



# COMMON MESSAGING - SPRING 2024

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# Basic Education for Adults/Corrections Education

## Ability to Benefit new regulations

Beginning in July 2024 the Department of Education will require colleges to submit documentation demonstrating that Ability to Benefit (ATB) is being used in Eligible Career Pathway Programs (ECP). Only one pathway needs to be submitted, along with an attestation that all pathways where ATB is offered meet the same standard.

We will provide guidance once the rules are released. This process will provide colleges assurance that they are offering ATB appropriately, which should help colleges offer ATB with confidence.

## Biennial Conference: literacy and justice for all

Our first in-person state conference since 2018 will take place July 23-25 at the Three Rivers Convention Center in Kennewick! It will be so good to all be together as a state system of adult education professionals.

The conference centers on the idea that adult education is social justice. As reflected in our BEdA vision statement, we see our work as advancing racial and economic justice.

To home in our vision, we have organized the conference into eight interrelated strands:

- A. Accessibility, Digital Literacy & Equity
- B. Corrections Education
- C. Equity & Belonging
- D. Culturally Responsive Curriculum Design and Assessment
- E. BEdA Data Mining
- F. Guided Pathways
- G. Navigation & Student Support
- H. Equitable Math Pathways and Practices

## Digital equity planning

While there is no timeline yet for the Digital Equity Capacity Building and Digital Equity Competitive Grant Programs, we anticipate that Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs) will be rolled out mid-2024.

SBCTC is tracking the Digital Equity Capacity Building and Digital Equity Competitive Grant Programs and intends to submit applications for both opportunities once they are available.

## New arrival funds

The legislature has added \$1 million in funding to the new arrival proviso, for a total of nearly \$4.3 million available for FY25. Applications will be accepted beginning July 1, 2024.

## New data system

We are in configuration with LiteracyPro Systems for our new LACES data system and are making progress on implementation. Training for the new system will be held May 8-9 at Bates Technical College South Campus.

## Corrections education

- Contract negotiations are nearing finalization for FY25-26.
- We are in talks to invite a new college to join the Interagency Agreement providing services at the two women's correctional facilities.

# DUAL CREDIT & K12 PARTNERSHIPS

## Dual Credit Taskforce

SBCTC has created a Dual Credit Taskforce comprised of community & technical college practitioners and administrators to discuss future policy recommendations and funding to improve program operations and student outcomes for College in the High School, Career and Technical Education (CTE) Dual Credit, and Running Start. These recommendations will inform future policy for the 2025 legislative session.

## Running Start Residency Waiver

The State Board has approved a "Running Start Residency Waiver" that will allow colleges to code all Running Start students as residents for tuition calculation purposes until a permanent solution in statute can happen during the 2025 legislative session. This waiver provides a technical solution to charge students the correct amount and alleviate additional workload for college staff and financial barriers for Running Start students. SBCTC staff are currently working with the ctcLink team to provide policy guidance and business processes for colleges to utilize.

## Upcoming Running Start Series

Join fellow community & technical college Running Start colleagues in receiving program updates and sharing a space for systemwide staff to come together and connect. The first hour of each session will be recorded and shared out. Each session will have updates followed by themes and topics for discussion.

April 30th 2-4pm: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81148936980>

May 22nd 9-11am: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86477902736>

June 11th 9-11am: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87991014205>

## Financial Aid Outreach & Completion Pilot

[HB 1835](#) - Student Aid Outreach and Completion Initiative pilot program has been expanded to include the Capital Region Educational Service District 113 with additional funding of \$425,000.

SBCTC staff is currently working with Grays Harbor College, Centralia College, and South Puget Sound Community College leadership to implement the pilot for the 2024-2025 academic year.

## Bridge to College

As high school students start enrolling and registering for 2024-2025 classes at your colleges this Spring, be sure to encourage them to use the [automatic placement agreement](#) if they're eligible.

## College Spark Math Placement Grant

In collaboration with SBCTC Dual Credit and Student Success Center Departments and funded by College Spark, SBCTC will host a 3rd Convening at Tacoma Community College on April 25th. The event will serve as the kick-off event for the four pilot colleges who will implement the newly created universal high school transcript placement Grid. The event is open to all and will also be a space to collaborate systemwide on placement best practices.

