



2024 SUPPLEMENTAL OPERATING BUDGET COMPARISON

Throughout the 2024 Legislative Session, the Governor, House of Representatives, and Senate will each propose a supplemental budget to modify the operating budget for the 2023-2025 biennium. The operating budget determines the level of funding for all state spending, including many investments and programs that serve communities living on low incomes in Washington state.

After each branch of government introduces a budget proposal, the House Appropriations committee and Senate Ways & Means committee hold hearings on these proposals and ultimately pass a negotiated budget. Throughout the legislative session, Statewide Poverty Action Network will provide an overview of the budget proposals that impact low-income communities.

BASIC NEEDS

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) assists parents with incomes so low they cannot meet basic needs for themselves and their dependent children. [Click here for more details about the program.](#) Updates to TANF also typically impact State Family Assistance (SFA), which provides a cash assistance program comparable to TANF to documented immigrant families with children who have resided in the U.S. less than five years and do not yet qualify for the federal TANF program.

Poverty Action priority: Increase equity in access to TANF by eliminating policies that have demonstrated racist outcomes. In 2024, we’re hoping to permanently instate time limit exemptions for families experiencing hardship. We also hope to reinstate the child support passthrough, which would make sure that all child support paid by a noncustodial parent would reach the children instead of being taken by the state.

Governor’s budget	House budget	Senate budget	FINAL BUDGET
<p>Expands the TANF time limit to people exempt from WorkFirst participation, experiencing a temporary situation that prevents employment, or are actively participating in WorkFirst activities. (\$4.6 GFS)</p> <p>Provides funding and staffing to replace skimmed or cloned cash assistance and state food benefits up</p>	<p>Funds HB 2007 which expands the TANF time limit to families with a child under two (\$1.06M GFS)</p> <p>Funds HB 1652 to pass through child support to families on TANF (\$16M)</p> <p>Provides funding and staffing to replace skimmed or cloned cash assistance and state food benefits up to two times each federal fiscal year (\$914K)</p>	<p>Provides funding and staffing to replace skimmed or cloned cash assistance and state food benefits up to two times each federal fiscal year (\$914K)</p>	<p>Funds HB 2007, which expands the TANF time limit to families with a child under two (\$1.06M GFS)</p> <p>Funds HB 1652 to pass through child support to families on TANF (\$16M)</p> <p>Provides funding and staffing to replace skimmed or cloned cash assistance and state food benefits up</p>



2024 SUPPLEMENTAL OPERATING BUDGET COMPARISON

to two times each federal fiscal year (\$914K)			to two times each federal fiscal year (\$914K)
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DENTAL CARE ACCESS

Dental Coverage is one of the benefits of our state’s Medicaid program, Apple Health, which provides critical access to dental care for low-income communities. The Medicaid dental budget has long been underfunded, to the detriment of patients’ access to care. In 2021, fewer than 20% of the more than 1 million adults with Medicaid Dental coverage could find a dentist to see them, and less than half of Apple Health covered children.

Poverty Action priority: Maintain and deepen current levels of investment, oppose any cuts to this essential health program, and invest in strategies to increase access to oral health care. In 2024, we support budget investments in oral health programs and strategies that currently offer dental care to people with low incomes and people with disabilities. This includes support for the UW Regional Initiatives in Dental Education (RIDE) program (\$2.5M), the Access to Baby & Child Dentistry (ABCD) program (\$1M), and capital investments in neighborhood health clinics (\$6.35M over several projects).

Governor’s budget	House budget	Senate budget	FINAL BUDGET
Includes \$2.5M to expand the UW RIDE program that trains dentists to meet the needs of rural and underserved populations in the state and region.	Includes \$2.5M to expand the UW RIDE program that trains dentists to meet the needs of rural and underserved populations in the state and region. Fully funds ABCD program at \$1M (\$500,000 GFS, \$500,000 federal match). At \$4.4M of a \$5.9M request, the House partially funds the Capital Budget request for Yakima Neighborhood Health Services to partner with the new Pacific NW University dental school to open a training clinic in that area.	Includes \$2.5M to expand the UW RIDE program that trains dentists to meet the needs of rural and underserved populations in the state and region. At \$4.4M of a \$5.9M request, the House partially funds the Capital Budget request for Yakima Neighborhood Health Services to partner with the new Pacific NW University dental school to open a training clinic in that area.	Includes \$2.5M to expand the UW RIDE program that trains dentists to meet the needs of rural and underserved populations in the state and region. Fully funds ABCD program at \$1M (\$500,000 GFS, \$500,000 federal match). At \$4.4M of a \$5.9M request, the Legislature partially funds the Capital Budget request for Yakima Neighborhood Health Services to partner with the new Pacific NW University dental school to open a training clinic in that area.



