WEEKLY BULLETIN

**November 20-24, 2023**

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| IN THIS ISSUE: | **DID YOU KNOW?**  **3/4** of all U.S. jobs **through 2031** will require postsecondary education or training. >>[Keep reading.](https://www.ccdaily.com/2023/11/3-4-of-jobs-will-need-college-education-training/) |
| * Program Updates * Student Recruitment & Outreach Events |
| * Optional Professional Development |
| * Resources |
| * In the News * Scholarships & Opportunities |

# WA STATE GEAR UP PROGRAM UPDATES

* [**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.*
* **Important FAFSA/WASFA Changes:** School counselors and other advocates should adjust financial aid outreach messaging and timelines to address the changes. WSAC offers [training for your staff](https://wsac.wa.gov/aim-higher-training) and helpful [resources and outreach materials](https://wsac.wa.gov/12th-year-campaign).
* **Call for Proposals:** [**NCCEP/GEAR UP Annual Conference**](https://www.edpartnerships.org/annual). What do you and your team do well? Review the How-To Guide to write a stellar proposal. Due by Dec. 15.
* **[NCAN College and Career Readiness Awareness Survey](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfwGPYf_RejCJpPY3oUJ1umUpVjs2gFnFe8oeK0s8xY2hTCHQ/viewform).** Help NCAN get a better understanding of how comfortable practitioners across the country are with some of these key topics. The results are anonymous and will be used to drive the development of new professional development opportunities and other resources.

# STUDENT RECRUITMENT & OUTREACH EVENTS

* [**12th Year Campaign Financial Aid Information and Filing Events.**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oELovlvqYmCD7NY0nDw7A_b1Bbeoj4-M7VNBDaQfxoI/edit#heading=h.42fu3w63mb46) Join one of the events listed below to learn more and get help.  Please note, that most events are offered virtually. Spanish events are available. Dates vary throughout fall/winter.
* [**NACAC Spring 2024 National College Fair**](https://www.nacacattend.org/fairs)**.** 2/18-Virtual, 3/24-Virtual, 4/21-Virtual.
* [**PNACAC Spring College Fair**](https://www.pnacac.org/spring-college-fairs). 4/19-Spokane, 4/22-Seattle, 4/30-Portland.

# OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

* **Webinar:** [**Changes to the Financial Aid Applications.**](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wpx7sGYESgqG7gpbNsa5Qw#/registration) By OSPI/WSAC. ([PDEnroller Link for Clock Hours](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnBkZW5yb2xsZXIub3JnL2NhdGFsb2cvZXZlbnQvMTY0MjQ4IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMTEyMC44NTkxNTQ1MSJ9.bKc7m6a4GJuW-epSRDzLKaEVAtS-BRAJTEaWn_nBuGI/s/421506233/br/231228810276-l" \t "_blank)). Dec. 6, 11 AM.
* **Discussion Lab:** [**FAFSA Completion Strategies for 2024**](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUvdu6srTsjHtTkiiREWx1DY4zEOfzu_ydo?mc_cid=8f8a621040&mc_eid=a2f060beda#/registration). By NCCEP. Join your GEAR UP colleagues on December 7 at 11 AM for a discussion on what’s worked in the past and new ideas to help students and families navigate the new form in a shortened application window.
  + - * **Virtual:** [**MAD-learn Student Showcase**](https://tinyurl.com/MAD-StudentShowcaseAttendee)**.** Dec. 7, Noon.
      * **Virtual:** [**National GEAR UP Academy**](https://www.edpartnerships.org/nccep-events/2024ngua)**.** By NCCEP. Feb 12- 15.
* [**2024 WSCA Conference.**](https://wscaconference.org/) Mar. 6-8, SeaTac.
* [**PNACAC Conference: Where It All Began**](https://www.pnacac.org/annual-conference). May 22 - 24, Salem, OR.
* [**NCCEP/GEAR UP Annual Conference**](https://www.edpartnerships.org/annual)**.** July 21-24, Washington, DC.