# Educational Resources and Innovation

## Directors Update on Contract Renewals

We are finalizing negotiations for the Panopto renewal, with a new five-year contract featuring unlimited archiving and storage set for a May approval by the State Board's Trustees. The contract commences on July 1, 2024. Institutions should continue to enforce their content retention policies. Canvas renewal discussions are ongoing, with anticipated finalization by mid-May through efforts with the Educational Technology Advisory Group. Our team is also collaborating with the ctcLink team to enhance course sharing across the system.

## Washington Open ProfTech Project

Federally funded through national competitions, the project is well underway, thanks to the collective efforts of our faculty authors, support staff, and project leadership. The first grant, awarded \$1.8 million in 2021, has completed the development of six open textbooks for professional technical (ProfTech) programs and is preparing for campus evaluation this fall. The second grant, awarded \$2.1 million in 2023, will begin this June and aims to develop seven open textbooks for ProfTech courses. For this second grant, the project has identified seven faculty author teams along with support staff in Instructional Design and OER.

## Congratulations to Gary Gregor, David Lunch, Melanie Meyer, and Benjamin Wiggins from Shoreline Community College for being the first CTC Faculty to complete the WA Checklist Course Recognition Process!

By completing this processes Gary, David, Melanie, and Benjamin have demonstrated their commitment to continuous course improvement and enhancing the overall learning experience for their students by engaging in critical self-reflection, collaborating with a course design specialist from their campus, and applying the WA Course Design Checklist Standards to their courses. Faculty earned [WA Checklist badges](#) for participating in each step of the process. Additional congratulations

go to Melanie Meyers for completing the process for two courses, and a special thanks goes to Brandon Fryman for facilitating the process for Shoreline. Additionally, during a recent mock accreditation visit the Northwest Accreditation Commission recognized the Shoreline eLearning department for their Online and Hybrid Quality Course Design Institute, which Brandon designed based on the WA Course Design Checklist.

## Early Childhood Education Online Courses Update

The Early Childhood Education online courses are moving off of the older WAOL course sharing platform, though courses are taught in Canvas as before! Our staff are working with the ECE coordinator and the ctcLink Campus Solutions team on improved processes, documentation, and reports, to aid in managing online programs in our consortium.

## Accessibility Update

- Currently updating the Accessibility Micro-Courses with Alissa Sells.
- Performing an accessibility evaluation on [Canva](#) to compare with [Venngage](#) which was completed in January 2024.
- SBCTC is slated to release version 8.59.21 PeopleTools on April 27<sup>th</sup>.
- The [ctcLink Accessibility open forums](#) continue every second Tuesday of the month.

**Monday, April 8, 2024**, The Attorney General has signed a final rule under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which applies to State and local government entities, to improve web and mobile application (app) access for people with disabilities. The rule clarifies how State and local governments can meet their existing ADA obligations as many of their activities move to the digital space. This rule will ensure that people with disabilities can better access important programs and activities like health care, transportation information, and education, through web content and mobile apps.

The Department will send the final rule to the Federal Register for publication. [A press release on this rule has also been issued.](#)

# Policy Research

## New Team Member

Policy Research has welcomed Megan Moon to the team as a Policy Analyst. We are excited to have Megan join us from Lower Columbia College. A former Washington CTC student herself, she joins the team to work on data management, reporting and dashboards.

## Gainful Employment

Policy Research is working with the National Student Clearing House to provide support to colleges in the preparation and submission of Gainful Employment reporting requirements, due October 1. The intention is to minimize the impact on colleges as much as possible, especially financial aid offices during the FAFSA simplification challenges. More information will be coming out via listservs in the next couple of weeks, followed by regular updates, but please reach out to Summer Kenesson (skenesson@sbctc.edu) if you have specific questions or would like more information in the interim.

## Dashboards

The next dashboard to be released will be a new transfer dashboard, which will use National Student Clearing House outcome data to replace the existing transfer dashboard that relied on discontinued (MRTE+) data. We will reach out via listservs when the draft of this dashboard is available to review.

## System Institutional Review Board (IRB)

Policy Research is working with several interested constituents to develop a system Institutional Review Board (IRB). More information will be available on the SBCTC Policy Research webpages in the upcoming weeks. This IRB will support the recent NSF grant for undergraduate research. As well as providing a service for colleges that do not have a current IRB, this model will provide opportunities for faculty and students to experience the IRB process and will offer and teaching and learning function as well as formal research project review. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Summer Kenesson (skenesson@sbctc.edu).

