencies*
- *Integration into CCW program approval and renewal processes*
- *Data dashboards tracking both technical and employability skill attainment*

These tools provide evidence of learning—not anecdotes—and allow us to communicate the value of programs to employers, families, and policymakers.

Group 1

1. To ensure CCW is delivering a ROI, what data do we need to collect?

- Work around CCW data subcommittee? It would help to know what we already have. Is there a way to share that with the group?
- Understanding the shift in fiscal resources but also partnership resources in the last year or so within this group would be helpful. Taking stock of that and seeing how we can align with other efforts.
- Along the pipeline of prep, explore and launch - where was the most success had. Where were the real pain points? Why?
- CTC primarily does launch. Struggle was paid WBL - because it was needed to be provided for the entire cohort. Fundamental shift from previous models. Employer buy-in was hard. Because supervision was expensive. CTC - side was also expensive because of needing to build those deep relationships where students can be sent to a safe environment.
- Explore, prep - was exclusively in K12 space. CTC was not in the realm.
- System continued to fund FTE expansion for college system and likely have had better ROI. complication of 3 categories - pressure was on launch. The delta was paid learning experience.
- We should work backwards from where the paid learning is available and map explore, prep, launch in accordance with that.
- Admin has changed, need to acknowledge. Differentiating where data collection is happening and establishing business rules - strong data definitions and setting up programs aligned with that.
- ERDC provides to WASTEM the following: SBCTC and K12 CL Program enrollment and completions and apprenticeship enrollment and completions by different student groups. We deliver this every December/January.
- WA STEM leads a monthly data group meeting. Two folks from ERDC attend those meetings.

2. What specific programs should CCW evaluate to understand long-term effectiveness for our students and industry partners?

- Quantitative data is available but we need more qualitative data from the SMEs.
- How do we get the information to the people that need it? Can we capitalize on tools like CareerBridge? A centralized tool would be ideal.
- The more employers we can bring on board and in the know the better.
- Funding and buy in can be a challenge.

Group 2

1. With a limited budget, how should CCW balance program expansion with system optimization—how do we balance scaling program offerings with strengthening statewide navigation, advising, access, and alignment?

- Streamlining and centralizing a way for employers to participate in education and training systems. Narrowing and focusing their role to unburden them from larger efforts that sit more squarely in the CCW's wheelhouse of expertise.
- When working with vulnerable youth, focusing on the longer-term to prioritize connecting young people to a wider focus beyond 4-year educational programming and consider the plethora of educational and career-focused technical and professional advancements.
- Evaluating and logging a better balance between flaws/errors in our current programming and enhancing what we are currently implementing. Focus on system optimization and efficacy of programs currently available.
- Centralizing navigation of the various opportunities, plethora of information, and complex pathways for students. Career Bridge is valuable and should be reinforced.
- There are many well-run programs, but knowing where to go and what is most applicable for you as a student, counselor, educational advocate, is difficult to navigate.
- Bringing more employers on board to inform the direction of programming and advise on the navigability of CCW programs is valuable.

