



Support Washington Community Colleges and Technical Colleges and their Students 2017-19 Operating Budget Policy Level Requests

At its June meeting the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges directed our staff to prepare the community and technical college system biennial operating budget request including these policy level increases for final board approval in September 2016.

- **Increase academic, completion, and career planning efforts** - \$80,719,000 – Provide assistance to students as they integrate their educational experience and their life experience through traditional and non-traditional guidance methods. Using the Guided Pathways model and programs with proven outcomes to improve student progress and completions, the system will strive to increase first year student retention by 10 percent by the end of the 2017-19 biennium.
- **Invest in learning and teaching** - \$9,216,000 – Funding to be used to address districts that are facing compensation related challenges for faculty, including faculty increments, reliance on adjunct (part-time) faculty and the differential in pay between part-time and full-time faculty members. The funding is requested as flexible so that districts can engage their campuses and identify the most appropriate adjustment for their environment.
- **Expand the Opportunity Grant program** - \$10,280,000 – Provides additional funding for a program proven to improve student outcomes. Expands the program by 600 students and increases the grant level by 20 percent. The current program provides grants for 3,650 students at \$3,200 per grant. This request would increase the number of students to 4,250 students and the grant to \$3,900.
- **Dedicated funding for I-BEST** - \$11,250,000 – A national best practice, I-BEST provides an accelerated pathway for Basic Education students to reach a post-secondary credential, contributing toward overall education attainment goals. Requested funding will establish a dedicated funding pool for 900 more I-BEST enrollments at \$6,000 annually per FTE. In 2015 I-BEST enrollments totaled 2,178 FTE.
- **Unfunded federal Title IX mandates** - \$6,800,000 – Through the issuance of 'Dear Colleague' letters that require investigations into complaints of sexual misconduct, regardless of the criminal status of the complaint, the U.S. Department of Education continues to ask colleges to provide procedural remedies for victims of the alleged act. This mandate has led to the need to hire non-instructional staff to address the increased levels of investigation and ensure the adequate review of Title IX complaints.
- **Campus and student environment health and safety** - \$3,400,000 – As acts of violence continue to plague college campuses across the country, the system is requesting funding to increase campus emergency preparedness for the over 400,000 faculty and students who are on our campuses each year and deserve a safe place to teach and learn. Funding would be used to address campus improvements and equipment needs, as well as the planning and staff efforts required to maintain relevant emergency preparedness across the system.
- **Cost of living adjustments for exempt staff** - \$9,216,000 – Funding to provide cost of living adjustments for non-faculty, non-collectively bargained community and technical college staff. Funding equals to 2.4 and 2.3 percent annually for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 respectively. Note that faculty and technical college classified staff are covered by the I-732 salary increases, and collectively-bargained staff increases are addressed elsewhere in the state budget.