

City of Seattle & Seattle Colleges PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT In Support of the Families, Education, Preschool, & Promise Levy



This Partnership Agreement is entered into by Seattle Colleges and the City of Seattle for the purpose of outlining roles and responsibilities with respect to the City of Seattle Families, Education, Preschool and Promise Levy.

Section 1. THE FAMILIES, EDUCATION, PRESCHOOL, AND PROMISE (FEPP) LEVY

In November 2018, Seattle voters approved the FEPP Levy to invest property tax revenues to provide education-support services through the City and its partners – Seattle Colleges, Seattle Public Schools (SPS), Public Health – Seattle & King County, and community-based organizations – to work collectively and collaboratively with a Levy Oversight Committee to provide Seattle students and families with:

- Access to, and services across, a continuum beginning with high-quality early learning services that prepare children for success in kindergarten;
- Physical and mental health services that support learning;
- College- and job-readiness experiences that promote high school graduation; and
- Post-secondary opportunities that promote attainment of a certificate, credential or degree

Section 2. PARTNERSHIP STATEMENT: CITY OF SEATTLE AND SEATTLE COLLEGES

The City of Seattle (the City) and Seattle Colleges share a commitment to ensure that all Seattle Public School and charter public school graduates have access to Seattle Promise, which will provide post-secondary opportunities that promote completion of a certificate, credential, degree, or transfer to a four-year institution. Seattle Colleges and the City will cultivate a college-going and college-completion culture in collaboration with Seattle Public Schools for all SPS students through culturally-responsive academic and support services. Seattle Colleges is recognized as an exemplary learning institution that transforms lives, promotes equity, and enriches the community. The City endorses this vision and likewise seeks a city where all children, youth and families have equitable access and consistent opportunities for high-quality educational services, supports, and outcomes.

Working together, the City, acting primarily through the Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL), and Seattle Colleges will pursue the priorities outlined in the FEPP ordinance:

- Invest in Seattle students, families and communities who have been historically underserved to increase access to and attainment of educational opportunities across the education continuum.
- Assure data-driven and outcomes-based decision making.
- Implement or continue evidence-based strategies and promising practices to improve program quality and achieve equity in educational outcomes.
- Provide access to capacity-building opportunities for historically-underserved Seattle communities to improve program instruction, quality, and infrastructure.

Seattle Promise provides the City and Seattle Colleges with a unique opportunity to build upon the existing collaboration and strengthen the partnership through commitments to continuous learning and trust. The continuum of elements that comprise Seattle Promise will undergird Seattle students' efforts as they start, persist in, and complete post-secondary education, and will lead to cohorts of young people who are *Seattle Ready*, with skills required to secure livable wage jobs, and opportunities to fully engage in Seattle's vibrant economy.

Section 3. **TERM**

This Partnership Agreement will be approved by Seattle City Council resolution and Seattle Colleges and must be in effect before FEPP Levy proceeds may be invested in Seattle Colleges. The term of this Partnership Agreement will be effective on the date of signature by both parties and will end on December 31, 2026, unless terminated earlier by mutual agreement or by law. Either the City or Seattle Colleges may propose amendments to this Partnership Agreement consistent with The Plan. The Partnership Agreement may be amended by written agreement signed by DEEL on behalf of the City and Seattle Colleges without additional approval by Seattle City Council.

Section 4. **ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS**

Seattle Colleges and the City will define the shared work of Seattle Promise through annual project agreements. Project Agreements are contract that define the specific roles and responsibilities of each party for each project/scope of work funded by the FEPP Levy. Project Agreements are renegotiated annually and subject to mutual agreement. Seattle Colleges and the City intend for these annual project agreements to serve as mutually binding contracts that detail the scope of work, terms and conditions, data requirements, program implementation plan, investment plan, deliverables, and payment terms. Subject to the terms and conditions of the project agreements, Seattle Colleges will have discretion to subcontract for activities that further the objectives of Seattle Promise.

FEPP-funded investments must supplement and complement existing public funding structures and must not be used to supplant federal, state, local or Seattle College funds. Seattle Colleges will direct resources and leverage funding streams, inclusive of a Seattle Promise endowment, to maximize the quality, program continuity, and success of FEPP-funded efforts to achieve the goals of Seattle Promise.

Should Seattle Promise FEPP Levy funds be exhausted during the seven-year FEPP Levy period, Seattle Promise endowment funds can be used for direct programmatic expenses such as, but not limited to, tuition, wraparound services, and the Seattle Promise Equity Scholarship. The City, Seattle Colleges and Seattle Public Schools have the shared goal of achieving the programmatic and financial stability of the Seattle Promise. Toward that end, the City will work with the Seattle Colleges to develop an agreement that outlines how we partner to create an endowment that sustains Seattle Promise beyond the life of the FEPP Levy.