2. What agency policy solutions can improve student access and outcomes within existing resources?

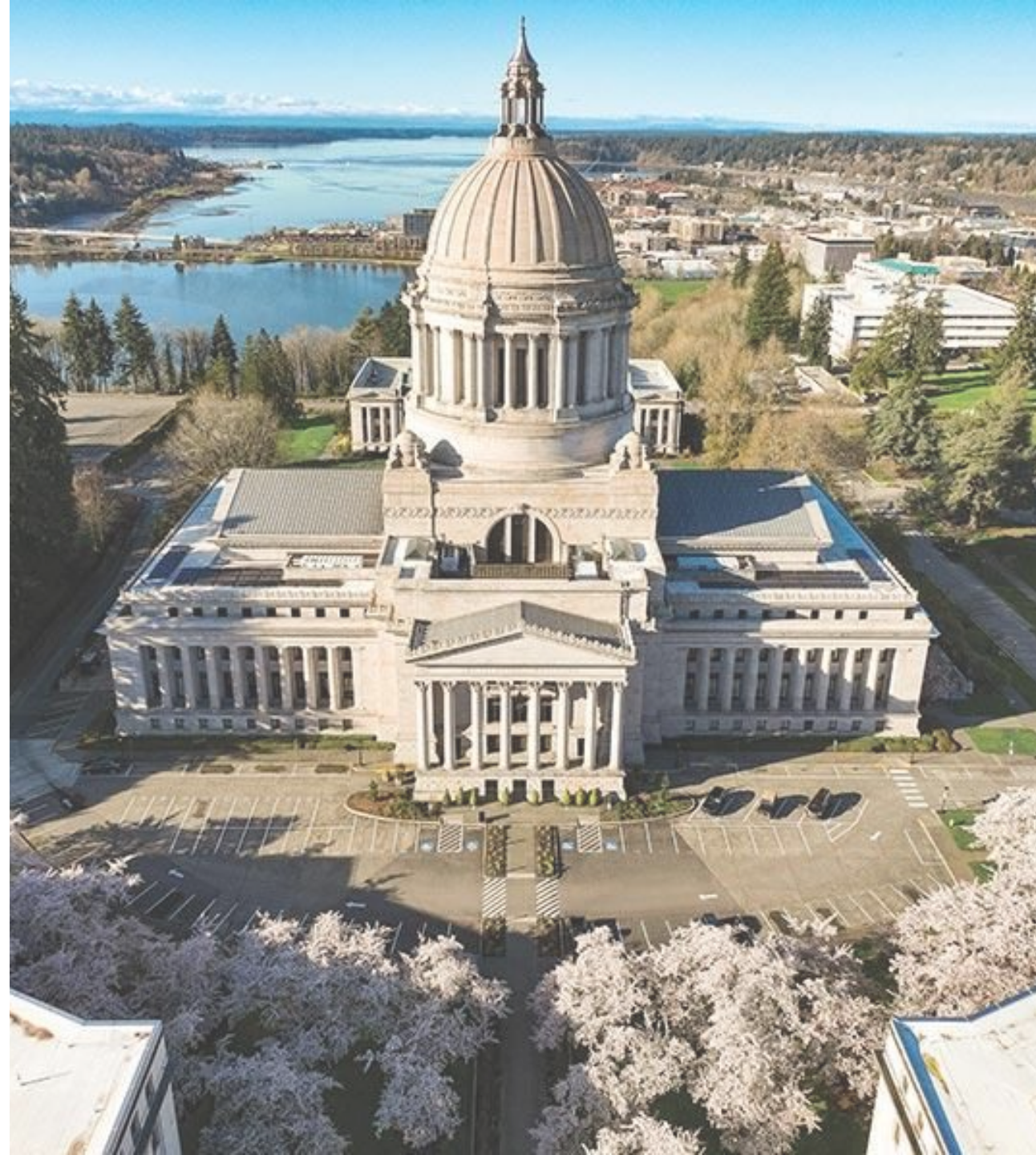
- (No notes recorded)



CAREER
CONNECT
WASHINGTON

Cross-Agency Workgroup Meeting

February 2026



Meeting Recording

Please note that this meeting will be recorded

The recording will be shared with members of this team following the meeting and will be made available on WSAC's website <https://wsac.wa.gov/CCW>

Agenda

- **Legislative Update**
- **Agency Updates**
- **Break Out Groups**
 - Question 1/Group 1 - Evaluation
 - Question 2/Group 2 - Funding and Sustainability
- **Group Debrief**
- **Closing**

