



WSU 2020 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

OPERATING BUDGET: Washington State Soil Health Initiative

Maintaining and building upon Washington agricultural production value of almost \$11 billion annually is dependent on better understanding soil health – the next frontier of agricultural discovery. WSU requests \$788,000 in the 2020 supplemental operating budget- carrying a \$3.125 million four-year impact -- to develop, maintain and disseminate next generation strategies to help farmers improve soil health throughout Washington's diverse ecological landscape.

Working in collaboration with the Washington State Department of Agriculture and the Washington Conservation Commission, the Soil Health Initiative will develop and maintain new long-term research sites in Othello and Wenatchee to complement sites in Mount Vernon and Whitman County to better understand soil health throughout the state's ecologically diverse cropping systems. New best management practices delivered to producers will help increase yields, quality, and the nutritional value of crops while producing environmental benefits.

POLICY: Reauthorizing the Joint Center for Aerospace Technology Innovation

Since inception, JCATI has leveraged \$9 million in state support to secure more than \$20 million in extramural funding to help more than 60 Washington aerospace companies in 13 counties address research questions they face. Almost 400 students have participated in more than 100 individual research projects, providing valuable educational experience working with employers. Though fully funded, JCATI is scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2020. WSU and an array of partners will pursue legislation in the 2020 session to reauthorize JCATI for another 10 years. Reauthorization has been recommended by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee.

CAPITAL BUDGET: Washington State University Vancouver Life Sciences Building

WSU requests \$4 million in the state's supplemental capital budget to design the Life Sciences Building on its Vancouver campus to continue progression for a project previously funded for pre-design that is needed to accommodate continued enrollment growth in STEM disciplines. No longer able to rely on retrofitting existing spaces to expand teaching lab capacity, new space is needed for foundational coursework in disciplines such as chemistry, biology and physics and to support teaching and research in neuroscience, nursing and molecular biology.

With the help of its regional educational partners, WSU Vancouver has significantly enhanced educational attainment in Southwest Washington. Just over half of the student body is comprised of first-generation college students. But continued growth is dependent on having new instructional facilities.

WSU BY THE NUMBERS

Enrollment: **28,777** full-time equivalents

Tuition and fees: **\$11,841** for resident undergraduates

Average undergraduate debt for those with debt: **\$25,899**

57 percent of undergraduates graduate with debt

27 percent of undergraduates pay no tuition

32 percent of undergraduates pay full tuition

80.9 percent of undergraduates are Washington residents

30.5 percent are students of color including **35.0 percent** of freshmen

29.4 percent of undergraduates are Pell Grant eligible

34.8 percent of freshmen are first generation students

76.1 percent of transfer applicants are offered admission

Average time to degree: **4.2 years** for first-time full-time freshmen

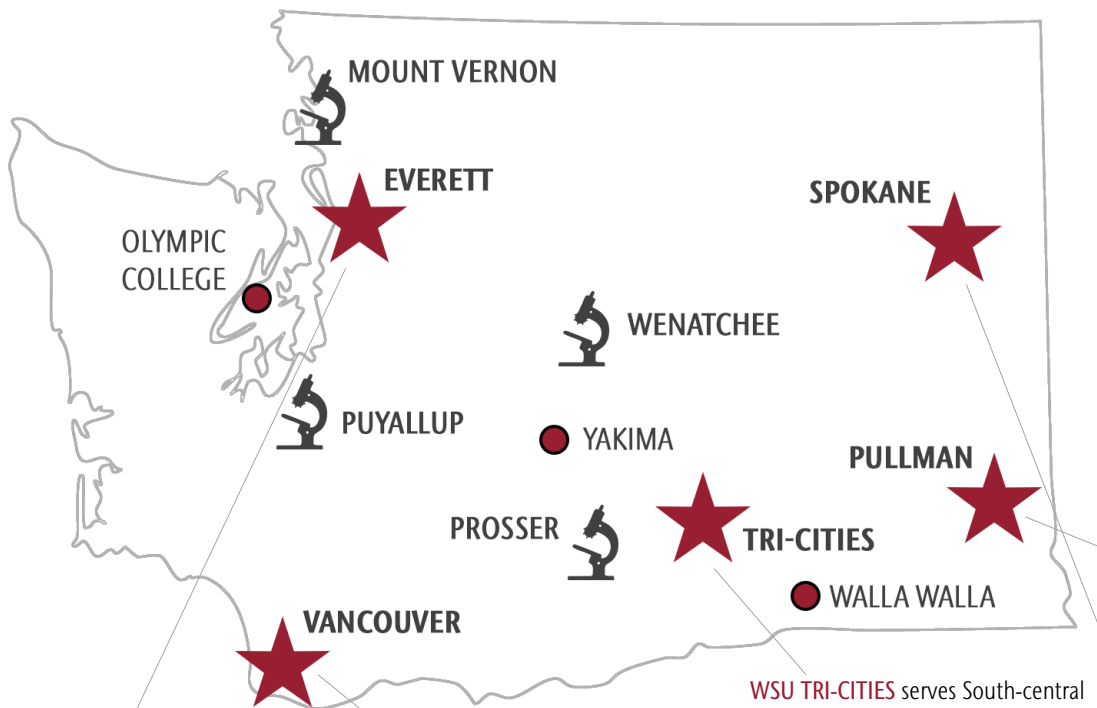


DRIVE TO 25: WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY'S HIGHEST STRATEGIC PRIORITY

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.