

**350 - Superintendent of Public Instruction
Capital Project Request**

2025-27 Biennium

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Version: C1 2025-27 Capital Budget

Report Number: CBS002

Date Run: 9/12/2024 4:29PM

Project Number: 40000145

Project Title: 2025-27 School Seismic Safety Grant Program

Description

Starting Fiscal Year: 2026
Project Class: Grant
Agency Priority: 4

Project Summary

In the 2022 legislative session, the Legislature enacted Substitute Senate Bill 5933 which created the School Seismic Safety Program which provides grants to school districts and state tribal education compact schools (STECs) to cover the cost of retrofitting or relocating schools located in high seismic areas or tsunami zones. This request of \$170 million will provide funding for seismic projects which have received planning grant funding and will allow projects to move to design and construction.

Project Description

In the 2022 legislative session, the Legislature enacted Substitute Senate Bill 5933 (SSB 5933) which created the School Seismic Safety program which provides grants to school districts and state tribal education compact schools to cover the cost of retrofitting or relocating schools located in high seismic areas or tsunami zones. Since the program's passage, the Legislature provided \$140 million to address the seismic and tsunami risks facing our schools, and this request is for \$170 million to continue funding planning, design, and construction grants to schools to mitigate their risks to protect our students and staff.

SSB 5933 provides planning and construction grants to schools who have the option to relocate their schools located in the tsunami zones, make needed seismic retrofits, and build vertical evacuation towers. Grant funding provided will pay for at least two-thirds of the total project costs which include both direct and indirect costs, including land acquisitions. In addition, all projects must be eligible for School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP) funding.

In 2024, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) continued its collaboration with its Citizens Advisory Panel (CAP) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to develop administrative rules to implement the new seismic program created by the Legislature during the 2022 legislative session. New and revised Washington Administrative Codes (WAC) developed will go through the public hearings process to allow seismic projects to become eligible for SCAP funding and outline how schools apply and receive grant funding provided by the new program.

In consultation with OSPI's School Seismic Safety Committee (SSSC), the committee has recommended that initial grant funding should address the needs of schools which face both a seismic and tsunami risk. Many of these schools are located along the Pacific coast and Grays Harbor area. This funding request will allow OSPI to provide grants to school districts and STECs located in these areas, planning grants to identify the school's seismic and tsunami risks and create a conceptual design of the needed remediation to address risks. Once a school district's or a STEC identifies a project and receives grant funding, OSPI will require the district or STEC to present its proposed remediation to the SSSC and the committee will make its recommendation by majority vote to accept the proposal and make recommendation for the project to proceed to request construction grant funding.

Projects identified will be eligible to receive a planning grant and funded in two phases. Phase one grants will pay the costs of a geotechnical evaluation, including project management costs of the proposed site for a school relocation, the school which will receive retrofit funding or site where a vertical evacuation tower will be constructed. Phase two grants will pay for the cost of the conceptual design, cost estimating, and project management for the proposed remediation. Geotechnical information collected from the phase one grant will provide needed information to ensure the proposed remediation addresses the seismic and tsunami risks facing the students, staff, and community. When a school project remediation plan is complete, the project team will present its plan to the SSSC which will make its recommendation to OSPI to move forward to request full design and construction funding.

Projects that receive funding recommendation from the SSSC and approved by OSPI to move forward to construction, will be

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prioritized by the committee for funding. Construction grants will pay for the costs associated with land acquisitions, design, and related direct and indirect costs. The amount of the grant will be determined considering the amount of state SCAP funding and local funding provided for the proposed project. The amount of grant funds will be at least two-thirds of the total project costs and will not have a maximum as outlined in SSB 5933. Requests for grant funding above the minimum of two-thirds of the total project costs will be presented to the CAP and they will make a funding recommendation to OSPI for each project.

This \$170 million request will provide grant funding to projects identified on the attached priority list of projects. The projects identified have both a high seismic and tsunami risk. OSPI has consulted and received prioritization recommendations from the SSSC for the projects listed. In addition, the list includes funding to address the seismic risk of unreinforced masonry buildings used for instruction.

