



# WSU 2019 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Established in 1890 as the state's land-grant research university, WSU's research priorities around sustaining health and resources, advancing opportunity and equity, and improving quality of life through smart systems reflect the state's economy.

WSU enrolls over 30,000, producing degrees at campuses in Pullman, Vancouver, Spokane, Tri-Cities and Everett and at satellite programs in Walla Walla, Yakima and Bremerton. As the state's land-grant, WSU has Extension offices in all 39 counties and Research and Extension Centers in Puyallup, Mount Vernon, Prosser and Wenatchee. And, as pioneers in online education, WSU's Global Campus serves students worldwide.

## Legislative Priorities

### TOP PRIORITY: ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE FOR WASHINGTONIANS

WSU requests \$14.4 million in the state's 2019-21 biennial operating budget to fund the continued development of Washington's second publicly-funded medical school. This request provides the third- and fourth-year funding that fully funds the original 60 students-per-year cohorts. This request also funds expansion of each new class to 80.

The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine is committed to serving underserved populations in urban and rural Washington and recruits a geographically, ethnically and socioeconomically diverse student body that is public service oriented. Almost 1,200 applied for admission to the entering class of 2018, of which 687 were qualified for admittance to the class of 60 students. 1,553 have applied for admission to the medical school's entering class of 2019.

The college has also signed up more than 70 clinical affiliates across the state – from Forks to Pomeroy and Republic to Longview – where students will train in their third and fourth years. Included in these affiliates are almost half of Washington's critical access hospitals.

### PROVIDING QUALITY INSTRUCTION AND STUDENT SERVICES

WSU, with our higher education partners, is requesting funding for a 4% compensation increase in each fiscal year of the biennium to provide competitive and fair compensation to faculty and staff. This is a critical tool in recruiting and retaining the people that provide students with quality teaching, offer quality leadership, and provide the student services that ensure students graduate on time. WSU authorized a pair of 1 percent increases for the 2017-19 biennium, reflecting what the Legislature appropriated. This increase did not meet even a cost of living inflationary increase, making it difficult to retain faculty and staff, especially for high-demand disciplines such as nursing and business and high-demand student services including mental health. Better funded compensation packages will help Washington remain a top 10 state for graduation rates.

### CAPITAL BUDGET

WSU's 2019-21 capital budget request touches all university campuses to facilitate enrollment and programmatic growth. The top priority is completion funding for the new home of the Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab (WADDL), partially funded in 2017-19. WADDL is the state's diagnostic lab and as such on the front lines of the state's efforts to combat foreign animal disease, zoonotic diseases and food-borne illness, serving public health and the state's animal agriculture industry. Accreditors informed WSU in 2010 that the new facility is an investment required for WSU to maintain accreditation. WSU's capital request also includes funding for:

- a new academic building at WSU Tri-Cities;
- design funding for a new Life Sciences Building at WSU Vancouver;
- design funding for a new health sciences building at WSU Spokane, and
- funding to purchase land to accommodate future growth at WSU Everett.

These requests support campuses accommodating and planning for enrollment growth to bolster degree production to meet the state's attainment goals in every corner of Washington.

### HEALTHY SOILS, HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

In partnership with the Washington State Department of Agriculture and the Washington State Conservation Commission, WSU is requesting \$2.8 million in the state's 2019-21 biennial operating budget to Washington to support the state's world class agricultural industry and environmental priorities by leveraging and expanding WSU's world class soil expertise. Healthy soil supports agricultural production, now and in the future. Healthy soil means healthy communities, now and for generations to come.

### WSU BY THE NUMBERS

- Enrollment: 28,680 full-time equivalents
- Tuition and fees: \$11,584 for resident undergraduates
- Average undergraduate debt for those with debt: \$27,094
- 57 percent of undergraduates graduate with debt
- 28 percent of undergraduates pay no tuition
- 30 percent of undergraduates pay full tuition
- 82.1 percent of undergraduates are Washington residents
- 30.0 percent are students of color including 34.8 percent of freshmen
- 32 percent of undergraduates are Pell Grant eligible
- 37.4 percent of freshmen are first generation students
- 77.3 percent of transfer applicants are offered admission
- Average time to degree: 4.2 years for first-time full-time freshmen
- One of 115 preeminent universities ranked as "very high research activity" by the Carnegie Foundation for Advancement of Teaching
- Delivered \$3.4 billion in economic impact to the state of Washington (FY14)

