



UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Ana Mari Cauce
Professor of Psychology
PRESIDENT

February 4, 2025

K.D. Chapman-See, Director
Office of Financial Management, State of Washington
P.O. Box 43113
Olympia, Washington 98054-3113

RE: OFM Memo – Direction to Agencies on 2025-27 Budget Reduction Proposals

Dear Director Chapman-See,

The University of Washington understands the considerable magnitude of the operating budget deficit and appreciates your efforts to work with agencies to responsibly steward state resources. Our University is fully-enrolled with unprecedented demand, and any state funding reduction would impact our ability to provide affordable and accessible education for Washington’s students and our state’s workforce development needs. Focusing spending reductions in public education specifically on baccalaureate institutions in the Governor’s budget proposal is disappointing and would diminish our ability to meet workforce demands and provide opportunities for Washingtonians in the coming years, especially given the recent [“Skill Up for Our Future”](#) report from the WA Roundtable.

Historically, cuts to our public higher education institutions have been offset in part or whole by legislative authorization for tuition increases. We do not have the same flexibility that we had during previous cuts: the state limits the annual increase to resident undergraduate tuition, many of our non-resident and graduate and professional program rates are above peer prices, and significant enrollment increases are not feasible given space availability at the UW and a competitive landscape for student enrollment with national and statewide declines in enrollment. In addition, the state already requires that our institutions use incremental tuition revenue to support salary increases.

The University is proactively taking steps to mitigate risks to our mission in light of expense growth and significant state and federal uncertainty through our [Together We Thrive](#) program. Units have been asked to review hiring plans; restrict non-essential spending including travel, training, and supplies; review and renegotiate contracts; and constrain

non-core activities that do not directly support instruction, research, and public service. However, these efforts are unlikely to accomplish a significant reduction to state-funded activity given that state funding is primarily directed to our academic mission. If a state funding reduction is implemented, the University would explore the following options:

- Reducing the number of resident undergraduate (RUG) student enrollment slots at our Seattle campus, which would be offset by additional non-resident undergraduate (NRUG) enrollments. State support per FTE has declined by 23 percent since FY08, and the University's enrollment mix must reflect state support. Due to the higher NRUG tuition rate, a 2% reduction to RUG FTE enrollment (560 students) and commensurate increase to NRUG enrollment would generate approximately enough incremental revenue to offset a 3% state funding reduction.
- Reducing student financial aid: the University currently provides need-based aid and waivers to low-income resident students beyond legislative requirements. Reducing institutional aid would impact our Washington resident students, but it would result in increased net tuition revenue for academic operations that could offset a portion of a funding reduction.

We understand it is possible the state could assess across-the-board funding reductions and authorize new salary increases for state employees in FY26 and FY27. To be clear, we would have to consider any new salary funding to offset a cut in appropriations. The totality of state funding provided will be used to determine whether the University is able to implement state authorizations for salary increases. Incremental state funding for salary increases for faculty and staff has been roughly equivalent to the magnitude of a 3% funding reduction, meaning the state would be providing little to no additional support for authorized state employees raises and collective bargaining agreements. This approach would further exacerbate Great Recession-era funding models, despite state-mandated caps on tuition growth.

Finally, if targeted reductions are needed, we recommend a review of one-time funding for programs that are not related to an official request of the University or fundamental to our academic, student support, and research missions in service to the state. We also request maximum flexibility in managing any reductions that might be necessary.

We urge our state leaders to implement creative approaches to minimize or avoid state budget cuts to our public higher education institutions. We are still recovering from Great Recession-era cuts and the COVID-19 pandemic, while experiencing extraordinary inflationary costs and student demand for high-cost majors, all as we strive to provide high-quality and affordable education to Washington's students.

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on this important exercise, and please let us know if we can be helpful as your work continues.

Sincerely,



Ana Mari Cauce
President
University of Washington

CC:

