

“Are you proud of your UW degree? Do you believe in the value of higher education in the state of Washington? Become an advocate for the UW and help build a strong future for future Huskies.”

## WHAT IS UW IMPACT?

UW Impact is the University of Washington Alumni Association's legislative advocacy program. Our mission is to engage UW alumni and stakeholders in legislative advocacy that advances the university and public higher education in the state of Washington.

## WHAT IS A DISTRICT DAWG?

District Dawgs (DD) are proud UW Alumni who believe in the value of higher education in the state of Washington. District Dawgs support the UW and higher education through legislative district-based engagement with lawmakers and their community. Using UW Impact resources, District Dawgs help coordinate opportunities for alums, neighbors, family and friends to learn about the value of higher education, build relationships with local lawmakers, and generate support for higher education.

## WHY ARE DISTRICT DAWGS SO IMPORTANT?

Each legislative session, correspondence from local constituents plays a significant role in defining the priorities of local and state legislators. While a single letter to a lawmaker can have an impact, sustained and informed correspondence regarding ongoing issues demonstrates to representatives that YOU, their constituent, are aware of the choices they are making in Olympia and are committed to investing in and supporting excellent higher education in the state of Washington.

The UW community is strong throughout the state. District Dawgs mobilize and engage their local community to support higher education opportunities for future Huskies. Grassroots advocacy by invested alumni ensures that higher education remains a priority for our legislature. In turn, legislative Investments in higher education enable the UW to realize alumni values of **Quality, Excellence, Access and Affordability** for current and future students. Additionally, these investments are central to expanding access to **High Demand Degrees** that prepare UW students for leadership roles across our state and nation.



## HOW DOES DISTRICT DAWGS WORK?

UW Impact is forming a statewide network of District Dawgs with the goal of having at least one local Dawg leading each of the 49 legislative districts in Washington. Dawgs work strategically with UW Impact leadership and other involved UW alumni to promote grassroots advocacy and civic engagement in their district. District Dawgs commit for two years, corresponding with the bi-annual legislative session. During each session Dawgs commit to advocate for UW's legislative priorities and higher education in the state of Washington by:

- Engaging directly with legislators and staff
- Working with UW Impact leadership, allied organizations, and other Dawgs to promote strategic legislative campaigns
- Using UW Impact data and resources to reach diverse audiences
- Participating in events such as Action Alerts, Lobbying Days, and Husky Caucus Day
- Fostering advocacy and community engagement

## BECOMING A DISTRICT DAWG

In order to be an effective advocate, we know that District Dawgs need to be equipped with the right tools. District Dawgs receive the following training and resources to promote effective advocacy:

- Initial advocacy training and orientation via zoom webinar
- Strategic data and statistics to be shared with lawmakers and community members
- Opportunities to participate in learning opportunities with the UWAA, colleges, and units
- Email updates regarding higher education legislation and other related policy proposals
- Access to DD specific communications and events
- Connections with other DDs in your community and throughout the state
- Individual meetings and communication with UW Impact leadership

In addition, we are honored to recognize the achievements and civic engagement of our District Dawgs through:

- Recognition at annual events such as the UW Impact Legislative preview, Husky Caucus Day, and Legislative Receptions
- Highlights on UW In Your Community and UW Impact pages

A strong UW needs  
strong advocates.  
Interested in  
learning more?  
Send us an email at  
[info@uwimpact.org](mailto:info@uwimpact.org).