

# WHY PASS SB 5215?

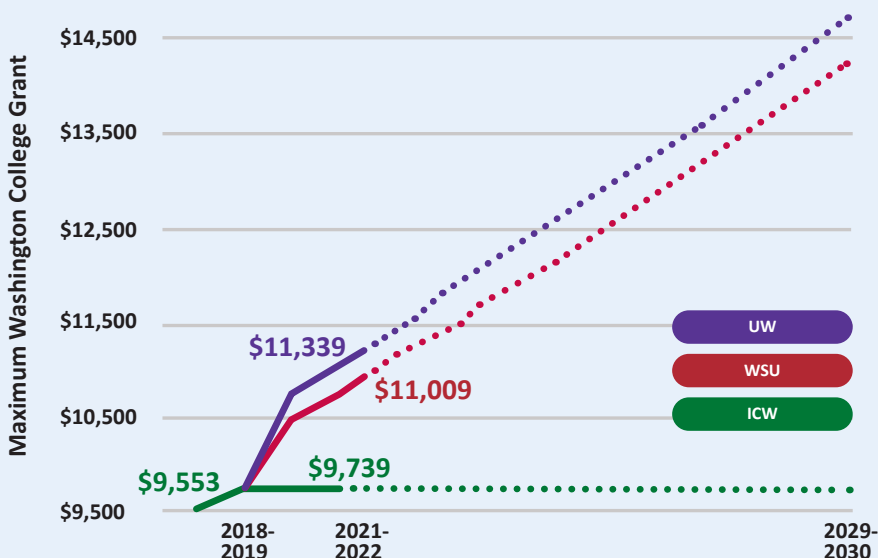
## THIS BILL RESTORES EQUITY IN STUDENT AID FOR WASHINGTON RESIDENTS ATTENDING INDEPENDENT COLLEGES

The Washington College Grant helps meet college expenses for students whose families earn up to the state's median income. SB 5215 would help Washington achieve its goal of greater college attainment.



The Washington College Grant covers 100% of tuition and fees at the state's public colleges. By matching the award for students at independent campuses to the highest level, students could borrow or work less. More than half of students who are affected are Black, Indigenous, or people of color—and more than a quarter are over 25.

### IF THE WASHINGTON COLLEGE GRANT DOES NOT CHANGE, HERE'S HOW THE GAP COULD GROW



Recently, the maximum award was the same for a Washington student no matter if they attended UW, WSU, or an independent university in Washington. This is no longer the case.



# 6,300

students are impacted by the student aid funding inequity.



The \$1,600 gap adds up. Over four years, that can mean \$6,400 less aid for impacted students. Closing this gap will help our students focus on their studies, and borrow or work less.



Matching our award to the highest level would give students who need to stay close to home options to find the program and services that are best for them.