

2019-21 Operating and Capital Budget Requests

Legislative Districts: 11, 30, 33, 34, 47

Overview

Highline College was founded in 1961 as King County’s first community college. We offer a vibrant and diverse learning environment with more than 100 degrees and certificates, including five bachelor’s degrees, within six pathways. With over 70 percent students of color and people representing more than 120 cultures, Highline is the state’s most diverse higher education institution.

At a time when most jobs require education past high school, Highline College offers paths to solid careers. We are accessible to all kinds of students, are affordable, and are connected to both universities and local employers.

Meet Valerie Saylor



For Valerie Saylor, 38, the journey to college was long and challenging. But her passion for physical science stuck with her. Saylor struggled in high school, likely due to depression and ADHD, which went untreated until her late 20s. Saylor did not let her diagnosis or financial hardship keep her from her educational dreams. When she enrolled part-time at Highline College in 2013, she worked tirelessly to follow her life-long goal of studying physics and astronomy. In 2018, the Des Moines resident was named a member of the All-Washington Academic Team, reflecting her hard work.

Return on Investment

Fully funding our 2019-2021 operating and capital budget requests will have real returns for students like Valerie Saylor and for the people and employers in our area. With full funding, our students will learn from exceptional instructors who will receive competitive compensation. They will reap the benefits of Highline Pathways — a redesign of course sequencing and advising that gives students a bright-line path into careers and universities. And, they will have more access to training in high-demand areas like nursing, allied health, information technology and computer science.

The capital investments would fund design work for the Welcome Center for Student Success.



Our Students

Total headcount.....	17,065
Total full-time equivalent (FTE).....	8,197
Full-time	31%
Part-time	69%
Students of color.....	77%

Operating Budget Estimate

If the system’s operating budget request of \$189 million is fully funded, Highline College would receive approximately \$7.4 million in additional funding.

Capital Budget Estimate

If the system’s capital request for \$627 million is fully funded Highline College will receive approximately \$4.1 million for operation, maintenance, repairs and minor improvements of its existing facilities and approximately \$3 million for design of the Welcome Center for Student Success project.