Tricia Serio, Provost and Executive Vice President
Sarah Norris Hall, Senior Vice President and CFO, Finance, Planning & Budgeting (FPB)
Randy Hodgins, Vice President, External Affairs
Joe Dacca, Director, State Relations
Jed Bradley, Executive Director of Policy, Planning & State Operations (FPB)
Senator June Robinson, Chair, Senate Ways & Means Committee
Senator Derek Stanford, Vice Chair, Senate Ways & Means Committee
Senator Chris Gildon, Ranking Member, Senate Ways & Means Committee
Senator Nikki Torres, Asst. Ranking Member, Senate Ways & Means Committee
Representative Timm Ormsby, Chair, House Appropriations Committee
Representative Nicole Macri, Vice Chair, House Appropriations Committee
Representative Mia Gregerson, Vice Chair, House Appropriations Committee
Representative Travis Couture, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Committee
Representative April Connors, Asst. Ranking Member, House Appropriations Committee
Representative Joshua Penner, Asst. Ranking Member, House Appropriations Committee
Representative Joe Schmick, Asst. Ranking Member, House Appropriations Committee
Joyce Bruce, Legislative Director, Office of Governor Bob Ferguson
Sahar Fathi, Policy Director, Office of Governor Bob Ferguson
Heather Hudson, Deputy Policy Director, Office of Governor Bob Ferguson
Sheri Sawyer, Legislative Director, Office of Financial Management
Ramona Nabors, Budget Advisor, Office of Financial Management

February 10, 2025

K.D. Chapman-See, Director
Office of Financial Management, State of Washington
P.O. Box 43113
Olympia, Washington 98054-3113

RE: OFM Memo – Direction to Agencies on 2025-27 Budget Reduction Proposals – Additional Proviso Information

Dear Director Chapman-See,

In addition to the letter from University of Washington (UW) President Ana Mari Cauce last week, we have been asked to provide a listing of current state budget provisos for the UW that were not tied to an official UW budget request to the state.

Attached is a list of UW provisos that were not tied to a decision package submitted by the University. Many of these items, however, were developed by members of the legislature in collaboration with UW faculty and staff. We have excluded items that are tied to legislation, since removing proviso funding would also require the repeal of associated state laws to achieve savings.

In addition, we have included a list of provisos that were provided in the 2023-25 and 2024 supplemental budgets as one-time funding, which are set to expire. These items total nearly \$198 million, an approximate 14% reduction to the current state budget allocation to the UW.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Joe Dacca, Director, UW State Relations
Jed Bradley, Executive Director of Policy, Planning & State Operations, UW Finance, Planning & Budgeting

Unit	StateFund	StateApprpr EA_Desc	OngoingInd	2024	2025	Biennium
Bothell (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	BJ1/BJ2 Bothell Online Behavioral Health Courses	Ongoing	200,000	200,000	400,000
College of Arts and Sciences (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	AK1/AK2 Burke Museum Access	Ongoing	600,000	600,000	1,200,000
College of Arts and Sciences (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	AM1/AM2 Center for Human Rights Supplemental Funding	Ongoing	410,000	410,000	820,000
College of Arts and Sciences (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	AN1/AN2 State Forensic Anthropologist	Ongoing	143,000	143,000	286,000
College of Arts and Sciences (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	AQ1/AQ2 Center for Environmental Forensic Science	Ongoing	443,000	443,000	886,000
College of Arts and Sciences (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	DD1/DD2 Wolf Recolonization Study/South Cascades Wolf Study	Ongoing	172,000	172,000	344,000
College of Arts and Sciences (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	DU1/DU2 Voting and Elections Data Repository	Ongoing	77,000	77,000	154,000
College of Arts and Sciences (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	DU1/DU2 Voting and Elections Data Repository	Ongoing		48,000	48,000
College of Arts and Sciences (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	EE1/EE2 Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies	Ongoing	300,000	300,000	600,000
College of Built Environments (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	AF1/AF2 Community Care Coordinator/Doorway Project	Ongoing	75,000	75,000	150,000
College of Built Environments (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	CX1/CX2 Youth and Young Adult Homelessness	Ongoing	450,000	450,000	900,000
College of Education (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	AD1/AD2 Open Access Climate Science Curriculum	Ongoing	300,000	300,000	600,000
College of the Environment (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	3Z1/3Z2 Center for International Trade in Forest Products	Ongoing	102,000	102,000	204,000
College of the Environment (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	BV1/BV2 Climate Impacts Group	Ongoing	400,000	400,000	800,000
Evans School of Public Policy and Governance (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	DU1/DU2 Voting and Elections Data Repository	Ongoing		125,000	125,000
HMC Harborview Medical Center (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	DV1/DV2 Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Training	Ongoing	122,000	122,000	244,000
Libraries (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	CN1/CN2 Labor Archives of WA	Ongoing	200,000	200,000	400,000
Minority Affairs (Financial CCH 05)	24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST	1F0 UW MESA Expansion Everett	Ongoing	250,000	250,000	500,000
Minority Affairs (Financial CCH 05)	24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST	1K0 MESA Support	Ongoing	100,000	100,000	200,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	BQ1/BQ2 Expand Project ECHO (actually is for Dementia Best Practices)	Ongoing	226,000	226,000	452,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	BY1/BY2 Firearm Policy Research Program	Ongoing	500,000	500,000	1,000,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	DE1/DE2 Psychiatry Integrated Care Training	Ongoing	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	DQ1/DQ2 Memory and Brain Wellness Center	Ongoing	100,000	100,000	200,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05)	24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST	1N0 Center for Indigenous Health	Ongoing	500,000	500,000	1,000,000
School of Social Work (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	CR1/CR2 Latino Health Center	Ongoing	500,000	500,000	1,000,000
Tacoma (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	DG1/DG2 UW Tacoma Pre-Law Pipeline	Ongoing	200,000	200,000	400,000
Tacoma (Financial CCH 05)	24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST	270 Develop program to support pathways from prison	Ongoing	400,000	400,000	800,000
Undergraduate Academic Affairs (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	CX1/CX2 Youth and Young Adult Homelessness	Ongoing	50,000	50,000	100,000
UWMC UW Medical Center (Financial CCH 05)	001 GENERAL FUND	FG2 Washington Reproductive Access Alliance	Ongoing		412,000	412,000
				\$ 7,820,000	\$ 8,405,000	\$ 16,225,000

