



Dollars in Thousands

ABS024 Recommendation Summary
Supreme Court
2023-25 Regular Budget Session
SC2325 - 2023-25 SC Biennial Budget

	Average Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
CB T0PL Current Biennium Base	61.4	20,778	0	20,778
2021-23 Current Biennium Total	61.4	20,778	0	20,778
Total Carry Forward Level	61.9	22,079	0	22,079
Percent Change from Current Biennium	.8%	6.3%	.0%	6.3%
Maintenance – Comp Changes				
ML97 Merit System Increments	0.0	441	0	441
Maintenance – Comp Total	0.0	441	0	441
Total Maintenance Level	61.9	22,520	0	22,520
Percent Change from Current Biennium	.8%	8.4%	.0%	8.4%
Policy – Other Changes				
PL SA Create Supreme Court Administrator	1.0	612	0	612
PL SC Merge Law Library into Sup Court	13.8	4,083	0	4,083
Policy – Other Total	14.8	4,695	0	4,695
Policy – Comp Changes				
PL SB Offer Externship Stipends	0.0	720	0	720
Policy – Comp Total	0.0	720	0	720
Subtotal - Policy Level Changes	14.8	5,415	0	5,415
2023-25 Total Policy Level	76.7	27,935	0	27,935
Percent Change from Current Biennium	24.9%	34.4%	.0%	34.4%

This report does not list decision packages in the agency's priority order. See Decision Package Prioritization Worksheet for priority.

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ML 97 Merit System Increments

The Supreme Court requests funding to continue providing merit increases for eligible employees. (General Fund-State)

PL SA Create Supreme Court Administrator

The Supreme Court requests \$611,600 in ongoing funding to establish a new position of Supreme Court Administrator. There are a number of areas of court administration that do not fall within scope of responsibility of the Court's Chief Justice, Justices of the Court, any Court departments (Clerk's Office, Commissioner's Office, Reporter of Decision's Office, or the State Law Library or even the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). As a result, these areas have been neglected over the years, resulting in significant deficiencies in the Supreme Court's facilities, information technology management, personnel programs, and overall administrative support.

Like other courts in the State, the Supreme Court receives certain types of administrative support from the AOC in areas such as IT support, basic HR functions, staffing for certain Supreme Court committees and accounting. But the Supreme Court has many specific administrative needs that fall outside the scope of the support AOC can provide. Notably, the Supreme Court is the only court in the State at any level that does not have a court administrator, and so key administrative responsibilities have fallen, often by default, on the shoulders of the Chief Justice's Office, individual justices, or the Clerk of Court. (General Fund-State)

PL SC Merge Law Library into Sup Court

The Washington State Law Library (Library) and Washington State Supreme Court (Court) jointly request that the merger of the Library into the Court begun in 1959, be finally completed by transferring the remaining expenditure authority on an ongoing basis from the Library to the Court. When the Library was merged into the Court in 1959, the transfer of finances was deemed to be a one-time event, which doesn't seem to match the intent of the bill. This request completes the merger intended by the 1959 Legislature. (General Fund-State)

PL SB Offer Externship Stipends

The Supreme Court requests \$720,000 to provide stipends to its externs. Externships are mutually beneficial to the extern and employer. Externs at the Supreme Court help to ease the administrative burden of court staff and increase court efficiency. Currently, courts cannot afford to compensate their externs, which severely limits the size, diversity, and quality of their applicant pool. Both the executive and legislative branches have funding to compensate their externs, leaving the judicial branch as the only outlier. (General Fund-State)