

General Government/Operating

Office of the Secretary of State

Increase voter education

Funding will expand the reach of critical, accurate, and reliable information about voting and elections in Washington.

(\$500,000 General Fund-State)

Department of Commerce

Improve digital equity access

The department's Digital Navigator Grant program provides funding to community organizations across the state that help individuals, groups or households with internet adoption and using computer devices. This includes providing real time assistance and laptops, computers, hot spot devices and other digital supportive devices.

These efforts will help individuals access governmental services, telehealth, social connectivity and education. Funding will increase the number of available grants communities can apply for.

(\$5.5 million GF-S)

Respond rapidly to drinking water issues

Local communities rely on access to safe drinking water. When their water gets contaminated, it's vital that communities can access emergency funds to address the situation. The department will support rapid drinking water testing and emergency

water supplies. This applies to overburdened communities or areas with vulnerable populations that face combined multiple environmental harms and health impacts from contaminated water supplies.

(\$1 million Model Toxics Control Account)

Office of the Attorney General

Establish permanent Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) unit

The Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) unit significantly contributed to sexual assault kit testing and investigations. This unit helped solve outstanding sexual assault cases across Washington and bring justice to victims of serious crimes. The Office of the Attorney General will establish a permanent SAKI unit to continue this momentum and success.

(\$801,000 GF-S)

Office of the Governor

Support equitable access

The Office of Equity will receive funding for additional staff to better engage agencies. These entities need more support to make sure employees and communities have equally effective communication and meaningful access to state information and services. The state's investment advocates for all Washingtonians to have full access to information and services – regardless of disability, primary language, or digital access status.

(\$857,000 Gov Central Service Account)

Office of Financial Management

Fund a report on accessing equitable care

Funding will support OFM as it completes a comprehensive state report on how individuals access equitable care for pregnant people. This includes pre-natal, labor and delivery, and postpartum care. This report will also recommend where and what services we need to best serve Washingtonians, specifically those who face greater obstacles to accessing adequate care. While lower than the national average, there are still 14.9% of women in Washington who can't access adequate prenatal care, which is 0.4% *above* the national average of 14.5%. The preterm birth rate among American Indian/Alaska Native women is 52% higher than all other women in the state — unable to access care at nearly two times the rate of all mothers (26% already receive inadequate prenatal care). While we have reports from national organizations that identify areas of need in Washington, we know these only tell a portion of the story.

(\$274,000 GF-S)

Bolster One Washington program

With coordination from multiple state agencies, the One Washington program will replace the state's 40-year-old financial system with a new, cloud-based system called Workday. The additional project amounts include funding for software licenses and subscriptions, technology pool funding for agencies, and expertise and skills in critical roles. This will help agencies meet the July 2025 go-live date. This additional project funding continues the Legislature's project investment from previous budgets.

(\$95 million other)

Consolidated Technology Services

Manage Artificial Intelligence (AI) strategy

With the pressing need to respond to imminent artificial intelligence growth, Washington needs to be ready to manage, use, and mitigate potential opportunities or risks with such technologies. Consolidated Technology Services (WaTech) will provide policies, frameworks, use cases, and guidance on how to safely and effectively use this emerging technology. The program will develop a statewide AI strategy and oversight process that will guide state agencies and local governments through this ever-changing landscape.

(\$939,000 GF-S)

Support technology modernization

Consolidated Technology Services (WaTech) works with agencies to adopt innovative technology and modernize outdated applications. Increasing this funding source will help agencies more quickly solve business problems and invite more state agencies to submit ideas for short-term, low-risk, high-reward projects to update their outdated applications.

(\$2 million GF-S)

Implement Electronic Health Records program

Consolidated Technology Services (WaTech) will start the implementation of an enterprise electronic health records solution. WaTech will coordinate this effort with three health and human services agencies. This will provide seamless services for Washingtonians and

communities by communicating and using data effectively across agencies to support client and community services.

(\$13.6 million GF-S)

Department of Enterprise Services

Reduce state office space

OFM set a 20% office space reduction goal for leases expiring in fiscal years 2024 and 2025 because of underused office space and a broader acceptance of hybrid work. State agencies have exceeded this goal and reduced this subset of leases by more than 400,000 square feet.

To further this work and achieve the state's 30% office space reduction target for leases expiring in fiscal years 2026 and 2027, the Department of Enterprise Services will hire three new real estate professionals. These employees will help state agencies identify available space and identify opportunities for agencies and staff to consolidate and downsize. This effort aligns with the state's goal to embrace hybrid work and increase efficiency by reducing office space leases and consolidating into state-owned facilities.

(\$942,000 GF-S)

Governor's Office of Indian Affairs

Hire staff for Governor's Tribal Leaders Social Services Council

The Governor's Tribal Leaders Social Services Council (GTLSSC) was created to facilitate communication between tribal governments and state agencies to resolve social services delivery issues. These groups can use the meetings to discuss resolutions across multiple agencies and identify overlapping barriers.

The council has reached the point where it needs the support of a project manager and administrative assistance to organize and track the complex work ahead.

(\$158,000 GF-S)

Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises

Support LGBTQ small-business certification

The Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE) will extend certification to LGBTQ-owned small businesses. In consultation with the LGBTQ Commission, OMWBE identified the need to address the economic disparities and social discrimination that disproportionately affects the LGBTQ community business owners in our state. Expanding business certification encourages entrepreneurship and economic stability among LGBTQ-owned small businesses and provides opportunities for them to access state contracts through the supplier diversity systems.

(\$300,000 GF-S)

Fund a disparity study

OMWBE will conduct an updated disparity study to assess Washington's progress toward creating a diverse supplier base. The first disparity study in 2019 revealed a pressing need to increase our support of minority and women-owned businesses. The new study will focus on how COVID-19 impacted minority and women-owned small businesses and provide a fresh outlook on how to increase supplier diversity contracts to meet statewide goals.

