

SEATTLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Human Resources Office

MEMORANDUM

TO: All SCCD Employees

FROM: Fred Schuneman
Interim Chief Human Resource Officer

DATE: February 24, 2009

SUBJECT: JOB POSTING and HIRING HOLD

On Friday, February 20, 2009, the Office of Fiscal Management (OFM) issued a memo titled **Implementation Instructions Related to Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5460 for Executive Branch Agencies** (ESSB 5460). ESSB 5460 provisions state that from February 18, 2009 through June 30, 2009, all agencies of the executive branch – including higher education institutions, boards and commissions, and statewide elected officials – are prohibited from:

- Filling new or vacant positions and creating new positions;
- Entering into new personal services agreements or contracts or contract amendments that increase costs;
- Purchasing equipment costing more than \$5,000; and
- Authorizing out-of-state travel or training.

Below is an excerpt from the memo on the exceptions to the bill. There is a small window of hope for higher education.

(1) From the effective date of this section until July 1, 2009, and consistent with the governor's directive dated August 4, 2008, state agencies of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches shall not establish new staff positions or fill vacant existing staff positions except as specifically authorized by this section.

(2) The following activities of state agencies are exempt from subsection (1) of this section:

- n. In institutions of higher education, any positions directly related to academic programs, as well as positions not funded from state funds or tuition;*

There are additional exceptions in the bill and interpretations of the language seem to differ.

Until we receive further direction and clarification from SBCTC, we are placing a hold on ALL position postings and hiring at Seattle Community College District effective immediately. The State Board indicated they will be distributing additional clarification and information sometime Tuesday or Wednesday. We will keep you advised.