

Comprehensive Planning

Statutory and/or Budget Language

- (ii) \$293,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and \$293,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 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.

Purpose

To provide technical assistance and support to school districts and schools implementing a Comprehensive School Counseling Program (CSCP) and high-quality High School and Beyond Plans (HSBP) consistent with [Revised Code of Washington \(RCW\) 28A.230.090](#).

Description of Services Provided

Since the passage of [Substitute Senate Bill \(SSB\) 5030 \(2021\)](#), the school counseling staff funded by this proviso have largely focused on developing and providing 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). SSB 5030 requires districts to develop and implement a district-level CSCP that addresses all students' academic, career and social/emotional development in alignment with the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) National Model. Staffing efforts support statewide communication, guidance, resource availability and professional learning.

During the 2023–24 school year, OSPI expanded its efforts to support districts in implementing existing CSCP plans or developing new plans by continuing to offer professional development and technical assistance. Data-driven programmatic decisions led to the development and delivery of new professional learning specifically targeting small, multiple-learning modality options, and delivering project-based learning.

This proviso also requires OSPI staff to develop and deliver 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 (HSBP). OSPI was also tasked with identifying and selecting a vendor to provide a statewide universal HSBP platform via [Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill \(E2SSB\) 5243 \(2023\)](#). The OSPI school counseling team provided HSBP support via:

- Providing in-person presentations, virtual webinars, conference sessions, and other stakeholder engagement opportunities



- Assisting with the selection of the new statewide universal HSBP platform
- Annually updating HSBP templates and implementation guidance
- Responding to requests for support and technical assistance
- Co-developing a statewide survey to solicit platform functionality feedback from students, families, staff and other community and educational partners (over 4,000 responses received), and
- Helping recruit over 400 bill implementation support volunteers.

OSPIs school counseling team also provided expertise and support to several other cross-agency initiatives, including:

- The Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) State Design Team, which has supported districts with implementing a MTSS and also coordinated and facilitated the statewide MTSS Conference
- The Integrated Student Supports Consultation Team, which updated the Washington Integrated Student Supports Protocol (WISSP) per [House Bill \(HB\) 1208](#), to ensure district alignment to required components of SSB 5030, and
- The Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Advisory Committee per [Revised Code of Washington \(RCW\) 28A.300.477](#).

Criteria for Receiving Services and/or Grants

OSPI school counseling staff provide support across all 295 districts.

Beneficiaries in the 2023-24 School Year

Number of School Districts	295
Number of Schools	0
Number of Students	0
Number of Educators	0
Other	0

Are Federal or Other Funds Contingent on State Funding?

No

State Funding History

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2024	\$293,000	\$279,593
2023	\$293,000	\$211,582
2022	\$293,000	\$233,574
2021	\$293,000	\$287,687
2020	\$293,000	\$293,000

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

Fiscal Year	Number of Beneficiaries
2024	295 school districts
2023	295 school districts
2022	295 school districts
2021	295 school districts
2020	295 school districts

Programmatic Changes Since Inception (If Any)

Ongoing fiscal and programmatic support are vital for the development and implementation of CSCPs as schools continue to address the lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on student academic engagement, social-emotional skills, and post-secondary planning. More and more policymakers, district and building staff, and families are acknowledging the importance of providing robust, ASCA National Model aligned CSCPs to meet the needs of students who are increasingly turning to their schools for additional support. OSPI is leveraging data to assess the effectiveness of its supports and incorporating flexibility in the provision of professional learning opportunities to continuously improve the implementation services offered.

Program Evaluation or Evaluation of Major Findings

SSB 5030 initiated a system-wide shift toward best practices for comprehensive student support systems, and 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), Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC), other statewide organizations, and our nine Education Service Districts (ESDs), has become vital to providing the needed support to ensure the successful implementation of CSCPs, as evidenced by:

- 58% growth in CSCP professional development (PD) attendance from small and rural Local Education Agencies (LEAs) between 2022 and 2023.
- Representatives from 245 districts (83%) have invested in participating in at least one synchronous training.
- Recordings of CSCP professional development have been viewed 4,051 times.