Section 5. **PRIORITIZED STUDENTS AND COMMUNITIES¹**

FEPP funding will prioritize programs that advance educational equity for historically-underserved groups including African American/Black, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, Pacific Islander, underserved Asian populations, other students of color, refugee and immigrant, homeless, English language learners, and LGBTQ students. These priorities align with the agreement signed in March 2018

¹ As defined in Ordinance 125604

by Seattle Colleges, the City, and Seattle Public Schools to develop and implement Seattle Promise with a shared commitment to equity, inclusion, and guaranteed access to a post-secondary education.

Section 6. FEPP OUTCOMES

FEPP funds are intended to advance educational equity, close opportunity gaps, and build a better economic future for Seattle students. Seattle needs an educated population that is actively engaged in civic life and which contributes to the economic and social well-being of the city. Seattle Colleges and DEEL share the commitment to advancing equity for all individuals, particularly the underserved in our community, and recognize that different circumstances require different approaches, allocations of resources, or other considerations to yield equal outcomes.

DEEL and Seattle Colleges agree that FEPP investments in Seattle Promise will assure equity, inclusion, and access to a post-secondary education for all Seattle Public Schools and charter public school students and will measurably improve:

Access to Equitable Educational Opportunities. Accomplished through multiple investment approaches that encourage college preparation, persistence, and completion including outreach, recruitment, college onboarding, advising, and tuition support.

High-Quality Learning Environments. Accomplished through multiple investment approaches and inclusive of professional development, capacity building, educator diversity, culturally-responsive practices, and to achieve Seattle Promise goals.

Student and Family Supports. Accomplished through multiple investment approaches including equity scholarships for students with greatest financial need, and family and community engagement.

Seattle Colleges and DEEL will apply a continuous quality improvement framework to consistently collect and analyze data, and to determine progress toward pre-established performance indicators and outcomes. Performance indicators measuring the quality and quantity of services to Seattle Promise students will be collaboratively defined annually.

Section 7. DATA

Seattle Colleges and DEEL have a shared interest in using actionable data that supports accountability for investments and continuous learning. Data sharing between Seattle Colleges and DEEL is subject to all state and federal laws including FERPA² and HEA³. Agreement on data sharing and data use will be incorporated within the annual project agreement and will specify data elements, formats, security, privacy requirements, and frequency of reporting.

Data organized at the individual student level will address the priority questions identified by Seattle Colleges and DEEL in monitoring students' academic progress, securing students' feedback, tracking targets and outcomes, evaluating programs, communicating progress, and sharing challenges and achievements.

² Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974

³ Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended

Shared data priorities include:

- Seattle public school outreach
- Seattle Promise participation and eligibility
- Socio-economic status and financial aid indicators
- Student demographics and characteristics
- College enrollment
- College experiences
- College course credits and academic achievement
- College retention, progression, completion, and transfer
- Employment and wages after completion
- Educator diversity
- Student perception of program effectiveness/importance
- Gains in equity and achievement trends disaggregated among racial and ethnic groups

Seattle Colleges and DEEL commit to accountability by collecting and analyzing student information and investment results over time, and facilitating dissemination and utilization of data across stakeholders, including community partners, families, and students. DEEL intends to complete comprehensive and longitudinal analyses across all FEPP investments requiring that students be consistently linked from preschool programs, through K-12, and Seattle Promise.

Section 8. FEPP IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION PLAN

DEEL engaged Seattle Colleges and other stakeholders – including SPS, other City departments; students, families and historically underserved communities; community-based organizations (CBOs); Public Health – Seattle & King County (PHSKC); and others – in the creation of the FEPP Implementation and Evaluation Plan (The Plan). Input from the Seattle Promise Design Team, and feedback gathered through student focus groups, were critical to informing the Plan and helping set the course for Seattle Promise implementation.

The Plan sets forth priority criteria and outcomes by which FEPP education-support services will be selected and evaluated, the process and schedule by which DEEL will select and contract with partners to provide services, and the evaluation methodology to measure both individual investments and overall impacts of FEPP investments. FEPP funds will be spent only in accordance with The Plan and Project Agreements.

Section 9. EDUCATION-SUPPORT SERVICES⁴

Services funded by FEPP Levy proceeds are intended to achieve equity in educational outcomes, through the Levy's stated goals as listed in Section 1 across the four investment areas defined in the Levy ordinance:

Preschool and Early Learning. Investments in the Seattle Preschool Program are intended to increase children's kindergarten readiness and may include: financial support for preschool and child care tuition, support for early learning infrastructure development and quality teaching, and comprehensive supports to meet the needs of children in preschool classrooms.

⁴ Section 6 of Ordinance 125604 defines the education-support services that frame this partnership agreement.

