Dear Colleague -

This email provides an update re: [Senate Bill 6514](http://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2017-18/Pdf/Bills/Session%2520Laws/Senate/6514-S.SL.pdf) (S.B. 6514) passed in 2018 by the Washington State legislature. This bill includes three elements:

1. Suicide Prevention in Higher Education Grant program for high-need institutions
2. Publicly available resource for optional use by all institutions
3. Data collection to develop a baseline on the prevalence of suicidal behavior and related metrics in postsecondary institutions

Please take the opportunity to read [S.B. 6514](http://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2017-18/Pdf/Bills/Session%2520Laws/Senate/6514-S.SL.pdf) for additional context.

Forefront Suicide Prevention at the University of Washington, in collaboration with a Work Group created in June 2018, will lead this work. Institutions and the public are invited to comment via Forefront’s website at [intheforefront.org](http://www.intheforefront.org/sb6514/) and during Work Group meetings, the dates and times for which are also noted on the [Forefront website](http://www.intheforefront.org/sb6514/).

Of special note: **We want to alert you to a challenging timeline for the grant program Request for Proposals (RFP) process. We anticipate issuing an RFP around September 4, 2018, with mandatory letters of intent due September 21, 2018, and full proposals due October 16, 2018.** For more information, visit the [grant program webpage](https://www.wsac.wa.gov/suicide-prevention-grant) and read section 3 of the bill.

Early this fall, we will communicate with postsecondary institutions regarding the specifics of the data collection activities. Institutions will have the opportunity to give feedback on development of this work. This too will involve a challenging timeline.

Contact for the grant program: Mark Bergeson, Washington Student Achievement Council, MarkB@wsac.wa.gov.

Contact for the data collection program and publicly available resource: Marny Lombard, Forefront Suicide Prevention, lombardm@uw.edu.

We look forward to your engagement in preventing suicide among our students in Washington State.

Sincerely,

Marny Lombard

lombardm@uw.edu

SB 6514 Higher Education Program Manager

Forefront Suicide Prevention