

**STATE OF WASHINGTON  
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES  
RESOLUTION 24-08-49**

A resolution relating to the development of the 2025-27 operating budget request:

**WHEREAS**, RCW 28B.50.090 authorizes the State Board to prepare a single budget for the support of the state system of community and technical colleges; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Board has determined that the community and technical colleges are uniquely positioned to provide talented graduates to fill new jobs in Washington’s dynamic economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Board has determined that meeting the state's post-secondary attainment goals and workforce needs requires both adequate and stable funding to support the core campus operations as described in Tab 2 of the August 29, 2024 meeting material.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges approves and directs the State Board staff to prepare the community and technical college system biennial operating budget request as set forth in Tab 2 – Consideration of the 2025-27 Operating Budget Request.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges authorizes the Executive Director to make adjustments to this action, including any necessary changes to the State Board’s Policy Manual, as necessary, for actions taken by the Governor, Legislature, data corrections, externally imposed restrictions or guidelines, uniform accounting and reporting requirements, and unanticipated changes in state or federal law.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED** on August 29, 2024.

Attest



Paul Francis, secretary



Martin Valadez, chair

2025-27 Biennial Operating Budget Request  
 Washington State Board for Community & Technical Colleges

State Dollars in Millions

Budget Requests	FY 2026	FY 2027	Biennial Total	Summary
<b>Carry Forward Total*</b>	<b>1,223.5</b>	<b>1,239.4</b>	<b>2,462.9</b>	Estimated beginning point for 2025-27 funding.
<b>Maintenance Level</b>				"Maintenance level" includes cost increases for policies and programs already authorized by the Legislature.
I-732 COLA	25.8	43.2	<b>69.0</b>	COLA linked to Seattle CPI for faculty and tech college classified. The rate is 3.99% in FY 26 and 2.58% in FY 27.
Maintenance & Operations (M&O)	0.04	0.75	<b>0.79</b>	For capital projects completed in 2025-27
Utility Rate Adjustment	4.47	4.47	<b>8.93</b>	Requesting funding to cover the increasing cost of utilities.
CAP Tuition Backfill Inflation Adj.	0.63	0.62	<b>1.25</b>	College Affordability Plan (2015) tuition backfill adjusted by Seattle CPI.
Restore State Funds for M&O	11.40	11.40	<b>22.80</b>	Requesting reverse of 2003 funds swap of Capital Building funds in place of GF-State funds for M&O.
College System Benefits Litigation	1.25	1.25	<b>2.50</b>	Continued funding for Attorney General Office litigation costs in the college system benefits lawsuits.
Hospitality Center of Excellence	0.26	0.26	<b>0.51</b>	Requesting ongoing maintenance funding of the center of excellence for hospitality. One-time funding was provided in the enacted 2024 supplemental budget.
Job Skills	2.40	2.40	<b>4.80</b>	Expand capacity of job skills program.
<b>Total Maintenance Level Requests</b>	<b>46.28</b>	<b>64.34</b>	<b>110.63</b>	
<b>New Policy Level Items</b>				
Competitive Compensation	59.79	123.46	<b>183.25</b>	Increase salaries by 6.5% in FY 26 and 6.5% in FY 27, supported with 100% state funding. Funds are needed to help to equalize salaries within and among all employee groups. Colleges are struggling to recruit and retain faculty and staff in several areas. These challenges cannot be addressed unless our college system can keep pace with industry and K-12.
Increase Operating Funds	45.00	45.00	<b>90.00</b>	Requesting a 5% increase in ongoing flexible general funds for the evolving core operations on college campus.
<b>Total Policy Level Requests</b>	<b>104.79</b>	<b>168.46</b>	<b>273.25</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,374.54</b>	<b>1,472.22</b>	<b>2,846.76</b>	
<i>Percent Increase</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>16%</i>	

\*Numbers not yet final