# RESOURCES

* **WAGU Featured Resource:** [**College Access Considerations for Diverse Populations**](https://gearup.wa.gov/file/college-access-considerations-diverse-populations-primer-college-access-professionals)**.** This resource guide is designed to assist college access professionals in gaining a better understanding of special or diverse populations, learning how to identify these students in your school, building support systems, exploring the college application and financial aid processes, and helping students successfully transition into education after high school.
* [**988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline**](https://988lifeline.org/)**.** If you need support, call, text, or chat with 988Lifeline. 988 provides support & resources reflective of all communities and their own needs. You can reach a specialized LGBTQI+ affirming counseling by texting Q to 988 or pressing 3 when calling. <https://988lifeline.org/help-yourself/lgbtq/> #TDOR
* [**Unlocking the College Essay: Four Creative Tips**](https://www.jkcf.org/our-stories/unlocking-the-college-essay-four-creative-tips/)**.** From Jack Kent Cooke Foundation. The personal statement is an important part of your college application and should tell the part of your story that makes you uniquely yourself. Here are some helpful tips for making your essays stand out from the crowd.
* [**Celebrating Native American Heritage Month.**](https://educationnorthwest.org/areas-of-work/native-education) Resources and insights from EDNW. Join us in supporting Native students, honoring their cultural assets, and centering Tribal culture, history, and ways of knowing.

* **[Test-Optional Data Hub](https://test-optional.equityresearchcooperative.org/)**. From the Equity Research Cooperative. A mixed-methods research project that examines enrollment trends of Black, Latinx/e, Indigenous, Asian, and low-income students to unearth the consequences of test-optional. Released as part of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation-funded project on test-optional admissions, the Data Hub provides continuously updated resources and research findings on the equity implications of various admission policies.

# IN THE NEWS

* [Unique college-in-prison program to get guaranteed Cal State transfer admission](https://edsource.org/2023/unique-college-in-prison-program-to-get-guaranteed-cal-state-transfer-admission/699908)
* [ATE-related apprenticeships pay off for students, employers](https://www.ccdaily.com/2023/11/ate-related-apprenticeships-pay-off-for-students-employers)
* [Xóchitl López works to help make college accessible to all](https://www.yakimaherald.com/news/local/education/x-chitl-l-pez-works-to-help-make-college-accessible-to-all/article_1992ba5a-8254-11ee-9a6c-a3251e81585b.html)
* [When parents only focus on college admissions, essential skills can slip through the cracks](https://kqed.org/mindshift/62734/when-parents-only-focus-on-college-admissions-essential-skills-can-slip-through-the-cracks)
* [Schools keep buying online drop-in tutoring. The research doesn’t support it](https://hechingerreport.org/proof-points-schools-keep-buying-online-drop-in-tutoring-the-research-doesnt-support-it)
* [Q&A with Elisabeth Holm, founder of the Sisterhood of Native American Coders](https://codeorg.medium.com/q-a-with-elisabeth-holm-founder-of-the-sisterhood-of-native-american-coders-175d87c2406c)
* [Boom in biotech a boon for students](https://www.uwb.edu/news/2023/11/13/boom-in-biotech-a-boon-for-students)
* [High school aerospace program produces Boeing-ready grads in two years](https://www.seattletimes.com/education-lab/high-school-aerospace-program-produces-boeing-ready-grads-in-two-years)
* [California commits to teaching ‘media literacy’ in public classrooms](https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/california-commits-to-teaching-media-literacy-in-public-classrooms/)
* [WA colleges help transfer students chart a path to four-year degrees](https://www.seattletimes.com/education-lab/wa-colleges-help-transfer-students-chart-a-part-to-four-year-degrees/)
* [Still skeptical about mastery-based learning? Here’s a better way of looking at what it is and does](https://hechingerreport.org/opinion-still-skeptical-about-mastery-based-learning-heres-a-better-way-of-looking-at-what-it-is-and-does)
* [How do AI education chatbots actually work?](https://bold.expert/how-do-ai-education-chatbots-actually-work)
* [Campus Engagement Tip: Involving First-Gen Families](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/student-success/college-experience/2023/10/13/three-ways-colleges-teach-first-gen-parents)

**SCHOLARSHIPS & OPPORTUNITIES**

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

* **[Scholarship Junkies’ Free Scholarship Bank](https://www.scholarshipjunkies.org/scholarship-search)**. Scholarship Junkies has launched their brand-new Scholarship Bank! This organization is a reputable and safe source to search for scholarships.
* [**Get Schooled Essay Review**](https://getschooled.com/college-review)**.** Get Schooled helps you with your essays for college applications and scholarships. Submit your personal statement, supplemental college application essays, and scholarship essays for feedback. They will provide actionable suggestions and feedback within one week.
* [**BigFuture Scholarship**](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/bigfuture-scholarships)**.** What stands between you and the chance of winning $40,000? A few minutes planning your journey on the College Board’s BigFuture! Nov. 30 is the last day to earn entries for their next drawing!

