

## Budget requests emphasize enrollment

Washington's higher education institutions are requesting significant new support for enrollment in response to a Strategic Master Plan challenge to increase degree production over the next decade.

In budget requests for the 2009-2011 biennium submitted to the HECB at its July 21-22 meeting, the two- and four-year institutions emphasized the need to continue the momentum achieved in the last biennium to educate more students to higher levels.

The budget requests place a strong emphasis on achieving greater levels of high-demand degree attainment, especially in the areas of engineering, science, math, and technology.

- [Read more](#) ⇨
- [Strategic Master Plan](#) ⇨
- [Summary of budget requests](#) ⇨

## Governor appoints board members

Nancy Biery of Quilcene and Jefferson County has been named to a four-year term as a member of the Higher Education Coordinating Board by Gov. Chris Gregoire, who also re-appointed Earl Hale of Lacey and Ethelda Burke of Tacoma to four-year terms. Sasha Sleiman of East Wenatchee, the Board's student representative, was re-appointed to a second one-year term. She attends Western Washington University. [Read more](#) ⇨



Nancy Biery

## "Core 24" – Life after high school

Mary Jean Ryan, president of the State Board of Education, and Sheila Fox, SBE board member, presented information about a new set of new high school graduation requirements – the Core 24 – that will prepare students for life after high school.

The Core 24 would add five hours of required credit, much of it in math, language, and science, and would also add a sixth period to enable students to continue to take electives.

Ryan and Fox said the new requirements would:

- Improve achievement for all students;
- Improve student preparation for postsecondary education; and
- Increase high school graduation rates.

High school can no longer be seen as an end point; it must be seen as a gateway to further education and training, said Fox. Ryan and Fox emphasized that implementation of the new requirements would be contingent on funding. [Read more](#) ⇨

## July 21-22 Board Meeting in Seattle

*Ann Daley, executive director, reports on agency activity, including progress on the Strategic Master Plan. Page 2.*

- [Proposed rule changes for State Need Grant, Foster Youth](#)
- [Board approves seven new degree programs.](#)
- [2009-2011 public college and university budget proposals.](#)

[See all agenda items](#) ⇨

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### HECB issues RFI for online student guidance system

The HECB is seeking information from qualified firms regarding their ability to develop a statewide, student-focused online academic guidance and planning system (Academic GPS).

[See the full Request for Information \(RFI\).](#)

**Read recent editorials supporting Strategic Master Plan enrollment goals in [The News Tribune](#) and [Seattle Times](#).**

## Executive director's report

Ann Daley, HECB executive director, reported on recent activity at the Board meeting in Spokane May 22.

## Kitsap Higher Education Center

Consultant William Chance, executive officer of Northwest Educational Research Center, will be forming a community advisory group to consider questions such as how the new center can best meet regional needs. A plan for the center is due in December.

[Read more](#) ⇨

## Strategic Master Plan update

Three committees are developing recommendations about how to implement key elements of the Strategic Master Plan.

### Policy and Pipeline Committee

Headed by Jane Sherman and Jan Yoshiwara, this committee is examining how to engage, motivate, prepare, and support the success of many more students from under-represented groups in postsecondary education.

### Enrollment Committee

Headed by Lee Huntsman and Steve VanAusdel, this committee is working to align master plan enrollment and degree goals more closely with state workforce needs.

### Capacity Facilities, Technology Committee

OFM, HECB, and the public and independent institutions are completing a one-year comprehensive study of capacity – programs, technology, facilities – needed to enable greater numbers of postsecondary students to succeed.

[Read more](#) ⇨

## [Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education in Washington.](#)

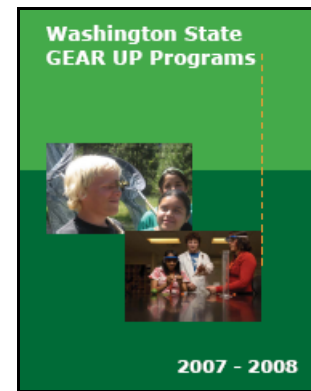
## College Bound Scholarship success

At statewide school signup events this spring, more than 16,500 seventh and eighth grade students from low-income families took the College Bound Scholarship pledge to stay in school, make good grades, be good citizens and graduate. If they complete the program and remain income eligible, the state will pay the cost of tuition and books, at any state college or career/technical school they enroll at. [Read more](#) ⇨

## State revenue and budget projections

Wolfgang Opitz, deputy director, Office of Financial Management, reported on state revenue trends and how those trends might affect the 2009-2011 budget process in higher education. The state continues to enjoy a strong economy, partly based on international trade in aerospace, technology, and agriculture. The declining dollar actually has benefited Washington in this respect.

However, problems in the housing sector and with energy and food prices have slowed consumer spending, which means revenue growth this year will not increase at the same rate it has in recent years. The state continues to face increasing costs for key programs, he said. Therefore, budget requests will need to focus on those programs and initiatives most likely to produce measurable and meaningful results in support of Washington's Priorities of Government. Education, public safety, and public health continue to be a top state budget priorities, he said.



[Washington State GEAR UP](#)

[GEAR UP Success Stories](#)  
[Celebrating 10 years](#)

## GEAR UP celebrates 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary

The GEAR UP program in Washington, celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> year, has published two new booklets filled with student testimonials and basic program facts.

GEAR UP is a partnership of the Higher Education Coordinating Board, Office of the Governor, the University of Washington, College Success Foundation, and a number of national, state, and local organizations.

GEAR UP stands for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs.

[Read more.](#)