



CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

THE EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON STATE

Council of
Presidents

Council of Faculty Retreat

Paul Francis, Executive Director

October 2020

Colleges and Universities in Washington

■ 6 public four-year institutions that comprise the Council of Presidents

- Central Washington University, Eastern Washington University, The Evergreen State College, University of Washington, Washington State University, Western Washington University
- UW campuses in Tacoma and Bothell
- WSU campuses in Everett, Spokane, Tri-Cities, and Vancouver

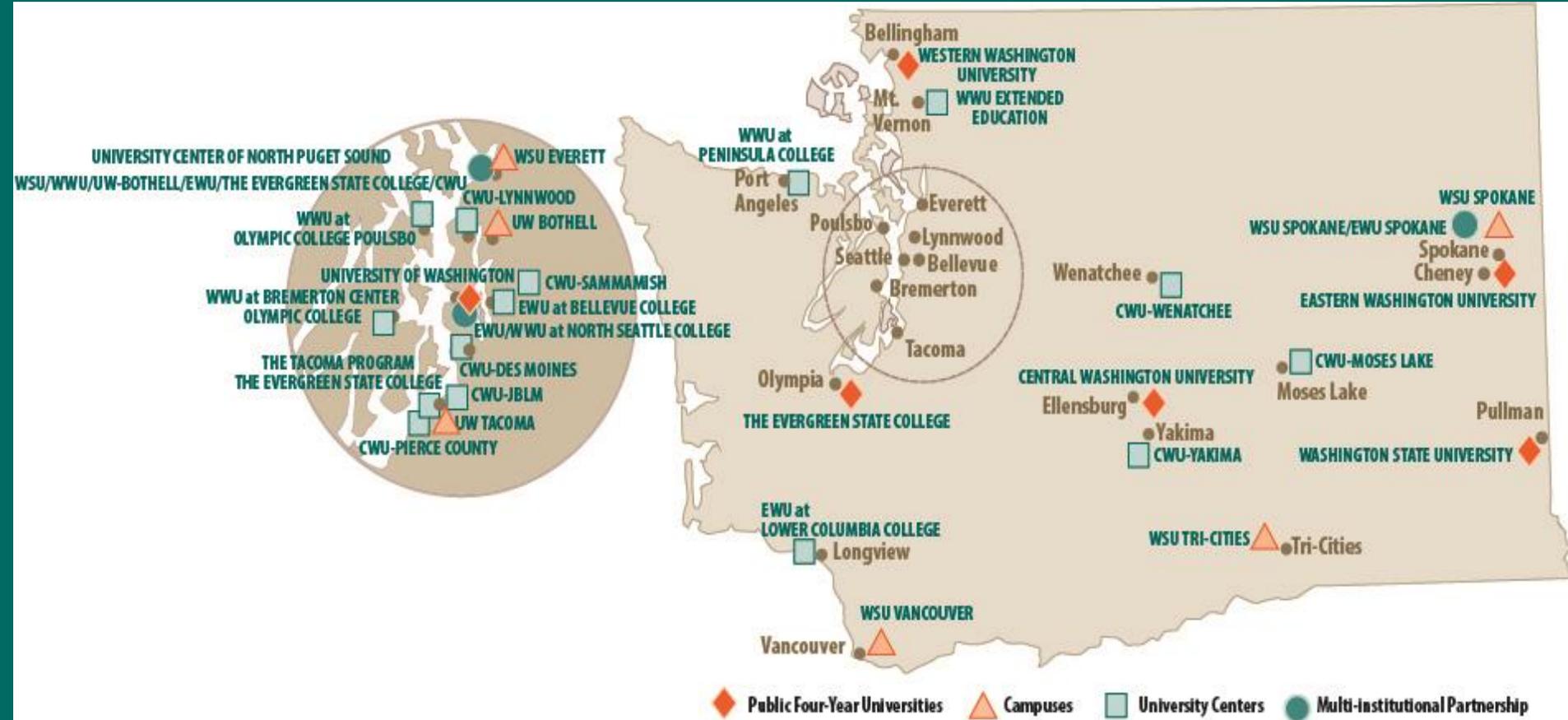
■ 35 community and technical colleges

- 34 directed by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
- 1 tribal community college (Northwest Indian College)

■ 10 private, nonprofit institutions that comprise the Independent Colleges of Washington

- Gonzaga University, Heritage University, Pacific Lutheran University, Saint Martin's University, Seattle Pacific University, Seattle University, University of Puget Sound, Walla Walla University, Whitman College, Whitworth University

