



## *Comprehensive Guidance/Planning Programs*

### 1. **Purpose:**

To provide technical assistance and support to school districts and schools with implementing a comprehensive school counseling program (CSCP) and high-quality High School and Beyond Plans (HSBP) consistent with RCW 28A.230.090.

### 2. **Description of services provided:**

OSPI school counseling staff develop and provide professional learning, resources, communication, policy change advocacy and updates, and technical assistance to districts in support of the implementation and management of developmentally appropriate, evidence-based comprehensive school counseling programs (CSCP). During the 2021 legislative session, the Legislature passed [Substitute Senate Bill \(SSB\) 5030](#), which requires districts to develop and implement a district-level CSCP for all schools that addresses students' academic, career and social/emotional development in alignment with the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) National Model.

OSPI was tasked with writing guidance to support districts with implementation of SSB5030. Additional support and resources were provided to districts to meet the bill requirement for drafting a district-level CSCP plan prior to the start of the 2022–23 school year. OSPI partnered with the Wa. St. School Directors' Association (WSSDA) to update the corresponding model policy, including the bill requirement for school boards to adopt a Transition Plan in support of the CSCP. This Transition Plan was to address any needed district support to begin transitional implementation in the 2022–23 school year and make progress toward full implementation in 2023–24 and beyond.

OSPI school counseling staff also wrote a proposal and were granted almost \$2 million of OSPIs available federal ESSER funds to support this systemic shift in practice. Significant staff time and additional ESSER funds were needed during the 2021-22 fiscal year to prioritize the provision of statewide communication, guidance, resource development and professional learning in support of SSB5030.

This proviso also requires OSPI staff to develop and provide professional learning, resources, communication, policy change advocacy and updates, and technical assistance to districts in support of the implementation and management of high-quality high school and beyond plans. This year, again with the additional fiscal support of another ESSER funded proposal, OSPI recruited staff from across the state to engage in a HSBP Advisory Council to support the much-needed updating and expanding of current HSBP curriculum, resources and professional learning. ESSER funds have also enabled staff to secure a contract that will update the list of online HSBP platforms that are most aligned with current state requirements, as initially required as a one-time only process in HB1599 (2019)

**3. Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:**

No criteria. OSPI staff provide support across all 295 districts.

**Beneficiaries in 2021-22 School Year:**

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Number of School Districts: | 295 |
| Number of Schools:          | 0   |
| Number of Students:         | 0   |
| Number of Educators:        | 0   |
| Other:                      | N/A |

**Number of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs):** 2.43

**Number of contractors/other staff associated with this funding:** 1

|                      |                        |                  |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| <b>FY22 Funding:</b> | State Appropriation:   | \$293,000        |
|                      | Federal Appropriation: | \$0              |
|                      | Other Fund Sources:    | \$0              |
|                      | <b>TOTAL (FY22)</b>    | <b>\$293,000</b> |

**4. Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding?**

No

**5. State funding history:**

| <b>Fiscal Year</b> | <b>Amount Funded</b> | <b>Actual Expenditures</b> |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| FY22               | \$293,000            | \$233,574                  |
| FY21               | \$293,000            | \$287,687                  |
| FY20               | \$293,000            | \$293,000                  |
| FY19               | \$293,000            | \$292,921                  |

|      |           |           |
|------|-----------|-----------|
| FY18 | \$293,000 | \$286,002 |
|------|-----------|-----------|

**6. Number of beneficiaries (e.g., school districts, schools, students, educators, other) history:**

| <b>Fiscal Year</b> | <b>Number of Schools</b> |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| FY22               | 295 school districts     |
| FY21               | 295 school districts     |
| FY20               | 295 school districts     |
| FY19               | 295 school districts     |

**7. Programmatic changes since inception (if any):**

Support needs for comprehensive school counseling programs continue to expand as schools transition back into full in-person instruction following the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. More than ever, policy makers, district and building staff, and families are acknowledging the importance of providing CSCPs to meet the needs of students who are increasingly turning to their schools for additional support.

