

# 2025 Legislative Budget Requests

## Fully Funding Washington’s Constitutional Basic Ed Obligation

Washington must fund a basic education for all K–12 students as it is currently defined and constitutionally required. That means fully funding special education and providing adequate funding for student transportation to and from school. It also means providing sufficient funding for the materials, supplies, and operating costs needed to provide instruction each day so that school districts do not need to deplete other important educational programs to cover these basic and necessary expenses.

Title	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
<a href="#">Fully Funding Equitable, High-Quality Services for All Students with Disabilities</a>	\$300M	\$700M	\$805M	\$822M
<a href="#">Funding Basic Education by Recognizing Increased Operating Costs</a>	\$151.8M	\$198.9M	\$203M	\$206.2M
<a href="#">Providing Reliable Transportation for At-Risk Students</a>	\$50.3M	\$102.6M	\$102.3M	\$102.3M

## Legislative Directives

OSPI is requesting funding to continue projects or implement required duties as directed by the Washington State Legislature. These resources are critical to OSPI’s ability to follow through on current law and ensure school districts and school staff have the resources they need to fully support each and every one of Washington’s K–12 students through a statewide online High School and Beyond Plan platform, resources to support justice-involved youth, and replacement of the outdated and at-risk K–12 School Apportionment System.

Title	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
<a href="#">Funding Successful Implementation of a Statewide High School and Beyond Plan Platform</a>	\$6.6M	\$6.6M	\$6M	\$6.1M
<a href="#">Making Progress on the State’s Plan to Oversee the Educational Delivery of Justice-Involved Youth</a>	\$4.6M	\$6.1M	\$6.2M	\$6.4M
<a href="#">Securing and Streamlining the K–12 School Apportionment System</a>	\$5.8M	\$5.1M	\$4.5M	\$1.3M

## System Improvements

Fully funding basic education as it is defined today does not reflect the real costs of what students, families, and communities need from their schools and educators. Funding basic education means revisiting our current funding model, including the state-outlined school staffing ratios and ensuring we have qualified and well-paid staff in front of our students. It also requires funding for state and regional coordination around student mental and behavioral health. It requires us to continue to examine gaps in the current funding model to ensure we are driving resources and support to the students, communities, and schools that need it most.

Title	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
<a href="#"><u>Adjusting Classified Staff Salary Allocations for Retention and Competition within the Workforce</u></a>	\$253.1M	\$442M	\$699.7M	\$937.2M
<a href="#"><u>Strengthening Early Literacy Through State Learning Standards and Innovative Tutoring Tools</u></a>	\$35.5M	\$74.6M	\$74.6M	\$74.6M
<a href="#"><u>Support for High Poverty Schools by Expanding the Learning Assistance Program</u></a>	\$120.2M	\$157.2M	\$160.5M	\$163.8M
<a href="#"><u>Lifting Up American Indian and Alaska Native Students Through a State Match of Federal Title VI Grant Funds</u></a>	\$6.1M	\$6.1M	\$6.1M	\$6.1M
<a href="#"><u>Statewide Support for Student Mental and Behavioral Health</u></a>	\$24.1M	\$27.8M	\$28.1M	\$28.5M
<a href="#"><u>Maintaining Targeted Support and Expansion of the Washington Educator Workforce</u></a>	\$9.1M	\$12M	\$15.9M	\$19.4M
<a href="#"><u>Increasing Equitable Access to Dual Credit and Reducing Barriers to Credential Attainment</u></a>	\$7.8M	\$23.1M	\$28.6M	\$29.9M
<a href="#"><u>Removing Barriers to Student Engagement and Learning: Attendance, Behavior, Coursework</u></a>	\$24.7M	\$76M	\$130.8M	\$142.3M
<a href="#"><u>Monitoring and Investigating Equity and Civil Rights Discrimination in Washington Public Schools</u></a>	\$663K	\$619K	\$619K	\$619K
<a href="#"><u>Supporting Student Access to Summer EBT</u></a>	\$310K	\$288K	\$288K	\$288K

Title	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
<a href="#">Ensuring Consistent Access to Regional Transportation Coordinators</a>	\$181K	\$203K	\$226K	\$249K
<a href="#">Proactive and Solutions-Oriented Support for School District Financial Health</a>	\$1.2M	\$1.2M	\$1.2M	\$1.2M

## Elevation of State, Regional, and Local Community Partnerships

It takes state, regional, and local partnerships to fully support students and their learning both inside and outside the classroom. OSPI requests funding to invest in evidence-based projects and partnerships that address areas of critical need around academic foundations, postsecondary success, and youth development. These targeted investments are in existing programs that are embedded in communities and having an impact.

- [Advancing Holocaust Education and Genocide Awareness in Washington State](#)
- [Ensuring Access to Early Literacy for Washington’s Youngest Learners Statewide](#)
- [Investing in 9th Grade Success to Support On-Time Graduation](#)
- [Driving Equitable Postsecondary Opportunities from College Enrollment through Graduation](#)
- [Promoting Youth Sportsmanship and Civility](#)
- [Equitable Access to High-Quality Youth Development](#)
- [A Community Approach to Supporting Youth Mental Health](#)
- [Creating New Opportunities for Career-Connected Environmental Learning](#)
- [Integrating Civics Education into Elementary Instruction](#)
- [Preparing Washington’s Future Workforce with Microsoft IT Academy](#)
- [Increasing Access to Hands-on Science Learning in Washington's Schools](#)
- [Expanding Student Access to Outdoor Education](#)
- [Supporting Career Connect Coordinators in Each Region](#)