



2019 Legislative Session Report
June 2019

This report was developed by the WWU Office of Government Relations. WWU Government Relations works to pursue and promote Western's state and federal policy objectives to the legislative and executive branches of the state and federal government. The Office works closely with elected officials, Western administrators, faculty, students and staff. Western's Office of Government Relations also educates the campus community about legislation and initiatives affecting the University.

Please direct questions about this report to:

Becca Kenna-Schenk
Executive Director of Government Relations
Western Washington University
Becca.Kenna-Schenk@wwu.edu

Table of Contents

Introduction4
Operating Budget4
Capital Budget8
Policy Bills Enacted in the 2019 Legislative Session
 Academic Affairs9
 Admissions11
 Athletics11
 Capital Budget12
 Career Advising13
 Childcare13
 Financial Aid13
 General Government16
 Human Resources16
 Information Technology18
 Operating Budget19
 Public Records19
 Student Support Services19
 Teacher Preparation20
 Veterans Services22
Appendix: WWU’s 2019 State Legislative Priorities23

Introduction

Washington's 2019 legislative session began on January 14, 2019 and adjourned *sine die* on April 28, 2019, the 105th day of the regular session. Over the course of the 2019 legislative session, representatives from Western Washington University testified or presented before legislative committees over 20 times. Additionally, Western staff tracked approximately 245 bills and submitted approximately 100 fiscal notes.

This report provides a summary of the impacts of the 2019-21 operating and capital budgets for WWU, as well as a summary of key policy bills that passed during the 2019 session that impact WWU specifically or higher education generally.

Operating Budget

The final 2019-21 operating budget (Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1109), in coordination with appropriations from Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 2158, includes funding to implement the state's salary increase policy, including a 3 percent annual compensation increase for all WWU employees in both years of the 2019-21 biennium. The funding provided was calculated based on the assumption that all revenues from a 2.4 percent annual increase in undergraduate resident and non-resident tuition would be applied to employee salaries. ESHB 2158 also includes \$3.426 million solely for increased access to STEM degrees at WWU, which may include expanding pre-healthcare capacity, creating a B.S. degree in energy science and technology, and expanding electrical engineering degrees.

ESHB 2158 also creates a permanent and dedicated source of state funding for higher education. The legislation replaces the State Need Grant with the Washington College Grant and makes the program a guaranteed grant beginning in the 2020-21 academic year.

Policy-level funding increases included in Operating Budget and ESSHB 2158

WWU:

- \$4.1 million – Critical Compensation Adjustments (Non Rep Wage Increase)
- \$904,000 – Competitive Compensation: WFSE
- \$1.2 million – Competitive Compensation: PSE
- \$3.4 million – STEM degree capacity expansion, which may include expanding pre-healthcare capacity, creating an energy science and technology B.S. degree, and expanding electrical engineering degrees

- \$1.8 million – Compensation and central services support in recognition that institutional operating costs, including compensation and central services, exceed estimated increases in undergraduate operating fee revenue
- \$70,000 – For the maintenance and administration of opioid overdose medication in and around residence halls

Financial Aid (statewide):

- \$160 million – Washington College Grant (previously State Need Grant)
- \$2.2 million – Student Loan Refinancing Program
- \$2 million – Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant
- \$3.6 million – Conditional Scholarships for Educators
- \$1.6 million – Dual Enrollment Scholarship Pilot
- \$1.2 million – FAFSA Completion Support

Policy changes included in Operating Budget and ESSHB 2158

General:

- **Career-Connected Learning Grant:** A new Career-Connected Learning grant program is created under the administration of the Washington Employment Security Division. *ESHB 2158*
- **Enrollment and Academic Goals:** Each institution of higher education shall seek to:
 - Maintain and to the extent possible increase enrollment opportunities at campuses;
 - Maintain and to the extent possible increase enrollment opportunities at university centers and other partnership programs that enable students to earn baccalaureate degrees on community college campuses; and
 - Eliminate and consolidate programs of study for which there is limited student or employer demand, or that are not areas of core academic strength for the institution, particularly when such programs duplicate offerings by other in-state institutions.

ESHB 1109 Sect. 602; (Note: This language was also in the 2017-19 biennial budget.)