2024 SUPPLEMENTAL OPERATING BUDGET COMPARISON

	<p>University dental school to open a training clinic in that area. Invests \$452,000 in Capital funds to support increasing dental capacity at four community health clinics.</p> <p>Invests \$100,000 to create a fluoridation work group to explore strategies for increasing access to this proven oral health strategy.</p>	<p>Invests \$452,000 in Capital funds to support increasing dental capacity at four community health clinics.</p>	<p>Invests \$380,000 in Capital funds to support increasing dental capacity at three community health clinics. This is full funding after the fourth clinic rescinded their request.</p> <p>Invests \$100,000 to create a fluoridation work group to explore strategies for increasing access to this proven oral health strategy.</p>
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HOUSING

Housing is a consistent essential need. Every time we listen to communities across the state, housing is brought up as a pain point and source of anxiety. Meeting this need is often challenging and incredibly stressful, and it shouldn't be.

Poverty Action priority: Join the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance preventing cuts to essential housing services. This is particularly important as several housing revenue sources have expired or are bringing in less revenue because of the decline in the sales of homes. Specifically, we urge the legislature to backfill the shortfall from the document recording fee and from expiring federal funding.

Governor's budget	House budget	Senate budget	FINAL BUDGET
<p>Partially maintains homelessness services by backfilling the document recording fee which left a \$69.8M shortfall (\$10M)</p>	<p>Fully maintains homelessness services by backfilling the document recording fee which left a \$69.8M shortfall (\$70M)</p> <p>Replaces Federal funding for Emergency Shelter with state funding to prevent losing homeless services</p>	<p>Partially maintains homelessness services by backfilling the document recording fee which left a \$69.8M shortfall (\$21M)</p>	<p>Maintains homelessness services by backfilling the document recording fee which left a \$69.8M shortfall (\$56M)</p>



2024 SUPPLEMENTAL OPERATING BUDGET COMPARISON

	beds (\$49.9M) Fully funds rent stabilization efforts through HB 2114.		
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INNOVATIVE POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGIES

In conversations with people with low incomes around the state, we have repeatedly heard that people need support to meet their immediate basic needs, but they also have deep hope for a better future for their families and children. While we advocate for critical basic needs programs like TANF, HEN, and ABD, we must also push for innovative strategies for future generations to grow up in healthy, thriving families and communities.

Poverty Action priority: Increase opportunities for families to access unrestricted cash assistance and savings. This includes funding to:

- Expand access to the **Working Families Tax Credit (WFTC)**, WA’s version of the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), which rolled roll out in 2023;
- Create and fund a statewide **Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI)** pilot;
- Create and fund the **Washington Futures Fund**, a baby bonds program to create savings for children in low-income families; and
- Support the creation of **Community Assemblies** which will help meaningfully support community input in government processes.

Governor’s budget	House budget	Senate budget	FINAL BUDGET
Includes funding to support the creation of Community Assemblies (\$1M, CCA).	Includes funding to support the creation of Community Assemblies (\$2M, CCA)	Includes funding to support the creation of Community Assemblies (\$1M, CCA)	Includes funding to support the creation of Community Assemblies (\$2M, CCA)
Makes investments to create the Consumer Voice Council (\$162K)	Funds the Design Youth Direct Cash Program: Dept. of Commerce and youth/young adults with lived experience of homelessness to co-design a cash assistance program (\$550K)	Makes investments to create the Consumer Voice Council (\$168K)	Program: Dept. of Commerce and youth/young adults with lived experience of homelessness to co-design a cash assistance program (\$550K)
	Includes funding for the Department of Financial Institutions to conduct a study on the racial wealth gap implications (\$300K)		Includes funding for the Department of Financial Institutions to conduct a study on the racial wealth gap implications (\$300K)
	Includes funding for outreach related to the Working Families Tax Credit (\$2M)		Includes funding for outreach related to the Working Families Tax Credit (\$1M)



2024 SUPPLEMENTAL OPERATING BUDGET COMPARISON



2024 SUPPLEMENTAL OPERATING BUDGET COMPARISON

PUBLIC BENEFIT SYSTEM UPGRADES

Many of the barriers that people face in accessing programs are exasperated by the use of outdated technology, specifically a program used by DSHS called ACES. Upgrading these systems will change out uses are able to interact with it, allow for major simplifications, and shorter implementation times and lower costs when policies change.

Poverty Action priority: Upgrade the technology used by public benefits systems so that people on benefits feel treated with respect and necessary changes and take place without additional cost and delay.

Governor's budget	House budget	Senate budget	FINAL BUDGET
Includes funding to further the Integrated Eligibility and Enrollment (IE&E) Modernization project \$48.6M	Includes funding to further the Integrated Eligibility and Enrollment (IE&E) Modernization project \$60.9M	Includes funding to further the Integrated Eligibility and Enrollment (IE&E) Modernization project \$54.73M	Includes funding to further the Integrated Eligibility and Enrollment (IE&E) Modernization project \$57.4M
Reduces wait times in Community Service Offices and reports to the legislature on these wait times (\$15.6M)	Reduces wait times in Community Service Offices and reports to the legislature on these wait times (\$4.9M)	Reduces wait times in Community Service Offices and reports to the legislature on these wait times (\$4.9M)	Reduces wait times in Community Service Offices and reports to the legislature on these wait times (\$4.9M)