

Governor, legislators could see raises in 2023 and 2024

Potential raises range from 4-8% starting next July.



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OLYMPIA, Wash. — Every state legislator, the governor and all other statewide elected officials would see a boost in salary over the next two years, under proposals voted on by the [Washington Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials](#).

Under [the proposal](#), the governor, lieutenant governor, treasurer, superintendent of public instruction, insurance commissioner, commissioner of public lands and all state legislators would see a 4% bump in salary starting July 1, 2023, with another 3% raise in July 2024.

Gov. Jay Inslee’s salary would increase from \$190,632 a year to \$198,257 a year in 2023.

Legislators would see an increase from \$57,876 to \$60,191 a year, starting next July.

The attorney general would see a 6.5% increase, the state’s Supreme Court chief justice’s salary would increase by 7% next year, and the state auditor’s pay would see the highest increase: more than 8% in 2023.

State Auditor Pat McCarthy said in an email that she appreciates that the Salary Commission respects their work.

"The Legislature has recently given the auditor’s office new duties, such as auditing the investigations into law enforcement’s use of deadly force and checking whether local governments are complying with clean energy requirements," McCarthy wrote. "I believe the work of our office can proudly stand shoulder-to-shoulder with most of our statewide offices in terms of impact and responsibility."



2023 – 2024 Proposed Salary Schedule

Position	Current Salary	Salary Effective 7/1/2023	Salary Effective 7/1/2024
<i>Executive Branch</i>			
Governor	190,632	198,257	204,205
Lieutenant Governor	119,353	124,127	127,851
Secretary of State	136,996	145,901	150,278
Treasurer	156,303	162,555	167,432
Attorney General	175,274	186,667	192,267
Auditor	134,526	145,692	150,062
Supt. of Public Instruction	155,678	161,905	166,762
Insurance Commissioner	140,110	145,714	150,086

Commissioner of Public Lands	155,678	161,905	166,762
<i>Judicial Branch</i>			
Supreme Court Chief Justice	227,410	243,329	250,629
Supreme Court Justices	224,176	239,868	247,064
Court of Appeals Judges	213,400	228,338	235,188
Superior Court Judges	203,169	217,391	223,913
District Court Judges	193,447	206,988	213,198
<i>Legislative Branch</i>			
Legislator	57,876	60,191	61,997
Speaker of the House	66,016	68,657	70,716
Senate Majority Leader	66,016	68,657	70,716
House Minority Leader	61,946	64,424	66,357
Senate Minority Leader	61,946	64,424	66,357

Information about the components follows:

Cost of living adjustment for all statewide elected officials of 4% in 2023 and 3% in 2024.

Executive Branch:

- **Secretary of State:** increase base salary to be commensurate with the Auditor; and
- **Attorney General:** increase the base salary for the position by 2.5% in 2023; and
- **Auditor:** increase base salary to be commensurate with the Insurance Commissioner.

Judicial Branch:

- Increase the base salary for the positions by 3% in 2023.

“It’s not a done deal,” said Teri Wright, the commission’s executive director.

She said the 17-person commission has only proposed the salaries that are now up for public comment.

“We really want to hear what the public has to say about these salaries,” said Wright.

The commission is made up of citizens selected from voter registration rolls, with some representing certain occupations, like lawyers or higher education positions. It meets every two years and has full authority to set salaries and raises for elected officials.

Neither the governor nor legislators have the power to change the salaries selected by the commissioners.

The commission is accepting public comment until Feb. 8. Provide your input [here](#).

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