

Education

K-12 Education

The majority of the increase in the supplemental operating budget will help cover ongoing costs to meet the state's obligation to fully fund public schools. Additional investments will promote student well-being and equity in access to educational opportunities by:

- Expanding nursing services in Washington's smallest schools. (\$1.7 million General Fund-State)
- Strengthening the new statewide network of behavioral health and safety supports for students. (\$2.6 million GF-S)
- Creating a tribal liaison to facilitate access to career-connected learning opportunities for tribal students. (\$150,000 Workforce Education Investment Account)
- Increasing educational continuity for justice-involved youth and students in residential schools through more support for individualized instruction and records coordination. (\$1 million GF-S)

Higher Education

Washington College Grant

Expand the Washington College Grant investment made in E2SHB 2158 by funding the estimated caseload adjustment for eligible students in fiscal year 2021. (\$28 million in GF-S funds are expended into the Workforce Education Investment Account)

Investing in Washington's workforce

Since taking office, Gov. Inslee has committed to increasing support for all the working people of Washington. He has helped to build an economy that works for businesses and workers alike and partnered with business to transition our workforce to meet the demands of the future. During his time in office, Washington has led the nation on labor standards with an increasing minimum wage, more overtime protections, passage of legislation limiting noncompete clauses and more.

Most recently, he has targeted education funding to link Washington youth to career connected learning opportunities that prepare them for high-demand, high-wage jobs. This year, the governor signed the [Workforce Education Investment Act](#), one of the most progressive higher education investments in the country. With appropriations totaling \$375 million, the act guarantees financial aid for more than 110,000 qualified students in Washington to attend college for free or at a discounted rate. The law also created and funded the Career Connect Washington framework.

To advance this important work, the supplemental budget designates funding for the Job Skills program to expand training for incumbent workers; for career connected learning to make more students and families aware of these opportunities across the state; and for other investments. These include support for fair workweek legislation and a continuation of a study of benefits and assistance for contingent workers.

Incumbent worker training for mid-career workers

Expand customized, short-term and job-specific training for incumbent workers through the Job Skills program. This program co-invests with employers who need customized training due to growth and changes in technology, and to address skills shortages. (\$2.4 million Workforce Education Investment Account)

Career connected learning

Create a marketing campaign and an online program directory at Career Connect Washington (\$1.1 million); fund grants to develop more curricula (\$875,000); and hire a tribal liaison at the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to work with tribal students (\$150,000). Funding will also cover two staff members at the Education Research and Data Center to create new dashboards, reports and data marts in response

to anticipated student demand and other legislative requirements in statute (\$286,000). This additional staffing aligns with recommendations from the William D. Ruckelshaus Center Education Data work group. (\$2.4 million total Workforce Education Investment Account)

Secure scheduling/fair workweek

Enforce new regulations and investigate complaints and in anticipation of the passage of SB 5717. This measure proposes changes to the state's Minimum Wage Act to improve scheduling practices for employees in the retail and restaurant industries. These would include requiring certain employers to give employees their work schedules in advance, compensate employees for employer-requested changes to a work schedule and offer additional hours to current employees before hiring new ones. Affected employees would have the opportunity to submit complaints to the Department of Labor and Industries, resulting in additional investigations. Funds will cover seven staff at Labor and Industries. These revised regulations would provide stability to workers and employers. (\$1.2 million Accident Account-State; \$219,000 Medical Aid Account-State)

Labor protections for domestic workers

Establish health and safety standards and wage protections for domestic workers such as nannies, care providers and housekeepers through joint legislation with the Attorney General's Office. Funds are allocated to the Department of Labor and Industries to investigate complaints and enforce new regulations and for IT modifications to support the filing of new complaints. Funding is also provided for a work group in the Attorney General's Office to address additional labor protections and benefits. Work group recommendations will include making Washington industrial insurance — or workers' compensation — available to hiring entities to cover domestic workers; creating a standards board; and expanding sick leave provisions, paid time off and health care benefits. (\$770,000 General Fund-State)

Contingent Worker Safety Net Study

Continue a study to identify gaps in worker access to work-based benefits, employment rights and resources and to define and understand nontraditional and alternative work arrangements. (\$80,000 GF-S)