

Office of Public Defense

C 424, L25, PV, Sec 115

Dollars In Thousands

	NGF-O	Other	Total
2023-25 Estimated Expenditures	146,683	16,203	162,886
2025 Supplemental	407	-500	-93
Total 2023-25 Biennium	147,090	15,703	162,793
2025-27 Maintenance Level	138,910	9,728	148,638
Policy Other Changes:			
1. Administrative Underspend	-1,000	0	-1,000
2. Appellate Cases	5,444	0	5,444
3. Attorney Vendor Rate Adjustment	3,756	0	3,756
4. Chief Information Officer	323	0	323
5. Client Emergency Funds	80	0	80
6. Early Childhood Court Program	204	0	204
7. Incarcerated Parents Project (IPP)	220	0	220
8. Litigation Costs	2,420	0	2,420
9. NGRI Underspend	-1,000	0	-1,000
10. OPD IT Modernization	1,116	0	1,116
11. Parents for Parents Statewide Ops.	1,000	0	1,000
12. Public Defense Grants	13,530	0	13,530
13. Reentry Services	300	0	300
14. Social Work Rate Increase	1,608	0	1,608
15. State v. Blake	0	8,615	8,615
16. Training and Internship Programs	0	586	586
Policy -- Other Total	28,001	9,201	37,202
Policy Comp Changes:			
17. Non-Rep General Wage Increase	558	139	697
18. Non-Rep Targeted Pay Increases	8	0	8
19. Pension Rate Adjustment	-277	-69	-346
20. Updated PEBB Rate	218	57	275
Policy -- Comp Total	507	127	634
Policy Central Services Changes:			
21. Archives/Records Management	1	0	1
22. DES Central Services	-6	0	-6
23. GOV Central Services	-2	0	-2
24. Legal Services	2	0	2
25. OFM Central Services	40	0	40
26. WTS Central Services	-4	0	-4
Policy -- Central Svcs Total	31	0	31
Total 2025-27 Biennium	167,449	19,056	186,505

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	NGF-O	Other	Total
Fiscal Year 2026 Total	83,336	9,503	92,839
Fiscal Year 2027 Total	84,113	9,553	93,666

Comments:

1. Administrative Underspend

Savings are achieved reflecting projected administrative underspend. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

2. Appellate Cases

Funding and 1.0 FTE are provided for a caseload increase in the Appellate Program and for a staff attorney trainer to develop and implement training for newly recruited and less-experienced appellate contractors. (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

3. Attorney Vendor Rate Adjustment

Funding and 1.0 FTE are provided for a vendor rate increase of 3 percent in FY 2026 and an additional 2 percent in FY 2027, and for one Office of Public Defense (OPD) paralegal. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

4. Chief Information Officer

Funding and 1.0 FTE are provided to maintain a Chief Information Officer position at OPD. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

5. Client Emergency Funds

Funding is provided to address emergency safety issues and other urgent needs that can arise for indigent clients served by the Parents Representation Program. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

6. Early Childhood Court Program

Funding is provided to implement Chapter 120, Laws of 2025 (SSB 5149), which provides that an Early Childhood Court may serve families with children who are under the age of 6 at the time the case enters the program. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

7. Incarcerated Parents Project (IPP)

Funding is provided as pass-through funding to the Washington Defender Association to support a paralegal staff position for the Incarcerated Parents Project (IPP). (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

8. Litigation Costs

Funding is provided for litigation costs for indigent appeals, defense experts in dependency and termination of parental rights cases, and defense experts and investigators in civil commitment cases. (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

9. NGRI Underspend

Savings are achieved due to projected underspend in the Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity (NGRI) program. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

10. OPD IT Modernization

Funding and 1.0 FTE are provided for increased technology costs, including software, hardware, and the transition to some Washington Technology services. (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

11. Parents for Parents Statewide Ops.

Funding is provided for the Parents for Parents Program that provides peer mentoring for parents involved in the dependency court system. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

