



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
Office of the Governor

December 7, 2017

Dear Elected Official:

We have a tremendous opportunity over the next few years to ensure that our state has the resources and representation we need to serve our residents for not only the next decade, but for many years to come. In the 2020 Census we must ensure that all Washingtonians are counted. And to do it right, we must engage now, and we need your help.

The first deadline is rapidly approaching. Applications to **the Census Bureau's Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) program are due on December 15, 2017.**

If your jurisdiction has not already done so, I strongly urge you to sign up immediately. Go to the Census Bureau's LUCA website (<https://www.census.gov/geo/partnerships/luca.html>) to see if your jurisdiction is participating or for registration information.

Census quick facts:

- Census data guides \$13.7 billion in federal funds to Washington State every year.
- On average, each household missed in our state means approximately \$4,800 less in annual per capita funding allotments to the state.
- The 2020 Census is also the base for state population estimates that determine the allocation of about \$200 million to counties and cities from the state general fund annually.

A census undercount would create a misleading picture of population growth, put comprehensive planning efforts off track, and could impact our Congressional representation. We can't let any of that happen.

There is too much at stake for Washington State. All indications are that the federal government's 2020 Census efforts will not be as vigorous as previous counts, including reduced funding for outreach and community engagement efforts. This makes it even more important that we step up at the state level.

The LUCA program is the most effective means local governments have to ensure accurate 2020 Census counts. To reduce costs, the 2020 Census is going to rely on this address list more than any other census in history. It is essential that local governments participate in LUCA to ensure a complete address list.

I know you have a lot of immediate competing demands; however, allocating time and resources to the LUCA review now will pay off in the next decade. We in state government are exploring how we can support these efforts, and we appreciate your partnership in this very important work.

For more information, contact the Census Bureau directly at 1.844.344.0169 or [geo.2020.luca@census.gov](mailto:geo.2020.luca@census.gov). For state-specific LUCA or 2020 Census questions, please contact Erica Gardner at [Erica.gardner@ofm.wa.gov](mailto:Erica.gardner@ofm.wa.gov) or 360.902.0535.



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Thank you for all you do for our state's residents. Let's work together to make sure we are all counted in the 2020 Census.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jay Inslee  
Governor