Enrollment & Student Services:

- **Veterans Mental Health Counselor:** Within amounts appropriated, institutions shall employ at least one full time mental health counselor licensed under chapter 18.225 RCW who has experience working with active members of the military or military veterans, to work with student, faculty, and staff veterans, as well as their spouses and dependents, through the institution's veteran resource center. *ESHB 1109 Sect. 603(3)*
- **Student & Faculty ID Cards:** Each institution of higher education must include the phone number of a campus, local, state, or national suicide, crisis, or counseling hotline

on the back of newly issued student and faculty identification cards starting in fall quarter 2019, or as soon as is practicable to implement. *ESHB 1109 Sect. 601(6)*

- **Opioid Overdose Medication:** \$70,000 for Western Washington University to develop a plan for the maintenance and administration of opioid overdose medication in and around residence halls housing at least 100 students and for the training of designated personnel to administer opioid overdose medication to respond to symptoms of an opioid-related overdose. *ESHB 1109 Sect. 611(8)*
- **Washington College Grant (previously State Need Grant):** Beginning with academic year 2020-21, all eligible students are entitled to a grant. Beginning with academic year 2020-21, students with family incomes at or below 100 percent of state Median Family Income qualify. *ESHB 2158*
- **Student Loan Refinancing Program:** The Washington State Student Loan Refinancing program is created under the administration of the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC). The program allows WSAC to contract with up to five private financial institutions to refinance student loans. Private financial institutions may leverage some combination of two financial incentives (1) interest rate buy down, or (2) loan loss reserve coverage. Washington State residents may refinance existing student loans under the program. A loan may only be refinanced if the financial institution under the terms of the program can offer better terms including lower interest rates, shorter payment periods, or overall lower costs of debt service. If a federal student loan is being refinanced, the financial institution must disclose to the borrower that they may lose certain protections, including loan forgiveness or income-based repayment options. *ESHB 2158*
- **Veteran and National Guard Tuition Waivers:** The mandatory tuition waiver credit limit is increased from 200 to 250 for children, spouses, and domestic partners of service members who died as a result of service, became totally disabled, or have a POW or MIA designation. For the purposes of tuition waivers, the definition of eligible veteran or National Guard member is expanded to also include veterans or National Guard members who receive any discharge if the sole reason for discharge is due to gender or sexuality. *ESHB 2158*
- **Financial Aid Reporting:** All institutions of higher education eligible for state financial aid programs shall ensure that data needed to analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of state financial aid programs are promptly transmitted to the Education Data Center so that it is available and easily accessible.
The data must include but not be limited to:
 - The number of State Need Grant and College Bound recipients;

- The number of students on the unserved waiting list of the State Need Grant;
- Persistence and completion rates of State Need Grant recipients and College Bound recipients as well as students on the State Need Grant unserved waiting list, disaggregated by institution of higher education;
- State Need Grant recipients and students on the State Need Grant unserved waiting list grade point averages; and
- State Need Grant and College Bound Scholarship program costs.

ESHB 1109 Sect. 601(7)

- **Intercollegiate Athletic Programs:** Western Washington University shall not use funds appropriated in the 2019-21 state operating budget to support intercollegiate athletics programs. *ESHB 1109 Sect. 611(2); (Note: This language was also in the 2017-19 biennial budget.)*

Academic Affairs:

- **Transfer Policy:** The public baccalaureate institutions must accept the transfer of college-level courses taken by students in College in the High School or Running Start programs if a student seeking a transfer of the college-level courses has been admitted to the institution and if the college-level courses are recognized as transferrable by the admitting institution of higher education. *ESHB 1109 Sect. 603(1); (Note: This language was also in the 2017-19 biennial budget.)*
- **Computer Science and Engineering Enrollment Reporting:** Western Washington University must continue work with the Education Research and Data Center to demonstrate progress in computer science and engineering enrollments. By September 1st of each year, the university shall provide a report including but not limited to the cost per student, student completion rates, and the number of low income students enrolled in each program, any process changes or best-practices implemented by the university, and how many students are enrolled in computer science and engineering programs above the prior academic year. *ESHB 1109 Sect. 611(1); (Note: This language was also in the 2017-19 biennial budget.)*
- **Tenure-Track Faculty:** Within amounts appropriated in this section, Western Washington University is encouraged to increase the number of tenure-track positions created and hired. *ESHB 1109 Sect. 611(6); (Note: This language was also in the 2017-19 biennial budget.)*

