

Behavioral Health Administration

Fact Sheet: Marijuana Breathalyzer Development Through Washington State University

Updated: October 5, 2016

Updated: October 5, 2016	
Overview	As per budget proviso, DBHR was directed to contract with Washington State University to research and facility the development of a fully operational, roadside THC detection unit in use by law enforcement by June 30, 2017. The budget proviso reallocated \$250,000 of DBHR's state funds to fund the first year of the project.
	Washington State University is the lead on the research. The contract with WSU has four developmental milestones:
	 Integration of Oral Fluids Tests into Breath Testing Optimization; Fieldable Test Prototype Available for Preliminary Assessment by Law Enforcement; Law Enforcement Conditions of Optimal Utility Assessment Prepared; and, Documentation of Test Prototype Outcomes for Each Condition of Optimal Utility Specified by Law Enforcement.
	By the end of 2016, the contract calls for development of a working prototype of the THC detection unit. But the end of June 2017, testing of the device in the field should be largely complete.
Eligibility Requirements	Washington State University was selected as the recipient of these funds because of their previous work with developing other breath-testing technologies.
Authority	Washington State Legislature
Budget	State General Funds - \$250,000
Primary Partners	 Pullman, WA Regional hospital Pullman, WA police Washington State Toxicology Lab Institutional Review Board (IRB) Draeger Safety, Inc., Breathalyzer Division
Oversight	DBHR contracts with Washington State University to deliver this service and then manages the contract to ensure effective implementation.
For more information	Scott Waller, Prevention Integration Lead, (360) 725-3782, scott.waller@dshs.wa.gov Website: http://www.dshs.wa.gov/bha