# Department of Student Services

## Student Success Tool RFP

The taskforce collected and began review of each commission and council's student success tool rating worksheet, which details their ranking of essential/preferred/nice-to-have tool functions. At the May taskforce meeting, the co-chairs will lead a discussion on the themes that emerged, moving closer to putting out the RFP. Additional next steps include the co-chairs leading a facilitated conversation with WACTC at the April business meeting regarding the funding approach for the tool and who/how it will be implemented. At the following May WACTC meeting a vote will take place on these two discussions.

## HB 2112 Opioid Education, Awareness and Training

The Legislature approved [HB 2112](#), which requires higher ed institutions to provide opioid and fentanyl prevention education and awareness information to all students. Education may be offered in person or electronically and must include information on the "good Samaritan" statute. This education must be posted on each institution's public website for students, parents, and legal guardians to view. The law requires institutions to provide fentanyl test strips and naloxone in locations that are accessible to students. The bill also requires colleges and universities to train staff working in residence halls how to administer naloxone, regardless of the size of the residence hall.

## Legislative Intern Update

Our legislative interns, Mollie Kuwahara and Josie Saccio-Devine, managed to dive right into this year's quick legislative session! They provided legislative testimony and engaged in multiple legislative advocacy days on the hill with other colleges and student groups from across the community and technical college system and state.

## Promising Practices Exchange Webinar Series

Our Promising Practices Exchange provides an opportunity to highlight areas of innovation within our system. We want to hear from colleges about their latest innovations and strategies to make a difference for students. Our spring webinar will focus on Artificial Intelligence. Check out the [Promising Practices Exchange](#) landing page for past webinars and a link to submit a highlight from your college.

## Financial Aid Delay and Updates

A [website](#) has been created as a central location for updates, resources, and a form for staff to submit questions or guidance requests.



Student Services and Supports are working to create Policy Guidance across programs to support colleges as they navigate getting students financial aid and basic need supports and will be posted on the Canvas page.

[A Unified Approach Paper](#) was developed and shared across the system that provides VPs and Presidents with an understanding of how to support their campuses with the FAFSA delay.

## Multicultural Student Services Directors Council (MSSDC)

The SOCC Planning Committee delivered an incredible conference and resurgence of this critical student experience. The 2024 Students of Color Conference was hosted at Green River College in April for its first return to an in-person experience since the COVID-19 Pandemic. The theme for the conference was Joyful Reunion Celebrating Ourselves, Transforming Our Communities. The conference brought 245 students from 28 colleges across the system to celebrate and build community.

## Upcoming Deadlines, Meetings, Trainings, and Forums:

- April 30th, 2024 - Legislative Deadline for the Development of Campus Hunger Free and Basic Needs Strategic Plans
- May 14th - 15th, 2024 - Student Support Programs: WorkFirst and BFET Annual Training Forum
- June 4th, 2024 - 9 AM-12PM DSHS BFET Quarterly Meeting
- June 13th, 2024 - FFY25 BFET Program Application Release (Please note that this date is subject to change and is depended upon the completion of the DSHS BFET Budget Workbooks)
- July 1st, 2024 - Allocations Release to CTCs for Opportunity Grant, SEAG, SSEH, Benefits Navigators, and Meal Pilot

## Basic Needs Act

In 2023, the WA Legislature passed the Basic Needs Act (2SHB1559). There are two elements to this bill; 1) Benefits Navigator position to be hired at a minimum of a .75 FTE and Campus Hunger Free and Basic Needs Strategic Plan, and 2) Free-Reduced Meal Pilot Program.

The SBCTC has been tracking and monitoring the development of the Campus Hunger Free and Basic Needs Strategic Plan. While we are not required to collect the plans, we are responsible for ensuring each college has their plan developed by April 30th, 2024. From there, colleges will have May and June to finalize their plans. Colleges should be ready to move forward with their Campus Hunger Free and Basic Needs Strategic Plan starting July 1st, 2024.

For more information on the Basic Needs Act contact Jennifer Dellinger.