Capital Budget

The 2019-21 biennial capital budget (Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1102) included a total of \$86.41 million for capital budget projects at WWU, including \$64.5 million funding from state bonds, \$11.96 million from the WWU Building Account, and \$9.95 million in Certificate of Participation financing. The following WWU capital budget projects were included in the 2019-21 capital budget:

- \$60 million for construction of the Interdisciplinary Sciences Building;
- \$2 million in pre-design and design funding for a new Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences Building (includes proviso that at least 10 percent of the total cost of the project must be paid from private funds);
- \$3 million for Classroom and Lab Upgrades;
- \$6.846 million for Minor Works Preservation Projects;
- \$1 million for Minor Works Programmatic Projects;
- \$3.614 million for Maintenance and Repairs; and
- Certificate of Participation authorization for WWU to self-finance up to \$9.95 million for the Consolidated Academic Support Services Facility.

Policy Bills Enacted in the 2019 Legislative Session

Academic Affairs

HB 1349	Geriatric behavioral health	Allows a person to fulfill the qualifications to be a geriatric behavioral health worker at a nursing home by having a bachelor's or master's degree in social work or behavioral health.	Effective 7/28/19
HB 1424	CTE course equivalencies	Requires until September 1, 2021, that school districts provide high school students with the opportunity to access at least one statewide equivalency career and technical education course from a list of courses approved by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction as meeting academic graduation requirements.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1577	K-12 computer science education data	Requires each school district to submit a yearly report on computer science programs to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; and provides that district reports must include the number of computer science programs offered in each school, as well as data on student enrollment and instructors.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1593	UW behavioral health campus	Creates the Behavioral Health Innovation and Integration campus within the University of Washington School of Medicine; and requires the UW to create a plan to develop and site a teaching facility that provides inpatient care and workforce training.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1599	High school graduation requirements	Removes the direct link between statewide assessments and graduation requirements by discontinuing the Certificate of Academic Achievement after the graduating class of 2019 and the Certificate of Individual Achievement after the graduating class of 2021.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1714	High school diplomas by CTC	Expands the category of students who may receive a diploma from a community or technical college to include any individual over age sixteen who completes an associate's degree; and provides that any individual aged sixteen through twenty-one may be eligible for the basic education allocation who earns a high school diploma through a CTC by completing an associate's degree.	Effective: 7/28/19

HB 1726	Health care professional students	Permits pharmacy students, allopathic and osteopathic medical students, and nursing students to perform certain tasks under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist, allopathic or osteopathic physician, registered nurse, or advanced registered nurse practitioner.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1734	College in the High School accreditation	Requires any college or university currently offering concurrent enrollment programs to be nationally accredited by academic year 2027-28; prohibits a higher education institution from offering concurrent enrollment programs if the institution has not attained or is not pursuing national accreditation; and requires colleges and universities offering concurrent enrollment programs to undergo state authorization if the program is not yet accredited beginning in academic year 2019-20.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1973	Dual enrollment scholarship	Establishes the Washington Dual Enrollment Scholarship Pilot Program to provide scholarships and textbook vouchers to low-income students enrolled in Running Start or College in the High School Programs; requires the K-12 school districts to provide documentation of a student's low-income status directly to institutions of higher education for the purpose of the Running Start fee waiver; and includes a sunset review by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee. \$1.6 million is provided in 19-21 operating budget for pilot program.	Effective: 7/28/19
SB 5088	Computer science/ high school	Requires that all districts with a high school must provide an opportunity to access an elective computer science course beginning no later than the 2022-23 school year; and allows school districts to award computer science credits based on completion of a competency exam.	Effective: 7/28/19
SB 5166	Post-secondary religious accommodations	Requires postsecondary institutions to accommodate students whose sincerely held religious beliefs impact exam performance or successful program completion.	Effective: 7/28/19
SB 5212	Adoption of research animals	Requires institutions of higher education and non-profit research facilities to first offer dogs or cats used for science or research purposes up for adoption through a rescue organization prior to euthanasia.	Effective: 7/28/19