12. Public Defense Grants

Funding is provided to increase public defense grants to counties and cities under Chapter 10.101 RCW. (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

13. Reentry Services

Funding is provided for OPD to contract with a non-profit organization in the eastern part of the state to provide peer-led reentry services, such as peer coaching, basic needs, career development, housing resources, behavioral health treatment, digital equity training, family support, civic engagement and voting education. (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

14. Social Work Rate Increase

Funding is provided for a rate increase for OPD contracted social workers. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

15. State v. Blake

Funding and 5.0 FTEs are provided from the Judicial Stabilization Trust Account to provide public defense assistance to clients whose convictions or sentences are affected by the State v. Blake court decision. (Judicial Stabilization Trust Account-State) (One-Time)

16. Training and Internship Programs

Funding is provided for continued implementation of Chapter 293, Laws of 2024 (2SSB 5780), which requires OPD to administer a law student rural defense program and to expand the capacity of its Criminal Defense Training Academy Program. Funding will allow for advanced training to experienced attorneys. (Judicial Stabilization Trust Account-State) (Ongoing)

17. Non-Rep General Wage Increase

Funding is provided for a general wage increase of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 2 percent on July 1, 2026, for state employees who are not represented by a union or are covered by a bargaining agreement that is not subject to financial feasibility determination. (General Fund-State; Judicial Stabilization Trust Account-State) (Custom)

18. Non-Rep Targeted Pay Increases

Funding is provided for pay increases for specific job classes for employees who are not represented by a union or who are covered by a bargaining agreement not subject to financial feasibility determination in alignment with increases for employees that are covered by a bargaining agreement. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

19. Pension Rate Adjustment

Funding is adjusted to reflect the changes in pension contribution rates in Chapter 381, Laws of 2025 (ESSB 5357), which reamortizes Public Employees' and Teachers' Retirement System Plans 1 benefit improvements over a 15-year period, suspends both the base and benefit improvement Plan 1 unfunded liability rates during the 2025-27 and 2027-29 fiscal biennia, and changes the long-term investment rate of return used to project costs in the retirement systems from 7.0 to 7.25 percent. (General Fund-State; Judicial Stabilization Trust Account-State) (Custom)

20. Updated PEBB Rate

The monthly employer funding rate for the Public Employees' Benefits Board program is adjusted to \$1,333 for FY 2026 and \$1,350 for FY 2027. These rates assume the implementation of Chapter 373, Laws of 2025 (E2SSB 5083); and several other changes including the cessation of the Uniform Medical Plan-Plus on January 1, 2026; and a reduction in the premium stabilization reserve for self-insured medical claims from 7 percent to 5 percent. (General Fund-State; Judicial Stabilization Trust Account-State) (Ongoing)

21. Archives/Records Management

Adjustments are made for each agency's anticipated share of charges for archives and records management services provided by the Office of the Secretary of State. (General Fund-State) (Custom)

22. DES Central Services

Adjustments are made to reflect each agency's anticipated share of charges from the Department of Enterprise Services for Capitol Campus costs; real estate, risk management, and small agency services; the Perry Street and Capitol Campus child care centers; enterprise applications, and other items. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

23. GOV Central Services

Adjustments are made to reflect each agency's anticipated share of charges from the Office of the Governor for the Office of Equity. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

24. Legal Services

Adjustments are made for each agency's anticipated cost of legal services provided by the Office of the Attorney General. Funding provided in the central service model is not all inclusive, as legal services expenditures are based on consumption. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

25. OFM Central Services

Adjustments are made to reflect each agency's anticipated share of charges from the Office of Financial Management for existing statewide applications, the One Washington program, and other central services. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

26. WTS Central Services

Adjustments are made to reflect each agency's anticipated share of charges from Washington Technology Solutions for the Office of Cybersecurity, the state network, enterprise services, small agency IT services, enterprise architecture and data management, Microsoft 365 licenses, and other items. (General Fund-State) (Custom)