WEEKLY BULLETIN

August 21-25, 2023

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| IN THIS ISSUE: |  **DID YOU KNOW?**Some people think they aren’t eligible for financial aid because their family makes too much money, or because they didn’t do well in high school, are older, or are undocumented. That’s not the case. >>[Learn more](https://wsac.wa.gov/wcg). |
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# WA STATE GEAR UP PROGRAM UPDATES

* **September Revision Reminder**: Please review your Year 7 Work Plan & Budget and submit any necessary revisions by September 30. This is one additional revision date option for this year.
* **Year 7 Kickoff Workshop Materials: Find materials from last- week’s professional development event, including** [WSAC WA State GEAR UP Presentation](https://gearup.wa.gov/file/year-7-kickoff-workshop-wsac-presentation), [Building Personal and Professional Sustainability Presentation](https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:a271da75-e823-3de8-b046-75228a9af567) and [Resources](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14FaXLTJ487oJq9CivllXecaNv6bKis6B), and [Workshop Handouts](https://gearup.wa.gov/file/year-7-kickoff-workshop-handouts).
* **Webinar Series:** [**Getting Ready for the Better FAFSA**](https://www.ncan.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1759360&group=). From NCAN and uAspire. This Better FAFSA Webinar Series is free and open to members and non-members alike. The new FAFSA is coming in December - are you ready? This webinar covers a line-by-line review of the new form, updates to the FSA ID process for people without SSNs, the FAFSA Submission Summary, and resources/tools available. Aug. 28, 10-Noon.
* **Download September:** [**College Knowledge Family Newsletters**](https://gearup.wa.gov/educators/family-newsletters)**.** Monthly family newsletters with college readiness information for students by grade level (7-12). They come pre-loaded with info and areas to personalize! Available in English, Arabic, Chuukese, Marshallese, Russian, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

# STUDENT RECRUITMENT & OUTREACH EVENTS

* [**PNACAC College Fairs:**](https://www.pnacac.org/fall-fairs)10/4: Lacey and 10/5: Tacoma.
* [**NACAC College Fairs:**](https://www.nacacnet.org/nacac-college-fairs/) 10/6-10/7: Seattle, 10/8-10/9: Portland, and 10/24: Spokane.

# OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

* [**2023-24 PNACAC College Counseling 101 Sessions.**](https://www.pnacac.org/webinars) Open to school/college counselors, independent educational consultants, community-based organization staff, career center specialists, transfer center coordinators, and any other PNACAC members who work with secondary school or transfer-seeking students. *PNACAC membership is free for individuals from public school communities.* See the link for details.
* **Webinar:** [**Building Diverse College Communities**](https://harvard.zoom.us/webinar/register/3316923708363/WN_3nkFw_OlTKWRkRDdSr2h1w#/registration). HGSE speaks with leaders and experts across the education landscape about how to expand access to college, build nurturing communities on campus, and support successful outcomes for students, in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling against affirmative action in admissions. Aug. 23, Noon.
* **Webinar:** [**Sustaining Success: Investing in Showing Up**](https://www.attendanceworks.org/resources/webinars/). By Attendance Works. Sept. 27, Noon.
* **Save The Dates:** **Fall 2023 College Fairs**. Additional details and registration information will be available later this summer for in-person and virtual fairs. PNACAC: 10/3-Yakima, 10/4-Lacey, 10/5-Tacoma. NACAC: 10/6-10/7-Seattle, 10/8-10/9- Portland, 10/24- Spokane.
* [**WCHSCR Fall Counselor Workshop**](https://www.wa-council.org/2022/07/13/2022-fall-counselor-workshops/). *Register before the school year ends*. Space is limited. 9/11-EWU, 9/12-CBC, 9/13-UWB, 9/14-CPT, 9/15-BTC, 9/19-Virtual.
* [**2023 NCAN National Conference.**](https://www.ncan.org/page/2023NCANConference)Dallas, Oct. 16-18.
* [**GEAR UP West Conference.**](https://gearup.wa.gov/about/what-we-do/gear-west)Spokane, Oct. 22-24.
* [**ACT College and Career Readiness Workshops**](https://pages2.act.org/ccrw-2023.html)**.** In-person events, national webinars, and ACT product-specific webinars in October.