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| **College Scholarship** | **Brief Description** | **Due** |
| [SchoolHouse Connection Youth Leadership and Scholarship Program](https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/youth-leadership/scholarship-program/) | For youth who have experienced homelessness. Assists with financial aid processes, mental health advocacy and referrals, professional legal advocacy and referrals, and assistance in locating and establishing local contacts for general support and services. Undocumented students who meet these criteria are eligible. | 11/24 |
| [ACT SIX - Portland](http://www.actsix.org/nw/portland/) | (Full Tuition) - Act Six will award 14 of Portland-Salem's most promising community leaders full scholarships worth up to $200,000 to two partner colleges: George Fox University and Warner Pacific College. Act Six scholars are chosen through a rigorous, highly competitive, three-phase selection process that spans four months. | 11/28 |
| [ACT SIX - Tacoma-Seattle](http://www.actsix.org/nw/tacsea/) | (Full Tuition) - Act Six will award 18 of Tacoma-Seattle’s most promising urban leaders full scholarships worth up to $245,000 to five partner colleges: Gonzaga University, Northwest University, Pacific Lutheran University, St. Martin's University, and Whitworth University. Act Six scholars are chosen through a rigorous, highly competitive, three-phase selection process that spans four months. | 11/28 |
| [ACT SIX - Yakima Valley](http://www.actsix.org/nw/yakima/#toggle-id-1) | (Full Tuition) - Act Six will award 15 of Yakima Valley’s most promising community leaders full scholarships worth up to $240,000 to three partner colleges. ACT Six scholars are chosen through a rigorous, highly competitive, three-phase selection process that spans four months. | 11/28 |
| [Education Matters](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/education-matters-scholarship) | ($5,000) - In 250 words or less respond to the question: "What would you say to someone who thinks education doesn't matter, or that college is a waste of time and money?" Must be 14 years of age or older. | 11/30 |
| [National Honor Society Scholarship](https://www.nationalhonorsociety.org/advisers/the-nhs-scholarship/) | Up to $25,000 for HS seniors who are members in good standing of an affiliated NHS chapter. | 11/30 |
| [Dell Scholars Program](https://www.dellscholars.org/scholarship/) | ($20,000) – For low-income, highly motivated students who are better than their numbers indicate and demonstrate the drive to succeed despite personal obstacles. Winners have demonstrated grit, potential, and ambition in their quest for a college education. | 12/1 |
| [National Space Club Keynote Scholarship](https://www.spaceclub.org/scholarship/index.html) | $15,000 scholarship and an opportunity to give a keynote address for students who are interested in STEM fields. | 12/4 |
| [Point Foundation: The Point Flagship Scholarship](https://www.pointfoundation.org/point-apply/apply-now/) | Empower LGBTQ students who are earning their undergraduate, graduate, & doctoral degrees at accredited colleges in the US. | 12/5 |
| [Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Scholarships](https://www.artandwriting.org/scholarships/) | Teens in grades 7–12 (ages 13 and up) can apply in 28 categories of art and writing. | 12/7 |
| [Dirk Derrick Car & Truck Accident Injury Scholarship](https://www.derricklawfirm.com/library/scholarship.cfm) | $1,000 – For any current or soon-to-be undergraduate student who has had their life altered due to an injury from a car or truck accident, be it their injury that of a loved one, or an influential individual. | 12/15 |
| [Washington State Volunteer Service Awards.](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vc2VydmV3YXNoaW5ndG9uLndhLmdvdi9zaXRlcy9kZWZhdWx0L2ZpbGVzL3B1YmxpYy8yMDIzX25vbWluYXRpb25ndWlkZWxpbmVzX3dzdnNhX2ZpbmFsLnBkZj91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMxMDAyLjgzNDg4MjYxIn0.YjLDma0vDSvnxD-ZUPbAQ78S9Y5-hqOA_iF4xpys7EA/s/860227171/br/227262893579-l) | Honor the many acts of kindness individuals, families, service groups and organizations perform in communities across the state of Washington. | 12/22 |
| [NASA Student Art Contest](https://artcontest.larc.nasa.gov/) | For students in grades K-12 to participate in the 2024 NASA Langley Art Contest, using the theme “Connect the Dots.” | 12/31 |
