

ESB5462 (Inclusive Learning Standards)

Budget Language

\$430,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 is provided solely for implementation of Engrossed Senate Bill No. 5462 (inclusive learning standards).

Proviso Purpose

In 2024, Washington state enacted [Engrossed Senate Bill 5462](#) (ESB 5462) to promote inclusive learning standards and instructional materials in public schools, emphasizing diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The legislation directs the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to:

- Consult with the Washington School Directors' Association (WSSDA) on updated instructional material model policies;
- Include screening for biased content and the integration of diversity, equity, and inclusion concepts in developed or revised learning standards; and
- Expand the OSPI open educational resources library to include resources reflecting the histories and perspectives of historically marginalized groups.

Services Provided

Funding supported all aspects of this work, including state-level leadership, programmatic and administrative support, and the development, approval, selection, and distribution of screening tools, contracts, and inclusive supplemental instructional materials.

Model Policy and Procedure

- OSPI staff consulted with WSSDA on the update of existing [Model Policy 2020/2020P Course Design, Selection, and Adoption of Instructional Materials](#). This updated policy requires districts, within available materials, to adopt inclusive curricula and select diverse, equitable, inclusive, age-appropriate instructional materials that include the histories, contributions, and perspectives of historically marginalized and underrepresented groups.
- OSPI developed an online response portal to collect legislatively mandated district policy amendments.

State Learning Standards

- OSPI convened legislatively identified state commissions and other organizations with relevant experience to create an **Equity and Bias Screening Tool** for learning standards. As part of the process, OSPI researched similar equity and bias screenings from other states as well as current OSPI guidance.



- Through meetings and surveys, OSPI collaborated with relevant organizations and commissions to refine and produce a final version of the screening tool for learning standards review.
- OSPI awarded a contract to the Center for Strengthening the Teaching Profession (CSTP). CSTP used the Equity and Bias Screening Tool to facilitate educator review and feedback of current revised drafts of learning standards in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Financial Education.
- OSPI content teams used educator feedback from the CSTP events to make edits and revisions to the drafted learning standards.

Open Educational Resource Library

- OSPI collaborated with the Association of Educational Service Districts (AESD), the Legislative Youth Advisory Council (LYAC), and statewide commissions identified the learning standards convenings to develop the **Inclusive Learning Resource Criteria**.
- Using the Inclusive Learning Resource Criteria, OSPI curated supplemental instructional materials meeting those criteria on the [Washington OER Hub](#), OSPI's online platform for sharing K–12 open educational resources.
- OSPI contracted with three non-profit organizations to develop units highlighting the histories, contributions, and perspectives of historically marginalized and underrepresented groups to add to the Washington OER Hub.

Criteria for Receiving Services/Grants

This proviso did not provide any direct grants to school districts or educators. Four contracts were issued. One for CSTP to facilitate educator review of Mathematics, Science, and English Language Arts learning standards and three to competitively selected non-profit organizations for the development of supplemental inclusive learning resources.

Updated learning standards, reviewed with the Equity and Bias Screening Tool will be utilized by ALL school districts upon their release.

Supplemental instructional materials identified and developed using the Inclusive Learning Resource Criteria are freely available to ALL school districts and educators.

Beneficiaries in the 2024-25 School Year

Number of School Districts:	all districts pending release of updated learning standards
Number of Educators:	all educators have access to the inclusive resources on the Washington OER Hub

Are Federal or Other Funds Contingent on State Funding?

No.

State Funding History

2025	\$430,000	\$304,635

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

2025	All school districts

Programmatic Changes Since Inception (If Any)

This was the first year of funding allocated to support Inclusive Learning Standards.