SB 5410	Credit policy/ AP, IB, CAIE	Requires institutions of higher education to award as much credit as possible and appropriate for passing scores on Advanced Placement, Cambridge Assessment International Examination, and International Baccalaureate exams; directs institutions of higher education to develop a process for retroactively awarding IB credit for students who first enrolled in the institution in the 2018-19 academic year; and mandates that institutions of higher education maintain websites with credit awarding policies.	Effective: 7/28/19
SB 5433	DOC/ Post- secondary education	Clarifies the Legislature's intent to support the use of secure Internet connections expressly for the purposes of furthering postsecondary education degree opportunities and training of incarcerated adults; and prohibits implementation of a secure internet connection for postsecondary educational opportunities until after the report is received and reviewed by the Legislature.	Effective: 7/28/19
SB 5786	Higher education/ research	Removes institutions of higher education from the state agencies required to establish a process, agreements, and rules for releasing individually identifying records for research purposes.	Effective: 7/28/19
SB 5846	International medical grads	Creates the international medical graduate work group to develop recommendations for an international medical graduate assistance program.	Effective: 7/28/19

Admissions

I 1000	Affirmative action	Amends the provision of law that prohibits the state from discriminating against or granting preferential treatment to an individual or group based on certain characteristics in public employment, public education, and public contracting.	Effective: 7/28/19*
--------	-----------------------	--	------------------------

Athletics

SB 5688	Athletic trainers	Restricts the use of the term athletic trainer to licensed athletic trainers; allows athletic trainers to purchase, store, and administer over-the-counter medications; and requires athletic trainers to complete a one-time training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management.	Effective: 7/28/19
---------	----------------------	--	-----------------------

*A referendum to repeal I-1000 could be on the November ballot if sufficient signatures are gathered.

Capital Budget

HB 1101	State general obligation bonds	Concerning state general obligation bonds and related accounts.	Effective: 5/21/19
HB 1102	Capital budget 2019-2021	Concerning the capital budget.	Effective: 5/21/19
HB 1295	Public works contracting	Removes limitations on design-build projects between \$2 million and \$10 million; modifies evaluation criteria and reporting requirements for design-build contracts; makes job order contracting available to any public entity; modifies job order contracting restrictions; requires an apprenticeship utilization program for any contract over \$350,000 and exceeding 600 hours in a single trade; and modifies public disclosure exemptions for certain information.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1318	Capital budget/ public art	Authorizes higher education institutions and state agencies to use 10 percent of an art allocation during the design phase of a construction project.	Effective: 7/28/19
I 1000	Affirmative action	Amends the provision of law that prohibits the state from discriminating against or granting preferential treatment to an individual or group based on certain characteristics in public employment, public education, and public contracting.	Effective: 7/28/19*
SB 5035	Prevailing wage laws	Extends the time period for filing a prevailing wage complaint from 30 days to 60 days from the acceptance date of the public works project; modifies the penalty structure for prevailing wage violations, including increasing the minimum penalty for a violation to \$5,000 or an amount equal to 50 percent of the prevailing wage violation, whichever is greater; and requires contractors to retain payroll records for three years and to submit certified payroll records at least once per month.	Effective: 1/01/20

*A referendum to repeal I-1000 could be on the November ballot if sufficient signatures are gathered.

Career Advising

HB 2158	Workforce education	Creates a Career-Connected Learning (CCL) grant program to be administered by the Employment Security Division; establishes a CCL cross-agency work group; and provides \$11.5 million for CCL initiatives.	Effective: 7/28/19
------------	------------------------	---	-----------------------

Childcare

HB 2158	Workforce education	Provides that, beginning August 1, 2020, the Department of Children, Youth, and Families may not require an applicant or consumer to meet work requirements to receive Working Connections Child Care benefits if the applicant or consumer is a single parent enrolled full-time at a community, technical, or tribal college and is pursuing vocational education in a degree or certificate program for a specific occupation that does not result in a bachelor's or advanced degree.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1303	Child care/ higher education	Directs the Department of Children, Youth, and Families to exempt certain students from work requirements as a condition of receiving Working Connections Child Care benefits; and specifies that these students must be full-time students of a community, technical, or tribal college and pursuing a certificate in nursing, early childhood education, a mental health profession, or paraeducation.	Effective: 7/28/19