WSAC Legislative Update



CCW CAWG 2026 Leg. Session Update

February 19, 2026

*Joel Anderson, Associate Director of Legislative
& External Affairs, WSAC*

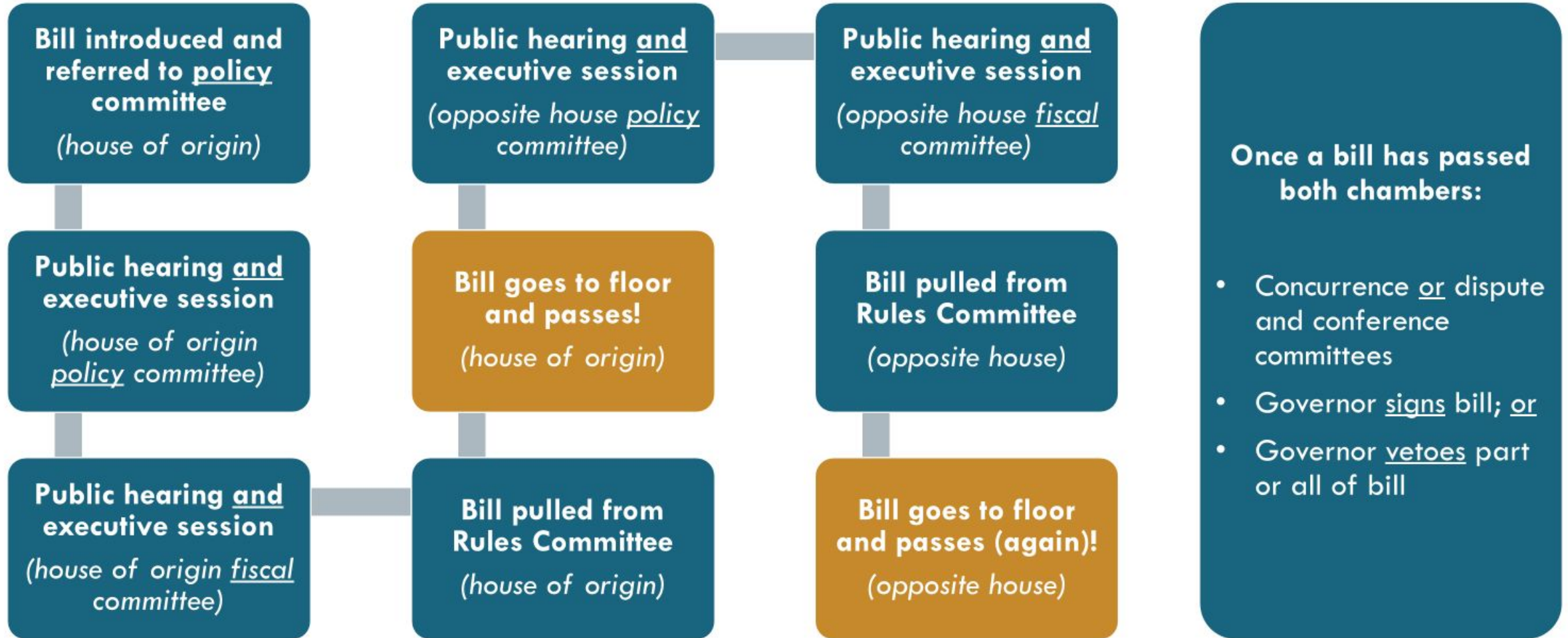


2026 Legislative Session Calendar (60 Days)

January	February	March
Mon., Jan. 12 —first day	Wed., Feb. 4 —house of origin policy cutoff	Mon., Mar. 2 —opposite house fiscal cutoff
	Mon., Feb. 9 —house of origin fiscal cutoff	Fri., Mar. 6 —opposite house cutoff
	Tues., Feb. 17 —house of origin cutoff	Thurs., Mar. 12 —last day (“Sine Die”)
	Wed., Feb. 25 —opposite house policy cutoff	



Overview of Legislative Process





2026 Supplemental Operating Budget Outlook

- As of Jan. 2026: new budget deficits of **\$2.3 billion** for 2025-27 and **\$4.3 billion** for the four-year outlook (through 2027-29).
- **Numerous reasons for the deficit:**
 - Decreased projected revenues & increased costs to maintain existing programs.
 - Impact of federal legislation (H.R. 1, “One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBA)”).
- **Some breaking (good) news from the Feb. 2026 revenue forecast:**
 - 2025-27: increased by **\$827.4 million**.
 - 2027-29: increased by **\$1.028 billion**.

