



## Request for 2026 Funding Services and Activities Fee Committee

### BUDGET PROPOSAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Department Name:

Create Date:

Due Date:

Submitter Name:

UW Email Address:

Phone Number:

Department Head Approval:

Department Head:

Requested Amount:

## Departmental Information

### STUDENT UTILIZATION

Students who may have legal questions - landlord/tenant agreements, residency concerns, personal matters involving partners or children, will be able to consult with the legal team (professional FT staff and law students) on the UW Seattle campus without having to go to Seattle. This consultation will be available at no to very little cost to our students.

### CORE VALUES/MISSION ALIGNMENT

Seeking legal advice or services is a daunting process for many of our students who have often been denied easy access to this type of advocacy. Student Legal Services (SLS) will be employed to work directly with UW Tacoma students to help address personal and even professional needs. By bringing SLS to campus we will help with addressing inequities experienced by our students within the legal system. Specific goals: Students (2): Enhancing student wellbeing - this service will expand student support ecosystems

### SAF-FUNDED PROGRAM OR SERVICES GOALS AND OUTCOMES

UW Seattle and Bothell students have access to Student Legal Services (SLS), and our goal is to provide the same access to UW Tacoma students. SLS does educational outreach, print material creation, and maintains a webpage to share information with all UW students. On campus specifically, we make sure that key offices such as OSAS, OISS, UAA, PAWS all have information about this service. These offices are often the gateway to access legal assistance. We will also make sure that during orientation, students are aware that this resource exists for them.

## STUDENT UTILIZATION (COMPARISON OVER PAST 2 YEARS)

Student Legal Services became accessible to UW Tacoma students starting with the 2023-2024 year. 2025-2026 is the third full year that UWT students have had access to this service. As we go into the fourth year, we want to make sure students know that this is a confidential service, where they can get legal advice or a referral to legal counsel if needed (within the community). Based on the numbers for last year, and utilization of the services this year, it is clear that students need access to safe legal services. Given current climate, my guess is that this need will increase.

### July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

- Number of UWT Student Requests for Free 40-Minute Consultations: 68
- Number of Consultations Held: **52**
  - Regarding the consultations we did not hold:
    - 5 of the 16 were unresponsive to our multiple attempts to schedule, we always make multiple attempts to schedule via email and phone
    - 5 students scheduled but did not show up to the consultation and did not respond to our emails to reschedule,
    - 3 canceled on their own because their issues were resolved prior to the consultation; and
    - 3 had issues that were a conflict for our office; all 3 were provided resources for other places they could obtain information or support.

Completed Consultation Practice Areas (top three practice areas in red):

#### 1. Immigration (17)

#### 2. Landlord/ Tenant (9)

3. Divorce (7)

4. Criminal Matters (4)

5. Domestic Violence(2)

6. Home Ownership (2)

7. Custody/Visitation (2)

8. Contracts (2)

9. Wills and Estates (2)

10. Advanced Directive/Powers of Attorney (1)

11. Personal Injury (1)

12. Torts (1)

13. Employment Discrimination (1)

14. Unfair and Deceptive Practices (1)

- Percentage of UWT Undergraduates: 52%
- Percentage of UWT Graduate Students: 48%
- Percentage of Students of Color (UWB only): 50%
- Percentage of First-Generation Students (UWB only): 29%
- Percentage of Non-U.S. Citizens (UWB only): 42%
- Percentage of Students with Disabilities (UWB only): 13%
- Percentage of LGBTQAI+ Students (UWB only): 1%
- Number of UWT Ongoing Cases: 2
- Number of Hours Worked on UWB Ongoing Cases: 23.10 hours
- Amount Saved by UWB Students in Ongoing Cases (\$20 and \$10 fee reduction and full fee waivers versus the average hourly rate of \$322 in the private sector): **\$6,976.20**

## COLLECTION OF FEEDBACK & IMPROVEMENTS

The Student Legal Services team collects all data and feedback. They manage all the information as they do have to protect the students who access their services. They will share data points with us which will inform any changes we need to make - for the most part this is about making sure that students know that this resource is available to them, and that it is a safe resource to access

