The Healthiest Next Generation Initiative (HNG)  
December 2016

Description: House Bill 2376 (2016 supplemental budget) provides funding for the Department of Health (Health) to work with the Department of Early Learning (DEL), the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and partners to support Washington’s Healthiest Next Generation efforts. The HNG coordinators will coordinate a Cross Agency Team and seek input from the Community Health Advisory Committee and the Governor’s Council for the Healthiest Next Generation.

Mission/Purpose: To improve children’s health in Washington State, including helping our children maintain a healthy weight, enjoy active lives and eat well, by creating healthy early learning settings, schools and communities.

Target Populations: Policy makers, decision makers, parents, school professionals, child care and early learning professionals, community organizations, state agencies

Services
- Health will hire a full-time Healthiest Next Generation coordinator
- Health will lead the initiative, including coordinating the Cross Agency Team, developing strategic communication about the initiative, collaborating with the Governor’s Office and the Governor’s Interagency Council on Health Disparities, staffing the Community Health Advisory Committee and the Governor’s Council, coordinating policy recommendations, establishing performance metrics and developing legislative reports and other materials.
- Health will collaborate with OSPI and DEL to identify programs across Washington that have demonstrated success in increasing physical activity and access to healthy food and drinking water for expansion or replication. We will use these success stories and a review of national guidance to develop recommendations for prioritization by the Governor’s Council for consideration by the Governor’s Office.
- Health will collaborate with the governor's office, appropriate legislative committees, other state or local agencies and private businesses, and community organizations or individuals with expertise in child health, nutrition, and fitness. Collaboration will formally occur through the Community Health Advisory Committee and the Governor’s Council for the Healthiest Next Generation.

Stakeholders
- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Department of Early Learning
- Governor’s Office
- Members of the Governor’s Council for the Healthiest Next Generation
- Members of the Community Health Advisory Committee
- School and early learning professionals
- Community organizations

Healthiest Next Generation – December 2016
**Impacts from potential loss of GFS funds**

- Loss of infrastructure to administer and coordinate initiative.
- Loss of staff in DOH to formally collaborate with DEL and OSPI to improve children’s health.
- Vulnerability of other proposed funds in the budget designated under HNG to go to communities in the form of grants, capital budget improvements, etc.

**2015-2017 Biennium**

**Healthiest Next Generation Fiscal Information**

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**Recent Funding History**

2013-2015

- 2014 Supplemental budget received $350,000 GF-S proviso funding. This amount includes indirect. Proviso included direction to fund HNG coordinators at OSPI and DEL.

2015-2017

- Decision package submitted by DOH to cover ongoing funding for coordinators in all three agencies (Health, DEL and OSPI).
- 2016 Supplemental budget did not include funding for HNG coordinators at OSPI and DEL. Those agencies covered six months of funding from their own budgets and Health covered the other six months using federal funds.
- 2017-2019 decision package includes ongoing base funding for coordinators at all three agencies.