



2019-21 OPERATING BUDGET REQUEST

SEPTEMBER 2018

To build vibrant communities and a great quality of life in Washington, people need education past high school and good jobs right in our local communities. Community and technical colleges are affordable, accessible to all kinds of students, and connected to universities and businesses. Our students get to choose the educational path that's right for them at a more affordable cost — be it a two-year degree, a university-transfer degree, an industry certificate or an apprenticeship. Students need these options just as employers need a range of skills.

Our 2019-21 operating budget request will provide more students with excellent, career-connected training in high-demand jobs. This includes the aerospace industry, which is vital to Boeing's plans to build a new mid-market airplane.

Competitive compensation for student success (\$68 million)

Faculty are at the heart of our students' success, but we are losing them to K-12 schools and private employers. Our faculty and exempt employee salaries are at least 12.4 percent behind those in peer states.¹ To catch up, and keep top talent for our students, we request a 3 percent increase per year over two biennia (four years). These increases would be in addition to routine state general wage increases.

Pathways to jobs for all Washingtonians (\$86 million)

Community and technical colleges are a vital bridge to college for local students, especially for students of color and those who are the first in their families to go to college. We request investments to expand "Guided Pathways" — a powerful redesign of course sequencing and student advising that moves more students into careers or universities. Investments would:

- Increase student support services, including advising, counseling and navigators.
- Provide time for faculty to redesign curricula and engage in interdepartmental planning to establish career paths and program maps for students to follow.
- Establish tools to research and evaluate the reforms.

Funding would also be used to enroll more adult students in college and strengthen partnerships with K-12 schools and universities on issues like dual credits, comprehensive advising and transfer agreements.

High-demand training locally and statewide (\$35 million)

Our colleges are uniquely equipped to partner with employers to meet local workforce needs and make sure students graduate with job-ready skills. We request funding to increase the number of students in high-demand, high-cost programs like nursing, allied health, information technology, computer science and advanced manufacturing. The advanced manufacturing enrollments are particularly important to strengthen Washington's bid to produce Boeing's new mid-market airplane. Investments would also support training for local industry needs.

1. *Washington State Community and Technical Colleges: Faculty and Administrator Salary Study Update*, by WWU and SBCTC, September 2018¹