

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MEETING NO. 195
November 19, 2015**

PARTNER AGENCIES LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS

RCW 28C.18.060(5) directs the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) to "... review and make recommendations to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) and the Legislature on operating and capital budget requests for operating agencies of the state training system for purposes of consistency with the state comprehensive plan for workforce training and education."

Board staff reached out to partners and received their budget and policy requests for the 2016 legislative session. Staff then analyzed the requests to identify where they align with the state's strategic plan for workforce development. Included in this tab is a chart showing the budget requests and where they align with goals in the 2012-2022 *High Skills, High Wages*, the proposed goals in the 2016-2026 state strategic plan, as well as supporting documentation from the agencies.

Board staff will present a brief overview from the agencies on their budget requests. Representatives from the agencies included in the chart may speak to their requests at the board meeting.

Board Action Required: Discussion and possible action.

RECOMMENDED MOTION 2016 LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS

WHEREAS, The Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board’s strategic plan for workforce development, *High Skills, High Wages*, per state statute, provides “a state comprehensive plan for workforce training and education, including but not limited to, goals, objectives, and priorities for the state training system” and identifies opportunities for the advancement of the workforce system (28C.18.060(4)); and

WHEREAS, The Workforce Education and Training Coordinating Board has been assigned by Governor Inslee to develop the comprehensive state plan for the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, in order to improve access to and outcomes for jobseekers and employers across the state; and

WHEREAS, The Workforce Education and Training Coordinating Board has a statutory responsibility to “review and make recommendations to the Office of Financial Management and the legislature on operating and capital budget requests for operating agencies of the state training system for purposes of consistency with the state comprehensive plan for workforce training and education” (28C.18.060(5)); and

WHEREAS, The Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board has a statutory responsibility to “Advocate for the state training system and for meeting the needs of employers and the workforce for workforce education and training” (28C.18.060(2)); and

WHEREAS, Agencies that focus on workforce development have provided the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board with their 2016 legislative advocacy priorities, which have been reviewed for consistency with the state strategic plan for workforce development;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board approves legislative and budget recommendations for the 2016 legislative session that align with the goals, objectives, and strategies articulated in both the state strategic plan, and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

The following table, prepared by Workforce Board staff, contains specific elements of partner agencies' policy and budget requests for the 2016 legislative session. These requests have been analyzed by Workforce Board staff, and the selected items speak directly to the goals and objectives outlined in the state strategic plan for workforce development.

Proposed Partner Agency Policy and Budget Items that Align with the State Workforce Plan

Agency/ Executive Request	Title	Description	FY 2016 – 2017 Request
Department of Commerce	Sector Lead Program	Re-establish funding for the Information and Communications Technologies sector lead to facilitate growth in the in the technology sector, including software, networks, online retail and services. Leads provide links to align business community, local organizations, and government resources.	\$196,193
Commerce	Startup Washington 365	The Department is requesting additional General Fund State funding to continue work associated with the Startup Washington program throughout the 2015-2017 biennium. This program provides support for two rural pilots related to Centers for Entrepreneurial Success in Eastern Washington and would support work in establishing a third Center in Western Washington. In order to continue to provide services, resources, and tools to rural communities, funding would need to continue throughout the biennium. In addition, funding would be provided to support an additional center for entrepreneurial success in Western Washington in order to connect with other centers that were funded in Eastern Washington. These centers would be a part of the economic development and community college network similar to the ones established in eastern Washington.	\$100,000
Commerce	Innovation Partnership Zones	This request restores funding for the Innovation Partnership Zone (IPZ) Program. IPZs serve as a geographically distributed economic development strategy to foster innovation eco-systems. The goal of this model is to focus on accelerating bottom-up, organically driven collaborations to advance innovation and growth of industry clusters. In the 2013-2015 biennium, funding was reduced and eventually eliminated. Restoring funding for the IPZ program allows the department to meet the statutory obligations.	\$70,500

Agency/ Executive Request	Title	Description	FY 2016 – 2017 Request
Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) - Work Participation Rate Improvement	<p>DSHS is requesting funding and FTEs to support program and policy changes that will enable the state to meet federal Work Participation Requirements (WPR). Under Federal TANF rules, adults in a family receiving a TANF grant are required to participate in activities that are intended to move the family to self-sufficiency. Each state must meet two participation rate targets ('all family' and 'two-parent families') as measures of its success in engaging adults in required activities. Earlier this year, the federal Department of Health and Human Services notified DSHS that Washington's TANF program did not meet the WPR targets for FFY 2012. Missing the targets can result in penalties that will significantly reduce the state's federal TANF Block Grant. DSHS's WPR-related decision packages include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change work participation requirements to require that both parents in all appropriate two-parent households participate, unless that household remains exempt. Two-parent families have been able to choose to have one parent opt out of participation, provided the other parent agrees to participate 35 hours per week or both parents split the 35 hours. Additional funding is needed for support services to more adults, including work participation activities and child care. - A new state-funded 'Pregnancy to employment pathway' program for two-parent households that includes a pregnant parent or infant less than one year old. A two-parent household receiving TANF assistance and choosing the pregnancy to employment pathway would now be state funded in order to remove these families from the work participation calculation until they either opt to participate or no longer qualify for this exemption. - A separate state-funded food assistance benefit for working families receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, including those who have exited TANF because of employment - This program would support families trying to achieve self-sufficiency while improving the state's WPR performance. 	TBD

