

Washington's Four-Year Balanced Budget Law

- In 2012, the Legislature enacted a law requiring the state Operating Budget to be balanced for both the *current* two-year fiscal period and for the *following* two-year period



Sen. Christine Rolfes
Chair, Senate Ways & Means Committee
Washington State Legislature



Projecting agency spending into next budget cycle

**2021-23 Omnibus Operating Budget
Proposed Final
Office of Civil Legal Aid
(Dollars in Thousands)**

	2021-23		2023-25
	NGF-O	Total Budget	NGF-O
2019-21 Estimated Expenditures			
2021-23 Carryforward Level	43,900	45,788	45,902
2021-23 Maintenance Level	48,241	50,085	48,756
Difference from 2019-21	48,295	50,139	48,810
% Change from 2019-21	4,395	4,351	2,908
	10.0%	9.5%	n/a
Policy Other Changes:			
1. Landlord-Tenant Relations	22,250	22,250	23,998
2. State v. Blake - Civil Legal Aid	1,200	1,200	0
3. IFJC Funding Elimination	-300	-300	-300
4. Representation Caseload Reduction	-165	-165	-330
5. Counsel - Youth Dependency Cases	1,670	2,049	6,470
6. Eviction Defense Services	568	568	0
7. Legal Aid Services	10,440	10,440	6,000
Policy -- Other Total	<u>35,663</u>	<u>36,042</u>	<u>35,838</u>
Policy Comp Changes:			
8. State Employee Benefits	3	3	12
Policy -- Comp Total	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>12</u>
Policy Central Services Changes:			
9. OFM Central Services	3	3	-2
10. Self-Insurance Liability Premium	1	1	0
Policy -- Central Svcs Total	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>-2</u>
Total Policy Changes	35,670	36,049	35,848
2021-23 Policy Level	83,965	86,188	84,658
Difference from 2019-21	40,065	40,400	38,756
% Change from 2019-21	91.3%	88.2%	n/a

Putting the four-year outlook on paper:

2021-23 Omnibus Operating Budget -- 2022 Supplemental Proposed Final Funds Subject to Outlook (Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2022	FY 2023	2021-23	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25
Beginning Balance	4,161	5,189	4,161	212	261	212
Forecasted Revenues	30,683	31,008	61,691	32,403	33,861	66,264
February 2022 Revenue Forecast (NGF-O)	30,683	31,008	61,691	32,078	33,290	65,368
Addtl Revenue Based on 4.5% Growth Rate Assumption	0	0	0	325	571	896
Other Resource Changes	-280	-1,545	-1,824	-241	-1,342	-1,584
GF-S Transfer to BSA (1%)	-293	-294	-587	-303	-313	-616
Prior Period Adjustments	20	20	41	20	20	41
Enacted Fund Transfers	41	9	50	254	-247	7
Budget Driven Revenue	2	-34	-32	-17	-18	-34
Proposed Fund Transfers	-50	-1,182	-1,232	17	-547	-531
Revenue Legislation	-1	-64	-64	-213	-238	-451
Total Revenues and Resources	34,564	34,652	64,027	32,374	32,780	64,892

Enacted Appropriations	28,399	30,667	59,067	30,491	30,690	61,181
	-584	-547	-1,131	-469	-445	-914
Maintenance Level Total						
	1,715	4,487	6,202	2,245	2,341	4,585
Policy Level Total	1	432	433	615	730	1,345
K-12 Education	-168	167	-1	191	235	426
Low Income Health Care & Comm Behavioral Health	-90	563	473	413	370	783
Social & Health Services	-2	117	114	85	82	167
Higher Education	-235	43	-192	40	34	74
Corrections	0	314	314	261	261	521
Compensation & Benefits	209	2,202	2,411	640	628	1,269
All Other	2,000	0	2,000	0	0	0
Appropriations to Other Budgets (Transportation)	0	650	650	0	0	0
Appropriations to Other Budgets (Capital)	-157	-167	-323	-153	-154	-308
Reversions						
	29,375	34,440	63,815	32,113	32,431	64,544
Revised Appropriations						
	5,189	212	212	261	348	348
Projected Ending Balance						
Budget Stabilization Account						
Beginning Balance	19	312	19	608	918	608
GF-S Transfer to BSA (1%)	293	294	587	303	313	616
Interest Earnings	0	2	2	7	14	21
Budget Stabilization Account Ending Balance	312	608	608	918	1,246	1,246
Total Reserves	5,502	821	821	1,179	1,594	1,594



WA Senate Democrats
@WASenDemocrats

The life of a citizen legislator & Senate budget writer — always looking for more space to balance our budget. Thanks to Sen. Christine Rolfes for all of your work on the state supplemental operating budget this year.
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The real budget process





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WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

