



Adding Access to Affordability

After leading a nationally-recognized push for reduced college tuition despite opposition from the Governor and the House, the Senate is now building on that foundation of affordability to add access. This access is targeted to areas of highest demand in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Affordability

- Maintains the reduced tuition established under the College Affordability Program; introduced by the Senate Majority Coalition Caucus and passed in 2015.

Access

- 1,800 new resident undergraduate slots
- 70% must be targeted to STEM majors

Medical Schools

- Funding provided for the first class of 60 students at the WSU Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine.
- Funding provided to continue the education of 60 students in UW's Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho (WWAMI) medical education program in Spokane.

Mental Health for Heroes

Under Senate Bill 5525 (Wilson), funding is provided to add veteran-specific counseling and mental health support.

Financial Literacy

- Provide students receiving federal loans with estimates on loan amounts, monthly payments and payoff amounts (Senate Bill 5022 – Bailey).
- Encourage higher education institutions to ensure each student participates in a financial literacy seminar (Senate Bill 5100 – Bailey).