## Supporting Students Experiencing Homelessness (SSEH)

The 2024-25 application for colleges to apply for Supporting Students Experiencing Homelessness is now open for colleges who are either current SSEH institutions or those who have been involved in the planning grant process in 2023-24. Details for application are available in the SSEH Canvas Community. Contact Laura Coghlan ([LCoghlan@sbctc.edu](mailto:LCoghlan@sbctc.edu)) with questions.

## Student Emergency Assistance (SEAG) Program

The 2024-25 application for colleges to apply for Student Emergency Assistance Grant funding will open soon and will be available in the SEAG Canvas Community. The application will be available to colleges currently administering SEAG funds. 2024-25 planning grants for colleges who are not currently awarding SEAG funds will also be available soon. Please contact Christine McMullin ([cmcmullin@sbctc.edu](mailto:cmcmullin@sbctc.edu)) for more information.

## WorkFirst & Basic Food Employment & Training (BFET) Programs

The SBCTC review and approvals are underway for the recent Spring/Summer WorkFirst & BFET Funding Surveys. System announcements will go out via Canvas Community with budget revision information when approvals are ready. We anticipate WorkFirst announcements will be released before BFET due to FY24 end approaching.

## WSSSC Commission & Council Spring Calendar

- ACC – April 26, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, hybrid
- ARC – April 17-19, Spokane Falls Community College, hybrid
- FAC - April 17-19 (Wenatchee Valley College)
- CUSP - April 24-26 (South Puget Sound Community College)
- MSSDC - May 8-10 (Skagit Valley College)
- WSSSC - May 16-17, Centralia College
- VMSC – Virtual Water Cooler Sessions each Thursday (reach out to the VMSC listserv for zoom link)

# Student Success Center

## Guided Pathways Work Plan

The 2024-2026 Guided Pathways Implementation Work Plan was released in March 2024. This resource is designed to assist colleges in articulating the progress made in implementing Guided Pathways practices at scale. The plan is available on the [Guided Pathways Implementation Model webpage](#).

The work plan serves a multifaceted purpose, aiming to facilitate your college in reflecting on current achievements, identifying opportunities for growth, and planning activities for the 2024-2026 period. Furthermore, this tool will play a pivotal role in shaping the peer and professional development learning agenda for upcoming statewide events, coaching sessions, and additional technical assistance initiatives. It is designed to foster connections between colleges based on shared priorities and reaffirm your college's dedication to implementing Guided Pathways with fidelity.

## Guided Pathways Reports

The Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP) has released their long-awaited report titled "[Guided Pathways: Preliminary Report on Implementation and Student Outcomes](#)." This report is a component of RCW 28B.50.925, which outlines the minimum requirements for Guided Pathways implementation statewide and is being shared with the Washington State Legislature.

Drawing from surveys submitted by our colleges in Winter 2023, this report offers a primarily qualitative analysis. It also presents a summary of outcomes trends spanning from 2012 to 2019. Specifically, it compares metrics such as retention rates, course completion, credit accumulation, and Grade Point Average between early adopter colleges and the rest of the system. However, it is essential to note that the report refrains from providing statistical analysis due to the complexity of assessing the impact of Guided Pathways across such a diverse group of colleges. In addition, the authors separated out the early adopter colleges ("GP colleges") and later colleges ("non-GP colleges") but it is recognized that all colleges are implementing GP framework strategies at some level.

Looking ahead, WSIPP plans to publish a final report in 2029, which will build upon the insights of this initial report. The forthcoming report will delve deeper into colleges' implementation efforts and endeavor to examine additional student outcomes, including degree completion, transfer rates to four-year institutions, employment status, and earnings.

In addition to the WSIPP report, the Community College Research Center (CCRC) has released a new research brief titled "[Lessons From Two Major Evaluations of Guided Pathways](#)." This brief includes insights from various evaluations, including the "[Whole-College Guided Pathways Reform Practices: Scale of Adoption by Community Colleges in Three States](#)" evaluation, which incorporated results from the 2022 Scale of Adoption Survey administered by CCRC.

Please join Dr. Davis Jenkins and Dr. Hana Lahr from the Community College Research Center for a discussion of their findings, an interview with executive leaders at early adopter colleges in Washington, and a question-and-answer session over Zoom May 7<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-2:00 PM.

