



2024-2025

**PUGET SOUND TAXPAYER ACCOUNTABILITY ACCOUNT
ANNUAL REPORT**

Institute of Higher Education	Washington State University - Everett
Interlocal Agreement Number	EL-21-80-08-390
Allocation 2024-2025	\$285,427.78
Reallocated Unspent Funds from 2023-2024	25,401.38
Total 2024-2025 Allocation	310,829.16
Admin Designation (maximum 10%)	31,080.00
Direct Service Designation (maximum 90% after admin)	251,774.16
Early Learning Designation (minimum 10% after admin)	27,975.00
Spent through August 2025	\$310,829.16

FUNDS DESIGNATED FOR INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Proposed Use of Funds (Brief Summary)

Washington State University - Everett (WSU - Everett) will use funds to end barriers to college entrance and completion for local students through a series of scholarships and services (see descriptions below) for new and currently enrolled students living within the Regional Transit Area (RTA).

Enrollment fee scholarship (\$150 per confirmed eligible students): For Fall semester of 2024 alone, WSU Everett received over 250 applications from college-ready individuals, and we are still counting. As our enrollment grows, the barrier-free application program will reduce a major barrier and provide a platform from which to launch their futures in Snohomish County and save the collective student population over **\$45,000**.

Transitional Housing Assistance: Housing is another component to barrier-free access to education. Washington State University - Everett aims to serve students facing food insecurities, housing insecurities, and/or are unhoused. Funds will be used to rent out space either at Everett Community College, Edmonds Community College, or local dwellings to offer a transitional opportunity for unhoused or housing insecure students until more stable housing can be secured. Providing these new housing services will significantly improve student retention for students facing housing challenges so that they can focus on their classes and studies.

Achievement or Financial Need (current use) Scholarships: College is expensive. According to CollegeBoard, in the past decade (2007-2017), tuition rates rose thirty-seven



percent at public four-year colleges. That rate jumps to 213% when comparing current tuition with that of just thirty years ago, accounting for inflation. With no end in sight to the continual increase in the cost of an education, low and middle-income students are facing more difficult choices than ever. We have a unique opportunity to support Snohomish County students within the Puget Sound RTA, particularly for families with young children. Based on financial need and/or academic achievement, WSU - Everett will offer current-use scholarships during the 2024-25 academic year.

Direct support of campus initiatives: Funds will help to support services such as student Influencers, the Cougar Food Pantry, the Cougar Closet, and childcare services to enhance campus culture focused on student success and retention.

Identify any modifications that occurred during implementation.

In December 2025, ChildStrive discontinued services with the Co-op child care through Connect Casino Road due to loss of funding. As a result, ChildStrive requested, and WSU - Everett approved, the use of PSTAA funds to support ChildStrive Parent's as Teachers (PAT) program for the remainder of the 2024-2025 PSTAA program year.

Share your progress including outcomes achievement to date.

WSU - Everett is proud to share that over \$200,000 was awarded as scholarship funds, food assistance, residence aid, or wages to eligible students. Over eighty students had the opportunity to receive help from this fund and to continue their educational journey, including low-income students. A portion of remaining funds were distributed to eligible returning students who have overdue balances on their accounts, financial hardships, or other eligible expenses they met this last academic year. New students were assessed, and remaining funds were distributed to qualifying students up to the maximum allowable window on the grant. This ensured that eligible students who experienced any financial hardship after the start of courses and the close of Fall 2025 admissions cycle, received PSTAA funded financial aid,

What challenges have you encountered?

WSU Everett did not experience any challenges in awarding students funding. We experienced internal challenges with invoicing which was worked through. This is due to how WSU processes aid to students and how scholarships are awarded. We continue to improve our processes while following the guidelines set up by the university.



**Snohomish County
Human Services**

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FUNDS DESIGNATED FOR EARLY LEARNING PROVIDERS

Early Learning Provider: ChildStrive

Proposed Use of Funds (Brief Summary)

Funds will be used to subcontract with ChildStrive in the operation of a co-op childcare program for children twelve months to five years of age. The Co-op program is in support of adult education classes provided by Everett Community College and Goodwill through Connect Casino Road at the Village on Casino Road and Family engagement through monthly parent meetings, classroom coaching for parents, and Early childhood development screening tools in parents' primary language. This program increases the early learning student's outcomes by directly increasing the parent's outcome.

Share their progress including outcomes achievement to date. PSTAA funds were used to support limited co-op child care through December 2024. Effective January 2025, PSTAA funds were used to support ChildStrive's Parent's as Teachers (PAT) Program. PAT is a home visiting program that equips parents with knowledge and resources to prepare their children, from prenatal through kindergarten, for a stronger start in life and greater success in school.

Share successes and challenges designating funding to community-based early learning providers.

ChildStrive's PAT program used PSTAA funding for staff wages and related costs. The PAT program has led to increased educational opportunities and family connections for early childhood learners and caregivers/families throughout Snohomish County.