



Microsoft in Washington State

As one of Washington State's largest employers, providing more than [50,000 jobs](#), Microsoft has for decades worked to enhance economic growth for all, create new opportunities for more individuals to participate in that growth, and protect and improve the quality of life enjoyed by Washington residents.

Talent

Washington State Opportunity Scholarship

The [Washington State Opportunity Scholarship](#) is a first-of-its-kind, public-private scholarship that supports Washington students from low- and middle-income households to attain bachelor's degrees in high-demand fields including science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) and health care through scholarships.

- Microsoft worked with others to help create WSOS and to date has donated \$35 million to the organization.
- More than 6,700 students have received support from WSOS. 60% are women, 73% are students of color and 72% are first-generation college students.
- Of the 2016 graduates, 84% remained in Washington state.
- In 2018, at the urging of Microsoft and other WSOS supporters, the legislature authorized expansion of scholarship eligibility to include students intending to pursue degrees and certificate programs at the state's 34 community and technical colleges.

Global Innovation Exchange

The [Global Innovation Exchange](#) (GIX) is an academic institute established by the University of Washington and Tsinghua University in Bellevue. In 2015, [Microsoft donated \\$40 million](#) toward the Global Innovation Exchange; a tech-focused graduate school and first physical presence of a Chinese university in the U.S.

- Last September, GIX opened its new state of the art building, named after former Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer.
- The first cohort of students will graduate this December.
- In 2017, University of British Columbia announced its academic partnership with GIX – one of 8 [Academic Network Members](#).
- By 2025, GIX has the potential to [educate 3,000 students](#).

Washington STEM

Microsoft helped co-found and continues to support [Washington STEM](#), an extremely effective statewide network of business and education professionals.

- In 2018, The Washington state legislature allocated [\\$12.5 million](#) in the capital budget, via Washington STEM, to deliver the tools teachers and students need to develop leading-edge STEM skills.

- Since 2010, Microsoft has donated over \$16.25M to the organization.

University of Washington Computer Science and Engineering School

- [In 2017](#), Microsoft donated \$10 million to the Paul G. Allen Center for Computer Science and Engineering.
- [In 2015](#), Microsoft donated \$10M to what is now the Bill & Melinda Gates Center for Computer Science & Engineering (CSE). The new CSE building will open in January 2019 and will expand the capacity of the University of Washington's world-class CSE program.

Technology Education And Literacy in Schools (TEALS)

- [TEALS](#) brings volunteers to teach computer science in schools, and is now in 103 schools in Washington state with 379 volunteers. TEALS now serves 10 percent of all Washington high schools (public and private).
- The program started here in Washington and continues to rapidly expand across the U.S., impacting hundreds of school teachers and thousands of students.

Infrastructure

Cascadia + Regional Connectivity

Launched in September 2016, the Cascadia Innovation Corridor is built upon a shared spirit of creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship.

- Governments, universities, research institutions and companies, including Microsoft, have joined together to tap the potential of the Cascadia region to create new and exciting economic opportunities while celebrating cultural diversity and inclusion.
- By focusing on research, economic development and transportation, the Cascadia Innovation Corridor is enhancing greater connectivity, productivity and innovation for the nearly 12 million people living in British Columbia and Washington State.

Commitment to Vancouver BC and Canada

In June of 2016, we announced together with all levels of government the opening of Microsoft Vancouver, which will generate more than 750 well-paying jobs.

- In February 2017, Microsoft donated \$1 million toward a [Cascadia Urban Analytics Cooperative](#) between University of British Columbia and University of Washington.
- Microsoft continues to support feasibility studies on a high-speed rail connection that is underway with funding from states of Washington and Oregon, Province of British Columbia, and private sources.
- Microsoft supported the launch of a Seaplane Service in April 2018, reducing travel time between Seattle and Vancouver to one hour.
- Microsoft is a founding member of the BC-led Canadian Digital Supercluster consortium with a focus on AR/VR. In February of 2018, the consortium was named a funding recipient in the Canadian federal government's Supercluster Initiative.
- In November 2017, Microsoft announced it will add 50 new jobs that specialize in AR/MR/VR. According to a recent Deloitte study, the global AR/VR market is expected to be \$150B by 2025.

Commute Reduction

- As one of the largest employers in Washington State, we recognize the importance of addressing transportation challenges and identifying smart solutions in partnership with labor, environmental and transit organizations.
- [42 percent of Microsoft employees](#) use a form of transportation other than driving alone for their daily commute. Microsoft offers a variety of alternative commute options and support programs such as the Connector bus service, on-campus shuttles, free ORCA bus passes, vanpools and carpools.
- To assist in reducing Single Occupancy Vehicle use, Microsoft offers the Connector bus service to its employees. The service serves 4,300 riders per day on 23 routes throughout the region and has eliminated 7 million vehicle trips and 104 million pounds of carbon emissions, serving 41,000 unique riders. Nearly half of all Connector riders said they previously drove alone to work.

