

Agency 055

Administrative Office of the Courts

Recommendation Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
2005-07 Expenditure Authority	355.1	41,133	78,825	119,958
Total Maintenance Level	355.3	42,372	73,722	116,094
Difference	.3	1,239	(5,103)	(3,864)
Percent Change from Current Biennium	0.1%	3.0%	(6.5)%	(3.2)%
Performance Changes				
Core Case Management System			22,003	22,003
Superior Court Judge	1.0	168		168
Guardian Grievance Investigation	1.0	181		181
Juror Pay Pilot and Research Project		325		325
Remove Language Barriers to Courts	1.5	7,791		7,791
Representation for Children in the Dependency System		13,600		13,600
Becca Funding for Court Operations			9,810	9,810
Performance Audits	2.4	527		527
Gender and Justice Commission	.4	66		66
Americans with Disabilities Accommodation	1.0	191		191
Public Records and Records Management	1.5	274		274
Subtotal	8.8	23,123	31,813	54,936
Total Proposed Budget	364.1	65,495	105,535	171,030
Difference	9.0	24,362	26,710	51,072
Percent Change from Current Biennium	2.5%	59.2%	33.9%	42.6%
Total Proposed Budget by Activity				
Administration and Support for State Courts	364.3	65,495	105,535	171,030
Total Proposed Budget	364.3	65,495	105,535	171,030

PERFORMANCE LEVEL CHANGE DESCRIPTIONS

Core Case Management System

Funds are provided to plan, procure, and implement a modern and integrated statewide court case management system for Washington state courts. (Judicial Information Systems Account-State)

Superior Court Judge

Funding is provided for one new superior court judicial position in Thurston County.

Guardian Grievance Investigation

Staff and resources are needed to enhance the Certified Professional Guardian Program. This enhancement will provide a stronger investigative and monitoring arm to facilitate ongoing court involvement and supervision in certified professional guardianship cases.

JUDICIAL

Juror Pay Pilot and Research Project

Funding is provided to complete the Juror Pay Research Project begun during the 2005-07 Biennium. This project assesses the impact of juror pay on juror response rates and the demographic composition of the jury pool.

Remove Language Barriers to Courts

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) will provide partial reimbursement for the cost of providing certified and registered spoken language interpreters and qualified interpreters in visual languages. AOC will assist courts in developing and implementing limited English proficiency plans and will also translate critical court forms for statewide use.

Representation for Children in the Dependency System

Funds are required to build statewide Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) staff capacity to allow the 31 local CASA programs to annually serve 10,000 children in the dependency system with trained, supervised volunteers.

Becca Funding for Court Operations

County juvenile courts need increased resources to offset the costs associated with processing Truancy, At Risk Youth and Children in Need of Services petitions as mandated in Chapters 13.32A and 28A.225 RCW. (Public Safety and Education Account-State)

Performance Audits

Additional funding is needed to support performance audit planning and implementation activities.

Gender and Justice Commission

Staffing for the Gender and Justice Commission is increased from .6 to 1.0 FTE staff to accommodate the Commission's increased workload. The workload now includes management of the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women Services-Training-Officers-Prosecutors (STOP) grant funding.

Americans with Disabilities Accommodation

Staff and resources are needed to implement uniform procedures and policies necessary to ensure equal access to state courts for people with disabilities through a program that complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Public Records and Records Management

Staffing and resources are provided to develop uniform policies and procedures necessary to ensure transparency in government through access to agency public records, appropriate retention of public records, and coordination of activities related to public records and court case records.

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS

Administration and Support for State Courts

The Office of the Administrator for the Courts, operating under the direction of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, is responsible for the execution of administrative policies and rules applicable to Washington State's judicial system. This court system includes the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, superior courts, and courts of limited jurisdiction. The office is responsible for the orderly collection and compilation of court statistics; operation of the judicial information system; training and education of judicial staff; and research, development, and administrative support for judicial staff.