# RESOURCES

* **WAGU Featured Resource:** [**Senior Year Binder System: Advisor’s Guide**](https://gearup.wa.gov/file/senior-year-binder-system-advisors-guide-student-organizational-plan-college-admissions)**.**This binder system can be used with high school seniors to help them stay organized during the college and financial aid application process. This manual provides guidance on how to assemble the binder, provides examples, and explains the rationale.
* [**National GEAR UP Week**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.edpartnerships.org%2Fnguw&data=05%7C01%7Cbethk%40wsac.wa.gov%7Cb6dcab9a169f4acf332d08db9cddcf45%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C638276248718529112%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=a0NGQXwIcsrqImBV%2B%2Fu4V%2BxcUg4cZ7hhfcNg1DJdhGQ%3D&reserved=0) is Sept. 25-29. Find [resources](https://www.edpartnerships.org/nguw), NCCEP’s Toolkit, and [graphics](https://www.edpartnerships.org/media-engagement) to print out or post on social media. Learn how to participate in the [Video Challenge.](https://www.edpartnerships.org/gu-week-2023)
* [**Career & College Clubs is GEARing UP for the Year**](https://www.edpartnerships.org/ccc)**.** In schools across the nation, grants are taking away the prep work with these ready-to-go student activities. The flexible curriculum fits into all schedules and can help you achieve your GEAR UP goals.
* [**Attendance Resources**](https://www.attendanceworks.org/)**.** Attendance Works, Kaiser Permanente’s Thriving Schools, and the National Association of School Nurses released a [handout for families](https://www.attendanceworks.org/resources/health-handouts-for-families/). Find [new social media memes](https://awareness.attendanceworks.org/social-media-3/) and [posters](https://awareness.attendanceworks.org/resources/promotional-materials/).
* [**Bigfuture’s New College Quiz**](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search/college-quiz)**.** Ready to discover the right college for you? Take this quiz and they’ll show you a list of schools that match your criteria. Start shaping your journey after high school with new college and career quizzes, scholarship info, and more at [BigFuture.org.](http://bigfuture.org)

# IN THE NEWS

* [The Trying Transfer](https://www.gse.harvard.edu/ideas/ed-magazine/23/05/trying-transfer)
* [CWU Deaf And Sign Language Studies Celebrates First Deaf Graduate](https://columbiabasinherald.com/news/school-news/)
* [New Book Recounts 1960s Fight For Black Acceptance At WSU](https://www.spokanepublicradio.org/regional-news/2023-08-17/new-book-recounts-1960s-fight-for-black-acceptance-at-wsu)
* [What Washington’s Schools Are Doing To Support Students After The Pandemic — And How Families Can Help](https://medium.com/waospi/what-washingtons-schools-are-doing-to-support-students-after-the-pandemic-and-how-families-can-53e06739e6a9)
* [What Educators Need To Know About Schools And Hot Weather](https://www.edweek.org/leadership/what-educators-need-to-know-about-schools-and-hot-weather/2023/08)
* [The Shortage In School Bus Drivers Is Getting Worse](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/schools-bus-drivers-shortage-delays.html)
* [Using Frederick Douglass To Rationalize Slavery? In Florida, Yes!](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/16/opinion/florida-prager-slavery-frederick-douglass.html)
* [California’s Dramatic Jump In Chronically Absent Students Is Part Of A Nationwide Surge](https://edsource.org/2023/californias-dramatic-jump-in-chronically-absent-students-part-of-a-nationwide-surge/695439)
* [Absenteeism Mires Recovery From Pandemic Learning Losses](https://www.educationnext.org/absenteeism-mires-recovery-from-pandemic-learning-losses/)
* [Welcoming Strategies For Newly Arrived Students & Their Families](https://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/practicenotes/welcomingstrategies.pdf)
* [Welcome Back, Students: Relationship-Focused Strategies For Connecting With Young People](https://www.evidencebasedmentoring.org/welcome-back-students-relationship-focused-strategies-for-connecting-with-young-people/)
* [Why Fewer Teachers Can Afford To Live Their Own Districts](https://districtadministration.com/why-fewer-teachers-can-afford-to-live-in-the-areas-where-they-teach/)
* [How Schools Can Recover Fully: 10 Insights Into Pandemic Aftermath In U.S. Education](https://www.the74million.org/article/how-schools-can-recover-fully-10-insights-into-pandemic-aftermath-in-u-s-education/)
* [Centralia College Student From Onalaska Wins Statewide Inspirational Speech Championship Sharing Mother’s Story Of ‘Unbreakable Spirit’](https://www.chronline.com/stories/centralia-college-student-from-onalaska-wins-statewide-inspirational-speech-championship-sharing%2C324019)
* [Options HS Seniors Reflect About Their College + Career Plans](https://readywa.org/options-hs-seniors-reflect-about-their-college-career-plans/)
* [State Apprenticeship Programs For Special Education And Nursing Receive $5.6 Million Boost](https://www.theolympian.com/news/state/washington/article278356504.html)

# SCHOLARSHIPS & OPPORTUNITIES

*Find more opportunities at:* <https://gearup.wa.gov/educators/scholarships>.

