

Budget Savings Options 2025

Dollars in Thousands

Agency: 083 WSLB

Agency Priority H, M, L	Impac t 1-5	Program/Activity	GF-S					Other Funds					FTE Change					Brief Description and Rationale	Effective Date (MM/YY)	Impacts of Reductions and Other Considerations	Law/Reg. Change Required (cite)
			FY 25	FY 26	FY 27	FY28	FY 29	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27	FY28	FY 29	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27	FY28	FY 29				
H	1	010 - Leadership Development							16	15	16	15						Reduce funding for annual State Honors and Awards program.	07/25	The annual Honors Awards recognize outstanding leaders, to include student leaders, across Washington State, celebrating their achievements in leadership, service, and civic engagement. These awards not only provide well-earned recognition but also serve as a powerful incentive for students to pursue leadership opportunities and community involvement. With this reduction, we lose a key opportunity to elevate the voices of young leaders and inspire their peers to engage in meaningful public service. For many students, particularly those from underserved communities, this recognition is a crucial motivator that propels them toward future leadership roles in government, nonprofit work, and civic engagement. Without the Honors Awards, we risk diminishing the visibility of student leadership and the long-term impact of these young changemakers in Washington. At a time when Washington is prioritizing investments in K-12 education, eliminating this program reduces our ability to directly encourage student leadership development. While we understand the financial constraints, we urge consideration of the long-term consequences of de-prioritizing student leadership recognition, which plays a pivotal role in fostering civic engagement and preparing the next generation of public servants.	
H	1	010 - Leadership Development							12	13	12	13						Eliminate Program Celebration Day	07/25	Programs Celebration Day serves as an essential culminating event that brings together students, mentors, and stakeholders to showcase the impact of WSLB leadership development programs. This event provides a platform for K-12 students to network with professionals, engage in mentorship opportunities, and highlight their leadership journeys. Eliminating this event not only limits students' access to valuable connections but also reduces the visibility of our agency's impact in fostering leadership among K-12 students. The networking and mentorship opportunities presented at this event have historically opened doors for students—particularly those in rural and underserved areas—by connecting them with future opportunities in higher education, internships, and career pathways. Given the state's focus on K-12 education, it is critical to recognize that leadership development is an essential component of student success. Removing Programs Celebration Day weakens a crucial touchpoint where we reinforce the value of student leadership and civic engagement, potentially diminishing students' motivation to pursue leadership roles in their schools and communities.	
H	1	010 - Leadership Development							32	32	32	32		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	Eliminate part time position	07/25	The elimination of our part-time position directly impacts our agency's capacity to serve K-12 students. This role has been instrumental in supporting program implementation, outreach, and logistical coordination that ensures the smooth execution of student leadership initiatives. Losing this position reduces our ability to provide high-quality programming, timely support to students, and essential coordination with schools, educators, and community partners. With fewer staff resources, our agency will face significant challenges in maintaining the same level of service to K-12 students. Reduced capacity means fewer leadership development opportunities, limited program expansion, and diminished student engagement—ultimately affecting the very students that Washington aims to prioritize in this budget cycle. While we recognize the need for budget reductions, we strongly encourage a broader conversation on sustaining the infrastructure that supports student leadership development. Investing in K-12 students extends beyond traditional classroom funding; it also requires ensuring that critical leadership programs remain adequately staffed and supported to prepare students for success beyond high school.	

Priority:

L = Low priority agency activity or program
M = Medium priority agency activity or program
H = High priority agency activity or program

Impact:

1 = Allows continuation of the program/activity at a reduced level
2 = Eliminates the ability to perform program objectives
3 = Eliminates agency function
4 = Long term implications (moves the problem to next biennium)
5 = Short term (reduction to one time increase)