Takeaway: There is (still) little to no additional funding available in the 2026 supplemental operating budget for discretionary spending.



Gov. Ferguson's 2026 Supplemental Operating Budget: Higher Education

- New cuts* were proposed across higher education and other education (WTB):

Agency	Percentage Cut	Amount Cut
WSAC	5%	\$1.7 million
WTB		\$193,000
UW	3%	\$15.8 million
WSU		\$10.2 million
EWU	1.5%	\$1.4 million
CWU		\$1.4 million
TESC		\$668,000
WWU		\$1.9 million
SBCTC		\$18.5 million

*FTE reductions were not required with cuts



2026 Higher Education Legislation*

Enrollment	Affordability	Other
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>SB 5841</u>: FAFSA/WASFA completion data sharing (OSPI-WSAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>SB 5828</u>: WA Grant and CBS award amounts at private, four-year not-for-profit IHEs• <u>SB 5963</u>: WA Grant for former foster and unaccompanied homeless youth in Passport to Careers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>SB 5931</u>: WEIA Oversight Board administration

**still alive*



Q&A

- **Joel Anderson, Associate Director of Legislative & External Affairs**
 - JoelA@wsac.wa.gov
 - (360) 515-3002

Agency Updates

Agency Updates

- **Please share any updates for your agency**
 - Budget/legislative updates, staff changes, events, etc.
 - Share any relevant links in the chat (reports, dashboards, contact info, etc.)

Small Group Discussion

Discussion Questions

Group 1 - Evaluation

To ensure CCW is delivering a ROI, what data do we need to collect? What specific programs should CCW evaluate to understand long-term effectiveness for our students and industry partners?

Group 2 - Funding & Sustainability

With a limited budget, how should CCW balance program expansion with system optimization—how do we balance scaling program offerings with strengthening statewide navigation, advising, access, and alignment? What agency policy solutions can improve student access and outcomes within existing resources?

Group Debrief

Closing/Next Steps

What's Next?

- **Next All CAWG Meeting April 16, 2026**
- **Next CAWG Working Group Meeting June 18, 2026**
 - More working group meetings may be scheduled based on group feedback

CAWG documents and meeting schedules: <https://wsac.wa.gov/CCW>

CAWG Meeting Notes

February 19, 2026

Hosted by: Inez Olive (WSAC), Andrew Clemons (ESD)

Presentation by: Joel Anderson (WSAC)

Attendees: Paulette Beadling - Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, Ryan Beard - WA STEM, Desiree Cheung - Juvenile Rehabilitation, Louisa Erickson - Department of Social and Health Services, Esmeralda Garibay - Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs, Jackie Ferrado - WSAC, Genevieve Howard - State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, Lyle Irimata - WSAC, Meg Iyer - CCTS-Seattle U, Rachel McAloon - Registered Apprenticeship at L&I, Amber Ortiz Diaz - Office of Equity, Adam Schmid - Washington Climate Corps Network - Serve Washington, Ingrid Stegemoeller - WA Roundtable/Partnership for Learning, Rathi Sudhakara - WSAC, Veneza Tena - WA State Department of Children, Youth & Families, Rebecca Wallace - Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Katie Weaver Randall - Education Research and Data Center

