



To: State Board of Community and Technical Colleges  
Learning & Innovation Subcommittee and Instructional Commission

Regarding: Learning & Tutoring Center Council Proposal

On behalf of: Learning & Tutoring Centers Association

Good afternoon,

We submit this formal letter of support to convey the necessity and urgency of advancing the attached updated proposal, originally introduced in November 2024, to establish a Council for Learning & Tutoring Centers of Washington State.

The proposal was the culmination of over 7 years of work by Learning and Tutoring Center professionals, with the aim of obtaining formal recognition as a Council reporting to the Instructional Commission. The initiative began with the State Board's creation of a dedicated Listserv, allowing Learning and Tutoring Center professionals across the state to collaborate and coordinate efforts. Despite significant budget cuts, turnover, and pandemic restrictions, this group has remained active and steadfast in the goal of becoming a formal Council. The establishment of a Council would facilitate ongoing collaboration in professional development opportunities, strategies, and resources, leading to more efficient and impactful practices across the state.

Learning and Tutoring Services provide essential instructional support comparable to that offered by our colleagues in Libraries and eLearning. However, unlike our colleagues, Learning and Tutoring Services currently lack formal recognition or statewide support. As a result, our perspective and expertise are often excluded from the development and interpretation of policies that significantly impact our operations and institutions. For example, the lack of Learning and Tutoring Center representation during the implementation of the 1050 policy (House Bill 2669 - 2017-18 & Senate Bill 6184) led to an interpretation that disproportionately disadvantaged our services. The policy failed to consider the unique structure of Learning and Tutoring Centers and the cyclical nature of part-time staffing, resulting in severe impacts to our budgets and staffing capacity.

Formally recognizing the Learning and Tutoring Center Association (LTCA) as an entity under the jurisdiction of the Instruction Commission would enable its members to contribute their professional perspectives and expertise to the decision-making process, supporting development of more equitable and informed policy outcomes.

## LEARNING & TUTORING CENTER ASSOCIATION

Leaders of Washington State College and University Tutoring & Learning Centers

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In conclusion, we would like to point to the Instruction Commission Bylaws Article I, Section 1, that specifically indicates the Commission is:

*"To serve as the parent body for instruction councils such as transfer, workforce education, continuing education, **learning assistance services**, and library/media services". (emphasis added)*

We believe the Instructional Commission had indeed intended to create the Learning & Tutoring Center Council (LTCC) back in 2017 and this work was disrupted. We are eager to move forward with formal recognition of the LTCC under the Instruction Commission so that we may better serve the Commission, the SBCTC, and the students and institutions we represent.

Respectfully,

Learning & Tutoring Center Board on behalf of the LTCA

Jeff Janosik, Shoreline College, Shoreline, WA

Julia Mitchell, Lower Columbia College, Longview, WA

Lindsey Powers, Bellevue College, Bellevue, WA

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