

Supplemental Budget Request

Status: Pending

District Court

Suppl ID # 5035

Fund 1000

Cost Center 10004500

Originator: Jake Wiebusch

Expenditure Type: Ongoing

Year 1 2025

Add'l FTE ☐

Add'l Space ☐

Priority 1

Name of Request: AOC Interpreter Reimbursement Program

X

Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission)

Date

9/23/25

Costs:	Object	Object Description	Amount Requested
	4357.3500	Court interpreter costs	(\$27,171)
	6655	Interpreter services	\$27,171
	Request Total		\$0

1a. Description of request:

Cost to provide constitutionally mandated interpreters for limited English speaking, deaf and hard of hearing court customers. The need and cost continue to increase. Interpreter expenses will be offset by an annual reimbursement from the Administrative Office of the Courts.

An annual amount of \$75,000 was estimated in the 25/26 budgets. Please see approved ASR 7040 accepted in the 25/26 biennium budget. The contract was just received (pending council approval) and \$102,171 was awarded. This supplemental request (\$27,171) is the difference between the originally estimated amount and what was awarded.

County Contract #202509009

ACO Contract # AOC2827

1b. Primary customers:

The public.

2. Problem to be solved:

The cost of providing interpreters has increase significantly. This revenue will help offset the increased cost of providing interpreters for court hearing and probation appointments.

3a. Options / Advantages:

There are no other options

3b. Cost savings:

N/A

4a. Outcomes:

Fair and equitable court hearings will be conducted.

4b. Measures:

Fair and equitable court hearings will be conducted.

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

All parties to a case.

5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:

N/A

6. Funding Source:

General Fund and Administrative Office of the Courts.

Supplemental Budget Request

Superior Court

Supp'l ID # 5135 Fund 1000 Cost Center 10007056 Originator: Stephanie Kraft

Expenditure Type: One-Time Year 1 2025 Add'l FTE ☐ Add'l Space ☐ Priority 1

Name of Request: Uniform Guardianship Act

X

Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission)

Date

Costs:	Object	Object Description	Amount Requested
	6630	Professional services	\$50,000
	Request Total		\$50,000

1a. Description of request:

The Uniform Guardianship Act (RCW 11.130) outlines requirements for court appointment of court visitors, minor guardian ad liems, and attorneys. All minor guardianship costs are at public expense. The bulk of adult guardianship costs are at public expense as well. These services are provided via appointment of individuals by the court.

1b. Primary customers:

Youth, Families, Judicial Officers and Community

2. Problem to be solved:

90% of the 2025 budget for the Uniform Guardianship Act had been expended through the end of July. With five months remaining in 2025, the costs for these mandatory services will far exceed the budgeted amount. We receive reimbursement from the Administrative Office of the Courts. For the State Fiscal Year July 2025-June 2026 the total amount is \$67,740. This reimbursement pays for less than half of the costs associated with the Uniform Guardianship Act. The Court submits for revenue sharing when it is available.

3a. Options / Advantages:

This is a mandatory service.

3b. Cost savings:

These services are required by RCW 11.130.

4a. Outcomes:

Court visitors, attorneys, and minor GAL's all have a role in presenting information to the court who ultimately makes a determination on the petition. These matters should be resolved timely and a delay in appointment or court continuances increase costs to the court and have a profound impact on the families. Once a petition is either granted or denied, the court visitor/Minor GAL/Atty is dismissed. The cases should be moving through the court in a timely manner.

4b. Measures:

Court visitors, attorneys, and minor GAL's all have a role in presenting information to the court who ultimately makes a determination on the petition. These matters should be resolved timely. Once a petition is either granted or denied, the court visitor/Minor GAL/Atty is dismissed.

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

No

5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:

N/A

6. Funding Source:

Supplemental Budget Request

Superior Court

Suppl ID # 5135

Fund 1000 **Cost Center** 10007056 **Originator:** Stephanie Kraft

General Fund

Supplemental Budget Request

Superior Court

Suppl ID # 5136

Fund1000

Cost Center 10007055 Originator: Stephanie Kraft

Expenditure Type: One-Time Year 1 2025 Add'l FTE ☐ Add'l Space ☐ Priority 1

Name of Request: Interpreter Services

X

Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission)

Date

8/22/25

Costs:

Object	Object Description	Amount Requested
6655	Interpreter services	\$15,000
Request Total		\$15,000

1a. Description of request:

Court Administration receives requests for interpreter services (for all cases- civil and criminal) before the court. A staff member must schedule and manage all the requests. Interpreters are secured for proceedings. Proceedings vary in length of time. Some services can be provided via electronic or telephonic appearance and others require in person interpretation.

1b. Primary customers:

Non English speaking or hearing impaired individuals accessing the court. Attorneys and Judicial Officers as well.

2. Problem to be solved:

Cost for interpretation varies depending on language. Some languages require relay interpretation. Interpreters charge a mandatory two hour minimum regardless of length of hearing. The number of individuals with limited english proficiency with matters before the court has been increasing.