Agency Updates

- Paulette - Workforce Board
 - Staff/Board Changes
 - Maddie Thompson - New acting executive director.
 - Board co-chairs Larry Brown and Gary Chandler have officially both retired.
 - Governor Ferguson appointed two new labor and business leaders to co-chair the board:
 - Labor: April Sims - President of Washington State Labor Council.
 - Business: Morgan Irwin - VP of Government Affairs at the Association of Washington Business.
 - Workforce Pell - working with the Governor's Office, WASAC, SBCTC, and ESD on putting together a plan for the rollout of Workforce Pell later this year.
 - Four-year Talent and Prosperity for All Workforce Plan - two-year update due to USDOL in April. Public comment is going to open soon on the draft.
- Rachel McAloon - L&I
 - HB 2492 Washington State Legislature
 - Bill passed this year around behavioral health training for apprenticeships that requires two additional RSI hours every year of the building trades apprenticeship programs. Currently focused on building and construction trades due to high incidence of suicide, but hope to expand to all industries. Hope to implement by July 1, 2027.
 - Staff Changes

- [Sound Reengagement Collaborative](#) Statewide Convening on April 24 at Renton Technical College focusing on re-engaging youth (16-24) in education or workforce.
- WSAC is providing disaggregated data looking at location and type of disconnection.
- Louisa Erickson - DSHS
 - BEAM Project Eligibility Portal
 - Working with WSAC to reach out to customers with households that have high school-aged students to help with access to the Washington College Grant application and funding eligibility.
 - HR 1 Changes
 - Previously, households were exempted if they had children in the household under 18, and now it's under 14.
 - Additionally, any adults that are over 18 that are receiving SNAP benefits will need to now potentially engage in work requirements, which would include WIOA Title I adult, youth, or dislocated worker, Title II adult education, SNAP ENT program, and BFET.
 - Up to 125,000 Washingtonians could be affected by the changes in the law regarding work/education requirements. DSHS is working to coordinate with other state agencies and partners.

Small Group Discussion

Group 1 - Evaluation

To ensure CCW is delivering a ROI, what data do we need to collect? What specific programs should CCW evaluate to understand long-term effectiveness for our students and industry partners?

Discussion Summary:

- Data
 - ERDC provides to WASTEM the following quantitative data every December/January: SBCTC and K12 Career Launch Program enrollment and completions and apprenticeship enrollment and completions by different student groups. Note that this does not explain the why or nuance of trends, which instead relies on subject matter experts/partners with their knowledge of what is going on in the programs or certain student groups.
 - There was previously a subcommittee on data that many folks worked on. It would be helpful to share the landscape analysis and what was learned from that. The current iteration of this group has been rescoped to focus on producing the annual reports.
 - There have been many discussions over the years working with partners to define business rules for data collection, but there was always a struggle with vagueness of definitions and how to show ROI. Using the data we have at ERDC

is the best way forward rather than trying to wrangle many different education data systems.

- Shifts/Restructuring
 - Financial and partnership resources have shifted and become constrained. We should also reimagine our structure given these and leadership admin changes that have happened over the years as there have been multiple changes in stakeholders.
 - We should also take stock and see how we can align with other efforts happening throughout the state.
- Work Backwards from Jobs
 - We have previously identified that Career Launch paid work-based learning (WBL) experiences are the best way to show ROI.
 - We should start by looking at what WBL experiences are available and work backwards to Career Explore and Prep. We can build the system in a way that is supporting these with all the resources needed to make them successful.

Group 2 - Funding & Sustainability

With a limited budget, how should CCW balance program expansion with system optimization—how do we balance scaling program offerings with strengthening statewide navigation, advising, access, and alignment? What agency policy solutions can improve student access and outcomes within existing resources?

Discussion Summary:

- Employers
 - Streamline and centralize ways for employers to participate.
 - Narrow and focus their roles.
 - Move other activities to CCW itself.
- Students
 - Expand focus to opportunities beyond 4-year programs (apprenticeships, certifications, etc.).
 - Centralize navigation of opportunities (ex. Career Bridge). Need a single source where students can learn about what jobs and wages are available to them.
- Programs
 - Focus on optimizing our existing systems and programs.
 - Make the best use of limited resources rather than rebuilding everything.