Financial Aid

HB 1311	College bound scholarship	Allows eligible students to sign a College Bound Scholarship pledge in the ninth grade if the student was previously ineligible in the seventh or eighth grade as a Washington student; and prioritizes eligible CBS students for a State Need Grant if they have a family income that exceeds 65 percent of the state median family income range.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1668	Washington health corps	Establishes the Behavioral Health Loan Repayment Program to provide student loan repayment to health care professionals who serve in underserved behavioral health areas.	Effective: 7/28/19

HB 1893	Post- secondary student assistance	Creates the Emergency Assistance Grant program, administered by SBCTC, for the community and technical colleges to provide monetary assistance to students experiencing unforeseen emergencies or situations that affect a student's ability to attend classes; \$1.5 million is provided to the SBCTC in the 19-21 biennium for the grant program.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1973	Dual enrollment scholarship	Establishes the Washington Dual Enrollment Scholarship Pilot Program to provide scholarships and textbook vouchers to low-income students enrolled in Running Start or College in the High School Programs; \$1.6 million is provided in 2019-21 operating budget for pilot program.	Effective: 7/28/19

<p>HB 2158</p>	<p>Workforce education</p>	<p><u>Financial Aid Funding for 2019-21 biennium:</u> Provides \$160 million for the WA College Grant; \$2.2 million for the WA Student Loan Refinancing Program; \$2 million for the Teacher Conditional Grant Program; and \$1.1 million for FAFSA completion support.</p> <p><u>Washington College Grant:</u> Establishes the Washington College Grant to replace the State Need Grant, and, beginning with academic year 2020-21, all eligible students are entitled to a grant and students with family incomes at or below 100 percent of state MFI qualify, with award amounts pro-rated based on income range; and requires higher education institutions that receive state financial aid dollars to submit student-level data to the education data center for the purpose of legislatively authorized research and evaluation of state aid program.</p> <p><u>Student Loan Refinancing Program:</u> Establishes a state student loan refinancing program for Washington state residents that allows WSAC to contract with up to five private financial institutions to provide more favorable terms by refinancing student loans; provides that loans may only be refinanced if the financial institution under the terms of the program can offer better terms including lower interest rates, shorter payment periods, or overall lower costs of debt service; and requires the financial institution to disclose to the borrower that they may lose certain protections, including loan forgiveness or income-based repayment options if a federal student loan is being refinanced.</p> <p><u>Health Professionals Loan Repayment Program:</u> Provides that, for the 2019-21 biennium, chiropractors are eligible for the Health Professionals Loan Repayment Program.</p>	<p>Effective: (Various)</p>
<p>SB 5119</p>	<p>Contracted highway workers</p>	<p>Expands the category of highway workers, for purposes of mandatory tuition waivers for children and surviving spouses, to highway workers employed on a transportation project by a general contractor or subcontractor.</p>	<p>Effective: 7/28/19</p>

General Government

HB 1114	Food waste reduction	Establishes a goal of reducing food waste in the state by 50 percent by 2030, relative to 2015 levels; directs the Department of Ecology to consult with the departments of Health and Agriculture to develop a wasted food reduction and food waste diversion plan by 2020 to achieve the 2030 food waste reduction goal; and authorizes wasted food reduction and food waste diversion to be among the state and local activities funded through the Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Litter Control Account.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1147	First informer broad-casters	Provides liability protections for federal, state, and local agencies that facilitate access of a first informer broadcaster to an emergency or disaster area	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1195	Campaign finance	Requires that reports submitted to the PDC be filed electronically; modifies provisions relating the financial affairs statements and prohibits the statements from being posted on any website; modifies provisions related to requests for a suspension or modification of reporting requirements under campaign finance laws, including the disclosure of documents prepared for modification hearings.	Effective: 5/01/19
SB 5106	Natural disaster mitigation	Creates a work group, chaired by the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, to study and make recommendations on natural disaster and resiliency activities.	Effective: 7/28/19
SB 5116	Clean energy	Supporting Washington's clean energy economy and transitioning to a clean, affordable, and reliable energy future.	Effective: 5/07/19
SB 5356	LGBTQ commission	Establishes the Washington state LGBTQ commission.	Effective: 7/28/19