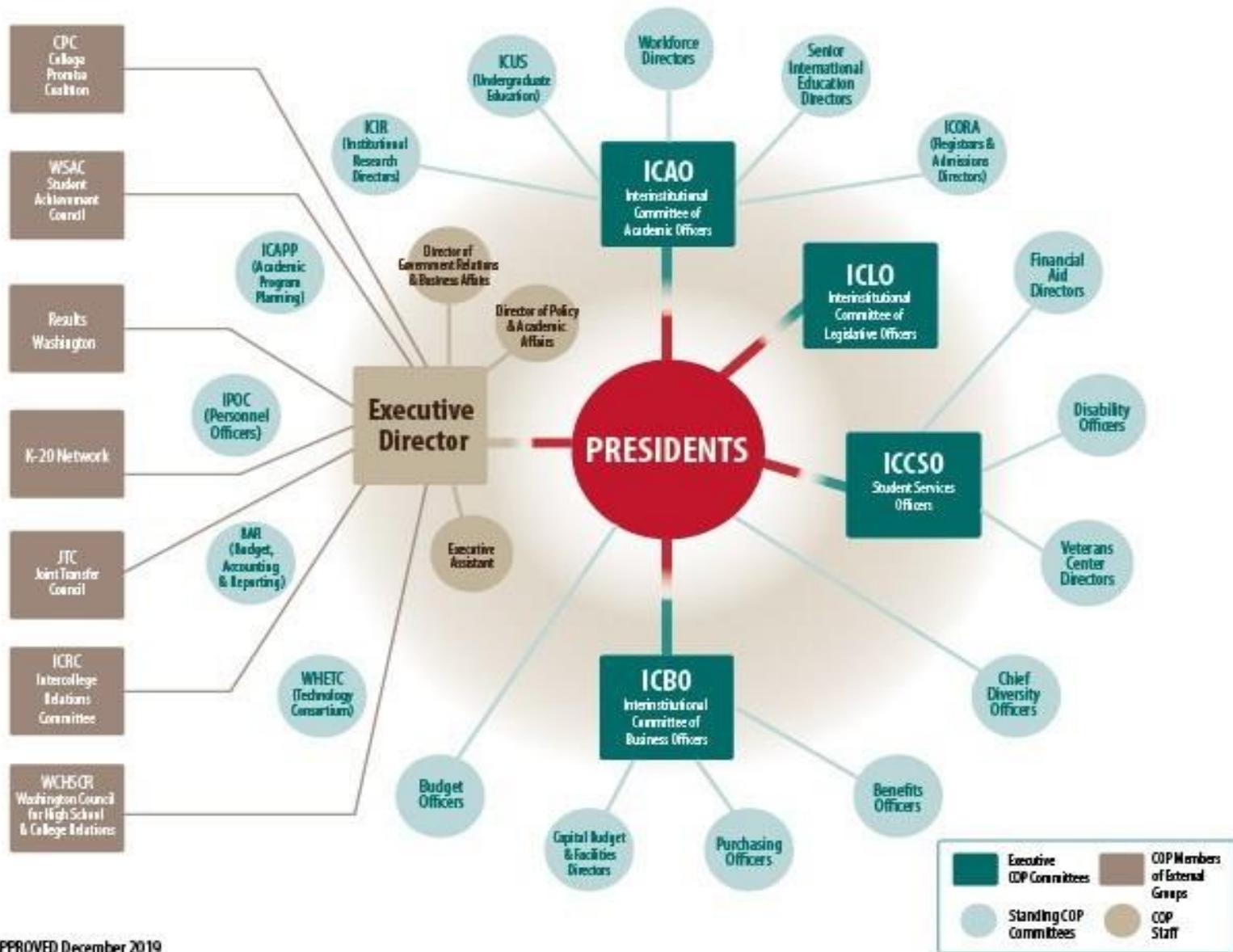
Serving Washington



Our Presidents



- **George Bridges**, The Evergreen State College
- **Ana Mari Cauce**, University of Washington
- **David May**, Eastern Washington University
- **Jim Gaudino**, Central Washington University
- **Sabah Randhawa**, Western Washington University (chair)
- **Kirk Schulz**, Washington State University



COP APPROVED December 2019

COP's Leadership Role

- **Strategically develop sector-level policies, practices, and advocacy.**
- **Communicate and collaborate with education, workforce, business, and community partners.**
- **Represent sector on state cross-sector councils, committees, work groups, and task forces.**
- **Advocate for public four-year higher education at the state and federal levels.**
- **Ensure the long-term success of our six member institutions.**