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| **College Scholarship** | **Brief Description** | **Due** |
| [Make Me Laugh Scholarship](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/make-me-laugh-scholarship) | ($1,500) - Make Me Laugh is a fun scholarship that lets you cut loose and lighten things up. Looking for a scholarship for comedians? Now is your chance to show us your funny bone. Perhaps you always have an embarrassing - but funny - story to share. Great! We'll promise to laugh with you, not at you. Must be 14 years of age or older at the time of application.  | 8/31 |
| [American Fire Sprinkler Association Second Chance Scholarship Contest](https://www.afsascholarship.org/) | Open to anyone who has graduated high school or equivalency and wants to pursue a college degree or trade school education. Enter for the chance to win 1 of 5 $1,000 College Scholarships. | 9/1 |
| [NAEHCY Scholarship Fund](https://naehcy.org/naehcy-scholarship-fund/) | NAEHCY Eligibility - To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must meet the following criteria:• Applicant must be under the age of 21 • Applicant be actively pursuing post-secondary education• Applicant must be eligible for McKinney-Vento assistance or have experiencedhomelessness while in school within the last six years• Undocumented students who meet these criteria are eligible• The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act defines parameters on homeless status. | 9/16 |
| [We the Future Contest](http://constitutingamerica.org/downloads.php) | Open to K-12 students, college students, law school students, graduate students, adults 25 years and older, and seniors 65 years and older. Each age group has different requirements, so applicants should visit the website for details. Amount varies. | 9/17 |
| [QuestBridge National College Match](http://www.questbridge.org/for-students/ncm-national-college-match) | An online platform that helps outstanding low-income HS seniors gain admission and full 4-year scholarships to some of the nation's most selective colleges. | 9/27 |
| [Don’t Text and Drive Scholarship](http://www.digitalresponsibility.org/dont-text-and-drive-scholarship) | ($1,000) - Complete the application form, including a 140-character message about texting while driving. The top 10 applications will be selected as finalists. The finalists will be asked to write a full-length 500- to 1,000-word essay about texting while driving. | 9/30 |
| [Scholarship Poetry Contest - Winter Issue](http://www.justpoetry.org/submissions) | ($100-$500) - Applicant must submit an original poem with 20 lines or less.  | 9/30 |
| [Shout It Out Scholarship](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/shout-it-out-scholarship) | ($1,500) - In 250 words or less, submit an online response to the question: "If you could say one thing to the entire world at once, what would it be and why?"  | 9/30 |
| [Golden Door Scholars Scholarship for Undocumented Students](http://www.goldendoorscholars.org/) | (Full Tuition) - Golden Door Scholars lights the way for undocumented students to invest in their education and to achieve their career goals beyond what they might imagine. Recent high school graduates, currently enrolled undergraduates, and transfer students (community college or 4-year college) are also welcome to apply. Applications are considered on a rolling basis, so applying early is helpful. However, applications received after the deadline will not be considered. We do not support funding for graduate degrees. Students must be eligible for DACA. | 10/1 |
| [Coca-Cola Scholars Scholarship](http://www.coca-colascholarsfoundation.org/apply/#programs) | ($20,000) - High school seniors with a minimum 3.0 unweighted GPA may apply on our website in August of their senior year until the October 31 deadline. 150 Coca-Cola Scholars are selected each year to receive this $20,000 scholarship. | 10/2 |
| [Horatio Alger Scholarship - National Scholarships](https://scholars.horatioalger.org/about-our-scholarship-programs/national-scholarships/) | ($25,000) - The Horatio Alger National Scholarship Program is one of the major scholarship programs nationally that specifically assists high school students who have faced and overcome great obstacles in their young lives. | 10/25 |
| [Horatio Alger Scholarship - State Scholarships](https://scholars.horatioalger.org/about-our-scholarship-programs/state-scholarships/) | ($10,000) - State scholarships are awarded to eligible students in all fifty states and the District of Columbia. The program specifically assists high school students who have faced and overcome great obstacles in their young lives. | 10/25 |
| [U.S. Bank Scholarship Program](https://www.usbank.com/community/financial-education/scholarship.html) | Complete a series of Financial Genius for Life online learning modules for a chance to win. | 10/30 |
| [Disney Dreamers Academy Applications.](https://www.disneydreamersacademy.com/be-a-dreamer/apply/) | (Academy) - Disney Dreamers Academy is a 4-day, power-packed event in which 100 select high school students, ages 13 to 19, are inspired, motivated, and prepared to dream big. | 10/31 |
| [Zombie Apocalypse Scholarship](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/zombie-apocalypse-scholarship) | ($2,000) - In 250 words or less submit a response to the question: "Imagine that your high school or college has been overrun with zombies. Your math professor, the cafeteria ladies, and even your best friend have all joined the walking dead. Flesh out a plan to avoid the zombies, including where you’d hide and the top-five things you’d bring to stay alive." | 10/31 |
| [Voice of Democracy Scholarship.](https://www.vfw.org/VOD/) | ($30,000) Voice of Democracy audio-essay program provides high school students with the unique opportunity to express themselves in regard to a democratic and patriotic-themed recorded essay. The national first place winner receives a $30,000 scholarship paid directly to the recipient’s American university, college or vocational/technical school.  | 10/31 |
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| The opinions expressed in these articles do not necessarily represent those of Washington State GEAR UP, the Washington Student Achievement Council, or the Department of Education. You should not assume endorsement by these entities. |