K-12 School and Community-Based Investments. Investments in Seattle public schools and community-based partners are intended to increase students' achievement of education milestones and eliminate opportunity and achievement gaps. Program elements may include: expanded learning opportunities; academic tutoring, mentoring and case management; social, emotional and behavioral skill building; culturally responsive programming and family engagement activities; college and job readiness activities and college admissions supports; job exploration activities; and advising and guidance related to college and career.

K-12 School Health. Investments in PHSKC are intended to provide safe, age-appropriate, culturally-competent care to help children be healthy and ready to learn and may include: comprehensive primary medical care, mental health care, care coordination, connection to community supports, outreach and health education.

Seattle Promise. Investments in Seattle Colleges are intended to increase student access to post-secondary opportunities and job training opportunities and may include: academic preparation, post-secondary success coaches, readiness academies, outreach, onboarding, advising, the equivalent of up to two years of financial support for tuition, and equity scholarship support.

Seattle Colleges, working in partnership with DEEL and SPS, will strive for a shared definition and approach to college and career readiness, and will assist students in preparing for college through personalized supports. Upon students' enrollment in Seattle Colleges, Seattle Promise will focus resources toward students' persistence and completion, through access to the full spectrum of educational pathways. Seattle Promise will guide students as they complete and transition out of Seattle Colleges in pursuit of subsequent college and career opportunities.

Section 9. PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

DEEL and Seattle Colleges share a commitment to authentic student, family, and community engagement to promote post-secondary access, completion and success. Seattle Colleges will partner with Seattle Public Schools to engage with students and families as they prepare for and transition to post-secondary education. Seattle Colleges will seek relationships and alignment with community, cultural, and language-based organizations to assure a diversity of resources that strengthen students, families, and communities across Seattle, and further achievement of FEPP outcomes. In addition, Seattle Colleges and DEEL will respond to coordinated and collaborative opportunities to leverage private support and other outside resources.

Section 10. ENGAGEMENT, COMMUNICATION AND SHARED MESSAGING

The commencement of the FEPP Levy presents an opportunity to deepen the partnership between Seattle Colleges and the City, focused on a mutual commitment to Seattle students. The individual and collective strengths of Seattle Colleges and the City are well positioned to assure that graduates from public schools, including SPS and charter public schools, regardless of race, gender, socioeconomic status, language proficiency, learning style or disability, have access to post-secondary academic, financial, and support services. It is in our shared interest to sustain students' achievements as they conclude their academic pursuits in high school, transition to Seattle Colleges, and pursue and complete

post-secondary education that will bolster their career and life pursuits upon graduation. Through partnership on the FEPP Levy, Seattle Colleges and DEEL will:

Maximize Communication and Collaboration. Representatives from the City and Seattle Colleges will communicate and collaborate to assure successful implementation of FEPP-funded investments by participating in multiple forums including quarterly meetings of the City Mayor, Seattle Colleges Chancellor, Seattle Public School Superintendent, and DEEL Director; monthly Levy Oversight Committee meetings; and regular meetings of Seattle Promise partners, which also includes SPS and key community stakeholders.

Presidents and leadership from Seattle Colleges, and principals and leadership from SPS high schools will meet regularly, as will staff from Seattle Colleges, DEEL, and SPS who are responsible for Seattle Promise program success.

Pursue Shared Commitments. Seattle Colleges and DEEL are approaching this agreement as thought partners working together, with students' success at the center. This shared commitment will lead to students' post-secondary completion and livable-wage employment. Seattle Colleges and DEEL will establish clear roles and responsibilities to assure equity, transparency, fiscal responsibility, and continuous improvement. The ongoing work of Seattle Promise will be informed by data and will consistently seek feedback from internal and external stakeholders.

Strengthen Shared Voice. FEPP investments will provide occasions to message to the public that Seattle Colleges and DEEL are working together to use taxpayer dollars with fidelity to provide the education-support services defined in the FEPP ordinance. Seattle Colleges and DEEL will seek opportunities for both joint and aligned messaging, as well as opportunities to highlight FEPP successes across all partners inclusive of Seattle Colleges, Seattle Public Schools, PHSKC, community-based organizations, and the City.

Section 11. **FACILITIES**

In accordance with Seattle College procedures for use of facilities, Seattle Colleges will make space available whenever possible for staff from the City, Seattle Public Schools and community-based organizations collaborating to achieve FEPP results for Seattle students.

Section 12. **USE OF FEPP FUNDS**

The Seattle Promise budget provides direct program expenses such as, but not limited to, instructional support, speakers, transportation, supplies, and equipment as well as indirect costs to Seattle Colleges such as, but not limited to, overhead for facilities, IT, accounting, etc. Seattle Colleges indirect costs are budgeted at 5.5% per school year over the life of the FEPP Levy.

SIGNATURES:

CITY OF SEATTLE

SEATTLE COLLEGES

Mayor Jenny Durkan

Chancellor Shouan Pan

Date

Date

Approved by Seattle City Council
on: _____