## **Guided Pathways Peer and Professional Development**

[The Guided Pathways Peer and Professional Learning Calendar](#) is regularly updated with new events to support Guided Pathways implementation. Events are in a variety of modalities. Some highlights include:

### **Assessment Teaching and Learning Conference (Yakima)**

This year's Assessment, Teaching, and Learning conference will serve as an opportunity to build upon the practices you already use or for you to find new best practices to implement. Join us for two days of inspiring keynotes, engaging workshops, and thought-provoking networking sessions. You will leave the conference energized with innovative strategies to create the best possible learning experience for your students.

This two-day event will be aligned with guided pathways teaching and learning pillars, centering student engagement, equity, and effectiveness, but we will also lean into our theme: Connect and Build.

### **Guided Pathways Lunch and Learn: Optimizing Intake and Onboarding Strategies (Zoom)**

Community college staff and faculty play a pivotal role in assisting students as they navigate the crucial phase of choosing their academic paths. From intake through onboarding, students crave support in exploring and designing their college journey. We will explore how one college has streamlined intake processes, including admissions advising methods and tools that meet highly diverse students "where they are," and we will explore how to support staff in guiding students through their academic choices and onboarding processes. Guest speakers: Chris Maund & Dr. Bucky McKenzie, Seattle Central College

### **Charting Futures: A Forum for Guided Pathways Promising Practices (Zoom)**

This event aims to delve deeper into the realm of career-connected Guided Pathways practices, offering invaluable insights and specific opportunities to glean inspiration from colleagues across the state who have been spearheading innovative initiatives in linking students to career opportunities along their educational journey.

# Workforce Education

## Aerospace & Advance Manufacturing Pipeline Advisory Committee

The Spring Aerospace Pipeline Committee meeting will be held on May 15, 2024, at Green River College - Auburn Campus. All Aerospace High Demand 1000 FTES have been allocated and programs provided mid-year reports indicating that funding directly connects to growth and program expansion.

## Apprenticeship Communities of Practice

The Apprenticeship Community of Practice continues to meet monthly and engage in developing a common business practice for the apprentice experience at college. The massive undertaking of re-coding and aligning all current registered apprenticeships into ctcLink inventory has provided each college with a better sense of process improvements and updates to increase FTE support for the programs. Common CIP designators and alignment of the ctc system apprenticeship designations will create a better system to identify apprenticeship needs. This spring, a subcommittee of the COP met to walk through the various components that apply to the diversity and range of Related Supplemental Instruction provided for WA Registered Apprenticeship programs. The WAVE grant was advertised with COP and shared out to programs as another resource supporting apprentice students.

## Career Launch Equipment Funds

Round two of the FY23-25 Career Launch Capital Equipment applications closed on April 4, 2024. Applications from nine CTC Colleges including thirteen Career Launch Endorsed programs and six apprenticeships. The CL review committee will identify allocation awards by May 2024. This will conclude all funding for the FY23-25 biennium cycle.

## Centers of Excellence (COE)

Loads of professional development offerings for workforce administrators and faculty are offered this spring by Centers of Excellence!

The Women in Leadership Symposium on May 14-15, 2024, will center around the importance of fostering robust and dynamic relationships and partnerships with women in Resilience Management and associated fields such as security, safety, emergency/risk management, and disaster preparedness. Registration is free. For more information, visit: [Women in Leadership Symposium 2024 - Center of Excellence for Homeland Security-Emergency Management](#)

## Center of Excellence for Information & Computing Technology

IT faculty are invited to join our virtual Expert Speaker Series to hear from industry on topics including data analytics, AI in higher education, and what technology hiring managers are looking for. Virtual Speaker Series events are scheduled for May 3, May 10, and May 17 – learn more and

register for these free events at [2024 Expert Speaker Series - Center of Excellence for Information and Computing Technology](#)

## **Agriculture & Natural Resources Center of Excellence**

Implicit Bias and Student Homelessness, May 17, 2024. This is a professional development opportunity for Workforce professionals to review implicit bias and to discuss homelessness in the State of WA as well as how to support students.

Find info here: [Agriculture & Natural Resource Center of Excellence](#)

## **Construction Center of Excellence**

A number of professional and program development opportunities can be found in the Construction COE events web page: [Events Calendar – Washington State Construction Center of Excellence](#)

## **Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) Fund**

WA CDL Fund: FY24 allocations to 8 CTCs continued for the 2nd year to support expansion and sustainability of CDL and related supply chain programs. Two additional CTCs, Olympic and Big Bend, joined the program mid-year as part of a redistribution of funds.

