

Washington State Judicial Branch
2015-2017 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

Decision Package

Agency Supreme Court

Decision Package Title Employee Salary Adjustment

Budget Period 2015-2017 Biennial Budget

Budget Level Policy Level

Agency Recommendation Summary Text

Funding is requested to bring selected Supreme Court staff salaries to the appropriate level as determined by a salary survey.

Fiscal Detail

Operating Expenditures	FY 2016	FY 2017	Total
001-1 General Fund State	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Staffing	FY 2016	FY 2017	Total
FTEs (number of staff requested)	0	0	0

Package Description

Budget reductions sustained by the Supreme Court have made staff salary increases impossible over the past several years. Staff salaries have not been compared to those of public and private employees in parallel positions for more than six years and staff have not received a cost of living increase since September 2007.

A compensation survey will be carried out to compare judicial staff salaries with salaries of comparable public and private sector positions. Funding is requested to bring selected salaries to an appropriate level as determined by the survey.

Narrative Justification and Impact Statement

This package contributes to the Judicial Branch Principle Policy Objectives as identified below.

Appropriate Staffing and Support. *Washington courts will be appropriately staffed and effectively managed, and court personnel, court managers and court systems will be effectively supported.*

The Washington Supreme Court is staffed by a skilled workforce. Many of the employees are now paid at a rate below salaries paid in equivalent positions elsewhere. The Supreme Court requests funding to bring selected salaries to an appropriate level, supporting valued staff and improving the ability of the Court to recruit and retain skilled employees.

Measure Detail

Impact on clients and service

None

Impact on other state services

None

Relationship to Capital Budget

None

Required changes to existing Court Rule, Court Order, RCW, WAC, contract, or plan

None

Alternatives explored

Staff salaries have been frozen for several years.

Distinction between one-time and ongoing costs and budget impacts in future biennia

These costs are ongoing in nature.

Effects of non-funding

Further delaying salary increases will make recruitment and retention of qualified staff more difficult.

Expenditure calculations and assumptions and FTE assumptions

Object Detail	FY 2016	FY 2017	Total
Staff Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Non-Staff Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Objects	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0