Unit	StateFund	StateAppropri	EA_Desc	ResourceCod	FundingStatu	OngoingInd	2024	2025	Biennium
College of Arts and Sciences (Financial C 001 GENERAL FUND			Center for Environmental Forensic Science	RS100232	New	OneTime		307,000	307,000
College of Arts and Sciences (Financial C 001 GENERAL FUND		FH2	Nordic Nations Pilot Program	RS100510	New	OneTime		350,000	350,000
College of Arts and Sciences (Financial C 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 1E0			Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies	RS100410	New	OneTime	150,000	150,000	300,000
College of Arts and Sciences (Financial C 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 1V0			Review Recorded Covenants	RS100419	New	OneTime	225,000	201,000	426,000
College of Arts and Sciences (Financial C 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 1Y0			Applied Child/Adolescent Psychology Seattle	RS100421	New	OneTime	558,000	558,000	1,116,000
College of Arts and Sciences (Financial C 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 1Z0			Applied Child/Adolescent Psychology Student	RS100422	New	OneTime	554,000	554,000	1,108,000
College of Built Environments (Financial C 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 3A0			Planning Program Stipends	RS100430	New	OneTime	100,000	100,000	200,000
College of Education (Financial CCH 05) 001 GENERAL FUND		EC1/EC2	Math Score Improvement Pilot	RS100278	New	OneTime	50,000	50,000	100,000
College of the Environment (Financial CC 001 GENERAL FUND		351/352	Nanocellulose Pilot Plant	RS100401	New	OneTime	150,000	450,000	600,000
College of the Environment (Financial CC 001 GENERAL FUND		FE2	European Green Crab Genome Sequency and	RS100507	New	OneTime		174,000	174,000
College of the Environment (Financial CC 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 100			Puget Sound kelp conservation and recovery	RS100415	New	OneTime	242,000	242,000	484,000
College of the Environment (Financial CC 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 370			Nanocellulose based research	RS100428	New	OneTime	200,000	200,000	400,000
College of the Environment (Financial CC 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 3M0			Center for International trade/forest products	RS100440	New	OneTime	175,000	175,000	350,000
CoMotion (Financial CCH 05) 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / AG0			Entrepreneur In Residence Program	RS100521	New	OneTime	150,000	150,000	300,000
Continuum College (Financial CCH 05) 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 3G0			Public Service Grad Aid	RS100434	New	OneTime	225,000	225,000	450,000
Evans School of Public Policy and Govern 001 GENERAL FUND		FM2	ESSB5890 (Ballot Rejection) - FY2	RS100514	New	Ongoing		10,000	10,000
Evans School of Public Policy and Govern 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / AL0			Junior Summer Institute	RS100524	New	OneTime	70,000	70,000	140,000
Facilities (Financial CCH 05) 001 GENERAL FUND		FC2	Soccer Field Renovation	RS100506	New	OneTime		180,000	180,000
HMC Harborview Medical Center (Finan 001 GENERAL FUND		291	Support the difficult to dischrge task force	RS100400	New	OneTime	205,000		205,000
HMC Harborview Medical Center (Finan 001 GENERAL FUND		3D1/3D2	UW medical center/Harborview	RS100406	New	OneTime	10,000,000		10,000,000
Libraries (Financial CCH 05) 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 3J0			Labor Archives of WA	RS100437	New	OneTime	50,000	50,000	100,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05) 001 GENERAL FUND		231/232	Behavioral Health teaching faculty physician/facility support	RS100398	New	OneTime	712,000	4,183,000	4,895,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05) 001 GENERAL FUND		391/392	Trueblood Competency Evaluations - E2SSB	RS100403	New	OneTime	1,100,000	1,100,000	2,200,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05) 001 GENERAL FUND		3A1/3A2	Diversity clinical trials - 2SHB 1745	RS100404	New	OneTime	686,000	