| [Top Ten List Scholarship](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/top-ten-list-scholarship) | ($1,500) - In 250 words or less submit a response to the question: "Create a Top Ten List of the top ten reasons you should get this scholarship." | 12/31 |
| [Reach For Your Peak](https://getschooled.com/peak-scholarship/) | A $2000 scholarship for a HS junior or senior living in OR or WA. | 12/31 |
| [First-Gen Trailblazers Scholarship](https://getschooled.com/first-gen-trailblazers-scholarship) | Awarded exclusively to high school juniors and seniors who are the first in their generation to go to college. | 12/31 |
| [Rise to Legacy HBCU Scholarship](https://getschooled.com/rise-to-legacy-hbcu-scholarship/) | Awarded exclusively to high school juniors and seniors who are planning to apply to a Historically Black College or University. | 12/31 |
| [Unigo $10K Scholarship](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/unigo-10k-scholarship) | ($10,000) - Submit an online written response to the question: Would you rather be smart, funny, or rich? Why?" (250 words or less) | 12/31 |
| [Pride Foundation Scholarship](http://www.pridefoundation.org/what-we-do/scholarships/) | For current and future leaders LGBTQIA and straight ally community from Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. | 1/6 |
| [Ron Brown Scholar Program](https://ronbrown.org/apply/ron-brown-scholarship/) | Awards 20 or more scholarships annually for $40,000 to extraordinary African American students must attend a four-year accredited college or university within the United States. | 1/9 |
| [APIASF Scholarship Program](http://www.apiasf.org/scholarship_apiasf.html) | ($2,500-$20,000) - Provides scholarships to underserved APIA students with a special focus on those who: Live at or below the poverty level or are otherwise of low socioeconomic status; Are the first in their families to attend college; Are representative of the APIA community’s diversity (geographically and ethnically), especially those ethnicities that have been underrepresented on college campuses due to limited access and opportunity; and have placed a strong emphasis on community service, leadership, and solid academic achievement. | 1/9 |
| [Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholarship](https://jackierobinson.org/scholarship/) | ($35,000) - Awarded to outstanding HS graduates who plan to earn a baccalaureate degree from an accredited four-year college or university. | 1/10 |
| [FFA Scholarships](https://www.ffa.org/scholarships) | Over 1,000 scholarships with/ just one application available to FFA members. | 1/11 |
| [GSBA Scholarship Fund](http://www.thegsba.org/scholarship-home) | ($8,000) - The average annual award amount for each scholar is $8,000. In addition, GSBA invests in our scholars' leadership development through annual programs and workshops. | 1/12 |
| [Bezos Scholars Program](https://www.bezosscholars.org/apply) | For HS juniors. Successful applicants have a strong drive and commitment to their education and demonstrate maturity, curiosity, resilience, and leadership. | 1/24 |
| [The Hamilton Award](https://www.hamiltonscholars.org/apply/) | For HS juniors for their academic, personal, and service achievements. This three-year, no-student-cost program helps students get into college, transition to college, succeed while in college, and transition to the post-college world. | 1/26 |
| [Truman D. Picard Scholarship for Native Students](http://www.itcnet.org/about_us/scholarships.html) | Dedicated to the support of Native American students pursuing a higher education in Natural Resources. | 1/26 |
| [The UW DO-IT Scholars Program](http://www.washington.edu/doit/Programs/scholar.html) | For WA State HS students with disabilities planning to continue their education after they graduate. Scholars prepare for their transition to college—which includes exploring careers, independence, self-advocacy, and leadership. Is open to high school sophomores or juniors. | 1/30 |
| [cid:image003.jpg@01D341AB.22959DC0](http://www.facebook.com/gearupwa)[cid:image005.jpg@01D341AB.22959DC0](http://www.instagram.com/gearupwa)[cid:image015.jpg@01D341AF.8987B190](http://bit.ly/gearupwa) | | |
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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. | | |