

ACCESS TO JUSTICE BOARD

Authority – ATJB Supreme Court Order	FY20 Budget
<p>WSBA administers the Supreme Court-established Access to Justice Board and most of its initiatives and working committees. The Supreme Court established the Access to Justice Board in 1994 under Court Order and reauthorized indefinitely in 2016.</p>	<p>Revenue \$ 2,100 Expense \$ <u>263,978</u> Net \$(261,878)</p> <p>FTE Staff: <u>1.62</u></p>
Functions/Authority	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene and facilitate coordination among the Alliance for Equal Justice (organizations which deliver and/or support legal services to people who experience poverty and marginalization) (e.g., created, convene and staff the Alliance for Equal Justice, through its Delivery System Committee, identifies and addresses gaps in organizational and inter-organizational infrastructure, facilitated and oversees the implementation of the State Plan, organizes the biennial Access to Justice Conference, organizes various other symposiums and forums where Alliance members come together to discuss emerging issues) • Evaluate the effectiveness of the civil legal services delivery system (e.g., developed Best Practices for Pro Bono in Washington and Performance Standards for Legal Aid) • Promote adequate levels of public, private and volunteer support for civil legal services (e.g., partners with the Equal Justice Coalition, educates policymakers and the public about importance of civil legal aid in our communities and advocates for public funding, coordinates with the Office of Civil Legal Aid to ensure adequate levels of funding) • Manage communication and information dissemination to Alliance for Equal Justice (e.g., manages the Alliance for Equal Justice website which serves as an inter-organizational communication tool as well as a communication tool for the public, manages statewide access to justice related listservs) • Promote, develop and implement policy initiatives and criteria which enhance the availability of resources for essential civil equal justice activities (e.g., convened and facilitated a coordinated and collaborative approach to fundraising for civil legal services) • Develop and pilot innovative programs and measures designed to expand access to justice (e.g., piloted Equal Justice Community Leadership Academy and WA Web Lawyer) • Promote jurisprudential understanding of how the law and the justice system impact people who experience poverty and marginalization (e.g., developed guides for Washington Courts and Administrative Courts on ensuring access for people with disabilities) • Promote public education about civil legal needs and services (e.g., partners with the Equal Justice Coalition to educate the public about civil legal aid, supports Alliance organizations to engage in community legal education and outreach through developing trainings and resources) • Promote responsiveness of the civil justice system to the needs of those who suffer disparate treatment or disproportionate access barriers (e.g., evaluating effectiveness of the intake system as part of the implementation of the State Plan, developed the Technology Principles and serve on court technology committees to ensure technology does not create more barriers to accessing justice) • Address existing and proposed laws, rules, and regulations that may adversely affect meaningful access to the civil justice system (e.g., submits comments to rules impacting low income people’s access to the justice system) 	
Considerations	

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1. Possible Antitrust implications?
2. Possible First Amendment implications?

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