# 2SSB 5593 Student Data Transfer

## Statutory and/or Budget Language

\$532,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and \$436,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 are provided solely for implementation of Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 5593 (student data transfer).

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this proviso funding is to implement a high school student directory data collection and subsequent requirements. The collection is a new requirement that specifies school districts must send the high school student, and their parent/guardian contact information to OSPI by November 1, 2024, and annually thereafter. OSPI must then share the directory data with institutions of higher education and the Washington Student Achievement Council.

## **Description of Services Provided**

The services provided by OSPI using the funding from this proviso include:

- 1. OSPI Student Information developed data specifications for the collection, b) worked with stakeholders to ensure successful implementation of the data collection, c) communicated with approximately ten entities who will receive the data to prepare data sharing agreements, d) prepared written communications and webinars for districts and assisted with troubleshooting.
- 2. The funds were used to hire a full-time application developer and bring in a contract business analyst for a six-month term. These resources enabled us to develop an application for school districts to submit their Student Directory Information, ensuring compliance with <a href="RCW">RCW</a>
  28A.150.515.

Development of the Student Directory application involved collaboration with stakeholders, including school district representatives, to determine an efficient and user-friendly submission process. Their input and testing were key in shaping a method that meets the diverse needs of school districts across the state. As a result of this collaborative process, the Student Directory application was successfully launched on October 16, 2024, allowing school district submissions for the November 1, 2024, deadline.

#### **Criteria for Receiving Services and/or Grants**

This proviso does not include direct services and/or grants to school districts.



Beneficiaries in the 2023-24 School Year

Number of School Districts0Number of Schools0Number of Students0Number of Educators0Other0

# **Are Federal or Other Funds Contingent on State Funding?**

#### **State Funding History**

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2024	\$532,000	\$178,134

# Number of Beneficiaries Per Fiscal Year (e.g. School Districts, Schools, Students, Educators, Other)

Fiscal Year	Number of Beneficiaries
2024	0

## **Programmatic Changes Since Inception (If Any)**

In the 2024 legislative session, SB 5593 was revised/replaced by SB 6053. The major change with SB 6053 was that institutions of higher education were no longer responsible for (directly) providing OSPI with enrollment and outcome information about high school students. This requirement moved to the Education Research and Data Center (ERDC), who is best positioned to utilize the state's P-20 data system to meet this need. The impact to OSPI is a more streamlined process of receiving the legislatively specified data coming from just one entity instead of 10-12 separate ones.

# **Program Evaluation or Evaluation of Major Findings**

For this phase of the project, the OSPI Student Information and Information Technology teams established the data collection application for districts to submit student directory data. The major findings were learning from districts about existing data and mechanisms for submitting to OSPI, scoping data-sharing agreements, and leveraging an older but existing application to meet the requirements and timeline of SB 5593. In the next phase, the teams will continue to support the development of processes and application tools to share the directory information with higher education and Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) and exchange higher education data with ERDC.

## Major Challenges Faced by the Program

The proviso funded staff time to oversee the project, develop requirements, and implement the collection tool. However, due to the timeline needed to define staff roles and hire new staff for this work, the allocated funds were not fully utilized during the year. In the meantime, existing OSPI data staff absorbed the workload to scope and define this project and stay on legislative timelines, which reduced capacity for other projects.

During the development of the application, our team encountered challenges due to the type of application and amount of time since we had constructed something similar. We needed to begin with an outdated application as a foundation, which required substantial modernization and work to integrate newer code, leading to some delays. Despite these challenges, our team successfully addressed all issues and launched a product meeting the requirements and enabling districts to submit the data in the required timeline.

A learning opportunity: For similar future projects, a longer 'on ramp' would be more sustainable, to allow for hiring and change processes, especially when the bulk of the work is front-loaded.

## **Future Opportunities**

The first year of work focused on setting up the new data collection, establishing data-sharing agreements, as well as the building of the application and database structure. Going forward, the work will shift to more of a maintenance level of effort for the administration of the program and to product development of the application to collect and distribute student directory information.

#### **Other Relevant Information**

N/A

# **Schools/Districts Receiving Assistance**

Click here to see a list of all OSPI grant recipients in the 2024 Fiscal Year.

#### **Program Contact Information**

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