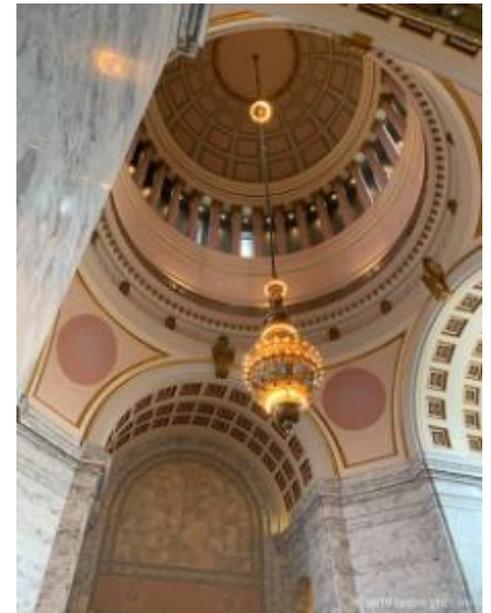
COP's Policy Role

- Collaborate with educational partners on academic, business, student affairs, and workforce policy.
- Facilitate institutional and sector conversations to advance public four-year higher education.
- Implement state legislation.
- Partner with the Education Research and Data Center on data collection and analysis.
- Research higher education issues to inform sector conversations and strategic direction.



COP's Legislative Role

- Represent Washington's public four-year sector in the legislative process.
- Develop and respond to policy and budget proposals.
- Proactively engage with legislators, statewide elected officials, and their staff.
- Engage internal stakeholders in the legislative process.



