



UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

FY2026 Operating Budget Development Narrative Prompts

[Undergraduate Academic Affairs]

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 work of Undergraduate Academic Affairs centers on novel learning experiences that enhance student engagement and academic success. Collaboration is essential to our mission of serving and supporting all undergraduates on the Seattle campus. Our budget priorities continue to be:

- Optimizing Academic Services & High-Impact Educational Experiences
- Funding Core Operations (Staff, Student Staff, and Faculty Support)
- Supporting New Student Transition & Pre-Major Advising
- Expanding Financial Support and Recognition for Students
- Strengthening Community Engagement & University Partnerships
- Leading Civic Health & Democracy Initiative
- Investing in Staff Training & Professional Development
- Committing to Data-Driven Decision-Making

To support these priorities, UAA will continue funding core operations, including staff, student staff, and faculty, while institutionalizing equity-focused staffing practices. This includes reviewing each employee vacancy to ensure equitable workloads, appropriate payroll titles, and competitive compensation compared to our institutional peers and resetting to the best of our ability when possible. Although UAA does not directly employ faculty, it engages with UW faculty in various ways throughout our programs, including through undergraduate research and community engagement as well as in First Year Programs and Advising. The Honors Program recruits diverse faculty members by offering faculty buy-outs to teach its interdisciplinary courses. The Resilience Lab has strong faculty collaborations through the new Five for Flourishing and Well-Being for Life and Learning. All these efforts align with the broader goal of attracting and retaining diverse academic personnel while providing career-enhancing growth opportunities. To further support staff, UAA is committed to professional development, allocating funds to ensure staff continue growing both professionally and personally.

Community engagement is a core component of UAA's strategic priorities. The Community Engagement and Leadership Education (CELE) Center leads efforts to develop sustainable, reciprocal partnerships with local and regional schools and organizations, in alignment with UW's public service mission. CELE is a convener and catalyst for campus-wide community engagement, working with faculty across all schools and colleges and leading the Carnegie Classification re-application process. They also play a critical role in tri-campus work, including implementation of GivePulse (a community engagement tracking system) and development of a comprehensive student training curriculum. Through the Civic Health and Democracy Initiative and [UW Dialogue Initiative](#), UAA fosters opportunities for students to develop civic skills, civic identity, and civic knowledge, preparing them to be engaged citizens. Additionally, UAA's commitment to advancing access, equity, partnership and inclusion is evident in place-based educational initiatives, such as the Othello-



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UW Commons in Southeast Seattle and Riverways, which connects undergraduates with tribal and rural communities through its Alternative Spring Break program.

Finally, data-driven decision-making will continue to inform UAA's strategies for attracting, retaining, and graduating a diverse student body. UAA programs have strong infrastructures in place to track student participation and engagement, which enables us to compare our student composition with the overall makeup of the Seattle campus. Additionally, efforts to maintain competitive pay and professional development opportunities for staff remain a priority, addressing equity gaps and reinforcing UAA's commitment to fostering a diverse and thriving workforce.

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. **N/A**
- 2) Please list a point of contact for your FACULTY leadership (name and UW email address). **N/A**
- 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. **N/A**
- 4) Please list a point of contact for your STUDENT leadership (name and UW email address). **N/A**
- 5) Please discuss how you involved campus or unit staff in the consultative process.
 - UAA Directors developed their annual operating plans in collaboration with their assigned financial manager. In early October, the Assistant Dean for Finance and Personnel led a kickoff session that provided an overview of the process, a timeline, and planning templates to support information gathering for entry into Adaptive. UAA Directors then provided departmental updates to inform the UAA narrative responses. They were also asked to describe the types of data they collect for their programs, and we will continue working with them on assessment efforts. Additionally, UAA Leadership met regularly with staff across programs to discuss challenges and opportunities, using these insights to guide resource planning.
- 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. **N/A**