

WOVE Legislative Update for Career and Technical Education **2023 Legislative Session | May 3, 2023**

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The 2023 version of the Washington State Legislative Session has come and gone...officially adjourning Sine Die at 10:00 p.m. on April 23. All three statewide budgets passed the respective bodies and now await the Governor's signature. We would like to first thank all of you who followed along with this year's legislative activity and engaged with us and the legislature in matters that matter to the WA-ACTE and our vast membership. Without the involvement from you – our boots on the ground – none of what we do matters. We hope to continue to build our legislative team and focus on member engagement as we look towards the future.

Below you will find links to the three passed budgets. The operating budget summary is a great synopsis of the spending "buckets."

- [Operating Budget Summary](#) - (K-12 Education begins on Page 10)
- [Operating Budget Full](#)
- [Capital Budget Summary](#)
- [Transportation Budget](#)

The budget included \$2.9 billion in new state funding for K-12 education. Legislators also approved dollars for additional nurses, counsellors, and increased special education funding by more than \$500 million as promised.

Highlights:

- \$1.1 billion in one-time ESSR dollars
- \$371M for special education
- \$261M to support educator salary increases
- \$114M for transition to kindergarten
- \$65.6M for learning loss
- \$2M increase to the career connected learning grant pool
- \$4M (OSPI) and \$5M (SBCTC) for Career Prep and Career Launch Equipment funding
- \$5M for CTE agriculture education capital equipment grants (OSPI passthrough)

Other operating budget items pertaining directly to CTE can be found in [this document](#) with a deeper dive of individual funding lines and budget locations.

Capital Projects:

Capital improvements for our common schools and skills centers is always a priority each legislative session. Here you will find [a project list for individual school districts](#) and skills centers as compiled by OSPI. Note the tabs at the bottom.

School Modernization:

District & Tribal Compact Schools Modernization is a big part of the overall education spending each year as well. Please review the [final project funding](#) list.

Beyond the budgets, the state legislature introduced a total of 2,156 bills and passed 485 of them through both chambers. You can see the [comprehensive list of passed bills](#) pertaining to K-12 education. Some of the bills include eliminating college in the high school fees, expanding access to dual credit, creating an apprenticeship pilot program, free school meals, and elective credit for work hours.

Please also find our [final bill tracking list](#) to see final results of bills WA-ACTE tracked in the second half of the session.

Looking Ahead:

The WA-ACTE will have continued legislative huddles this interim ahead of our [annual meeting](#) in Spokane. We hope to engage our members with a thoughtful process leading to the August meeting where we will finalize our legislative priorities and action plan going into the fall. Please reach out to [Tim](#) or [Jesse](#) if you would like to be involved in the interim work.

Happy 2023 Interim!

[Current Bill Status Report & Upcoming Events](#)

Federal Legislation:

- [ACTE Advocacy Webpage](#)
- [CTE Policy Watch Blog](#)
- [Take Action](#)
- [ACTE Policy Agenda](#)
- [Advocacy Resources](#)

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