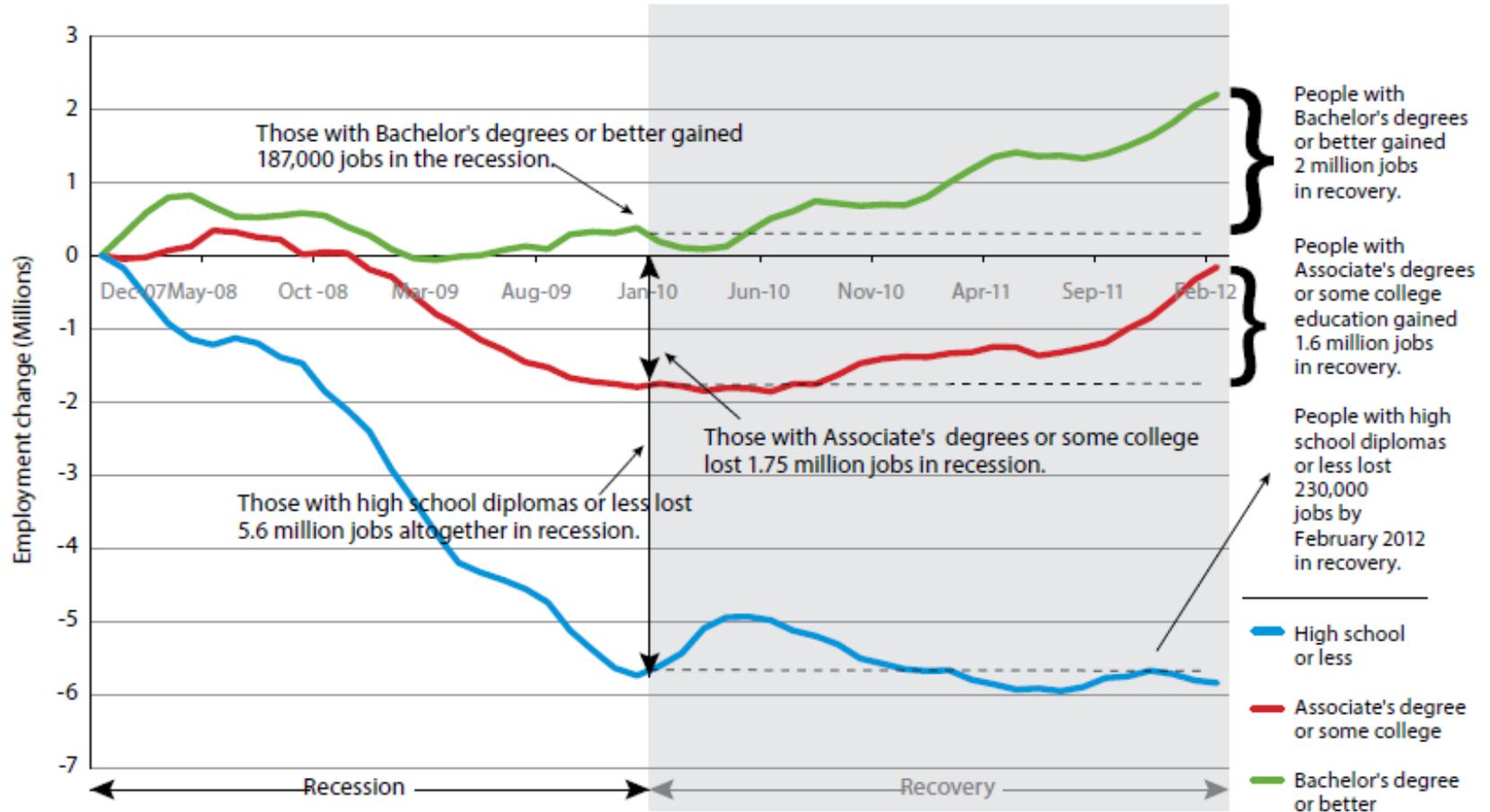
Washington's Educational Pipeline

- Our state's on-time high school graduation rate is below the national average.
- Too few high school graduates enter postsecondary education. Also, Washington is a net exporter of high school graduates.
- Nearly 300,000 Washington adults have attended at least a year of college but have not completed a credential.
- Our state is one of the nation's top importers of college graduates. Seattle has the highest percentage of adults with a bachelor's degree or higher.
- Washington has a postsecondary education goal of 70% of residents ages 25-44 with a postsecondary credential. We are currently at 56% (lower for students of color and other key populations).

Source: U.S. Census 2017, Washington Student Achievement Council, <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/data/seattle-is-most-educated-big-u-s-city-and-8-in-10-newcomers-have-a-college-degree/>, <https://robertkelchen.com/2018/01/22/new-research-on-brain-drain-and-recent-college-graduates/>, <https://wsac.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2020.STEM.Education.Report.Card.pdf>, <https://wsac.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-01-18-Adult-Students.pdf>

Recession & Recovery: Education Matters

Workers with high school diplomas or less bore the brunt of job losses during the Great Recession. Job gains in the immediate recovery were confined to those with education beyond high school.



Washington's Transfer System: Strongest Partnership in the Nation

- There is a nearly 50-year history of successful collaboration between the public and nonprofit private four-year institutions and the community and technical colleges to improve efficiency and streamline transfer in Washington:
 - Development of the DTA, AS-T and Major Related Pathways
 - Institution to institution articulation agreements
- Washington ranks 1st in the nation for the percentage of transfer students who begin at a community or technical college and earn a bachelor's degree.
- Washington ranks 5th in the nation for the average rate by which a community college student earns a credential before transferring to 4-year institution.
- Nearly 40% of graduates from Washington's public four-year institutions were community and technical college transfer students.