Redmond Campus

- As part of our ongoing commitment to our employees and the community, we recently announced a significant initiative to [modernize our Redmond campus](#) that will include 17 new buildings and 6.7 million square feet of renovated workspace.
- Microsoft provides more than [50,000 jobs](#) in Washington state. Microsoft is one of the largest employers in Washington state and our Washington-based employees account for more than one-third of Microsoft's workforce.
- Microsoft's corporate headquarters are in Redmond, Washington, where we have 500 acres of land for our campus and 125 buildings in the Puget Sound region.
- The Redmond campus has approximately 15 million square feet of office space and labs located in King County, Washington that is used for engineering, sales, marketing, and operations, among other general and administrative purposes.

Economic Opportunity

Microsoft Airband Initiative

Microsoft is committed to expanding economic opportunity in rural communities through its [Airband Initiative](#), which will bring broadband connectivity to 2 million people in rural America by 2022.

Washington is one of 13 states targeted for action this year.

Career Pathways

- In 2017, Microsoft provided \$100,000 in cash grants to [Year Up Puget Sound](#) to help develop curriculum for 20 underserved youth specific to the needs of the local job market.
- Microsoft is a hiring partner and supporter of [Apprenti](#), created by the Washington Technology Industry Association to address the workforce shortage in the tech industry and identify diverse talent to meet industry need.

Microsoft Software & Systems Academy (MSSA)

- [MSSA](#) provides the veteran community with 18-weeks of training for high-demand careers in cloud development, server and cloud administration, cybersecurity administration, and database and business intelligence administration. Program graduates gain an interview for a full-time job at Microsoft or one of the company's hiring partners. Microsoft launched the program in

November 2013 at Joint Base Lewis-McChord and has been recognized as an industry leader in training active duty service members for technology careers.

- In collaboration with Microsoft's hiring partners, MSSA graduates have been hired at over 340 different companies, including Dell, Oracle, Insight Global, Accenture, the Department of Defense, and Capgemini.

Digital Skills

- Code.org: Microsoft has been a strong supporter of [Code.org's](#) Hour of Code movement since its start in 2012.
 - There are 40,234 teacher accounts and 1,157,504 student accounts on Code.org in Washington.
 - Of students in Washington using Code.org curriculum last school year, 45% attend high needs schools 16% are in rural schools 45% are female students 38% are underrepresented minority students (Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, American Indian, or Hawaiian).
 - A number of Microsoft's lead developers worked alongside Code.org engineers to create a "Minecraft: Hour of Code" tutorial.
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Bellevue/King County: Microsoft employees donated more than \$404,000, inclusive of company match, for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Bellevue and King County.
- *FIRST*Washington: Microsoft employees donated more than \$300,000, inclusive of company match, to develop youth science, engineering and technology skills. Microsoft also provides additional cash grant and event hosting.

TechSpark

[Microsoft TechSpark](#) aims to foster greater economic opportunity and job creation through investments in local communities outside of major metropolitan areas.

- The North Central Basin of Washington – including Okanogan, Chelan, Douglas and Grant counties – is one of the six preliminary focus regions in the United States.
- TechSpark Washington works with local partners on programs that will accelerate economic growth through digital transformation for businesses, computer science education for youth, career pathways for adults of all ages, rural broadband access, and support for nonprofits. We're in the early days of TechSpark in Washington and look forward to sharing more in the coming months.

Next Generation Washington

- Microsoft supports a balanced legislative agenda that takes a comprehensive approach to enhance economic growth, create new opportunities for more individuals to participate in that growth, and protect and improve the quality of life enjoyed by Washington residents.
- Our current legislative priorities can be found [here](#), addressing key areas crucial to the future of our state.

Employee Giving

- In 2017, employees donated \$74.3 million, inclusive of company match, to a diverse group of 4,195 nonprofits in Washington state including United Way of King County, University of

Washington, Seattle Children's Hospital, Hopelink, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Humane Society for Seattle-King County and Northwest Harvest.

- In FY17, [19,600 employees contributed 700,000 volunteer hours](#), the majority of which took place in Puget Sound.

2018 Special Olympics USA Games

- Microsoft was the Premier Partner of the [2018 Special Olympics USA Games](#).
- Microsoft contributed more than \$3 million in cash donations, as well as in-kind support to the Games.
- 1,700 Microsoft employees volunteered at the Special Olympics USA Games, filling nearly 2,400 volunteer shifts. Microsoft employee volunteers made up 15% of the total volunteer force for the Games.
- Ahead of the Games, Microsoft hosted a regional conversation on inclusive hiring. State and local civic, business and education leaders exchanged ideas on new ways to empower people with disabilities.
- For the first time at the USA Games, Special Olympics offered a job fair for athletes, following an inclusive hiring blueprint developed by Microsoft.

Arts and Culture

Local arts and culture organizations contribute greatly to the high quality of life in this region. Across the Northwest, arts organizations are not only producing world-class programming, they are increasingly taking on big challenges and innovating around topics like diversity and inclusion to advance equity in arts and culture experiences.

- Microsoft supports many local arts partners with the energy, creativity and philanthropic support of our employees and the company including charter arts organizations like Seattle Symphony Orchestra, Seattle Opera, Seattle Art Museum and Pacific Northwest Ballet, organizations on the Eastside like Village Theatre, KidsQuest, and Bellevue Arts Museum and organizations working to strengthen the sector, like ArtsFund.