(\$1.2 million GF-S)

Criminal Justice Training Commission

Corrections Regional Academy

The Criminal Justice Training Commission is currently funded to provide four Corrections Officers Academy (COA) classes annually in Burien. To meet the increased demand for basic corrections officer training in eastern Washington, funding is provided for one additional class to be held in Spokane in fiscal year 2024 and two additional classes in fiscal year 2025 and each year thereafter. These additional classes will provide training for 36 more students in fiscal year 2024 and 72 more students in fiscal year 2025 and each year after.

*(\$1.3 million General Fund-State,
\$237,000 General Fund-Local)*

Eastern Washington State Historical Society

Acquire new collections

The Eastern Washington State Historical Society (EWSHS) will add two geographically and culturally significant collections to Washington during the 2023-2025 biennium. This includes:

- A 31-piece collection of artworks from the celebrated Spokane artist, Harold Balazs, known for his striking abstract sculptures.
- A treasury of Southern Plateau Tribal beadwork artifacts. This includes 3,000 objects and 4,000 historic photographs.

By obtaining these once privately held collections, Washington will enrich its communities and get access to these artworks and artifacts for cultural preservation and educational purposes.

(\$500,000 GF-S, \$350,000 Other)

Washington State Arts Commission

Bolster the Governor's Arts and Heritage Awards

Since 1966, the Governor's Arts and Heritage Awards acknowledged individuals and organizations for their significant contributions to arts and cultural heritage in Washington. This funding will award each honoree a \$10,000 grant and give the Arts Commission resources to organize and plan the annual event.

(\$300,000 GF-S)

Retiree health care and pension benefits

Increase retiree health benefits

The funding rates for state employee and school employee health insurance benefits support an increase in the retiree health insurance subsidy. The monthly cap of \$183 is increased to \$193 in the governor's budget, and funding is included to raise the base percentage covered from 50% to 60%. These increases reflect a commitment to healthcare support for retired public servants who are managing increased costs in a variety of areas.

(\$8.5 million GF-S)

Simplify pension process when beneficiary dies

Funding will support legislation that would ensure pension benefits continue through the end of the month when a retiree or beneficiary dies. The change simplifies administrative processes for families, particularly for those whose health coverage costs are deducted from their retirement benefits.

(\$4.9 million GF-S)

General Government/Capital

Strengthen communities

Department of Commerce

Strengthen Rapid Capital Housing Acquisition

Acquire approximately 1,350 housing units, including tiny homes and pallet shelters. Tiny homes and pallet shelters would temporarily house chronically homeless individuals encamped on public rights of way until they could be safely transitioned to permanent housing solutions. The Rapid Capital Housing Acquisition program is also enhanced to acquire manufactured home parks and allow existing tenants — mostly elderly — to maintain their existing affordable homes on these sites.

(\$100 million bonds)

Create housing for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Build approximately 25 affordable and accessible housing units for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This would provide affordable housing, more independent living options and increase their quality of life.

(\$4.5 million Washington Housing Trust Fund-State)

Invest in broadband

Leverage approximately \$1.2 billion in federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) funding allocated for Washington. These funds will increase digital equity and

connectivity toward the [Internet for All](#) goal. This investment will advance the state's broadband access goals in unserved and underserved areas by getting infrastructure funds out to communities, public partnerships and private partnerships that are ready to invest in broadband.

The governor's 2024 capital supplemental budget includes spending for federal State Digital Equity Capacity Grant program. This will offer Washington the chance to promote the achievement of digital equity, support digital inclusion activities, and build capacity for the department as it implements the federal BEAD grants. Meanwhile, state funding will support technical assistance to subgrantees and increase Tribes' and public entities' participation and access to the BEAD grants.

(\$100.6 million General Fund-Federal, \$13.9 million Public Works Assistance Account)

Support BIPOC communities

Fund 14 community-led capital projects that serve underserved communities statewide. Black, Indigenous and communities of color (BIPOC) communities in urban and rural areas that are disproportionately affected by poverty will benefit from this investment. The Communities of Concern Commission developed this list of projects.

(\$10.4 million bonds)

Establish crisis stabilization for Trueblood Phase 3

Funding for this project will be used to develop 16 licensed crisis stabilization beds in the Thurston or Mason County region so the state can meet implementation plan expectations for Phase 3 of the Trueblood Settlement Agreement. This community-based approach will provide short-term, prompt attention and support in a respectful environment for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis or an acute behavioral health problem. These crisis stabilization beds will serve as a health care alternative to jail, emergency room settings, or evaluation and treatment center services.

(\$5 million bonds)

Department of Enterprise Services

Upgrade critical fire systems

Replace ailing fire alarm systems at the Temple of Justice, Old Capitol Building, Governor's Mansion, Perry Street Child Care Center and Dolliver Building.

(\$2.7 million bonds)

Enhance Capitol Campus security and safety

Add and/or improve fencing, gates, and bollards at the executive residence (Governor's Mansion), enhancing security for residents and guests. These upgrades will allow the Washington State Patrol and other security personnel to fully implement a comprehensive security plan (including physical, electronic, and video components) that is not currently possible.

(\$1.6 million bonds)

Military Department

Renovate Camp Murray Building 34

Additional funding will help the department use vacated space to expand the medical readiness detachment (Building 34) at Camp Murray. This project aims to repurpose existing space to create a controlled storage area for medical records to meet HIPAA requirements, climate-controlled storage for Class VIII medical supplies and medications, and a certified lab and blood testing area. These efforts will create functional space while bringing the facility closer to National Guard standards.

(\$1.2 million bonds; \$495,000 GF-F)