

## 2017-19 Biennium Budget Decision Package

Agency: 376 The Evergreen State College

Decision Package Code/Title: WC College Bound

Budget Period: 2017-19

Budget Level: M2 - Inflation and Other Rate Changes

**Agency Recommendation Summary Text:** This request seeks the funding necessary for the Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP) to conduct an evaluation of the college bound scholarship program as required by ESSB 5851, Section 7. The report will evaluate educational outcomes, emphasizing degree completion rates at secondary and post-secondary levels and evaluate the relationship between the grade point averages and positive outcomes for the college bound scholarship recipients. The report will also evaluate the types of remediation needed and the persistence rates between college bound scholarship recipients and their peers. The report is due to the legislature by December 1, 2018.

**Fiscal Summary:** Decision package total dollar and FTE cost/savings by year, by fund, for 4 years. Additional fiscal details are required below.

Operating Expenditures	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
General Fund-State 001-1	122,214	40,432	0	0
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>122,214</b>	<b>40,432</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Staffing	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
FTEs	0.8	0.3	0	0
<b>Object of Expenditure</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>
A-Salaries	77,250	25,462	0	0
B-Benefits	19,316	6,485	0	0
E-Goods and Services	25,648	8,485	0	0

### Package Description

- **Background:** ESSB 5851, Section 7 directed WSIPP to evaluate the college bound scholarship program and submit a report to the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1, 2018. The college bound scholarship program provides financial aid to students from low-income families who sign a pledge in the seventh or eighth grade. The pledge is a commitment from the student to complete high school with at least a “C” average and no felony convictions. In return for meeting the terms of the pledge, the student receives priority treatment in the awarding of financial aid for the state need grant so long as his family income does not exceed 65% of the state median family income when the student graduates. In addition, the college bound scholarship covers the difference between the cost of tuition and fees less any other scholarship, grant, or waiver assistance the student receives. The scholarship also provides \$500 for books and materials each year.

The report will complement studies conducted by the University of Washington and elsewhere. The report will evaluate educational outcomes emphasizing degree completion rates at secondary and post-secondary levels. The report will evaluate the relationship between the grade point averages and positive outcomes for the college bound scholarship recipients. The report will also compare differences in the types of remediation needed and the persistence rates between college bound scholarship recipients and their peers. In addition, the report will examine the impact of ineligibility for the program due to various reasons such as changes in family income and moving into the state after the student has attended middle school.

- **Current situation:** WSIPP has begun work on the required studies in order to meet the December 1, 2018, deadline. In order to complete the work, the staff dedicated to this project will increase from 0.35 to 1.10 FTE in FY 2018 and 0.60 FTE in FY 2019. There will be a commensurate increase in the cost of goods and services.
- **Proposed solution:** Funding this request will allow WSIPP to conduct the required evaluation by the deadline set forth in statute. Evergreen requests that its maintenance level budget be increased to fund the incremental cost increase needed to meet this statutory directive.

**Base Budget:** If the proposal is an expansion or alteration of a current program or service, provide information on the resources now devoted to the program or service.

During FY 2016 and FY 2017, WSIPP assigned 0.25 FTE of a senior research associate to launch the study. Activities included identifying the necessary databases, establishing data sharing agreements, and reviewing relevant research literature. In FY 2017, the senior research associate is being supported by a 0.10 FTE of a programmer who is performing data matching and preliminary analysis of K-12 outcomes.

Expenditures for the Goods and Other Services category includes 13% of salaries and benefits for office expenses and 12% of total project expenditures to fund indirect costs for The Evergreen State College.

	FY 2016	FY 2017
	A003 - Public Service	A003 - Public Service
Fund - 001-1 GF-State	\$39,187	\$55,202

**Decision Package expenditure, FTE and revenue assumptions, calculations and details:** WSIPP will assign a 1.0 FTE senior research associate in FY 2018 to analyze postsecondary outcomes with the support of a 0.10 FTE programmer. During FY 2018, the study tasks will include finalizing the K-12 outcome analysis, assembling the more complex postsecondary analytical databases, and analyzing the outcomes and specific program aspects described in the legislation. These individuals will complete the study halfway through FY 2019, which will require 0.5 FTE senior research associate, 0.05 FTE of a programmer, and 0.05 of an office support staff to prepare and submit the report to the legislature on or before December 1, 2018.

Expenditures for the Goods and Other Services category includes 13% of salaries and benefits for office expenses and 12% of total project expenditures to fund indirect costs for The Evergreen State College.

### Decision Package Justification and Impacts

**What specific performance outcomes does the agency expect?**

WSIPP will complete the required study that was directed and authorized by the legislature in ESSB 5851 by December 1, 2018. The study will inform policymakers about the impact of the college bound program on secondary and postsecondary graduation rates. The study will also examine the differences in the need for remediation and the persistence rates between eligible students who participated in the program and those who did not.

Performance Measure detail: N/A

Fully describe and quantify expected impacts on state residents and specific populations served.

**What are other important connections or impacts related to this proposal?** Please complete the following table and provide detailed explanations or information below:

Impact(s) To:		Identify / Explanation
Regional/County impacts?	No	Identify:
Other local gov't impacts?	No	Identify:
Tribal gov't impacts?	No	Identify:
Other state agency impacts?	No	Identify:
Responds to specific task force, report, mandate or exec order?	Yes	Identify: ESSB 5851 requires WSIPP to conduct an evaluation of the college bound scholarship program.
Does request contain a compensation change?	No	Identify:
Does request require a change to a collective bargaining agreement?	No	Identify:
Facility/workplace needs or impacts?	No	Identify:
Capital Budget Impacts?	No	Identify:

Impact(s) To:		Identify / Explanation
Is change required to existing statutes, rules or contracts?	No	Identify:
Is the request related to or a result of litigation?	No	Identify lawsuit (please consult with Attorney General's Office):
Is the request related to Puget Sound recovery?	No	If yes, see budget instructions Section 14.4 for additional instructions
Identify other important connections		

Please provide a detailed discussion of connections/impacts identified above.

**What alternatives were explored by the agency and why was this option chosen?**

Due to the statutory requirement to complete the study by December 1, 2018, no other alternatives were considered.

**What are the consequences of not funding this request?**


Failure to fund this request would leave WSIPP unable to conduct and complete the evaluation. WSIPP would fail to meet a legislative directive that is set forth in statute.

**How has or can the agency address the issue or need in its current appropriation level?**

Because WSIPP's budget is project-driven, the organization has no capacity to absorb unfunded mandates. WSIPP would be unable to complete this evaluation with the current appropriation level because those resources are restricted to the projects that they fund.

**Other supporting materials:** See the text and fiscal note for ESSB 5851.

**Information technology:** Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, services (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

☒ No 

☐ Yes Continue to IT Addendum below and follow the directions on the bottom of the addendum to meet requirements for OCIO review.)