



School Counseling and Guidance Programs

1. **Purpose:**

OSPI uses the school counseling and guidance program proviso to provide technical assistance to school districts and schools on the implementation of national best practices for a comprehensive school counseling and guidance program (SCGP).

The purpose of a comprehensive SCGP is to support students as they navigate their education and plan their future, encourage significant relationships with caring adults, and involve parents in students' educational decisions and plans.

Staff supported through this proviso have focused their work on high school graduation requirements, High School and Beyond Plans, financial aid planning, career and college readiness, social-emotional learning, and behavior health supports in schools. This is the result of continuing legislative interest and directive, as well as in response to needs from the field.

2. **Description of services provided:**

Staff supported through this proviso provide direct support to school counselors and other school and district leaders in the development and implementation of a comprehensive SCGP. This includes:

- Providing training and professional learning opportunities for school counselors and other educators who support a comprehensive SCGP
- Developing and supporting both regional and statewide networks to create a cascade of supports to practitioners in the field, as well as intentional collaboration and connection among school counseling staff
- Supporting the implementation of multi-tiered support systems and school climate transformation work, particularly for schools identified for improvement
- Development of materials to support High School and Beyond Plans and Career Guidance Washington
- Support of new graduation pathway planning and implementation

3. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:**

No grants have been provided since funding was removed in 2014.

Services described in the “Description of services provided” section above are available to all school counselors and educators, with a specific focus on providing more intensive supports to school counselors working in schools or districts identified for improvement.

Beneficiaries in 2019-20 School Year:

Number of School Districts: Supports available to all districts.
Number of Schools: 0
Number of Students: 0
Number of Educators: 0
Other: 0

Number of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs): 2.2
Number of contractors/other staff associated with this funding: 0.0

FY20 Funding: State Appropriation: \$293,000
Federal Appropriation: \$0
Other fund sources: \$0
TOTAL (FY20) \$293,000

4. **Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding?**

- No
- Yes, please explain.

5. **State funding history:**

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
FY20	\$293,000	\$293,000
FY19	\$293,000	\$292,921
FY18	\$293,000	\$286,002
FY17	\$293,000	\$292,903
FY16	\$293,000	\$292,999
FY15	\$293,000	\$285,364
FY14	\$293,000	\$282,869
FY13	\$2.808 million	\$2,698,158
FY12	\$2.808 million	\$2,486,597
FY11	\$2.898 million	\$2,717,896
FY10	\$3.219 million	\$2,898,000
FY09	\$3.22 million	\$3,010,047
FY08	\$3.22 million	\$3,074,121
FY07	\$3.98 million	\$2,703,067

6. **Number of beneficiaries (e.g., school districts, schools, students, educators, other) history:**

Fiscal Year	Number of Schools	Number of Districts	Number of Students	Amount of Grant Per School
FY13	148	85	68,698	\$5,000
FY12	152	73	74,794	\$7,500
FY11	137	65	69,387	\$5,000 - \$10,000
FY10	132	68	68,331	\$5,000 - \$10,000
FY09	187	99	102,480	\$10,000 - \$15,000
FY08	210	93	129,038	\$10,000 - \$15,000
FY07	136	79	107,617	\$10,000 - \$15,000

7. **Programmatic changes since inception (if any):**

This proviso continues to provide for resources and supports to district and school leaders for the continuous improvement of a comprehensive SGCP. Over time, though, the focus and intensity of specific areas adapts as needed. For example, in addition to ongoing Career Guidance Washington, High School and Beyond Planning, and graduation requirement tools and guidance, OSPI has recently increased social-emotional learning and school climate and behavioral health resources under this proviso's support.

8. **Evaluations of program/major findings:**

This proviso continues to be the only dedicated resource at OSPI to provide support to the school counseling community. It provides access to key resources that districts need in order to best serve students and meet legislative requirements, such as Graduation Pathways Toolkit, High School and Beyond Plan templates and updates, Behavior Health Toolkit, and Behavioral Health School Improvement Plan templates.

9. **Major challenges faced by the program:**

The role of OSPI in supporting comprehensive school guidance counselor plan implementation is broad. The funding provided for this purpose is limited, which is reflected in the amount of staffing and programming available to support the field. This aligns with the reality in many school buildings: school counselors are deployed many directions in order to support student learning and wellbeing, and there generally aren't enough of them to go around.

10. **Future opportunities:**

The legislature has recently considered a clearer definition of the role of the school counselor in statute, relying on the American School Counselor Association's model.

Providing such a definition within legislation would provide school leaders and OSPI alike to provide more focus on developing and supporting those critical activities.

11. **Statutory and/or budget language:**

ESSB 6168 Sec. 501 (4)(h)(ii) - \$293,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2020 and \$293,000 of the general fund— state appropriation for fiscal year 2021 are provided solely for the Office of 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.6230.090.

12. **Other relevant information:**

N/A

13. **Schools/districts receiving assistance:**

See [OSPI's Grantee List](#)

14. **Program Contact Information:**

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