Agency/ Executive Request	Title	Description	FY 2016 – 2017 Request
Employment Security Department (ESD)	Federal Funds Adjustment	ESD’s appropriation authority for state accounts do not reflect the current estimates of federal revenue. ESD is requesting a technical adjustment to appropriation authority to reflect expected revenues.	\$1,495,000 (in federal expenditure authority)
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)	Basic Education Funding: Career and Technical Education (CTE)	The Superintendent requests funding to implement proposals outlined in the Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Skill Center Program Funding, Accounting and Data Reporting report provided to the legislature in June 2014. The report, which looked at the structure of basic education funding for CTE and Skill Center programs, can be found at (http://k12.wa.us/LegisGov/Reports.aspx). The Superintendent’s budget proposal: funds staffing ratios of 19:1 for CTE high school and middle school programs and 16:1 for Skill Center programs as recommended by the Funding Formula Technical Working Group (in 2009) effective in 2017-18; revises the staffing formulas for the other CIS and principal categories and adds a CTE director to the prototypical model to better reflect the actual structure and needs of the programs; revises maintenance, supplies and operating costs (MSOC) for CTE and Skill Center programs based on actual expenditures; provides funding for the start-up of new programs; and reduces the allowable indirect cost rate.	\$45,160,000
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)	CTE Course Equivalency	Funds would develop additional statewide Career & Technical Education (CTE) course equivalency frameworks that expand the course options students may choose to meet academic credit requirements for high school graduation. This allocation will provide for the development of additional statewide equivalency frameworks beyond the 21 frameworks created under 2014 Legislation. In addition, funding is needed to create related performance assessments and provide professional development for educators and administrators to navigate the adoption of and implementation of the statewide equivalent frameworks.	\$250,000

Agency/ Executive Request	Title	Description	FY 2016 – 2017 Request
OSPI	Dropout and Graduation Rate Improvements	Superintendent Dorn requests resources to lower the state’s dropout rate by keeping students engaged through graduation. Assistance is provided to help districts implement: comprehensive guidance and counseling programs; effective interventions and supports for at-risk youth like the Jobs for Washington Graduates program; and expansions of Core-Plus, which provides STEM-based career related skills to students.	\$2,449,000
OSPI	Elimination of Graduation Testing Requirements	This item would eliminate the graduation requirements associated with state assessments beginning with the class of 2016. The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) tests would determine whether students are career and college ready.	\$(14,667,000)
OSPI	Language Access for LEP (Limited English Proficient) Parents	The Superintendent requests resources to translate essential information about educational services into the major languages spoken by Washington families. Includes translating the materials developed under a 2015-2017 budget proviso that requires OSPI to develop materials for families regarding their rights to language assistance services.	\$201,000
State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)	Advising, Career Planning and Support Services	Investment to support academic advising, career planning and support services, which were deeply cut during the recession.	\$9,000,000
SBCTC	BAS Tuition Reduction Adjustment	The 2015-2017 operating budget accounts for lost tuition revenue for lower-division coursework, but the offset does not fully cover lost revenue in applied bachelor’s degree programs.	\$1,980,000
SBCTC	Capital Budget Priorities	The 2015-2017 capital budget lacked funding for eight priority projects of the community and technical college system. Community and technical college capital projects are scored and ranked based on the need for space, condition of existing facilities, prior planning, policy objectives, and estimated costs and timelines.	\$82,600,000

Agency/ Executive Request	Title	Description	FY 2016 – 2017 Request
SBCTC	Compensation Adjustment	The 2015-2017 operating budget provided compensation increases for college staff, but the budget funded only 83 percent of the impact to college budgets. Full compensation funding would protect funds already budgeted for student programs and services.	\$10,900,000
SBCTC	Corrections Education	A statutory change is necessary to allow the use of existing funds for academic degree programs in correctional institutions. No budget request.	N/A
SBCTC	Dedicated Funding for Basic Education for Adults	Legislative request to add adults in need of basic skills education to the caseload forecast to enable accurate projection of need and the ability to develop stable funding in the future.	N/A
SBCTC	MESA Program Expansion	The MESA program provides an onramp from K-12 to college in high-demand STEM fields.	\$4,300,000
SBCTC	Opportunity Grant Expansion	Funding would expand the Opportunity Grant Program, which provides student support services and financial assistance for low-income students in high-wage, high-demand careers.	\$5,600,000