Title: Recruitment Dollars for Exceptional Graduate Applicants

Initiative Description, including statement of purpose and anticipated outcomes:
In order to attract the most qualified and academically gifted graduate students possible, Western must be able to compete with peer institutions relative to student funding. Aspiring peer institutions aim to reduce, if not eliminate, most tuition related expenses for highly qualified applicants. Because there are not enough Teaching Assistantships to every new and continuing highly qualified student, recruitment dollars serve as an effective tool to encourage the enrollment of targeted Graduate Students. Based on the success of a pilot program of tuition waivers for a small number of departments, we propose to expand recruitment dollars to additional programs, and assess accordingly.

What University units (depts., colleges, etc.) will be involved?
Potentially all departments with a Graduate program could be impacted, including Accounting, Anthropology, Biology, Business Administration, Chemistry, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Computer Science, Educational Leadership, Elementary Education, English, Environmental Science, Environmental Studies, Geology, History, Human Services and Rehabilitation, Kinesiology, Mathematics, Music, Psychology, and Secondary Education.

How does the initiative support the University Mission and Strategic Plan?
Build upon Western's strengths to address critical needs in the State of Washington; Expand student access to rigorous and engaging baccalaureate and graduate education; Apply Western's expertise and collaborative approach to scholarship, creativity, and research in ways that strengthen communities beyond the campus; Serve as a model for institutional effectiveness, innovation, diversity, and sustainability.

Are there potential partnerships with external organizations/institutions?
TBD

Anticipated new positions needed to implement the initiative:
  Faculty: NA
  Staff: NA
  Graduate Students (supported): NA

Space needs (boldface one; attach note from Space Administration):
- Existing space is sufficient
- Existing space will be sufficient after modification
- New space may be required

New equipment or other one-time costs: TBD
Recurring operating costs: TBD

Estimated timeline for implementation: TBD

Potential funding sources (boldface all that apply; attach notes from University Advancement and University Relations)

- State operating budget (decision package)
- New enrollments (tuition-based)
- External Education (fee-based)
- **Reallocation**
- Federal Support (agency: ______ )
- Grants
- Partnerships (organizations/institutions: ______ )
- Private Funds
- Other (please specify)