



Governor's Office of  
the Education  
Ombuds (OEO):  
Session Update

Carrie Basas, JD, MEd,  
Director

[oeoinfo@gov.wa.gov](mailto:oeoinfo@gov.wa.gov)

<http://oeo.wa.gov>

[1-866-297-2597](tel:1-866-297-2597)

Arc Advocacy Day  
February 23, 2022

## History of the OEO: Opportunity Gaps in K- 12 Public Schools

---

- Founded by the state legislature in 2006. RCW 43.06B.
- **OEO's Mission:** We work with families, communities, and schools to address problems together so that every student can fully participate and thrive in Washington's K-12 public schools.



to tackle opportunity gaps and make the system better.

# Roles: Statewide with 7.4 FTE

---

Listen

Listen to concerns and address questions about public K-12

---

Use

Use informal conflict resolution tools to promote education justice

---

Provide

Provide training and workshops about K-12, family engagement, and advocacy

---

Collect

Collect data and identify trends to guide our policy recommendations

---

# Awareness Bill SSB 5376 (Wilson)

Requires public schools to notify (e.g., flyer, website) students, families, and employees about OEO's services

Directs OEO to develop template notification and translate it into at least Spanish

\*\*Currently in House Ed Exec Session\*\*



**Original OEO ask: \$+693K annually (+4 Ombuds) ongoing to meet outreach needs (50x), reduce waits, create emergency Senior Ombuds position, and address lost learning**

**Governor's proposed budget (and Senate and House's, as of 2/21/22):**

**FY22: +\$114,000; FY23: +\$343,000**

**(ongoing):** adding 2 full-time Ombuds, 1 part-time Ombuds, and improved outreach



Budget Decision  
Package