FY25 allocations of the WA CDL Fund, contingent on signing of the budget bill, will fulfill the 3rd year expansion and sustainability goals of up to 10 colleges.

The grant program for private career schools and colleges (PCSCs) was expanded in FY24 to include some costs of curriculum development, instructor training, equipment, and instructional space. Seven private schools received 1-year funding after a competitive grant review. The deadline for private schools to apply for FY25 funding is April 25.

## **CTE Dual Credit**

Working with agency partners to identify common financial, programmatic, and policy needs across all dual credit programs to inform the next legislative session.

CTE Dual Credit proviso colleges continue to meet, aligning practices and course articulations across the regional partners (WCC, BTC, EvCC, and SVC).

Workforce staff is in the process of compiling a statewide database of all CTE Dual Credit articulations. It identifies the college, high school or school district, college course, high school course, career cluster, and CIP Code for each articulation.

## **Customer Advisory Committee (CAC)**

CAC held their winter meeting online. This meeting was focused on the legislative session - highlighting SBCTC requested funding and time for partner agencies to provide updates relevant to the work of the committee. SBCTC student legislative interns discussed the session and shared their

personal stories, continuing our efforts to highlight students and their experiences in our system. Meeting topics also included updates on the state workforce plan, WIOA, Job Skills Program, and Worker Retraining.

Spring meeting is scheduled for May 20 & 21 at Big Bend Community College.

## Customized Training Program (CTP)

Customized Training Program (CTP): As of April 1, 2024, the Customized Training Program's revolving loan fund has a small balance available for new projects: \$15,504. There is one project in the planning stage for possible application.

Please contact [CTP program staff](#) if you have a potential project and need to know the status of funding and queue of projects.

Three new contracts were approved in winter 2024, bringing the total of CTP contracts to 109 since the program started in 2006.

## Early Achievers

The Early Achievers Grant is a student financial aid program to help employed childcare providers and early learning educators complete required certificates and associate degrees in early childhood education. The Early Achievers Grant is offered in partnership with the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF). For FY24, twenty-seven colleges submitted applications, and funding for 517 FTEs was distributed. In late November 2023, DCYF made an additional \$500,000 available for a Responsive Pathways project and FTE funding. As a result, funds for an additional 51 FTEs were distributed to colleges in mid-December 2023. As of winter 2024, colleges have achieved 544.9 FTES out of the total 568 awarded and 1,760 unduplicated students have been served. Applications for FY25 are open and due by April 25, 2024. Responsive Pathways project work has begun as of April 11, 2024. Hospital Employee Education and Training Grants (HEET).

## Hospital Employee Education and Training Grants (HEET)

The Hospital Employee Education and Training Grant (HEET) provides funding for the development or expansion of innovative training programs in partnership with labor and employers that support incumbent healthcare workers to advance their careers in the healthcare field while meeting the rapidly changing workforce needs of our healthcare system. SBCTC awarded \$198,367 for round two FY24 funding to one college (only one application was received). Applications for FY25 closed on April 11, 2024, and eight applications were received. A total of \$2,629,342 was requested, which exceeds the amount available by \$632,110. Applications will be reviewed in May 2024 by a committee consisting of education, labor, and employer representatives.

## Job Skills Program (JSP)

The Job Skills Program is a matching grant program for customized, employer-specific contract training. FY24 funding was fully awarded in Round 1, with projects starting in July 2023.

Applications for funding in FY25 are now underway, please take note of the following deadlines:

Application open: March 28

Application webinar: March 26 (recorded & posted to web below)

**Application deadline: May 2**

The projected funding available to award for the second half of the biennium (July 1, 2024) is \$7,542,207. If all funds are not fully-awarded in the first round of applications (May 2 deadline), SBCTC will release additional application opportunities on the timeline shown on the JSP webpage.

Program web page: [Job Skills Program \(JSP\) Grant](#)

## Program Approval Request (PAR)

We held webinars for colleges in March that went over the new application.

Our focus is on professional-technical programs and future work will focus on apprenticeship, BAS, and transfer programs.

Our efforts support the full integration of prior program approval efforts in the legacy system into ctcLink and requires updated processes to ensure accuracy in coding, tracking, and reporting of our program inventory.

