



**Board of Trustees, District No. 20
Walla Walla Community College
Special Board Meeting
Board Room (161) | WWCC Walla Walla Campus
Wednesday | September 10, 2025 | 3:00 p.m.**

To connect to the Wednesday, September 10, 2025 Special Board Meeting virtually, go to ZOOM: <https://wwcc-edu.zoom.us/j/89448283262> or dial-in: 253/215-8782.

Special Board Meeting Agenda

All Times Are Estimates

- | | | | |
|------------------|--|---------------|--------------|
| 3:00 p.m. | Call to Order
<i>Mr. Tim Burt, Chair</i> | | |
| 3:01 p.m. | Recess to Executive Session to Discuss Enforcement Actions and Litigation with Legal Counsel | | |
| 3:11 p.m. | Appointment of Hearing Officer
<i>Dr. Marco Baeza</i> | Action | Tab 1 |
| 3:20 p.m. | Public Comment
<i>Persons wishing to express their views on any matter must sign up in advance and are limited to three minutes.</i> | | |
| 3:30 p.m. | Adjournment | | |



Vice President of Human Resources
Walla Walla Community College
 500 Tausick Way
 Walla Walla, WA 99362-9267

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Marco Baeza, Vice President of Human Resources *Marco A Baeza*
DATE: September 9, 2025
SUBJECT: Appointment of Hearings Officer

At the Board's request, as a follow-up to the August 18, 2025 Special Board of Trustees meeting, I have contacted the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) to inquire about the appointment of a Hearing Officer in the matter of the faculty reduction in force.

The OAH, an agency of the State of Washington, was established in 1981 to hold fair and impartial hearings for people who have a dispute with a state or local agency. The purpose of OAH is to promote public trust and confidence in the hearing process. The OAH employs permanent, temporary and pro tern administrative law judges (ALJs) who preside over administrative hearings and issue written orders and/or recommended findings of fact. The hearings comply with all requirements of the Administrative Procedures Act and state ethics laws. WWCC has in place a Memorandum of Understanding with OAH for the purpose of engaging the appointment of a hearing officer when necessary. I have attached an OAH Overview and flow chart of the hearing process.

In accordance with Article 36.4 of the collective bargaining agreement between the Board of Trustees and the WWCC Association for Higher Education, on behalf of the Board, I consulted with AHE President Jim Peitersen. He is aware of the MOU with OAH and has expressed no objections.

Attachment



Washington State Office of Administrative Hearings

Holding independent, fair hearings since 1982

Mission: To hear and independently resolve disputes between the public and state agencies with an impartial, quick, and easy to access process.

Vision: All people of Washington can meaningfully participate in their hearing and understand the result.

Values: Fairness & Independence | Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Respect | Performance Excellence | Integrity

History: The Legislature created OAH in 1981 to “*improve the appearance of fairness*” in the administrative hearing process. Hearings are to be easily accessible to the public. “*Hearings shall be conducted with the greatest degree of informality consistent with fairness and the nature of the proceeding.*” RCW 34.12.010

Recent Highlights:

- Chief ALJ RaShelle Davis was appointed by Governor Inslee. She began her new role leading OAH on May 1, 2024.
- In FY 2024, we received **59,330** cases and closed **71,037** cases.
- At the height of the unemployment insurance (UI) appeal backlog, OAH had over 46,000 UI pending cases. As of August 2024, the number is down to less than 4,000.
- Later in 2024 we will begin hearing cases for the new highway work zone speed safety camera program administered by WSDOT and WSP.

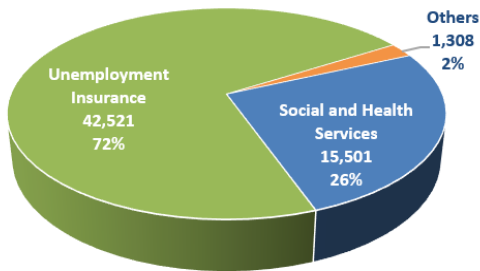
OAH Workforce (as of August 2024)

- 123 Administrative Law Judges
- 104 Legal Support and Administrative Staff



OAH Locations

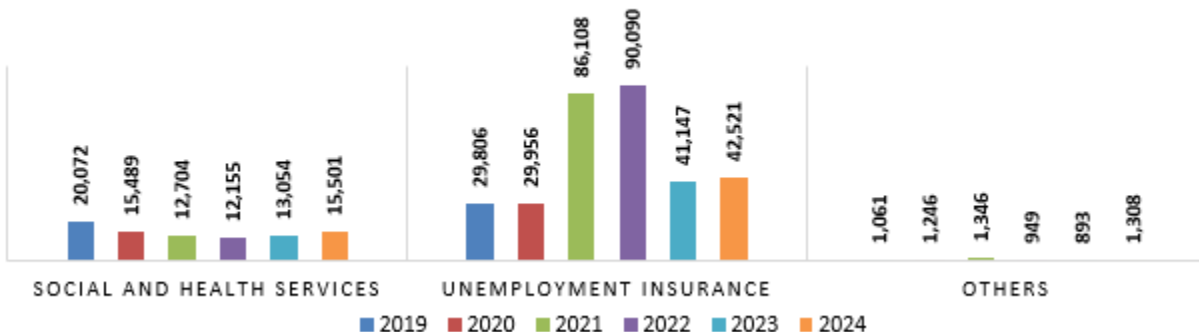
Cases Received - FY24



■ Social and Health Services ■ Unemployment Insurance ■ Others

All Other Agencies - FY24	# Received	# Closed
Superintendent of Public Instruction	332	344
Office of Insurance Commissioner	73	62
Labor & Industries	287	210
Liquor & Cannabis Board	178	146
Washington State University	18	11
Gambling Commission	4	7
Dept of Financial Institutions	16	14
Department of Licensing	22	18
Washington State Patrol	2	2
Other Agencies	376	332

CASES RECEIVED - FISCAL YEARS



OFM Performance Measures

Performance Measure	Target	Fiscal Year Quarter*							
		24-Q1	24-Q2	24-Q3	24-Q4	25-Q1	25-Q2	25-Q3	25-Q4
Case Quality	98%	97%	99%	97%	99%	NYA	NYA	NYA	NYA
Customer Service Quality	95%	99%	99%	99%	96%	NYA	NYA	NYA	NYA
Order Timeliness	95%	93%	92%	90%	89%	NYA	NYA	NYA	NYA

*Q1 ends 9/30 – Q2 ends 12/31 – Q3 ends 3/31 – Q4 ends 6/30

NYA = not yet available

OAH Appeal Process

