

Spring 2022 – ICRC Report

Sector Work

Washington's public baccalaureate institutions continue to proactively address emerging and existing issues.

Transfer Students -Washington Public Baccalaureate Sector- [2019-2020](#)

- 37,627 transfer students.
- 45% identify as students of color.
- 31% received a Washington College Grant.
- Students served in all 39 Washington counties.

Admissions is Open - 2022

Applications for spring and fall 2022 admission are now open. **Please encourage students to apply now!**

Postsecondary Policy and Engagement

WSAC Transfer Task Force

COP, along with institutional and organization sector representatives, continues to partner through the WSAC-led SHEEO/Gardner Institute Transfer Initiative. The Washington Transfer Task Force meets monthly. Each meeting is focused on a dimension area provided by the Gardner Institute and the key performance indicators for this area. In January, the task force focused on transfer philosophy and rationale. In February, the task force focused on equity, and in March discussed the presence of a transfer receptive culture in Washington. Over the coming months, the task force will focus on data, accountability and improvement, and learning and curricular pathways. A key theme that continues to emerge across the dimensions is the need for greater public communication and transparency about the transfer work in Washington and greater centralization of information for students, advisors, and other stakeholders. The Task Force will continue to meet through June and will develop a report of recommendations to be shared with the full Student Achievement Council, JTC, and ICRC.

Aim Higher Washington

COP is engaged in the [Aim Higher Washington](#) initiative, which aims to increase equity in postsecondary attainment by supporting statewide college-going culture through early, accessible, pathway-relevant support of financial aid application (FAFSA and WASFA) completion. The most recent meeting of this group focused on the outcomes of the 2022 legislative session for financial aid and discussions about how to expand this work moving forward. Please continue to encourage students to complete the FAFSA or WASFA form!

ACPL Toolkit Project Group

The ACPL Toolkit Project Group met for the second time since January, with a focus on developing an ACPL Toolkit that is a useful and relevant resource. The March meeting focused on recommended topics to be included in the handbook. The group identified the following working list: equity, experiential (on the job) learning, data/financial models, and transfer. The group discussed how ACPL is incorporated into institutional strategic plans and existing crosswalks including military training and certifications and industry credentials. The next meeting of the group is in April.

K-12 Transitions to College

Guaranteed Admission Program

In January, the current participating campuses, along with UW Tacoma and UW Bothell, began discussions regarding the 2022-23 academic year. Over a series of meetings, the group has reflected on the current year, identified areas for improvement (e.g., centralization and standardization) and discussed what reframing/restructuring is required moving forward. Discussions continue to be ongoing as we prepare for 2022-23 though the expectation is to learn from the current pilot and pivot in the future to be more intentional about increasing the college-going culture to our sector in this work.

Dual Credit

- *Dual Credit Summary.* In January 2021, COP released a [Dual Credit Summary](#) report that provides a full explanation of each dual credit program in our state, as well as outreach and work for Washington's public baccalaureate sector around dual credit.
- *Dual Credit Joint Events.* Representatives from SBCTC, ICW, COP, OSPI, and WA Council met in January to plan for dual credit-focused events for the remainder of 2022. Together, we will host a series of sessions focused on Dual Credit 101. The focus is to build a foundation of understanding about dual credit in Washington and create a shared learning community. This is in direct response to requests from the field as colleges and universities and districts continue to experience staff changes. Upcoming dates and times are below, details will follow. Two sessions have already taken place with over 170 participants across both sessions. In the fall, we are planning to host a series of webinars that focus on a deeper dive into each of Washington's six dual credit programs. Finally, we are beginning work to plan for 2023 events.
 - Dual Credit 101 Sessions
 - April 12, 12:00-1:00 p.m.
 - April 27, 12:00-1:00 p.m.
- *Dual Credit – National Engagement.* COP continues to participate as an ambassador for the [College in the High School \(CiHS\) Alliance](#) and in the monthly meetings of the CHSA Peer Learning Network. Each month institutional and state leaders meet to discuss dual enrollment topics. In January, the group focused on JFF's *The Big Blur: An Argument for Erasing the Boundaries Between High School, College, and Careers—and Creating One New System That Works for Everyone*. In February, the topic was *Promoting Cross-State Collaboration on Dual Enrollment Policy Among Agencies and Stakeholders* and in March, *State Approaches to Funding Dual Enrollment Programs*

Mastery-Based Learning

In 2022, COP will participate in the State Board of Education-led Washington State Mastery-based Learning Collaborative (MBLC). The purpose of the MBLC is to identify best practices for implementing Mastery-based Learning (MBL), identify sample tools for educators using a MBL approach, and offer professional learning to in-service educators, including teachers, principals, and counselors. The project's overarching goal is to inform future policy by helping decision makers better understand what quality MBL looks like, how long it takes to implement, and what resources are necessary.

Modernizing Algebra II, Office of the Superintendent of Instruction

Since June, OSPI has engaged in developing a modernized Algebra II course to pilot in the 2022-23 school year. To inform this work, COP convened institutional academic leads, faculty, and admissions directors to proactively engage in providing feedback about the content of the proposed course and addressing admission, placement, and other topics. In February, COP, SBCTC, and OSPI staff met again to discuss feedback to the proposed course from each sector. In late March, public baccalaureate admission directors and math placement leads will each meet with OSPI to review the proposed new course.

High School and Beyond Plan Advisory Council, Office of the Superintendent of Instruction

OSPI recently established the High School and Beyond Plan (HSBP) Advisory Council. The purpose of the Advisory Council is to drive adoption of best practices to standardize the understanding and use of the HSBP and support the planning of expanded and enhanced professional development around the HSBP. COP and WWU are representing the public baccalaureate sector in this work. The first meeting of the Advisory Council took place in February. The meeting provided an overview of the objectives of the Council to increase awareness and understanding of HSBP best practices and resources, increase meaningful use of the HSBP and the connection to social emotional well-being of students and improve education outcomes. The Council plans to achieve the objectives through the development of online professional development modules, relaunching the career guidance Washington curriculum and updating the HSBP template. The next meeting will occur in May.

2022 Supplemental Legislative Session Adjourns

The 2022 Supplemental Legislative Session adjourned on March 10. This session over 1,000 bills were introduced; COP tracked more than 125 of them. This session several themes emerged across both policy and fiscal discussions, including K-12 learning loss, residency, apprenticeship and transfer, student financial aid, investments in FAFSA/WAFSA filing and educational attainment, hazing, dual credit, and maintenance of current investments. A number of these initiatives result in joint interim work for COP, SBCTC, and WSAC.

A complete list of bills COP tracked can be found [here](#). The final operating [budget](#) passed by the Legislature makes some critical investments in postsecondary education:

- Compensation increases for faculty and staff
- Investments in nursing, pharmacy, and other health care fields
- New and expanded cybersecurity programs
- New and expanded student success initiatives, including peer mentoring, mental health supports, and advising
- Washington College Grant and Bridge Grants
- Funding a Washington State Student Loan Program

We expect Governor Inslee to take action on the operating budget in the next few weeks.

COP Fact Sheets, Reports and Sector Information

- COP is excited to announce a new blog. To view the blog and sign-up to receive the latest go [here](#).
- Fact sheets and information about Washington's public baccalaureate sector can be found on the [COP website](#). Currently, COP is working to and/or has completed the following:
- COP Publications and Communications Updates
 - Developing a statement about mastery-based learning and transcripts and admissions
 - Updated since December: Sector Fact Book, one-pager on admissions, one-pager on the transfer of professional technical credits
 - Finalized: Washington College Grant one-pager, student loan one-pager and financial literacy one-pager.