Human Resources

HB 1087	Long-term services & support	Establishes the Long-Term Services and Supports Trust Program to provide benefits for long-term services and supports to qualified individuals who need assistance with at least three activities of daily living; and establishes eligibility requirements for the Trust Program for persons who pay a premium of 0.58 percent of a person's wages for a specific amount of time.	Effective: 7/28/19
------------	------------------------------------	--	-----------------------

HB 1399	Paid family & medical leave	Makes revisions to definitions, voluntary plans, waiting periods, and other matters; authorizes employer to waive several statutory provisions and to offer supplemental benefits; adds provisions concerning privacy and access to confidential records; and broadens the employee's appeal rights to cover any adverse decision in a voluntary plan.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1575	Collective bargaining/ dues	Provides that public employers and public employee organizations are not liable in claims or causes of action for deducted union fees that were permitted by law and deducted before the <i>Janus v. AFSCME</i> decision; removes union security provisions from various collective bargaining statutes; creates provisions for employees to provide electronic or recorded voice authorization to deduct membership dues; and authorizes a cross-check process to determine union representation for certain public employees, upon a showing of interest of 50 percent of the employees in the bargaining unit.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1696	Wage and salary information	Prohibits an employer from seeking the wage or salary history of an applicant or requiring that the wage or salary history meet certain criteria, with some exceptions; requires an employer with 15 or more employees to provide to an applicant the minimum wage or salary for the position upon request after the employment offer to the applicant; and requires an employer with 15 or more employees to provide, upon request of an employee offered a transfer or promotion, the wage scale or salary range for the new position.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1930	Expression of breast milk	Provides that for the purposes of reasonable accommodation for pregnancy, employers must provide reasonable break time for an employee to express breast milk for two years after the child's birth and provide a private location, other than a bathroom, to express breast milk; and provides that if the business location does not have a space for the employee to express breast milk, the employer must work with the employee to identify a convenient location and work schedule to accommodate their needs.	Effective: 7/28/19
SB 5022	Higher education/ interest arbitration	Provides binding interest arbitration for duly sworn police officers employed as members of a police force established by state universities, regional universities, and The Evergreen State College.	Effective: 7/28/19

SB 5233	Sick leave/ collective bargaining	Exempts workers covered by a collective bargaining agreement from state sick leave requirements if the CBA meets certain criteria, including establishing provisions for sick leave that meet or exceed the benefits provided under state sick leave laws.	Effective: 7/28/19
SB 5350	Optional life annuity	Provides members of the Public Employees', Public Safety Employees', and the School Employees' Retirement Systems Plans 2 or 3 the opportunity to purchase an annuity from their respective retirement plan at the time of retirement.	Effective: 1/01/20
SB 5360	Retirement system defaults	Changes the default retirement for new members to the Public Employees' Retirement System, Teachers' Retirement System, or School Employees' Retirement System from Plan 3 to Plan 2.	Effective: 7/28/19

Information Technology

HB 1071	Personal information	Expands the definition of "personal information" in the data breach notice laws; requires certain additional information to be provided in a data breach notice to affected consumers and to the Attorney General; authorizes additional methods of providing a data breach notice to affected consumers; and shortens the period of time to provide notice to affected consumers and the Attorney General from 45 days to 30 days.	Effective: 3/01/20
SB 5511	Broadband service	Expands broadband service to enable economic development, public safety, health care, and education in Washington's communities.	Effective: 7/28/19

Operating Budget

HB 1109	Operating budget	Making 2019-2021 biennium operating appropriations and 2017-2019 biennium second supplemental operating appropriations.	Effective: 5/21/2019
HB 2158	Workforce education	Creates the Workforce Education Investment Account for revenues collected from targeted business and occupation surcharges (appropriations from the account total \$373.8 million for the 2019-21 biennium); and appropriates \$3.426 million for Western Washington University to increase access to STEM degrees, which may include expanding pre-healthcare capacity, creating an energy science and technology B.S. degree, and expanding electrical engineering degrees and \$1.8 million for WWU for compensation and central services support, in recognition that operating costs, including compensation and central services, exceed estimated increases in undergraduate operating fee revenue.	Effective: (Various)

