

Washington State Institute for Public Policy

Current Projects

Pre-K-12 education

LAP Inventory: Effective Practices to Assist Struggling Students

The 2013 Washington State Legislature directed WSIPP to prepare an inventory of evidence- and research-based practices, strategies, and activities for school districts to use in the Learning Assistance Program (LAP).

The state program provides supplemental academic support to eligible K-12 students achieving below grade level or not on track to meet local or state graduation requirements. LAP funds may support programs in reading, writing, mathematics, and readiness, as well as programs to reduce disruptive behavior.

An initial report was released in July 2014. Updates were published in July 2015, July 2016, July 2016, July 2018, and July 2020. The inventory will be updated every two years thereafter. WSIPP was scheduled to update the inventory in 2022. Instead of an updated, WSIPP assessed the use of the inventory. In the absence of the regular update, WSIPP published a historical review of the LAP inventory, describing potential changes resulting from 2021 legislation, and offering a discussion of options regarding the future of the inventory.

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Community and Technical Education Skill Centers

WSIPP receives funding from the legislature to conduct research on K-12 education topics that are relevant to Washington. In 2024, WSIPP will study Career and Technical Education (CTE) skill centers. CTE skill centers are regional secondary schools that serve high school students across multiple school districts and provide programs that are too expensive or specialized for school districts to operate individually. WSIPP's report will focus on student access to CTE skill centers, student characteristics, and student outcomes such as graduation and employment. The report will be published by October 15, 2024.

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The Washington State Legislature created the Washington State Institute for Public Policy in 1983. A Board of Directors-representing the legislature, the governor, and public universities-governs WSIPP and guides the development of all activities. WSIPP's mission is to carry out practical research, at legislative direction, on issues of importance to Washington State.