3a. Options / Advantages:

In 2024 we looked at hiring a Spanish Interpreter to be on staff and posted a position for two recruitments but were unsuccessful. Ultimately we pivoted and hired a legal secretary to coordinate all interpreters, a full time job given the courts volume. We work to coordinate hearings, as we are able within timelines, so we are able to secure an interpreter to hear multiple cases on the same calendar. We will continue to look for ways to coordinate hearings in this manner.

We have had approx four months of cost saving due to legal secretary (interpreter coordinator) vacancy. This is not sustainable and we anticipate hiring Sept 2025. The cost savings for the position can be applied to interpreter costs.

Whatcom County Superior Court participates in the Language Reimbursement Program through AOC. We fully expend the reimbursement amount allotted and participate in revenue sharing as it is available. We also sought other reimbursement mechanisms for juvenile offender and juvenile diversion matters and are able to bill those portion of interpreter services to a different grant.

3b. Cost savings:

This is a required service.

4a. Outcomes:

Court matters will continue to move through court with timely resolution.

4b. Measures:

Cases will be resolved timely.

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

Supplemental Budget Request

Superior Court

Suppl ID # 5136

Fund 1

Cost Center 10007055 Originator: Stephanie Kraft

No

5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:

N/A

6. Funding Source:

General Fund

Supplemental Budget Request

Jail

Suppl ID # 5152

Fund 1350

Cost Center 13501018

Originator: Caleb Erickson

Year 1 2025

Add'l FTE ☐

Priority 1

Name of Request: MOUD Medicine Additional Funding

X

Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission)

Date

Costs:	Object	Object Description	Amount Requested
	4334.0465	DSHS-MOUD	(\$125,500)
	6320.S.350235	Office and operating supplies	\$125,500
	Request Total		\$0

1a. Description of request:

This request increases budget authority in account 6320.S.350235 (MOUD Pharmacy) by \$125,500 in 2025 under Whatcom County Contract 202205001-4 (HCA Contract K5893, Amendment No. 4). The Sheriff's Office currently has \$51,930 budgeted in 2025 for MOUD pharmacy. With this amendment, the revised pharmacy budget will total \$177,430. The funds are restricted to MOUD medicines and the nursing support required to administer treatment in custody. Approval ensures the Sheriff's Office can expend the amended contract amount and fully comply with HCA requirements.

1b. Primary customers:

Incarcerated individuals with opioid use disorder in the Whatcom County Jail and Work Center.

2. Problem to be solved:

The Sheriff's Office already has budget authority for \$705,075 in HCA contract funding, including \$51,930 for MOUD pharmacy in 2025. Amendment No. 4 provides \$125,500 in additional funding, bringing the contract total to \$830,575 for 2022–2025. Without supplemental authority, the County cannot use the added allotment, which would limit access to treatment and reduce the availability of needed medications for individuals in custody.

3a. Options / Advantages:

No alternatives exist. The HCA amendment is restricted to MOUD pharmacy and nursing. A budget supplemental is the only mechanism to use these funds.

3b. Cost savings:

This request is cost neutral. The \$125,500 increase is fully reimbursed by HCA. If not approved, the County forfeits external dollars and would either reduce treatment services or cover costs with local funds.

4a. Outcomes:

Full utilization of \$177,430 in MOUD pharmacy budget authority in 2025.

Expanded provision of MOUD medicines to incarcerated individuals.

Reduced withdrawal complications and related medical costs.

Improved continuity of care and reduced overdose risk upon release.

4b. Measures:

Through pharmacy purchase and administration records, nursing logs, HCA reporting requirements, and monitoring of treatment continuity during reentry.

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

Supplemental Budget Request

Jail

Suppl ID # 5152

Fund 1350**Cost Center** 13501018**Originator:** Caleb Erickson

No

5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:

N/A

6. Funding Source:

Health Care Authority of Washington State Grant under Whatcom County Contract 202205001-4 (HCA Contract K5893, Amendment No. 4)

Supplemental Budget Request

Status: Pending

Non-Departmental

Suppl ID # 5170

Fund 3240

Cost Center 32402401

Originator: Shannon Batdorf

Expenditure Type: One-Time Year 1 2025 Add'l FTE ☐ Add'l Space ☐ Priority 1

Name of Request: Companion to Suppl ID 5169 - Lagoon Bridge Removal

X

Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission)

Date

9/25/25

Costs:	Object	Object Description	Amount Requested
	8597.C.	Transfers out	\$300,000
	Request Total		\$300,000

1a. Description of request:

This supplemental is a companion to supplemental ID# 5169, Silver Lake Lagoon Bridge Removal. This creates the offsetting operation transfer out of the REET II fund to be transferred into a project budget that would be created for this project upon approval of this request

1b. Primary customers:

2. Problem to be solved:

3a. Options / Advantages:

3b. Cost savings:

4a. Outcomes:

4b. Measures:

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:

6. Funding Source:

REET 2 Fund.