Public Records

HB 2020	Employment investigations	Expands the public disclosure exemption for records compiled by an employer-agency in an ongoing and active investigation of employment discrimination to include the names of complainants, other accusers, and witnesses after the investigation is complete; and expands the exemption to include investigations into violations of an agency's internal harassment and discrimination policies.	Effective: 7/28/19
------------	------------------------------	---	-----------------------

Student Support Services

HB 1166	Sexual assault	Establishes storage requirements for unreported sexual assault kits, and places a temporary moratorium on destroying untested sexual assault kits sets deadlines for submitting and testing sexual assault kits extends the statute of limitations applying to suspect identification from DNA testing or photograph from one to two years; and establishes specified rights for sexual assault survivors.	Effective: 4/23/19
HB 1355	CTC counselor staffing	Creates a joint legislative task force to examine issues related to minimum standards and staffing ratios of counselors in the community and technical college system.	Effective: 7/28/19

SB 5800	Homeless college students	Establishes pilot programs at certain public baccalaureates and college districts to assist students experiencing homelessness and students who were in the foster care system when they graduated high school; \$278,000 included in 19-21 operating budget for pilot program.	Effective: 7/28/19
---------	---------------------------	---	--------------------

Teacher Preparation

HB 1139	Educator workforce supply	Creates new educator recruitment and retention policies related to regional educator recruitment, recruitment of military personnel, educator discipline, microcredentials, and a Professional Educator Collaborative; and revises educator recruitment and retention policies related to the Recruiting Washington Teachers Program, student teacher field placement, financial incentives, assistance, and supports for people pursuing educator certificates, including grants, conditional scholarships, and loan repayment, the Beginning Educator Support Team Program, the Principal Internship Support Program certification requirements; postretirement employment options, and evaluation of classroom teachers and principals. Funding is provided in the 2019-21 operating budget for OSPI to provide training to student teacher mentors, for the Professional Educator Standards Board to implement the Regional Recruiters Pilot Program and the Education Service District Alternative Route Teacher Certification program, and for the Washington Student Achievement Council to assist local school districts, submit reports, and administer conditional scholarship and loan repayment programs related to the current and future education workforce supply.	Effective: 5/08/19
---------	---------------------------	--	--------------------

HB 1658	Para- educators	Modifies deadlines by which districts must provide the fundamental course of study to paraeducators hired for the 2020-21 school year and beyond; encourages districts to provide at least one of the 10 days of general courses on the state paraeducator standards as a professional learning day, where paraeducators collaborate with certified staff and other classified staff on applicable courses; directs the Paraeducator Board to promote the use of paraeducators to meet educator workforce needs in specified ways; requires the Paraeducator Board to submit a report to the Legislature on using paraeducators in teacher roles or supporting paraeducators to become teachers; and modifies requirements for paraeducators with the intent to become a teacher in a shortage area to qualify for a conditional scholarship to complete a two-year degree.	Effective: 7/28/19
SB 1621	Teacher preparation skills assessment	Removes requirement that applicants to a teacher preparation program pass a basic skills assessment; requires applicants to take the basic skills assessment or an alternative basic skills assessment and report the individual results to the Professional Educator Standards Board and an approved teacher preparation program; and establishes that a teacher preparation program may use the results of the basic skills assessment or an alternative assessment in determining a candidate's readiness for the program.	Effective: 7/28/19
SB 5023	Ethnic studies	Requires the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to identify and make available ethnic studies materials and resources for use in grades 7–12; directs OSPI to convene an advisory committee to advise, assist, and make recommendations regarding the identification of ethnic studies materials and resources; and encourages public schools with students in grades 7-12 to offer an ethnic studies course that incorporates the materials and resources.	Effective: 7/28/19
SB 5082	Social emotional learning	Creates a permanent committee to promote and expand social emotional learning (SEL) with certain duties and members; requires the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to adopt SEL standards and align the programs it oversees with the standards and integrate where appropriate; and directs the Professional Educator Standards Board to incorporate SEL standards along the entire career continuum for teachers.	Effective: 7/28/19

