



WORKING WASHINGTON

JOBS PLAN

**Building a Thriving Economy
and Job Growth for All**



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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Why It's Important

Creating a **thriving economic climate** that spurs job growth in every industry sector is Governor Inslee's **top priority**. Washington ranks in the top five states for **job growth** and we have one of the fastest GDP growth rates in the nation.

Since the Governor took office, Washington has gained a quarter of a million **new jobs** and last November, for the first time in eight years, unemployment was in the single digits in every county.

In 2016 and beyond, we need to **sustain economic growth, broaden the benefits across the state** and **build new pathways to opportunity**.

Working together, we will generate **250,000 new jobs by the year 2020**.



Sustain Economic Growth

To maintain a strong and diversified economy we will:

Grow Existing Small and Medium Size Businesses

By building on proven economic development tools.

- **Provide cutting edge technical assistance and best practices support:** Accelerate second-stage company growth (particularly in rural areas) with the Economic Gardening and Startup 365 initiatives.
- **Grow international trade:** Cultivate export assistance for small businesses, promote our products abroad and increase job generating foreign direct investment.
- **Facilitate permitting and regulations:** Understand the customer's perspective, increase transparency and efficiency, and streamline without taking shortcuts. Expand regulatory road-mapping to key industries.



Support Efforts to Develop a Sustainable Tourism Strategy for the State

- Convene major industries, like hospitality and outdoor recreation, and collaborate with rural communities across the state.

Diversify in Key Sectors and Subclusters

By building on our strengths and reducing exposure to future downturns.

- **Aerospace:** Consider reasonable incentive accountability, cultivate new supply chain opportunities, bolster innovation in the future of aerospace, like composite materials, clean fuels, UAVs and space exploration.
- **Agriculture & Food Manufacturing:** Maintain incentives and promote our agricultural products in new markets.
- **Clean Technology:** Support continued growth and investment in the Governor's Clean Energy Fund.
- **Information and Communication Technology:** Focus on blockchain, bigdata and computer science needs.
- **Life Sciences and Global Health:** Work to address talent, capital and space needs. Consider R&D incentives.
- **Maritime:** Support fishing fleet recapitalization, increase workforce investments and protect industrial lands.
- **Military and Defense:** Increase reach of Procurement and Technical Assistance Center, focus on cyber security.
- **Forestry and Rural Areas:** Support the Cross Laminate Timber industry, focus on wildfire recovery.

Broaden Economic Benefits Across the State

To invest in all of Washington's communities we will:

- **Build a "Quality of Place" Throughout the State:** Build infrastructure and finance important capital facilities, such as town centers, farmers markets, community centers, parks, hiking and bike trails.
- **Address Housing Affordability:** Avoid the fate of other regions that have become unaffordable urban job centers surrounded by suburban bedroom communities with long and expensive commutes.
- **Continue to Invest in Transportation:** Focus on multimodal solutions that provide near-term traffic relief.
- **Continue to Invest in Education:** Cultivate a talented and competitive workforce through major investments in K-12 and STEM funding.
- **Improve Tribal & Minority Economic Development:** Develop new ways to help underserved communities.



Build Pathways to Opportunity

To cultivate a talented workforce that quickly adapts to change we will:

- **Expand Workforce Development Efforts:** Invest in training centers, apprenticeships and short-term training.
- **Collaborate with Community Colleges :** Include industry in curriculum development to evolve with change.
- **Develop a Dashboard of Projected Skill Needs:** Consider changing demographics and listen to the data.
- **Shift from Employer to Skills-Based Training:** Provide workers with a skill-base that anticipates changing needs and enables nimble movement between various industries within the state.



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