IT is in the final stages of development, and we are preparing to launch in April.

## Perkins

### Perkins Workforce Grants

FY25 Perkins Workforce Grant Important Dates:

Perkins Grant	Application Launches	Priority Due Date	Final Due Date	Total Amount to Award*
Perkins Plan	Feb. 28, 2024		April 13, 2024	\$12,349,829
Perkins Corrections	April 4, 2024		May 2, 2024	\$213,925
Leadership Block	April 4, 2024		May 2, 2024	\$1,020,000 (\$30K for each college)
Non-Traditional Employment & Training	April 4, 2024	May 2, 2024	Nov. 30, 2024	\$100,000
Special Project	April 4, 2024	May 2, 2024	August 1, 2024	TBD

\*Please see Grant Guidelines for eligibility



## **Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA)**

Colleges submitted with their FY25 Perkins Plan application their biennial Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment. The CLNA identifies the needs of the labor market, uses data-informed decisions, and involves a diverse body of stakeholders to assess Career and Technical Education programs and barriers that impact students, ultimately informing Perkins funding requests.

## **Annual Reports**

The Perkins Plan Report of Accomplishment and Leadership Grants' Year-End Reports will be due by July 31, 2024. The online link to the reports will be provided by the end of May.

## **Professional Technical Faculty Skill Standards**

The Workforce Education Council (WEC) voted to endorse the updated skill standards and integrated DEI competencies and forward to the Instruction Commission (IC) for the approval/adoption at their winter council meeting. A comprehensive report highlighting the history and process of this project has been provided to IC in advance of their meeting. If adopted, the next step in this process will be the creation of an implementation plan.

## **Redistribution of Aero 1,000 FTES**

Aerospace High Demand 1000 FTES redistribution was allocated in January 2024. All 1000 FTES (36 programs) are currently monitored and provided a midyear report to identify updates, needs and progress regarding FTES enrollment. The six probationary programs continue to focus on increasing their FTES over the baseline goals.

## **Redistribution of Career Launch Enrollment Expansion**

Career Launch Enrollment FTES redistribution was allocated in January 2024. All 375 FTES (34 programs) are currently monitored and provided a midyear report to identify updates, needs and progress regarding FTES enrollment. The ten probationary programs continue to focus on increasing their FTES over the baseline goals.

## **Workforce Education Council (WEC)**

The Workforce Education Council (WEC) held their winter meeting at Highline College February 29 and March 1. At this meeting they voted to endorse the updated skill standards and integrated DEI competencies and forward to the Instruction Commission (IC) for the approval/adoption at their winter council meeting. A comprehensive report highlighting the history and process of this project has been provided to IC in advance of their meeting. If adopted, the next step in this process will be the creation of an implementation plan.

Additional topics of discussion included common course numbering, reports by labor and business, updates on gainful employment, overview of the new program approval process, committee and strategic planning, and a report by SBCTC.

## Worker Retraining (WRT)

The Worker Retraining program plays a significant role in Washington state's economic development by providing funding for eligible dislocated and unemployed workers in training or retraining that will assist them in regaining employment. Funds are awarded to Washington state's community and technical colleges and private career schools each year to serve eligible students in this program.

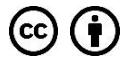
In 2023, SBCTC staff convened a workgroup, comprised of an even number of representatives from WEC, IC, and the Presidents to evaluate the WRT funding model. The group recommended that the formula elements (base, 2-year performance, unemployment) stay intact, but base allocation be recalculated using 75% of each college's 5-yr average WRT enrollments. On March 1, WACTC voted for this recommendation with a three-year phased roll out. This is Year 1 of the phased roll out. The WRT program will suspend the redistribution policy during this 3-year period.

## Workforce Development Funds

Workforce Development Funds: This funding supports one-time projects to meet changing needs and expectations of industry and/or prospective students, or to support local workforce and economic development initiatives. For FY25, Invest in Washington funding – in the amount of \$92,000 – has been added to the Workforce Development Fund (WDF) to meet the specifications of RCW 82.85.070.

Total funding for FY25 will be \$1,592,000, FY25 applications were due April 4, 2024, and colleges requested over \$1.7 million in FY25 applications. A review committee will evaluate proposals in April and make funding recommendations to State Board leadership shortly after.

Program web page: [Workforce Development Funds | SBCTC](#)



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Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges