

WSU 2015 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

In 1890, Washington State University was established as the state's land grant university. We are charged with delivering support to the state's economy by expanding the workforce through education and supporting local industry through research. In 1894, with the opening of what is now the Puyallup Research and Extension Center, WSU established a presence that crosses the mountains and is truly statewide. Today, the university has campuses in Pullman, Spokane, the Tri-Cities and Vancouver. We also manage the Everett University Center and operate additional research and extension centers in Mount Vernon, Wenatchee and Prosser, and offer satellite degree programs in Walla Walla, Yakima and Bremerton. Each of the programs is tailored to reflect the needs of the surrounding community and economy. In addition, the university is present in every Washington county through WSU Extension and we continue to pioneer online education through the WSU Global Campus.

2015 Legislative Priorities

EXPANSION OF MEDICAL EDUCATION AND IMPROVED ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

WSU is seeking legislation authorizing the university to pursue medicine as an academic discipline and \$2.5 million in the 2015-17 operating budget to support accreditation.

Washington's shortage and maldistribution of primary care physicians is becoming increasingly acute as our population and physician workforce ages. At the same time, the state's capacity to produce its own physician workforce is among the most undersized in the nation.

A second publicly-funded school of medicine will increase the pool of Washington students applying for residencies in Washington, dramatically increasing the likelihood that those students will establish practices here. In addition, this will provide opportunity to the hundreds of qualified Washington students who must leave the state to attend medical school or pursue another profession. As part of our commitment to building the pipeline, WSU is working to increase the number of medical residencies in Washington through the university's successful application for a Teaching Health Center. This is even as the state is unable to produce the medical school graduates to fill the residency slots we already have.

REINVEST IN HIGHER EDUCATION

After years of devastating reductions that eliminated academic programs and student services, cut hundreds of jobs and drove up tuition, the Legislature in 2013 began the process of rebuilding through reinvestment. Despite previous reductions, WSU is serving more than 1,800 additional students than it was before the economic downturn. New investment is needed to support this access, preserve quality, promote affordability and deliver the services needed for the changing face of Washington's student body.

DELIVER HIGH DEMAND DEGREES FOR UNDERSERVED NORTH PUGET SOUND

WSU is requesting \$61.1 million in the capital budget to construct a 95,000 square foot classroom, office and laboratory building at the Everett University Center to house academic programs in the state's most underserved region. In addition, WSU is requesting \$4.5 million in the 15-17 operating budget to add 10 new majors from WSU and Central Washington University in the fields of aviation management, data analytics, software engineering, and agriculture and food systems.

WSU BY THE NUMBERS

- Enrollment: 26,577 full time equivalents
- Tuition and fees: \$12,428 for resident undergraduate
- Student debt at graduation for those with debt: \$24,298
- 58.3 percent graduate with debt
- 27.4 percent pay no tuition
- 39.4 percent pay full tuition
- 87.2 percent of undergraduates are Washington residents
- 26.5 percent are students of color including 35 percent of freshmen
- 76.5 percent of transfer applicants offered admission
- 35.8 percent of students are Pell Grant eligible
- Average time to degree: 4.46 years for first time full time freshmen

A Second State Medical School for Washington

Washington State is experiencing a physician shortage and the problem is getting worse. Driven by an aging physician workforce, population growth that exceeds national averages, and increased access to health insurance, Washington needs 1,700 primary care physicians and 4,000 total physicians beyond current levels by 2030. Washington State also suffers from a maldistribution of its existing physician workforce with around 50 percent of physicians located in King County, creating great disparities in access among Washington State communities.

Due to capacity constraints, two-thirds of Washington students who attend an M.D. granting medical school leave the state to do so and at higher costs that threaten to push them out of primary care disciplines. The result is that Washington State ranks 42nd out of 45 states with medical schools for enrolling qualified, in-state students. Washington ranks 48th in the country in medical students per capita.

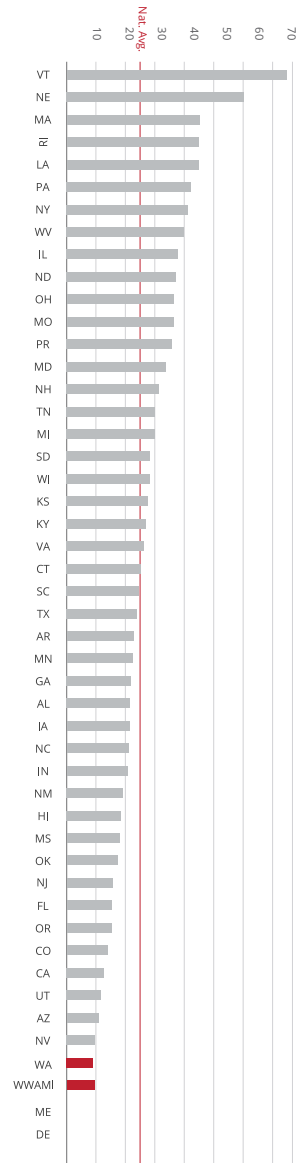
More than 70 percent of students who graduate from medical school in Washington and complete their residency in Washington establish a practice in Washington. WSU already is securing new

residencies through the utilization of a federal program to create a Teaching Health Clinic. But Washington produces far fewer medical school graduates each year to apply for the more than 400 first year residency slots the state already has. A second publicly-funded medical school will increase the number of Washington students applying for residencies in Washington.

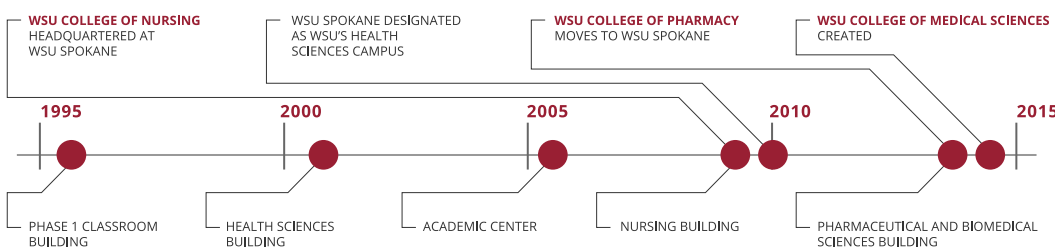
With a long history of engagement in the health sciences and significant prior investment in infrastructure in Spokane, WSU could establish a medical school without new capital investment. The university would avoid building a teaching hospital by using a community-based model to partner with existing hospitals and clinics across the state to deliver third and fourth-year clinical training experiences. Initial sites would include Vancouver, the Tri-Cities and Everett where WSU already has a critical mass of student services.

Medical schools are magnets for research and economic impact. That impact totaled \$5.7 billion in Washington in 2011. The four medical schools then operating in Michigan — with an economy the size of Washington’s — produced an impact four times that size that year.

MD STUDENTS/100K POPULATION



TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT: \$208 MILLION



SUPPORTERS

- Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians
- CHI Franciscan Health
- Columbia Basin Hospital
- Columbia River Economic Development Council
- Downtown Spokane Partnership
- Economic Alliance Snohomish County
- Greater Spokane Incorporated
- Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences
- Rockwood Clinic
- Spokane City Council
- Spokane Regional Labor Council
- The Spokesman-Review
- The Tri-City Herald
- Tri-City Legislative Council
- Washington Alliance of Teaching Physicians
- Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO
- WSU Board of Regents
- WSU Spokane Chancellor's Advisory Council
- Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic