



Memorandum

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

FROM: Charlene Ramont, Assistant Director

RE: Washington Initiative for Supported Employment-Training and Technical Assistance
Contract Amendment #1

DATE: JANUARY 28, 2026

Attached is a contract amendment between Whatcom County and the Washington Initiative for Supported Employment (WISE) for your review and signature. RFP 25-75 was advertised in October 2025 and WISE was a successful respondent. This amendment provides additional funding for developmental disabilities (DD) training and technical assistance services to the County and its partners that are related to developing and implementing Countywide employer engagement and hiring initiatives and increasing the inclusion of people with DD in their communities.

■ Background and Purpose

This contract provides funding for WISE to provide training and consultation to local agencies who provide services to people with developmental disabilities. WISE is a nationally recognized expert in the field of developmental disabilities and is contracted with the state to coordinate training and Technical Assistance (TA) efforts related to supported employment and other services. These services are intended to improve developmental disabilities service outcomes, build local capacity, and ensure fidelity to best practices.

■ Funding Amount and Source

This amendment increases funding by \$20,000. Total funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$59,500 is provided by Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Developmental Disabilities Community Services (DDCS). These funds are included in the 2026 budget. Council authorization is required as total cumulative funding for this contract is expected to exceed \$75,000 in future renewals.

■ Differences from Previous Contracts

Section	Differences
Exhibit A – Scope of Work	Broadens the scope of work to include elements related to RFP 25-75.
Exhibit B – Compensation	Increases funding to support additional services.

Please contact Ann Beck, Community Health and Human Services Manager at 360-778-6055 or ABeck@co.whatcom.wa.us if you have any questions.

Encl.