

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

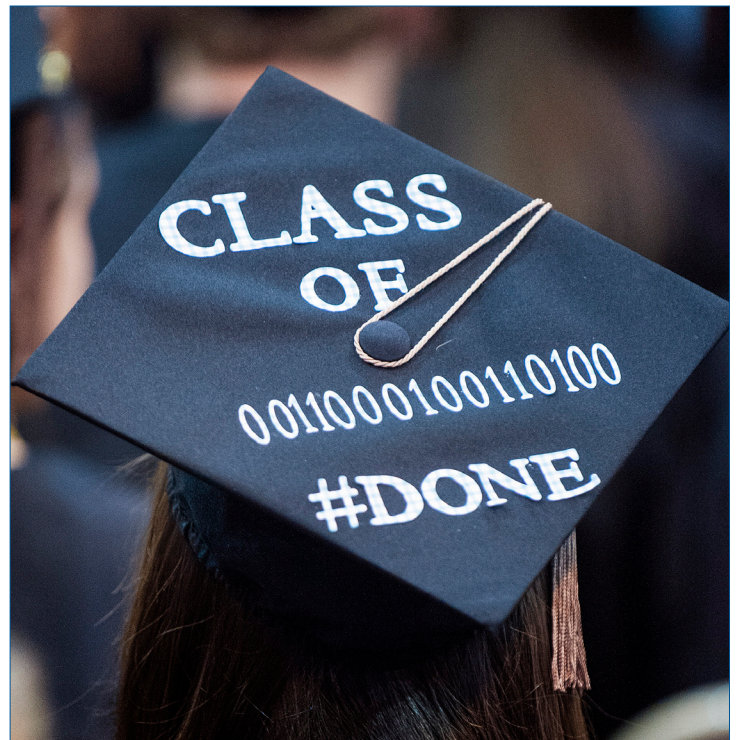
Ensuring Student Success: \$2.4 million

Western has a proven track record in the retention and graduation of our students and is well-positioned to serve the first generation, low income and traditionally underserved students who are the state's future college graduates.

The demographics of Washington are changing with the rapid growth of K-12 students within groups who have not typically enrolled in higher education, meaning it is more important now than ever to ensure that students have access to quality support services. Significant increases in student demand – coupled with decreased funding – have limited Western's ability to offer key support services such as academic advising, tutoring and retention services to our students.

Western is requesting an investment in:

- **Student Advising, Outreach and Mentoring.** Students whose families have no experience with higher education often need support to stay on track to graduation. Western wants to provide adequate support for students to navigate college and will use data analytics to focus advising and support services to best serve students most at risk of not completing a degree. On-site residential advising will also deliver services to first generation students in residence halls after hours.
- **Academic Tutoring Support.** Demand for Tutoring Center services has nearly tripled over the past six years, but resources have not kept pace. Meanwhile, data analysis shows first-year students who visit the Tutoring Center are more likely to continue toward graduation.
- **Mental Health Support.** According to the National College Health Assessment survey, Western students report that stress, anxiety and depression are a major interference with academic success. The number of clients at the Counseling Center has doubled during the past five years while mental health needs are becoming more severe.
- **disAbility Support for Students.** Since 2009, disAbility Resources for Students has seen a 77-percent growth in the number of students who qualify for services, but the staffing level has not kept pace.
- **Destination Graduation – College Completion for Returning Adults.** A one-year grant from the College Spark Foundation in 2007 launched the program, which invites students to re-enroll if they had left Western in good academic standing close to graduation. During the grant, 229 students re-enrolled and 181 graduated. With ongoing state support, the program could be re-introduced with the potential for replication at all of the state's baccalaureate institutions.



LEARN MORE:

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