Program(s) Evaluation or Major Findings

- The updated WSSDA Model Policy 2020/2020P Course Design, Selection, and Adoption of Instructional Materials was released in April 2025. Districts are currently reporting their adoption of the new instructional materials policy to OSPI.
- OSPI successfully engaged with many statewide partners in the development of the Equity and Bias Screening Tool and the Inclusive Learning Resource Criteria. The following organizations contributed either in a consulting role or participated directly in the development process:
 - o Association of Educational Service Districts Leadership and Directors for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
 - o Association of Washington School Principals
 - o Center for Racial, Social, and Economic Justice, Washington Education Association
 - o Comprehensive Center Network Region 16
 - o Holocaust Center for Humanity
 - o OSPI Office of Native Education
 - o University of Washington
 - o Washington Association of School Administrators
 - o Washington Education Association
 - o Washington State Commission on African American Affairs
 - o Washington State Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs
 - o Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs
 - o Washington State Legislative Youth Advisory Council
 - o Washington State LGBTQ Commission
 - o Washington State Office of Equity
 - o Washington State School Directors' Association
 - o Washington Student Achievement Council

- CSTP coordinated the use of the Equity and Bias Screening Tool to review four sets of learning standards—English language arts, Mathematics, Science, and Financial Education—as part of the Learning Standards Review Project. A group of 120 invited educators participated in this process. During the review, standards were systematically evaluated and flagged for improvements, including recommended language changes, clearer definitions, enhanced educator support, and corrections to grammar or numbering. All flagged standards have since been revised based on educator feedback.
 - o English Language Arts: 53/480 standards
 - o Mathematics: 78/485 standards
 - o Science: 65/313 standards
 - o Financial Education: 21/135 standards
- Eleven proposals were submitted in response to OSPI's RFP 2025-08, which aimed to develop supplemental instructional materials focused on the histories and perspectives of historically marginalized groups. The review was conducted in collaboration with the statewide Association of Educational Service Districts (AESD), the Legislative Youth Advisory Council (LYAC), and WSSDA. In June 2025, the following three developed units were submitted to the Washington OER Hub and are available for free access by all Washington educators.
 - o History of Power, Conflict, and Healing: High School Genocide Studies Modules | Educurious
 - o Oral Histories of Vietnamese Resettlement in Washington State After the Vietnam War | Washington State Historical Society
 - o Understanding Refugee Experiences: A Journey of Human Resilience | Truclusion
- One hundred and forty existing resources on the Washington OER Hub were identified that addressed the histories, contributions, and perspectives of historically marginalized groups. Below are a few examples:
 - o [Latinos in U.S. History](#) | Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and UnidosUS
 - o [Washington Americans of Chinese Descent Posters](#) | OSPI
 - o [Black Washington](#) | Washington State Historical Society
 - o [Injustice at Home: The Japanese-American Experience of the World War II Era](#) | PBS Education
 - o [Drumbeats in Time](#) | Thorp School District and members of the Kittitas Band of the Yakama Nation
 - o [Seattle's Waterfront History](#) | HistoryLink

Major Challenges Faced by Program(s)

Due to the availability of both state commission representatives and educator reviewers, much anticipated in-person work shifted to a virtual environment. This shift did not impact outcomes but did reduce budget expenditure.

Equity and Bias Screening for each standards review will still need dedicated funding. Recruiting diverse educators aligned with our student demographics requires targeted outreach and compensation; without these funds, alternate sources must be identified.

Future Opportunities

There are currently ten more sets of learning standards that are set to begin the review and revision process. For each set of standards to be screened using the Equity and Bias Screening Tool we will continue to have a need for funding.

Depending on staff and educator capacity, supplemental instructional materials that meet the developed learning resource criteria can continue to be identified and added to the Washington OER Hub.

Other Relevant Information

- [WSSDA Model Policy 2020/2020P Course Design, Selection, and Adoption of Instructional Materials](#) (featured policy)
- [Learning Standards vs. Instructional Materials: Key Differences](#)
- [Inclusive Learning Resources Criteria \(Instructional Materials\)](#)
- [Inclusive Learning Resources on the Washington OER Hub](#)

Schools/Districts Receiving Assistance

[Click here to see a list of all OSPI grant recipients in the 2025 Fiscal Year.](#)

Program Contact Information

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