School Seismic Safety Program Funding Reconciliation

\$100,000,000	2022 Supplemental Budget Funding
<u>\$ 40,000,000</u>	2023-25 Biennial Budget Funding
\$140,000,000	Total Program Funding Available
\$ 14,632,000	2023-25 Biennial Estimated Expenditures to Date (August 2024)
<u>\$ 45,622,000</u>	2023-25 Biennial Projected Expenditures (September 2024 - June 30, 2025)
\$ 60,254,000	2023-25 Biennial Expenditures
\$140,000,000	Total Funding
<u>\$ 60,254,000</u>	2023-25 Biennial Expenditures
\$ 79,746,000	Estimated Carryover to 2025-27
\$240,043,000	2025-27 Estimated Project Costs
<u>\$ 9,703,000</u>	2025-27 Project Contingency
\$249,746,000	2025-27 Estimated Project Costs with Contingency
<u>-\$ 79,746,000</u>	Less Estimated Funding Carryover to 2025-27
\$170,000,000	Estimated Funding Need in 2025-27

Describe how this project supports the agency's strategic master plan or would improve agency performance. Reference feasibility studies, master plans, space programming, and other analyses as appropriate.

This project supports Superintendent Reykdal's K-12 Education Vision of his goal for Washington's public education system to prepare every student who walks through our school doors for post-secondary aspirations, careers, and life.

Does this project include IT-related costs, including hardware, software, cloud-based services, contracts, or IT staff?

This proposal does not include costs for information technology related costs.

If the project is linked to the Puget Sound Action Agenda, describe the impacts on the Action Agenda, including expenditure and FTE detail.

This proposed project will not impact the Puget Sound Action Agenda.

How does this project contribute to meeting the greenhouse gas emissions limits established in RCW 70A.45.050, Clean

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Buildings performance standards in RCW 19.27A.210, or other statewide goals to reduce carbon pollution and/or improve energy efficiency? Please elaborate.

The relocation and replacement projects funding by this grant program will meet OSPI's Washington Sustainable Schools Protocol. In addition, many of the schools identified are at the end of their useful life or are close to the age eligibility requirements for replacement through SCAP. The schools replaced or retrofitted will meet current building codes which will decrease energy use and carbon pollution.

How is your proposal impacting equity in the state? Which communities are impacted by this proposal? Include both demographic and geographic communities. How are disparities in communities impacted?

Two of the proposed school relocation projects serve predominantly Native American students. Other projects include schools which serve students of color, and students from lower income households. The projects proposed are in areas identified by the Department of Employment Security as designated distressed areas. Funding the projects identified will allow these communities to replace current out of date schools with new schools which mitigate seismic and tsunami risks, and meet current educational standards.

Is this project eligible for Direct Pay? If the answer is yes, you must include this project to the list of direct pay projects and information for submittal (see Chapter 1.7 of the capital budget instructions for additional instructions).

The proposed projects in this request do not meet the eligibility for direct pay.

Location

City: Olympia

County: Statewide

Legislative District: 098

Project Type

Grants

Grant Recipient Organization: Local School Districts

RCW that establishes grant: 28A.525.320

Application process used

OSPI will use the grant application process recommended by the SSSC as required by SSB 5933.

Growth Management impacts

School districts are responsible for determining whether and how they need to participate in the planning process with the city or county planning authority.

Funding

Acct Code	Account Title	Estimated Total	Expenditures		2025-27 Fiscal Period	
			Prior Biennium	Current Biennium	Reappropriations	New Appropriations
057	State Bldg Constr-Unknown					
057-1	State Bldg Constr-State	922,000,000				170,000,000
	Total	922,000,000	0	0	0	170,000,000
Future Fiscal Periods						
		<u>2027-29</u>	<u>2029-31</u>	<u>2031-33</u>	<u>2033-35</u>	

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		Future Fiscal Periods			
		2027-29	2029-31	2031-33	2033-35
057	State Bldg Constr-Unknown				
057-1	State Bldg Constr-State	315,000,000	187,000,000	125,000,000	125,000,000
Total		315,000,000	187,000,000	125,000,000	125,000,000

Operating Impacts

Total one time start up and ongoing operating costs

Narrative

No Operating Budget Impact.

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2025-27 Biennium

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<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Entered As</u>	<u>Interpreted As</u>
Biennium	2025-27	2025-27
Agency	350	350
Version	C1-A	C1-A
Project Classification	*	All Project Classifications
Capital Project Number	40000145	40000145
Sort Order	Project Priority	Priority
Include Page Numbers	Y	Yes
For Word or Excel	N	N
User Group	Agency Budget	Agency Budget
User Id	*	All User Ids