SB 5612	Holocaust education	Strongly encourages instruction on the Holocaust in every public middle, junior high, and high school; directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to collaborate with an expert organization to develop best practices and guidelines for high quality instruction on the Holocaust and to encourage, support, and train teachers in implementing them; requires middle, junior high, and high schools offering Holocaust instruction to follow the best practices and guidelines, beginning September 1, 2020; directs the OSPI to report to the Legislature with a summary of specified feedback and a recommendation about whether Holocaust instruction should be required in public schools, and if so, in which grades.	Effective: 7/28/19
---------	---------------------	---	--------------------

Veterans Services

HB 1448	Veterans service officer program	Creates the Veterans Service Officer Program for underserved counties with populations under 100,000 to establish veterans service officers.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 1688	Resident student/veterans	Requires a student who is entitled to federal Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Services benefits to receive in-state tuition at public higher education institutions.	Effective: 7/28/19
HB 2158	Workforce education	Increases the mandatory tuition waiver credit limit for veteran and national guard tuition waivers from 200 to 250 for children, spouses, and domestic partners of service members who died as a result of service, became totally disabled, or have a POW or MIA designation; and, expands the definition of eligible veteran or National Guard member to also include veterans or National Guard members who receive any discharge if the sole reason for discharge is due to gender or sexuality.	Effective: 7/28/19

Appendix: WWU's 2019 Legislative Priorities



As Washington's third largest public university, Western is committed to serving the people of the state with a focus on academic excellence and inclusive achievement. Western's top legislative priorities for 2019 reflect the University's most urgent needs in order to help advance the State's education attainment goals—that by 2024, at least 70% of adults in Washington, ages 25-44, will have a post-secondary credential.

MAINTAINING WESTERN'S STRENGTHS

In order for Western to attract and retain the high quality faculty and staff necessary to educate our students, WWU requests funding for compensation increases for all faculty and professional staff.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO STEM DEGREES

Western is experiencing unprecedented growth in the number of students majoring in STEM degree programs. These capacity constraints and bottlenecks in STEM programs limit WWU's ability to produce career-ready STEM graduates and delay students' time-to-graduation.

OPERATING REQUEST:

\$7.6 million – Expand STEM Capacity – This proposal will address existing course bottlenecks and generate a total of 112 new STEM graduates each year in the high-demand fields of pre-healthcare, Energy Science, and Electrical Engineering. Elements of the proposal include:

- Addressing State's shortage of healthcare providers by expanding capacity within pre-healthcare degree pathways;
- Creating a Bachelor of Science degree program in Energy Science & Technology to address clean energy workforce needs; and
- Growing WWU's Electrical Engineering program to address student and workforce demand.

CAPITAL REQUEST:

\$60 million – Interdisciplinary Sciences Building – This proposal will fund the construction of a 50,000 square foot addition to the existing Biology and Chemistry Building to support several STEM degree programs. The facility will address existing space constraints and help WWU produce 70 additional degrees each year in STEM and high-demand fields.

\$6.5 million – Electrical Engineering/Computer Science Building – This proposal for pre-design/design funding will enable Western to plan for a 50,000 square foot building to address existing capacity constraints in the University's fastest growing majors and accommodate future growth, with the aim of tripling the number of electrical engineering graduates each year and increasing the number of computer science graduates by 50 percent. State funding will also leverage the strong potential for private-sector funding during the construction phase of the project.

OTHER KEY PRIORITIES

- \$5.9 million to update critical wired and wireless networks throughout campus, leading to enhanced learning opportunities for students and improved efficiencies for faculty and staff.
- \$2.2 million to improve Career-Connected Learning by expanding career counseling services to support every student in achieving their career potential.
- \$4.8 million to address the State's teacher shortage by increasing the number of teachers graduating from WWU by 200 each year in the high needs areas of elementary education, early childhood education, special education and secondary STEM education.

WWU is an equal opportunity institution. To request this document in an alternate format, please contact (360) 650-2746.