OSPI spent much of the 2021-22 fiscal year prioritizing the provision of statewide communication, guidance, resource development and professional learning in support of SSB5030. School counseling staff anticipate continuing to provide significant support for SSB5030 implementation into the foreseeable future as it is typical for a system-wide shift to take at least 3-5 years to fully implement

**8. Evaluations of program/major findings:**

With the SSB5030 initiated system-wide shift toward best practices for comprehensive student support systems, OSPI staff are increasingly being relied upon by districts to provide the communication, guidance, resources, and professional learning needed to support this profession, and ultimately meet the academic, career and social emotional development needs of every student. Increased collaboration with partners in the WA School Counselor Association (WSCA), Association of WA School Principals (AWSP), WSSDA and other statewide organizations, as well as our 9 Education Service Districts (ESDs), has become vital to providing the needed support to ensure the successful implementation of CSCPs.

**9. Major challenges faced by the program:**

Had there not been available ESSER funds, OSPI would not have been able to provide near the level of district, regional and statewide support opportunities that were developed to support implementation of SSB5030. Those federal funds enabled OSPI to contract with Hatching Results, a nationally renowned organization working to support implementation of school counseling programs aligned to the ASCA

National Model. Together we've worked to co-develop and deliver multiple statewide webinars, regional workshops, asynchronous learning modules and model templates for the required district-level CSCP plan and Transition Plan, as well as a building-level CSCP self-assessment and CSCP planning tool to ensure alignment of building CSCPs with their own School Improvement Plans, and with the district CSCP plans and existing strategic goals. Given current state funding for school counseling, once the ESSER funds are gone, OSPI will no longer be able to continue contracting with Hatching Results to provide the statewide and regional support districts will undoubtedly still need as they continue to move toward realizing the legislative intent of SSB 5030 ~ that every district will implement a comprehensive school counseling program model, based on evidence-based best practices, that will best meet the academic, career and social/emotional development needs of all students.

## **10. Future opportunities:**

With the passage of SSB5030 in 2021, districts' needs for support with implementing a CSCP have risen dramatically. The passage of HB1664 (2022), which will provide new funding specifically for school counselors, nurses, psychologists, social workers and other staff who ultimately contribute to the delivery of a CSCP, is also increasing the need for OSPI staff to provide increased support and technical assistance as more student support staff are hired.

In addition, as the State Board of Education makes their recommendations toward adjusting graduation requirements to align with Washington's Profile of a Graduate, OSPI staff will likely be needed to provide policy updates, relevant communication, resources, professional learning, and technical assistance to ensure staff understand any new changes to existing graduation requirements. And as significant gaps in the implementation of meaningful High School and Beyond Plans persist, the resulting inequities will necessitate continued OSPI staff support to provide updated resources and curriculum. In tandem with robust professional development, OSPI staff can support staff in utilizing specific data-mining strategies with the HSBP to increase student engagement and postsecondary outcomes.

## **11. Statutory and/or budget language:**

ESSB 5693, Sec. 501(4)(g)(ii) - \$293,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 and \$293,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2023 are provided solely for the office of the superintendent of public instruction to support district implementation of comprehensive guidance and planning programs in support of high-quality high school and beyond plans consistent with RCW 28A.230.090.

## **12. Other relevant information:**

From FY2007 to FY2013, state funding to support school counseling decreased from \$3.98 million to \$2.81 million in grant funds that OSPI was tasked to distribute directly to districts. Beginning with FY2014, state funding for this comprehensive K-12 program has remained steady at \$293,000.

The current \$293,000 per year proviso is inadequate to cover the expenditures associated with OSPIs 2.0 FTE in staffing for the Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Program Supervisors' who support this work, much less provide any funding to directly support districts efforts to provide a CSCP and high quality HSBP.

### **13. Schools/districts receiving assistance:**

See [OSPI's Grantee List](#)

### **14. Program Contact Information:**

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