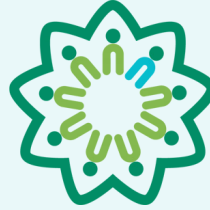


Washington's nine Educational Service Districts, unified through the Association of Educational Service Districts (AESD) provide a nimble and aligned delivery system for essential student and educator services focused on learning; student support; and district operations.



**AESD** ASSOCIATION OF  
EDUCATIONAL  
SERVICE DISTRICTS

Nine ESDs. One Network.  
Supporting Washington's Schools and Communities.

# 2022 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM



## CONSISTENT AND EQUITABLE RESOURCES FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Several components of K–12's funding structure are underfunded or inequitable between districts.

**PROPOSED SOLUTION:** Update funding for the prototypical school model, pupil transportation (STARS), special education, and regionalization factors.



## FUNDING FOR ESD SUPPORT SERVICES FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The Legislature directs educational service districts (ESDs) to provide mission-critical supports and services throughout the state. These vital services are only partially funded.

**PROPOSED SOLUTION:** Adjust funding formulas for state-funded ESD programs and services to ensure they can provide timely, high-quality support to school districts.



## EQUITABLE ACCESS TO PUBLIC HEALTHCARE FOR ESD EMPLOYEES

In 2017, the Legislature created the School Employees Benefits Board (SEBB) Program to provide healthcare benefits for school district and ESD employees. In 2019, the Legislature delayed the requirement for ESDs to transition employees to SEBB until January 2024. They also directed the HCA to complete a comprehensive study on ESD healthcare benefits. The HCA found that the organizational and funding structures of ESDs more closely resemble the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and other state agencies than the school districts they serve.

### PROPOSED SOLUTION:

1. Allow ESDs to offer employees healthcare benefits through the Public Employee Benefits Board (PEBB) Program. By January 2022, eight of the nine ESDs will have already transitioned to PEBB. The ninth ESD is transitioning to PEBB, with full implementation planned for January 2024.
2. Please fund these benefits. ESD salaries are generally funded entirely differently from school district salaries.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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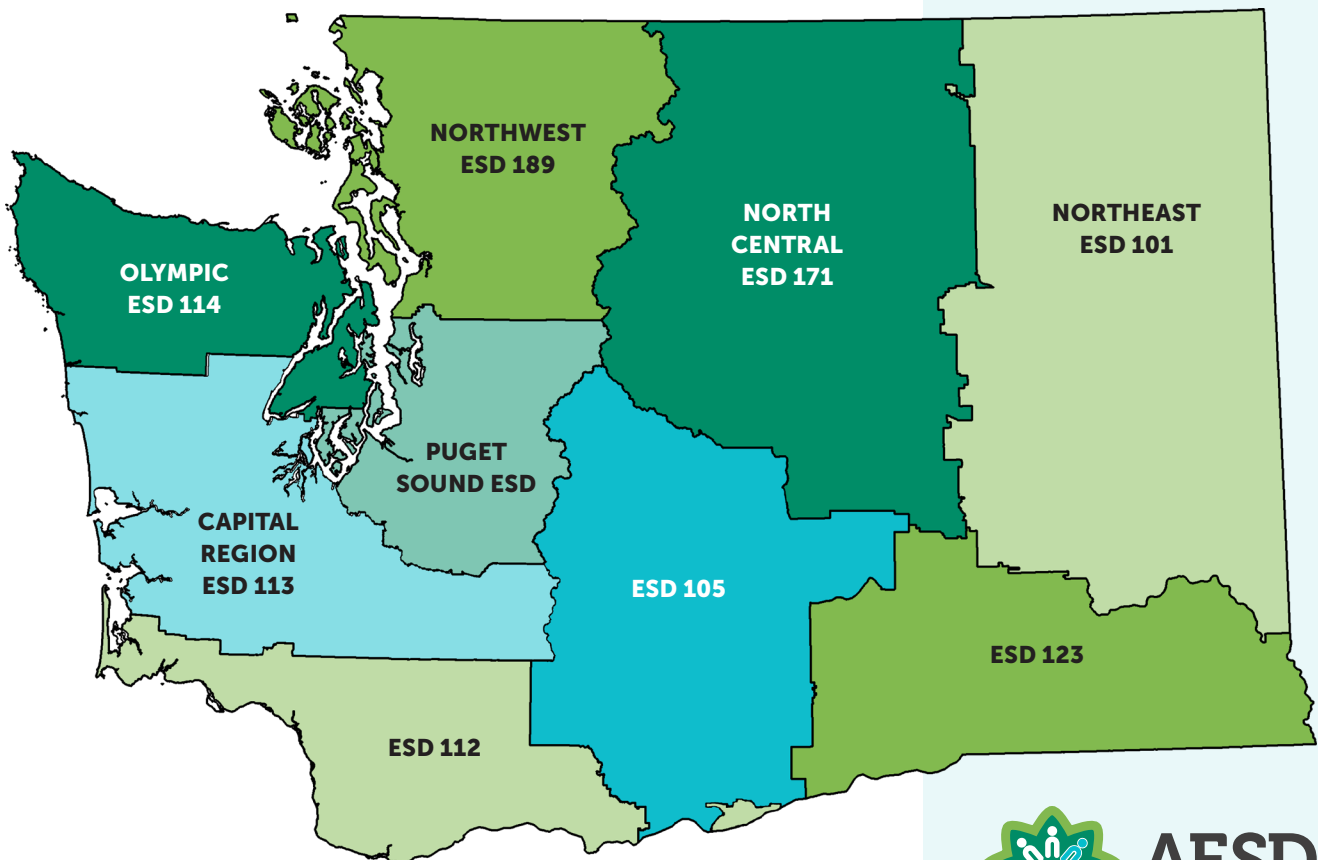
# ABOUT THE AESD

The Association of Educational Service Districts (AESD) is comprised of the state's nine regional Educational Service Districts. The overall mission of the AESD is to ensure equity and excellence in education through effective services delivered statewide; and to inspire and foster equity, opportunity, and results through meaningful support of all school districts.

Geographically closer to local schools and their district offices, the ESDs respond to local needs of school districts in their regions, and serve as regional liaisons between the State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), the State Board of Education (SBE), and the Legislature.

In addition to supporting the growth and development of each ESD's board of directors, the AESD serves:

- 1,094,330 K-12 students
- 67,859 classroom teachers
- Approximately 6,000 PK-12 public school districts, state Tribal compact education schools, charter schools, and private schools



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