



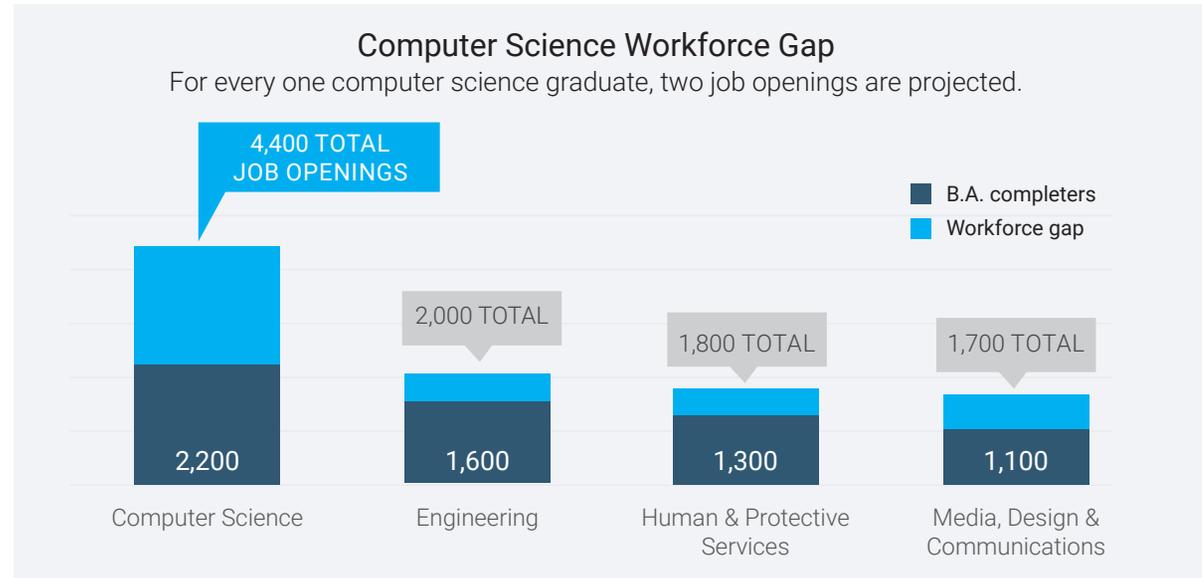
HIGHER EDUCATION

Expanding computer science, engineering at UW

Continue effort to double the number of computer science degrees awarded, from 300 to 600 annually. Funds will support 10–12 additional faculty and staff in the University of Washington’s Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science and Engineering. Washington currently has about twice as many computer science job openings as it does students graduating with computer science degrees. (\$3.0 million General Fund-State)

Expand Opportunity Scholarships

Expand the Opportunity Scholarship program to students enrolled in professional-technical certificate degree programs such as pre-apprenticeships, apprenticeships, two-year degrees and certificates. This program is a partnership that provides scholarships to low- and middle-income students who have received their high school diploma or GED certificate in Washington and are pursuing a degree or certificate in approved fields, such as STEM or health care. State funds will leverage a dollar-for-dollar private match. The number of students to be served will depend



on the size of the grant award determined by the Opportunity Scholarship board and the value of private donations received. (\$1.0 million GF-S)

Renewable solar incentive program

Implement a new renewable solar incentive program for electric customers who produce clean renewable energy. Utilities pay the incentive to customers and receive a tax credit equal to the incentive payment. Program administration has been transferred to Washington State University. Due to timing, the enacted budget did not include an appropriation. (\$1.2 million GF-S)

Next generation clean technology

Fund a full-time director, support staff and a grant program at Washington State University to accelerate research, leverage private funding and coordinate with private industry on next generation clean energy technologies. These include wind turbines, solar panels, and electric and hybrid car batteries. Funding is for the Joint Center for Deployment and Research in Earth Abundant Materials, a research collaborative working to identify earth abundant materials, promote environmentally responsible manufacturing processes and recycle materials

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from consumer products for use in clean energy technology. Its board includes members from the University of Washington, Washington State University and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. (\$500,000 GF-S)

Labor and workforce research

Expand South Seattle College's Washington State Labor Education and Research Center by three staff. The center provides workforce education, conducts trainings, produces the Washington State Workplace Rights manual and teaches continuing education classes. New staff will extend its research capacity, increase the number of classes and worker trainings, and develop an online associate degree in workforce and labor studies. (\$338,000 GF-S)

Shellfish aquaculture study

Fund a grant at the University of Washington to conduct a three-year study to identify best management practices that optimize the value of shellfish farms and preserve their availability as habitat for other species. Shellfish farming in Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor is significantly affected by nonnative eelgrass, which affects farming practices, and by burrowing shrimp, which soften the sediment and cause shellfish near the surface to suffocate. (\$200,000 Geoduck Research Account)

Enhance student consumer protections

Enhance consumer protections for students pursuing degrees from for-profit colleges through support for a program associate at the Washington Student Achievement Council. This staff member will help improve financial oversight, monitor enrollments and completions, and conduct additional site visits. Funding increase is offset by a corresponding change to fees charged to the institutions. (\$126,000 GF-S)