



UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

FY2026 Operating Budget Development Narrative Prompts

School of Public Health, Seattle Campus

OPERATING BUDGET PROPOSAL NARRATIVE PROMPTS DUE 2/24/2025

Programmatic & Academic Vitality Narrative

*Text submitted within this section **will** be published to FPB's Annual Budget Development website*

Where possible, you are encouraged to leverage published materials already created

- 1) Please list your operating budget priorities for the upcoming period (bullet format) and how your campus/unit is aligning available resources with strategic programmatic goals and university initiatives (e.g. Diversity Blueprint, Population Health, etc). *Word Limit: 500*
 - **The School of Public Health (SPH) continues to engage in a strategic framework that supports our dual commitments to conducting groundbreaking research that addresses the greatest health challenges in our region and around the world and educating visionary public health leaders who will work with communities to improve the health of all people. In this challenging historical moment with significant risks to foundational revenues, we remain deeply committed to shepherding available resources to continue our mission. While SPH's 2020-2025 Strategic Plan (<https://sph.washington.edu/about/strategic-plan>) will formally end at the end of AY24-25, we will continue to use these previous goals to guidepost our work as we navigate potential deep financial cuts to biomedical research and Public Health. This includes the following ongoing priorities:**
 - ***Methods to Research to Practice Continuum.*** SPH faculty, students, and staff currently work on over 500 active grants and contracts. Our practice faculty have also developed wide networks of community support and funded contractual engagements. As the School continues to receive Stop Work Orders (SWOs) on grants contracts, we are strategically engaging with faculty leaders and community partners to navigate both near-term and downstream impacts. Where projects require closeout with personnel reductions, we are working to provide clear process support and treat impacted individuals with care and respect. Despite these current impacts and the threats of more to come, we must do what we can to foster new and continue ongoing innovative research. As such, we are continuing to provide investment to research faculty with Office of the Dean Research Initiative Funds. The School's spend plan supports our researchers, particularly to help navigate large training or Center grants.
 - ***Education for Leadership and Transformation.*** While we have seen some decreases in graduate enrollments, SPH's high-quality education programs overall continue to see strong demand. Our faculty teach roughly 2,000 graduate and undergraduate students who are matriculated into SPH degrees annually, plus several thousand other students from across the UW Seattle campus. Due to profound financial risks to federal and state funding that supports research, SPH is significantly reducing our incoming doctoral cohorts for AY25-26 and focusing only on filling slots supported by training grants or other stable funding sources. The message to our community is that we must ensure that our current doctoral students have adequate resources to continue in their programs prior to admitting new doctoral students. Conversely, we are continuing to encourage growth in our master's degree programs and expect to see an increase in undergraduate enrollments as the capacity constrained Public Health Global Health major increases its admissions by 100 students.
 - ***Alignment with University Initiatives.*** SPH's strategic goals were designed to be in close alignment with UW's Diversity Blueprint. FTE for staff on the EDI team is the most significant



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expenditure related to EDI in SPH, as can be seen from the Adaptive entries in this area. Additionally, we are working to foster a more supportive and robust community for Native faculty, staff and students in the health sciences at the UW through the work of Associate Dean of Indigenous Affairs and Engagement. Our School has also worked closely with the Population Health Initiative and has been grateful for resources which support projects that are in alignment with this UW area of focus.

Required Budget Development Consultative Process Summary – Faculty, Staff and Students

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-- If specific questions are not applicable to your unit, simply indicate n/a --

Consultation with your elected faculty councils, student councils and unit/campus staff, regarding your unit's/campus's budget proposal materials, including your proposed FY26 operating budget, narrative responses, tuition rate recommendations and fee-based rate recommendations are an important and necessary component of the UW's budget development process. Your responses to the questions below will be documented and included as part of the FY26 operating budget development review materials provided to Executive Leadership of the UW.

PLAN NOW to ensure that all unit/campus review and consultative processes are completed by the February 24, 2025 due date.

- 1) Please indicate the date that FACULTY leadership within your unit/campus was consulted and provided the opportunity to provide input as part of this budget planning exercise

Faculty leadership have been integral to this budget planning work. This leadership includes both Department Chairs as well as the elected Faculty Council. There have been multiple conversations across both groups for consultation purposes, including: 1/6/25, 1/13/25, 1/27/25, and 2/3/25.

- 2) Please list a point of contact for your FACULTY leadership (name and UW email address).

Chair of elected faculty council: Emily Williams, Professor in the Department of Health Systems and Population Health, emwilli@uw.edu

- 3) Please indicate the date that STUDENT leadership within your unit/campus was consulted and provided the opportunity to provide input as part of this budget planning exercise.

Students were consulted broadly about tuition and fee-based increases as well as the budgeting process on 1/6/25 and 1/27/25.

- 4) Please list a point of contact for your STUDENT leadership (name and UW email address).

Led by the Dean, the SPH Dean's Advisory Council for Students (DACS) consists of approximately 20 students from degree programs across SPH and operates as a 1 credit course for the entire academic year (Autumn, Winter and Spring Quarters). There is no single DACS leader/student point of contact. The DACS roster and contact information for the students serving on DACS is available through SPH's Assistant Dean for Students, Juanita Ricks: jmricks@uw.edu

- 5) Please discuss how you involved campus or unit staff in the consultative process.



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The Assistant Dean for Finance and Administration and the Director of Finance and Research Administration regularly met with department administrators and finance staff to discuss the budget and school's strategy. These staff were highly involved in their department's resource planning and associated Adaptive entries.

- 6)** Since submission of your tuition and/or fee-based rate recommendations on January 24, 2025, has your campus or unit received any additional feedback from students? If so, please summarize here.

SPH has received one email requesting a lower increase for the MHA and EMHA fee-based programs (from 2.2% and 2.0% to between 1.5%-1.8%). While the student did a great job arguing for lowered costs, we believe that our initially proposed increases provide greater alignment with true program costs and with our national peers.

Do Not Submit This File