

Request for 2025 Funding Services and Activities Fee Committee

BUDGET PROPOSAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Department Name: Psychological and Wellness Services

Create Date: 04/03/2025

Due Date: 04/18/2025

Submitter Name: Madie Brown

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Phone Number:

Department Head Approval: 

Department Head: Dr. Crystal Gonsalves

Requested Amount: **\$2,000**

Departmental Information

SPECIAL ALLOCATIONS - CRITERIA

The Safer Sex Supplies Program (SSSP) at UW Tacoma supports student well-being by providing a wide range of contraception and other harm reduction supplies intended to prevent the spread of disease and unintended pregnancy. The SSSP program includes nine free condom dispensers located in the restrooms across campus, and the Free Safer Sex Supplies Order Form, in which students can submit via an online order form what types of safer sex supplies they need in bulk (10 condoms of whatever type they request, i.e., latex or non-latex, plus any optional supplies such as lubricant) and pick them up in a brown paper bag at Psychological and Wellness Services. Supplies include external (male), lubricated condoms; external non-lubricated condoms; internal (female) condoms (which are also inherently latex-free); non-latex external condoms; single-use water-based lubricant; and dental dams. All orders come with the manufacturer's instructions for use and disclaimers about the products. Both aspects of the SSSP, the dispensers and order form, are considered best practices in college health promotion.

The free condom dispensers located in the restrooms across campus have been a consistently, highly utilized service since they were installed in AY 2021-2022. Due to staffing challenges, the dispensers in the restrooms located across campus were not able to be filled from roughly August 2024 to January 2025. During this time, student utilization of the Free Safer Sex Supplies Order Form increased, though our inventory of supplies was considered adequate to continue filling the Orders while the dispensers remained temporarily unfilled. In February 2025, we received unanticipated support from the Office of Student Life in which the Office's student employees would fill all 9 dispensers on a weekly basis. Now that the dispensers are being filled consistently, utilization of the dispensers has resumed. While this new support has increased access to safer sex supplies across campus, it has reduced our inventory of supplies beyond what we could have predicted during the typical academic year.

STUDENT UTILIZATION

These funds will be used to purchase enough internal and external condoms to maintain adequate supplies for both programs through the autumn quarter 2025 based on the current usage rates. Sexually transmitted infections are a prevalent college health concern that can be easily prevented, saving students hundreds of dollars in testing and healthcare services while avoiding diseases that are often stigmatized, by using contraception such as condoms. Considering the lower resourced status of many of our students, many of whom are from cultures that do not educate youth on sexual health and disease prevention, this program aims to fill in gaps of health-related support in their lives. Access to a wide range of supplies supports student well-being by offering barrier-free access to supplies considered essential to the safety of developmentally appropriate college student experiences. Sex, intimacy, and sexual pleasure are a normal part of life, and healthy experiences with sex and intimacy can make a positive impact on well-being. Condoms are also one of the most frequently used methods to prevent unintended pregnancy, a circumstance often cited as a reason for stopping out of higher education. Additionally, students must be on campus to access the dispensers or pick up their online order, contributing to a more sticky campus.

SPECIAL ALLOCATIONS - STATEMENT OF ASSURANCES

Since we are running low on condoms now, we are at risk of not being able to fill dispensers and/or online orders within the coming weeks. We intend to use the funds as soon as they are awarded to purchase more supplies so that the programs can continue with little to no interruption.

SERVICE BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

The SSSP is considered an evidence-based strategy to prevent risk. Evidence-based strategies are efforts that have been proven to be consistently effective across different circumstances and settings in which they are implemented. Program evaluation data has shown that students are utilizing both aspects of the SSSP, the dispensers and the online order form, consistently. Since the online order form launched in autumn quarter 2023, we have received nearly 100 orders (97 total) to date for safer sex supplies. As a trained prevention professional, the data tells me that students likely don't have another avenue in their lives to obtain these types of health supplies. If the SSSP is interrupted, our students are at an increased risk of negative outcomes. It is likely that for some students of higher need for support, the SSSP is a contributing factor to them staying in school.

Staff Budget Requests

Category	Details	Amount Requested
PERSONNEL TOTAL:		\$0

Other Budget Requests

Category	Details	Amount Requested
Non-Food Supplies & Materials	\$2,000 covers the cost and shipping of roughly 6 cases of condoms. Each case is roughly \$350 and includes 1,000 condoms. Cost is approximate as there are sales sometimes. S001	\$2,000
SUPPLIMENTAL TOTAL:		\$2,000

PERSONNEL TOTAL:	\$0
SUPPLEMENTAL TOTAL:	\$2,000
COMPLETE PROPOSAL TOTAL:	\$2,000

Supplemental Documents