Major Challenges Faced by the Program

With the passage of SSB 5030 (2021), school counseling staff anticipate continuing to provide significant support for CSCP implementation into the next biennium as it is typical for a system-wide shift to take at least 4–5 years to fully implement. Funding provided for staffing does not

provide for the necessary resource to work with partner organizations to support implementation effort, and the implementation of the statewide HSBP platform will impact work priorities of our counseling team.

Future Opportunities

With the passage of SSB 5030, districts' need for support in implementing CSCPs significantly increased. The subsequent passage of [House Bill \(HB\) 1664 \(2022\)](#), which funds school counselors, nurses, psychologists, social workers, and other staff involved in delivering CSCPs, has further raised the demand for OSPI's support and technical assistance with staff hiring decisions that have been impacted by budget shortfalls.

The State Board of Education's upcoming Future Ready process to review all graduation requirements means OSPI will likely need to provide policy updates, relevant communication, resources, professional learning, and technical assistance to ensure staff understand any new opportunity to meet graduation requirements.

The continued implementation of [Senate Bill \(SB\) 5243](#) to address significant gaps in the implementation of meaningful HSBPs necessitates substantial support from school counseling staff to support stakeholder engagement, updating resources, curriculum design, and professional development to facilitate the transition to the new platform.

Additional future cross-agency partnerships:

- Elementary Content Integration
 - Co-create and distribute Essential Practices diagram for integration of Social Emotional Learning Standards into elementary content.
- CSCP-, MTSS-, and SEL-, Financial Education aligned tools and resources
 - OSPI staff from these other provisos lack the internal capacity and school counseling expertise to produce these resources alone.
- Regional CSCP Navigator Program
 - Leverage existing resources to support the development of a CSCP Navigator Playbook and subsequent training of regional partners to support vertical alignment of student support systems.
- The school counseling team plays a unique role as a supporter of CSCP teams facilitating the development, delivery and analysis of tier-one supports designed for every student, making them essential to the agency's expanding work driven by new legislation and initiatives. The team values the legislature's efforts to prioritize and provide statewide support for systemic changes that benefit students. However, there is concern that without reconsidering the static nature of this proviso funding, the continuation of the strong, effective supports necessary for districts to manage these systemic shifts—similar to those provided over the past two fiscal years—will be at risk.

Other Relevant Information

In 2021 OSPI school counseling staff also wrote a proposal for, and were granted, almost \$2 million of OSPI's available federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds to support this mandated systemic shift in practice. Through the end of the 2023–24 school year, these additional ESSER funds have enabled OSPIs school counseling staff to contract with a nationally renowned school counseling leadership organization to provide significant statewide communication, guidance, resource development, and professional learning in support of SSB 5030.

The ESSER funding was allocated to a 2023–24 contract with Hatching Results® to provide tools, resources, and professional learning for Washington educators to support the writing and implementing of CSCPs, including the following:

- Co-development and delivery of professional development including quarterly statewide webinars, day-long regional Educational Service District (ESD) workshops, and multi-session project-based learning series
- Co-development of templates and tools that support building a CSCP plan, aligning CSCP goals with School Improvement Plans and District Strategic Goals, building stronger connection and efficacy between CSCP staff and building administrators, and conducting program evaluation
- Co-facilitation of an advisory taskforce consisting of former school counselors who now serve as building administrators
- Provision of 2,000 licenses for CSCP staff to engage in asynchronous professional learning, and
- Provision of 1,800 registrations for staff to attend synchronous professional learning.

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 since remained at \$293,000 despite additional mandates requiring OSPI support. The current \$293,000 per year proviso is inadequate to cover the expenditures associated with OSPIs staffing and provide any meaningful level of funding to directly support districts efforts to provide a CSCP and high quality HSBP.

Schools/Districts Receiving Assistance

[Click here to see a list of all OSPI grant recipients in the 2024 Fiscal Year.](#)

Program Contact Information

Name Maria Muto

Title Secondary School Counseling Program Supervisor

Phone

564-999-3916

Email

maria.muto@k12.wa.us