WEEKLY BULLETIN

**September 11-15, 2023**

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| IN THIS ISSUE: |  **DID YOU KNOW?**GEAR UP students are automatically eligible for Common App application fee waivers by simply identifying as GEAR UP participants. [Learn more.](https://gearup.wa.gov/file/common-app-fee-waiver-information-resources) |
| * Program Updates
* Student Recruitment & Outreach Events
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| * Optional Professional Development
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# WA STATE GEAR UP PROGRAM UPDATES

* **Reminder**: Review your Year 7 Work Plan & Budget and submit any necessary revisions by Sept. 30.
* [**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).

# 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.
* [**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.
* **Free:** [**Youth Advocacy Summit & Fall Fest!**](https://educationvoters.salsalabs.org/2023FallAdvocacyEvent/index.html) By LEV, CCER, and youth partners. For youth, by youth. Oct. 8, Highline College

# OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

* **Deadline Sept. 15:** [**Join NCCEP’s Coordinator Learning Lab.**](https://www.edpartnerships.org/nccep-events/2023/9/17/deadline-cll) This short-term, cohort-based professional development program explores common challenges facing new GEAR UP practitioners. Coordinators with 0–3 years of experience will especially benefit from this introductory experience. Next session: Sept. 25 – Nov. 30.
* [**2023-24 PNACAC College Counseling 101 Sessions.**](https://www.pnacac.org/webinars) Open to school/college counselors, consultants, CBOs, career center specialists, transfer center coordinators, and other PNACAC members working with secondary school or transfer-seeking students. *PNACAC membership is free for individuals from public school communities.* See the link for details.

* **[WCHSCR Fall Counselor Workshop](https://www.wa-council.org/2022/07/13/2022-fall-counselor-workshops/)**. 9/13-UWB, 9/14-CPT, 9/15-BTC, 9/19-Virtual.
* **Webinar:** [**Family Engagement**](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_df24F_6ETxaOIqVcviziiw#/registration). By OSPI Graduation Equity. Sept. 13, 10 AM.
* **Virtual:** [**NCCEP Discussion Lab-Family Engagement.**](https://www.edpartnerships.org/nccep-events/2023/9/14disclab-fameng) Brainstorm ideas with GEAR UP staff nationwide. Sept. 14, 11 AM.
* **Webinar:** [**Jumpstart to Success: Start the Year with the Latest Info and Resources.**](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wpx7sGYESgqG7gpbNsa5Qw#/registration) By OSPI & WSAC. Sept. 20, 9 AM.
* **Webinar:** [**Getting Ready for the Better FAFSA.**](https://www.ncan.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1766092&group=)By NCAN. Sept. 26, 10-Noon.
* **Virtual: Suicide Prevention, Intervention, & Postvention Trainings**. By OSPI. Postvention: [9/27](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTcsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnBkZW5yb2xsZXIub3JnL2NhdGFsb2cvZXZlbnQvMTU2OTYzIiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDgzMC44MTg1OTAxMSJ9.X6Mlo3-ncG6JH1TNBBcIsQlBNCiZOzCzqBZ2Dg3Aksk/s/421506233/br/225014480145-l) and [10/17](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTgsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnBkZW5yb2xsZXIub3JnL2NhdGFsb2cvZXZlbnQvMTU3MDEyIiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDgzMC44MTg1OTAxMSJ9.X86rVJnWs6pNJV8ManHZENRF4V47h1SpJbsa3IjtXow/s/421506233/br/225014480145-l), Intervention: [10/24](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTksInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnBkZW5yb2xsZXIub3JnL2NhdGFsb2cvZXZlbnQvMTU3MDEzIiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDgzMC44MTg1OTAxMSJ9.Kraxn0swE-fCmTszUEDQXneOpiHonj-7beWNwDA_Azs/s/421506233/br/225014480145-l) and [11/8](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnBkZW5yb2xsZXIub3JnL2NhdGFsb2cvZXZlbnQvMTU3MDIzIiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDgzMC44MTg1OTAxMSJ9.Qpy3BA1WYYU_d95bearRYMIzMRNPFzpWwRNtgJ2XXC8/s/421506233/br/225014480145-l), and Prevention: [11/14](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnBkZW5yb2xsZXIub3JnL2NhdGFsb2cvZXZlbnQvMTU3MDI3IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDgzMC44MTg1OTAxMSJ9._rguXhMz4s5aItcGMlXfAXR4EVZyg2cT9fkZqgnob-Q/s/421506233/br/225014480145-l) & [12/11](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnBkZW5yb2xsZXIub3JnL2NhdGFsb2cvZXZlbnQvMTU5NDE3IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDgzMC44MTg1OTAxMSJ9.zBamCgjIuHwYTj4Sz-WVD5RDSxbBuYKyRR7CAwchTec/s/421506233/br/225014480145-l).
* **Webinar:** [**Sustaining Success: Investing in Showing Up**](https://www.attendanceworks.org/resources/webinars/). By Attendance Works. Sept. 27, Noon.
* [**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.
* **Webinar:** [**What You Need to Know: FAFSA Simplification Act.**](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclduuvqjoqHtDZpbrmDoGgXDuP1W08kepi#/registration) By Aim Higher WA. Oct. 12, 10 AM.
* [**2023 NCAN National Conference.**](https://www.ncan.org/page/2023NCANConference)Dallas, Oct. 16-18.
* **Webinar:** [**Strategies to Support Transitions to Higher Ed**](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/4416903892252/WN_oJqo1QBrSs20nn0g8aCDGA?emci=56c521e7-4847-ee11-a3f1-00224832eb73&emdi=7ecb087f-584e-ee11-a3f1-00224832e1ba&ceid=11625301#/registration) (Foster/Homeless). By SchoolHouse Connection. Oct. 20, 10 AM.
* [**GEAR UP West Conference.**](https://gearup.wa.gov/about/what-we-do/gear-west)Spokane, Oct. 22-24. **Update:** The [Conference Website](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fgearup.wa.gov%2Fgear-west&data=05%7C01%7CBethK%40wsac.wa.gov%7C80b80ec0ef3d427ce05f08dba7f6059a%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C638288447342128760%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9r21oL6OiZMe64emU4CLAqWWoy%2BWRJ8hgVYjeVUY0tU%3D&reserved=0) is Now LIVE! Find the most current version of the session list, keynote bios, and more. [Register and book your lodging](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fweb.cvent.com%2Fevent%2F76645d71-ab7f-4a37-a057-5437bf945442%2Fsummary&data=05%7C01%7CBethK%40wsac.wa.gov%7C80b80ec0ef3d427ce05f08dba7f6059a%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C638288447342128760%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xIGtlNRYKZexWIsZiwKBab3MAzbSemramFjBWXKJoGg%3D&reserved=0) now for the early bird rate!
* **Webinar:** [**Middle School College and Career Readiness**](https://pages2.act.org/ccrw-2023-webinars.html)**.** By ACT. Oct. 24, 9 AM.
* **Save the Date: 2024 WSCA Conference.** Mar. 6-8, SeaTac.

