



2025-27 CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST

SEPTEMBER 5, 2024

Preserve, Optimize, Modernize

In today's rapidly changing higher education landscape, community and technical colleges need to offer safe, modern spaces for teaching and learning and provide the best training ground for new and emerging career fields. Our community and technical college system's \$652.8 million capital budget request is designed to meet both those goals.

Who We Serve

Anchored in local communities across Washington, our 34 community and technical colleges collectively served about 290,000 students in the 2023-24 academic year. We proudly serve a very diverse student population. Our students are more likely to be the first in their families to attend college, come from lower-income families, be people of color, hold down jobs while enrolled, and care for parents or children. The median age is 26.

Minor Works

Our request prioritizes minor works projects ahead of all other work to prevent or delay more costly renovations and replacement projects in the future.

In this request, our state's 34 community and technical colleges would receive funding for high-priority facility repairs — such as repairing or replacing roofs, windows, elevators, boilers, and mechanical systems — and to proactively replace campus infrastructure that is beyond its useful life, before it fails.

All colleges would also receive funding to modernize existing spaces to ensure they continue to be viable, relevant, and useful.

Major Projects

Our capital budget request includes funding for 12 major projects, starting with a study of possible solutions for Lake Swano dam at Grays Harbor College. Considered "high hazard" by the Department of Ecology, the dam poses an imminent threat to public safety in the south Aberdeen area. A dam failure would significantly disrupt campus operations by cutting off utilities and access to several buildings and by eliminating the college's alternate tsunami evacuation route.

The remaining projects on the list support space for instruction, labs, student services, and vocational programs in high-demand fields like clean energy, automotive technology, advanced manufacturing, and allied health. Nearly 241,000 square feet of the college system's oldest and least functional teaching and learning spaces would be replaced or renovated.

Clean Buildings Act Compliance

Our college system seeks funding for each college to inventory energy-consuming equipment on campus — such as HVACs, boilers, and lighting systems — in order to develop Energy Management and Operations and Maintenance plans required by the 2019 Clean Buildings Act.

Owners of buildings that need to comply with the Clean Buildings Act are required to have a qualified person submit compliance reports for affected buildings, with the first report due in 2026. A second part of this request is to enable colleges to either train staff to become qualified to submit compliance reports or contract with others who are qualified.

2025-27 Capital Budget Request

Priority	College	Project	Funding Phase	Request amount	Cumulative request
1	Systemwide	Preventive Facility Maintenance and Building System Repairs	2003 operating fund swap	\$ 22,800,000	\$ 22,800,000
2	Systemwide	Minor Works - Preservation (25-27)	Design & Construction	\$ 33,325,000	\$ 56,125,000
3	Systemwide	Minor Repairs - Roof (25-27)	Design & Construction	\$ 12,153,000	\$ 68,278,000
4	Systemwide	Minor Repairs - Facility (25-27)	Design & Construction	\$ 47,554,000	\$ 115,832,000
5	Systemwide	Minor Repairs - Site (25-27)	Design & Construction	\$ 4,771,000	\$ 120,603,000
6	Systemwide	Minor Repairs - Infrastructure (25-27)	Design & Construction	\$ 43,400,000	\$ 164,003,000
7	Systemwide	Minor Works - Program (25-27)	Design & Construction	\$ 45,446,000	\$ 209,449,000
8	Grays Harbor	Lake Swano Dam Study	Planning/Design	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 210,449,000
9	Olympic	Innovation & Technology Learning Center	Construction	\$ 31,232,000	\$ 241,681,000
10	Lower Columbia	Center for Vocational and Transitional Studies	Construction	\$ 45,388,000	\$ 287,069,000
11	Columbia Basin	Performing Arts Building Replacement	Design & Construction	\$ 54,868,000	\$ 341,937,000
12	Whatcom	Technology and Engineering Center	Design & Construction	\$ 51,457,000	\$ 393,394,000
13	Cascadia	CC5 Gateway building	Construction	\$ 40,208,000	\$ 433,602,000
14	Edmonds	Triton Learning Commons	Construction	\$ 43,900,000	\$ 477,502,000
15	Renton	Health Sciences Center	Construction	\$ 52,078,000	\$ 529,580,000
16	Bellingham	Engineering Technology Center - Bldg J Replacement	Design & Construction	\$ 18,676,000	\$ 548,256,000
17	Centralia	Teacher Education and Family Development Center	Construction	\$ 12,854,000	\$ 561,110,000
18	Spokane	Apprenticeship Center	Construction	\$ 43,501,000	\$ 604,611,000
19	Skagit	Library/Culinary Arts Building	Construction	\$ 37,580,000	\$ 642,191,000
20	Systemwide	Clean Buildings Compliance - Equipment Inventory and Reporting	Data & Compliance	\$ 10,612,000	\$ 652,803,000

Certificate of Participation/Alternative Financing Requests

Columbia Basin	Student Housing Construction	Design & Construction	\$ 18,000,000
Edmonds	Student Housing Acquisition	Acquisition	\$ 9,000,000