

2017-19 Biennium Budget Decision Package

Agency: 376 The Evergreen State College

Decision Package Code/Title: WD Early Start Act

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 a series of longitudinal analyses that will examine the relationships between the early achievers program quality ratings and the outcomes of children who participate in subsidized early care and education programs as required by 2ES2SHB 1491, Section 13(4). The first study is due by December 31, 2019, and subsequent reports are due each December 31 until 2022. The final report must include a cost-benefit analysis.

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
Fund 001-01 GF-State	665	1,310	65,914	67,864
Total Cost	665	1,310	65,914	67,864
Staffing	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
FTEs	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.4
Object of Expenditure	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
A-Salaries	401	809	41,405	42,633
B-Employee Benefits	101	203	10,653	10,966
E-Goods and Services	163	298	13,856	14,265

Package Description

- **Background:** 2ES2SHB 1491, Section 13(4), directed WSIPP to conduct a series of longitudinal analyses that will examine the relationships between early achievers program quality ratings and the outcomes of children who participate in subsidized early care and education programs. WSIPP is directed to submit its first report to the appropriate committees of the legislature and the early learning advisory council by December 31, 2019. WSIPP is further directed to submit annual reports by December 31 of each subsequent year until the final report, which is due in December of 2022. The final report must include a cost-benefit analysis.
- **Current situation:** WSIPP has begun work on the required studies in order to meet the initial December 31, 2019, deadline. In order to complete this work, staff time and resources will change over the next two biennia as reflected in the fiscal summary above.

- **Proposed solution:** Funding this request will allow WSIPP to conduct the required studies by the deadlines set forth in statute. Evergreen requests that its maintenance level budget be amended to fund the changes in costs related to meeting 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. The scope of the study will focus on participation in state-subsidized early care and learning programs and the outcomes associated with different levels of quality ratings. WSIPP began work on this project by assigning 0.20 FTE of a senior research associate to investigate the necessary data sources and enter into appropriate data-sharing agreements with the Department of Early Learning, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), and Education Research and Data Center (ERDC). This assignment began in FY 2016 and will continue through FY 2019. During this time, the senior research associate will also track implementation of the early achievers quality rating system.

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
FTE Staff years	0.2	0.2
	A003 - Public Service	A003 - Public Service
Fund - 001-01 GF-State	\$31,349	\$31,633

Decision Package expenditure, FTE and revenue assumptions, calculations and details:

- In FY 2020, WSIPP will assign 0.5 FTE of a senior research associate to submit a specific request for data to ERDC, analyze the data, and submit the initial outcomes report to the legislature and early learning advisory council by December 31, 2019. The senior research associate will be supported by 0.05 FTE of a programmer who will assist with the data analysis and 0.05 FTE of administrative support who will assist with report production and distribution for the initial and subsequent reports. In FY 2021 and FY 2022, this team will produce the report that is due on December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2021, respectively.
- In FY 2023, the final year of the study assignment, the senior research associate will finalize the outcome analyses, collect data on variation in costs between low- and high-rated programs, conduct a cost-benefit analysis, and submit the final report to the legislature and early learning advisory council by December 31, 2022.
- 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 components that were directed and authorized by the legislature in 2E2SHB 1491 by the December due dates set forth in statute. The study will inform

policymakers about the early achievers quality rating program and the outcomes of children who participate in state-subsidized early care and education programs.

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?	Yes	Identify: State agencies will be asked to enter data-sharing agreements with WSIPP in order to support the annual evaluations and the cost-benefit analysis that is due on December 31, 2022.
Responds to specific task force, report, mandate or exec order?	Yes	Identify: The study and cost-benefit analysis were directed by 2E2SHB 1491.
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:
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, 2017, 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 study. 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 study with the current appropriation level because those resources are restricted to the projects that they fund.

Other supporting materials: Please attach or reference any other supporting materials or information that will help analysts and policymakers understand and prioritize your request.

See fiscal note for 2E2SHB 1491.

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.)