



GET's Response to Proposed Senate Budget to Lower Tuition

Creating meaningful relationships with you, our customer, and with the communities in which you live is at the heart of everything we do here at GET. Our mission is focused on helping make higher education more affordable and accessible for Washington families and we do that by providing first-class customer support that goes beyond just helping you understand the mechanics of our program. We are here to help you plan, prepare and achieve the dreams you have for your children.

A big part of our service-based culture is being transparent and authentic with you and sharing important information as it becomes available. On that note, I believe it is important that we provide a response regarding the Washington State Senate's [recently proposed budget](#) to lower tuition at our state's institutions of higher education.



It is vital for you to know that we have been working closely with the state actuary, legislators and their staff and our agency policy team for several months now to discuss the possibility of zero tuition growth or even the possibility of lower tuition as proposed by the Senate budget.

Our first and foremost priority is the best interests of our customers. We want to ensure that all GET participants maintain the current dollar value of their accounts and that they have the opportunity for their investment to continue to grow over time. We also must ensure that any future program changes are fiscally responsible and keep the funded status (solvency) of the program strong and viable.

In the case of the proposed Senate budget, we are currently looking at what the impacts would be if we lowered our price and provided additional units to our customers based on a number of potential formulas.

Since legislation and the budgets are still undergoing discussions and negotiations at this point, it is really difficult to provide specifics. Our goal over the next several weeks is to work with the legislature, the GET committee and the state actuary to develop financially sound models to evaluate so that the best possible solution can be implemented in a timely manner once a final budget and tuition setting policy are agreed upon by our state leaders.

In both of the higher education budget scenarios that have been proposed, we realize our business model may need to be adjusted; however, our mission of making college more affordable and accessible for Washington families does not change and we are fully committed to that goal. As more information and details become available we will be sure to share them with you.

Thank you for saving with GET!

Sincerely,



Betty

GET News:

GET Believes in Helping Kids Achieve Bright Futures!

Just recently we entered into a partnership with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Washington State in order to implement an innovative new goal setting program for youth in kindergarten through the third grade. The GET Bright Futures program is designed to have young students develop and set personal, academic and career goals by identifying champions in their lives that can help them pursue and achieve their dreams.



We are excited to roll-out the GET Bright Futures program beginning this month at Boys & Girls Clubs across the Puget Sound region from Olympia to Bellingham and later this summer we will be visiting Clubs in other communities across the state. Our goal is to plant the seeds of hope in youth and provide an avenue to support the dreams and aspirations of our youngest community members.

Other GET News

[GET 2014 Annual Report](#)

[State of Higher Education in Washington \(Infographic\)](#)

[Join GET & ParentMap for College Savings Day with the Seattle Mariners](#)

GET Blog:

[Reaching Your Dreams Takes a Lot More Than a Little Bit O' Luck](#)

[Tales from the Road: "Dreams Are Extremely Important. You Can't Do It Unless You Imagine It."](#)

[Now is the Time for Congress to Pass Legislation to Strengthen 529 Plans](#)

[Presidents' Day Reflections](#)

[Investing in the Now is Just as Important as Investing in the Future](#)

Upcoming GET Events:

GET is pleased to be a sponsor of the following [events](#) and we will host an information booth with interactive activities for attendees:

[Taste of MamaCon](#)

Saturday, April 4, 1-4:30pm at Verity Credit Union, Seattle

[PEPS Grandparents Happy Hour](#)

Wednesday, April 8, 5:30-7pm at Brighton Jones, Seattle

[Spokane Women's Show](#)

April 10-11 at the Spokane Convention Center, Spokane

[Washington State PTA Conference](#)

April 17-19 at the Bellevue Hyatt Hotel, Bellevue

[PEPS Diapers to Diploma Lecture](#)

Thursday, April 23, 7-9pm at Verity Credit Union, Seattle

[Mercer Island Preschool Association Circus](#)

Saturday, April 25, 10am-2pm at Mercer Island High School, Mercer Island

[Baby Bump Expo NW](#)

Saturday, April 25, 11am-6pm at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center, Tacoma

[Spokane Family Fun Fair](#)

Saturday, May 9, 10am-3pm at Riverfront Park/River Park Square, Spokane

[MamaCon](#)

May 15-16 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Lynnwood

[GET College Savings Night at the Seattle Mariners](#)

Friday, May 29, 7pm at Safeco Field, Seattle

Higher Education News:

[How to Survive the College Admissions Madness](#)

[Obama Signs 'Student Aid Bill of Rights' to Help Protect Borrowers](#)

[Public Universities are Crucial for the Greater Good](#)

[Federal Bill Would Help Washington and Other States that Provide Aid to Dreamers](#)

[WSU Medical School gets House Approval](#)

[10 Key Shifts in Higher Education](#)

[Earnings Information for WA Graduates Employed in Washington](#)

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