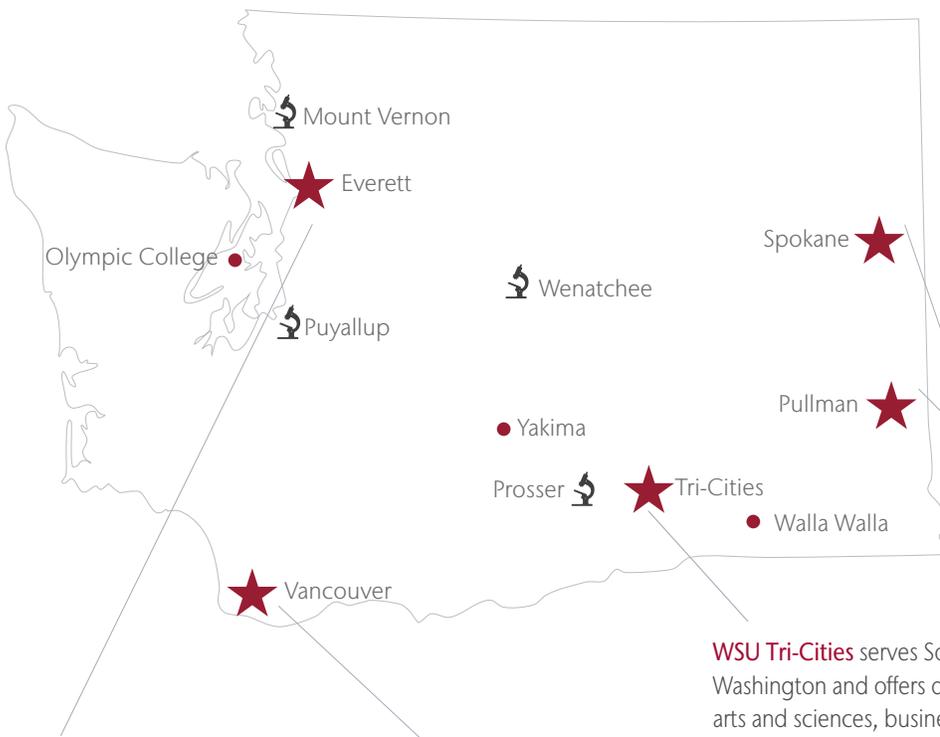


## DRIVE TO 25: WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY'S HIGHEST STRATEGIC PRIORITY

The Drive to 25 is Washington State University's goal of becoming one of the nation's top 25 public research universities by 2030. Its objectives guide decisions about institutional goals, priorities, and financial investments affecting WSU's teaching, research, and service mission. Achieving top 25 status will: boost student enrollment; attract additional external funding; create new public and private partnerships; provide students with a transformational educational experience; and, help the state reach its educational attainment goal of 70 percent of adults aged 25-44 having a postsecondary credential by 2023.

## WSU: SERVICE TO THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

WSU's assets enable the university to provide quality education, deliver research, and extend knowledge and expertise to support the state's major industries and its communities. WSU's legislative agenda supports the educational, research and service needs of WSU's major campuses located in Pullman, Spokane, Vancouver, Tri-Cities, and Everett and the students enrolled through the Global Campus.



Northwestern Washington is served by **WSU Everett** and the engineering program located at Olympic College. These programs are expanding access to four year degrees in high demand STEM-based fields of study. The primary areas of focus are educational and research programs that support advanced manufacturing, medical education, and agriculture.

**WSU Vancouver** serves Southwestern Washington, a rapidly growing and important region to the state's overall economy. WSU Vancouver's educational and research focus serves the high-tech sector and growing biotech and life sciences industries, helping to keep the region competitive through workforce development and translational research. The campus offers degrees in arts and sciences, education, business, engineering, neurosciences, and nursing.

**WSU Tri-Cities** serves South-central Washington and offers degrees in arts and sciences, business, education, engineering & applied sciences, nursing, and wine science. The campus supports workforce training and collaborative research that feeds the economic strengths of the region including R&D, technology, advanced manufacturing, agriculture, and healthcare. In addition, the region is served by WSU College of Nursing with degree programs offered in Walla Walla and Yakima. The WSU Irrigated Agriculture Research & Extension Center, located in Prosser, serves one of the most productive agricultural regions in the nation for wine grapes, tree fruit, and other commercial crops.

**WSU Extension** broadens the reach of the university into every county in Washington including four research and extension centers located in **Mount Vernon, Puyallup, Prosser, and Wenatchee**. Integral to WSU's mission as a land grant university, Extension advances the knowledge, economic development, and quality of life of Washington residents by developing and delivering programs through learner-centered, research-based education.

**WSU Pullman** is the main campus and home to eight colleges serving the university system. The largest campus, WSU Pullman has an enrollment of over 20,000 students.

**WSU Spokane** is home to the WSU Health Sciences campus and the colleges of medicine, nursing, and pharmacy. The campus offers degrees in nursing, medicine, pharmacy, speech & hearing, health policy & administration, nutrition/exercise, criminal justice, and education. The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine and the Spokane Teaching Health Center support Spokane's regional role in providing health care services and research for much of Eastern Washington.