

# *2025 Legislative Budget Requests*

## **Washington's Constitutional Basic Education Obligation**

**\$501M in Fiscal Year 2026, \$1.5B for the 2025–27 Biennium**

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.

## **Transforming Student Learning & Well-Being**

**\$483M in Fiscal Year 2026, \$1.3B for the 2025–27 Biennium**

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 supports to the students, communities, and schools that need it most.

## **Legislatively Directed Enhancements**

**\$18M in Fiscal Year 2026, \$36M for the 2025–27 Biennium**

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online High School and Beyond Plan platform, resources to support justice-involved youth, and replacement of the outdated and at-risk K–12 School Apportionment System.

## **Targeted Partner and Community Investments**

**\$45.2M in Fiscal Year 2026, \$93.3M for the 2025–27 Biennium**

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.