Our Sector's Response to COVID-19



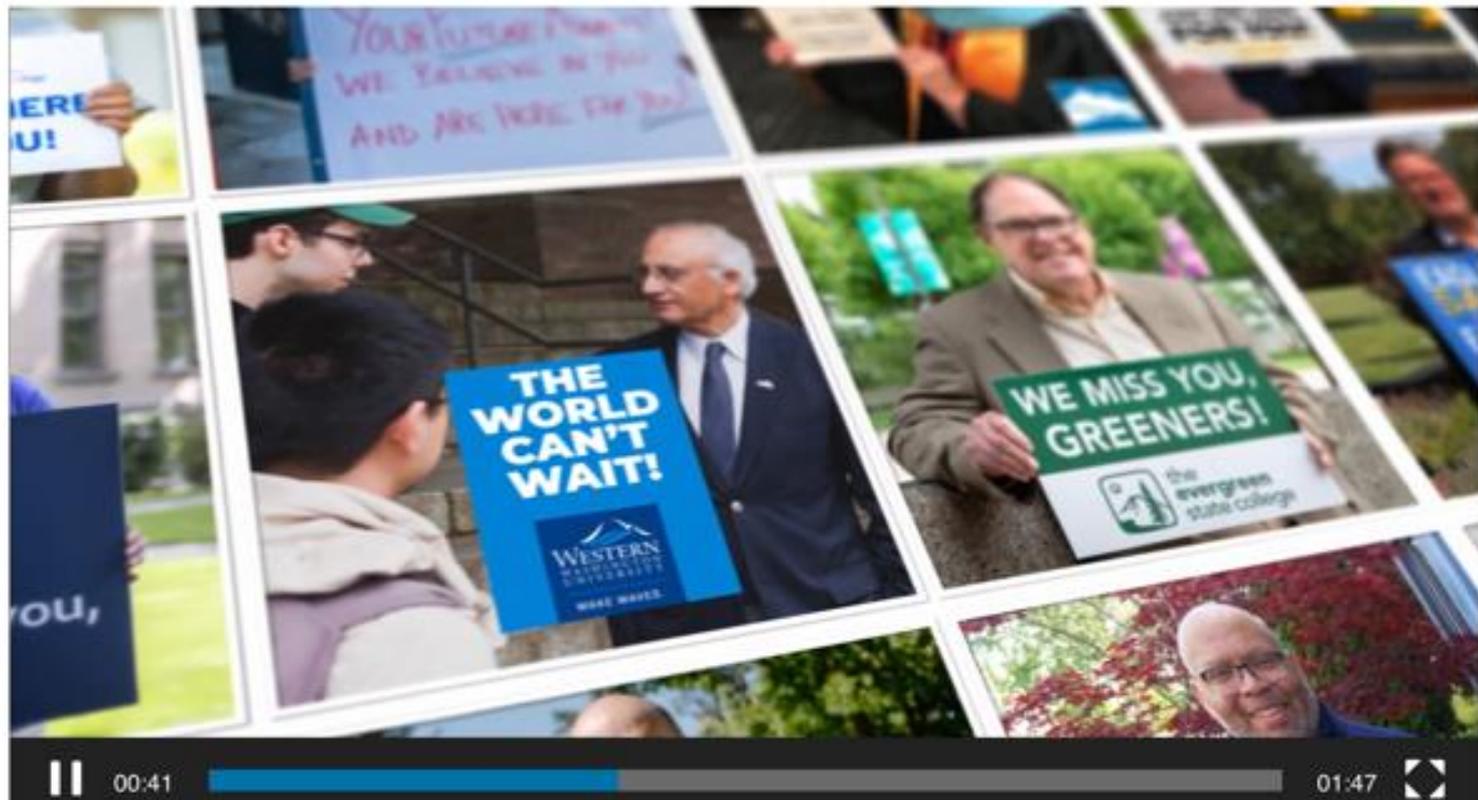
Spring and Summer Term Adaptations

- As the pandemic spread in March, all our college and universities quickly moved to remote delivery of instruction and student support services.
- Funding from the federal CARES Act helped provide additional funding for students and institutions.
- Institutions worked to meet the technological needs of our students with loaner laptops, additional hotspots, drive-in Wi-Fi locations, and more.
- During this time, our campuses never closed and vital aspects of our operations (instruction, research, hospital operations, etc.) all continued.

Collaborative Endeavors

- **COP worked extensively and collaboratively with our community and technical college and private college and university partners to meet the needs of Washington students:**
 - ✓ **Admissions flexibility for students in the Classes of 2020 and 2021.**
 - ✓ **Worked with the Governor's office to provide flexibility in education and licensure requirements in healthcare fields.**
 - ✓ **Joint statements related to admissions, dual credit, & transfer.**
 - ✓ **Created a video of encouragement to current and prospective WA students and their families from college and university presidents across the state.**

Here For You: A Joint Message from Washington's College & University Presidents



Check it out here: <https://vimeo.com/432286753>

Joint Presidential Statement

The COVID-19 pandemic has tested our collective resolve as never before. As presidents of Washington's six public four-year college and universities, we thank our outstanding students, families, faculty, and staff for the remarkable resilience, flexibility, and strength you have demonstrated throughout this year as we have all adjusted to a new, unexpected reality. We welcome our new and returning students this fall and appreciate the thoughtful and deliberate work which occurred over the summer to ensure that teaching and learning occurs in a safe, healthy environment.

As the course of the pandemic allows, we look forward to transitioning to more face-to-face interactions for instruction, research and experiential learning. In the meantime, we remain dedicated to providing rich, high quality educational and learning opportunities to our students through other modalities as required by health and safety guidelines. And we will continue to follow thoughtful, careful and transparent decision-making processes that place students at the center.

As communities across the state continue to experience COVID-19, winter and spring term operations may look different from campus to campus. However, we will continue to provide regular and timely communications on our evolving plans. In addition, we as presidents commit to continuing to work together, share information, and learn from each other throughout the remainder of the pandemic and beyond. We remain united in our commitment to ensuring that teaching and learning occurs safely and in collaboration with expert public health advice and guidance.

Thank You

- COVID-19 Information: www.councilofpresidents.org
- Twitter: [@CouncilofPresWa](https://twitter.com/CouncilofPresWa)