669,000	1,355,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05) 001 GENERAL FUND		DM1/DM2	Center for Health Workforce Studies	RS100264	New	OneTime	100,000		100,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05) 001 GENERAL FUND			Memory and Brain Wellness Center	RS100268	New	OneTime		50,000	50,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05) 001 GENERAL FUND		FD1/FD2	SMART Center	RS100503	New	OneTime	120,000	250,000	370,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05) 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 1S0			Culturally Responsive Mental Health	RS100418	New	OneTime	400,000	400,000	800,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05) 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 1W0			Addictions, Drug & Alcohol Institute	RS100420	New	OneTime	250,000	250,000	500,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05) 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 3F0			Behavioral health support - SSB 5189	RS100433	New	OneTime	96,000	61,000	157,000
School of Medicine (Financial CCH 05) 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 3H0			Psilocybin - 2SSB 5263	RS100435	New	OneTime	735,000	729,000	1,464,000
School of Nursing (Financial CCH 05) 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 350			LTC nursing residency program & externship	RS100427	New	OneTime	150,000	150,000	300,000
School of Nursing (Financial CCH 05) 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / AH0			UW Barnard Center	RS100522	New	OneTime	125,000	125,000	250,000
School of Public Health (Financial CCH 0 001 GENERAL FUND		FA2	C462L23 (Domestic Violence)	RS100504	New	OneTime		400,000	400,000
School of Public Health (Financial CCH 0 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 3I0			Domestic violence - E2SHB 1715	RS100436	New	OneTime	500,000	1,500,000	2,000,000
School of Public Health (Financial CCH 0 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST ACCT			Domestic violence - E2SHB 1715	RS100436	New	OneTime		(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)
School of Social Work (Financial CCH 05 001 GENERAL FUND		FJ2	Co-Response Services - FY2	RS100511	New	OneTime		535,000	535,000
School of Social Work (Financial CCH 05 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 1C0			Latino center for health	RS100409	New	OneTime	250,000	250,000	500,000
School of Social Work (Financial CCH 05 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 390			Establish WASHPOP	RS100429	New	OneTime	523,000	715,000	1,238,000
School of Social Work (Financial CCH 05 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / AK0			Conditional Scholarship Report	RS100523	New	OneTime	125,000	125,000	250,000
Tacoma (Financial CCH 05) 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 1P0			Inequities Research Framework	RS100416	New	OneTime	200,000		200,000
Tacoma (Financial CCH 05) 24J WORKFORCE EDUC INVEST / 310			UW-Tacoma Student Support Services	RS100425	New	OneTime	698,500	698,500	1,397,000
UWMC UW Medical Center (Financial C 001 GENERAL FUND		251/252	Behavioral Health teaching facility operating/maintenance	RS100399	New	OneTime	1,869,000	3,738,000	5,607,000
UWMC UW Medical Center (Financial C 001 GENERAL FUND		3B1	Facilitate opening of behavioral health teaching	RS100405	New	OneTime	7,500,000		7,500,000
UWMC UW Medical Center (Financial C 001 GENERAL FUND		3D1/3D2	UW medical center/Harborview	RS100406	New	OneTime	70,000,000		70,000,000
UWMC UW Medical Center (Financial C 001 GENERAL FUND			UW medical center/Harborview	RS100406	New	OneTime		60,000,000	60,000,000
UWMC UW Medical Center (Financial C 001 GENERAL FUND		FB2	Behavioral Health Care And Training Support	RS100505	New	OneTime		20,000,000	20,000,000
UWMSS UW Medicine Shared Services (001 GENERAL FUND		371/372	Advancement of telemedicine	RS100402	New	OneTime	50,000	50,000	100,000
							\$ 99,293,500	\$ 98,674,500	\$ 197,968,000

expiring, but UW requested ongoing funding for 2025-27