



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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May 23, 2018

**TO:** George Bridges, President, The Evergreen State College  
Ana Mari Cauce, President, University of Washington  
Mary Cullinan, President, Eastern Washington University  
James Gaudino, President, Central Washington University  
Sabah Randhawa, President, Western Washington University  
Kirk Schulz, President, Washington State University  
Jan Yoshiwara, Executive Director, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

**FROM:** David Schumacher   
Director

**SUBJECT: COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY PLAN TUITION GROWTH RATE**

Pursuant to RCW 28B.15.067 (3)(b) and (6)(c), beginning with the 2017-18 academic year, full-time tuition operating fees for resident undergraduates may increase by no more than the average annual percentage growth rate in the median hourly wage for Washington for the previous 14 years, as determined by the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (Federal Bureau).

Each year, the Federal Bureau releases the most recent median hourly wage data by state. Based on recently released data, the percentage growth rate in the median hourly wage for Washington for the previous 14 years was calculated at 2.2 percent. Under current law, tuition operating fees for public community and technical colleges and public four-year institutions may increase by no more than 2.2 percent in the 2018-19 academic year.

Median Hourly Wage – Average Annual Growth		
Year	Median Hourly Wage	Annual Growth
2017	\$21.36	2.3%
2016	\$20.87	2.9%
2015	\$20.28	2.6%
2014	\$19.76	0.5%
2013	\$19.67	1.0%
2012	\$19.47	0.9%
2011	\$19.30	2.9%
2010	\$18.76	2.1%
2009	\$18.37	2.5%
2008	\$17.92	3.0%
2007	\$17.39	3.5%
2006	\$16.81	3.1%
2005	\$16.30	2.4%
2004	\$15.92	1.7%
2003	\$15.66	N/A
<b>Average Annual Growth</b>		<b>2.2%</b>



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cc: Michael Bezanson, Staff Coordinator, Senate Ways and Means Committee  
Charlie Gavigan, Staff Coordinator, House Appropriations Committee  
Danny Masterson, Fiscal Analyst, Senate Ways and Means Committee  
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Kate Davis, Senior Budget Analyst, OFM  
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Agency Budget Officers for Four-Year Colleges and SBCTC