

Comprehensive Guidance/Planning Programs

Budget Language

\$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.

Proviso 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 [RCW 28A.230.090](#).

Services Provided

Since the passage of [Substitute Senate Bill \(SSB\) 5030](#) (2021), OSPI's two school counseling leaders 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 CSCPs. 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.

OSPI pursued a contract with Hatching Results®, a nationally renowned school counseling leadership organization, to provide significant statewide communication, guidance, resource development, and professional learning in support of SSB 5030, and specifically related to career development. The use of data-driven programmatic decisions expanded OSPI's efforts to support SSB 5030 via the development and delivery of new professional learning specifically for district leaders and small/rural districts, utilizing multiple-learning modality options and project-based learning opportunities.

In collaboration with Hatching Results® and the Washington School Counselor Association (WSCA), OSPI staff provided templates, tools, resources, and professional learning for Washington educators to support the writing and implementing of CSCPs, including the following:

- Delivery of two statewide webinars, and several multi-session, project-based trainings
- Templates and tools that support building a CSCP plan, and aligning CSCP goals with



School Improvement Plans (SIP) and District Strategic Goals, to build stronger connection and efficacy between CSCP staff and building administrators, and support conducting program evaluation

- Facilitation of three professional learning communities to support CSCP development and implementation through district and building leadership, small and rural districts, and career and college readiness programming
- Facilitation of a multi-session professional network consisting of former school counselors who now serve as building administrators
- Development of a train-the-trainer model to expand existing practitioners' ASCA Model expertise and their ability to facilitate direct CSCP support in their region
- Monitoring and supporting the provision of clock hours for 2,000 online course licenses for CSCP staff to engage in asynchronous professional learning.

This proviso also requires OSPI staff to support districts with the implementation and management of high-quality HSBPs via a universal statewide platform as established in [Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill \(E2SSB\) 5243 \(2023\)](#). The OSPI school counseling team provided HSBP support via:

- Providing in-person presentations and feedback gathering sessions, virtual webinars, conference sessions, and other stakeholder engagement opportunities
- Annually updating HSBP templates and implementation guidance
- Responding to requests for support and technical assistance
- Establishing an Elementary HSBP Advisory Council to seek feedback from a broad range of partners consisting of school counselors, administrators, the Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP), and internal OSPI staff to inform the development of legislative recommendations on bringing the new statewide HSBP platform to the elementary level.

OSPI's 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 supported districts with implementing a MTSS and 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
- The Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Advisory Committee per [RCW 28A.300.477](#)
- The Mental Health Literacy Team, which prioritizes strength-based, trauma-informed, equity focused practices and social emotional learning and created guidance, learning units, and resources.

Criteria for Receiving Services/Grants

The contract with Hatching Results was approved as a sole source contract in order to continue progress made on earlier projects and expand the development of career and college exploration and preparation training, resources and curricular supports.

Beneficiaries in the 2024–25 School Year

Number of School Districts:	295
Number of Schools:	0
Number of Students:	0
Number of Educators:	0
Other:	1 Contract

Are Federal or Other Funds Contingent on State Funding?

No.

State Funding History

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2025	\$293,000	\$240,614
2024	\$293,000	\$279,593
2023	\$293,000	\$211,582
2022	\$293,000	\$233,574
2021	\$293,000	\$287,687

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

Fiscal Year	Number of Beneficiaries
2025	295 school districts
2024	295 school districts
2023	295 school districts
2022	295 school districts
2021	295 school districts

Programmatic Changes Since Inception (If Any)

When the legislature first funded OSPI to specifically support school counseling in 2007, over \$3.9 million was allocated that year for the development of the Career Guidance Washington curriculum and provision of grants to ensure district utilization of the curriculum. In 2014, school

counseling funding was reduced to the long-standing annual allocation of \$293,000 and OSPI's focus shifted to supporting the provision of comprehensive school counseling programs (CSCP) based on a national best practice model. The additional expectation of supporting the implementation of high-quality high school and beyond plans was added circa 2016, which once again modified OSPI's focus to prioritize the academic and career development domains of a CSCP.

Program(s) Evaluation or Major Findings

SSB 5030 mandated 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 key partners including WSCA, AWSP, the 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:

- 260 districts participated in CSCP professional development (PD), including 47 small/rural districts
- More than 7,200 clock hours were awarded for CSCP PD
- Recordings of CSCP webinars and multi-session project-based trainings have been viewed over 4,700 times

OSPI engaged in research-based data collection in partnership with Harvard Graduate School of Education, Hatching Results®, WSCA, and ESD 105 to examine the impacts of SSB 5030. Big picture takeaways include:

- 97% of school counselors, 91% of district leaders, and 90% of school leaders stated they were familiar with SSB 5030
- 70% of respondents stated their district had a CSCP plan per SSB 5030
- Approximately 50% of administrators strongly agree or agreed that they had a better understanding of the school counselor role because of SSB 5030 including how delivery of robust CSCP services can support SIP and district goals

Major Challenges Faced by Program(s)

OSPI's 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. For HSBPs, the ongoing implementation of the mandated statewide shift to a universal platform also necessitates additional training and technical support for middle and high school counselors who play a pivotal role in the delivery and management of the HSBP.

Future Opportunities

The State Board of Education's (SBE) Future Ready workgroup is currently reviewing all graduation requirements. This means OSPI will likely need to partner with SBE staff to develop and 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 ESSB 5243 to address significant equity gaps in the implementation of meaningful HSBPs necessitates substantial support from OSPI's school counseling staff to support stakeholder engagement, update resources, design curriculum, and provide professional development to facilitate the transition to the new platform.

Since ASCA has released a 5th edition of the national school counseling model, it will be critical that OSPI delivers a coordinated rollout including new professional learning, technical assistance, and revisions to the plethora of resources and templates currently available to reflect new language included in the new edition.

This proviso was consolidated going forward into section 504(4)(a) of the budget. Multiple provisos were added to the statewide program section of the budget, and the total amount appropriated in FY 26 and FY 27 is less than the total previous funding of the individual items consolidated, which may impact this work moving forward.

Other Relevant Information

OSPI's ability to fully expend this year's proviso funding was hampered by a multi-month gap in staffing within the school counseling team and agency staffing reductions that extended timelines for approval of intended contractual work.

Schools/Districts Receiving Assistance

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

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