# RESOURCES

* **WAGU Featured Resource:** GEAR UP Week is Sept. 25 – 29. Find resources from [WAGU](https://gearup.wa.gov/about/what-we-do/national-gear-week) and [NCCEP](https://www.edpartnerships.org/nguw). Share the proclamation and media coverage. Use #GEARUPworks and #GUWeek hashtags on social media. Have your students and partners [participate in the video challenge!](https://www.edpartnerships.org/gu-week-2023)
* [**NCCEP’s Career & College Clubs.**](https://www.edpartnerships.org/ccc)Through the hands-on content, students put leadership skills into practice—all while gaining college knowledge and preparedness. Learn more and get started today!
* [**NCAN Launches Much-Anticipated Better FAFSA Training Toolkit**](https://www.ncan.org/news/news.asp?id=650777)**.** This web page is your one-stop shop for Better FAFSA training tools and resources from NCAN, our partners and members, and the Office of Federal Student Aid and will be updated regularly. It includes training slides, how-to articles, training opportunities, recommended readings, resources and tools for students and parents, and more.

# IN THE NEWS

* [In Seattle, Going To School Means Getting Vaxxed](https://kuow.org/stories/in-seattle-going-to-school-means-getting-vaxxed)
* [Bellevue’s First Asian American Superintendent Reflects On His Family’s 120-Year US Journey](https://kuow.org/stories/a-long-time-coming-bellevue-s-first-asian-american-superintendent-reflects-on-his-family-s-120-year-us-journey)
* [WSU Study: Pandemic Led To Surge In Multigenerational Homes](https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2023/sep/05/wsu-study-pandemic-pushed-nearly-half-a-million-ki/)
* [The Public Is Souring On American Education, But Parents Still Give Own Child’s School High Marks](https://www.chalkbeat.org/2023/9/5/23859890/parents-polling-surveys-schools-american-education-pandemic)
* [Schools Struggle To Properly Count Native Students. Some States Want Them To Try Harder](https://www.edweek.org/leadership/schools-struggle-to-properly-count-native-students-some-states-want-them-to-try-harder/2023/09)
* [‘Community In The Classroom’: Everett Kicks Off School Year](https://www.heraldnet.com/news/community-in-the-classroom-everett-kicks-off-school-year/)
* [In Blow To Small School Districts, WA Supreme Court Rules For State In Building Costs Case](https://www.bellinghamherald.com/news/state/washington/article279071474.html)
* [STUDENT VOICE - Running Start Vs. Advanced Placement (AP): Making The Right Decision For You](https://readywa.org/running-start-vs-advanced-placement-ap-making-the-right-decision-for-you/)
* [Perspectives: The State Of Washington's Dual Credit Courses Today](https://stand.org/washington/our-stories/perspectives-the-state-of-washingtons-dual-credit-courses-today/)
* [City Of Seattle Partners With Local Teletherapy Startup To Tackle Youth Mental Health Crisis](https://www.geekwire.com/2023/city-of-seattle-partners-with-local-teletherapy-startup-to-tackle-youth-mental-health-crisis/)
* [Covid Cases Rise As LAUSD Tries To Improve Attendance](https://edsource.org/2023/covid-cases-rise-as-lausd-endeavors-to-improve-attendance/697069)
* [Public Schools Rely On Underpaid Female Labor. It’s Not Sustainable](https://www.edweek.org/teaching-learning/public-schools-rely-on-underpaid-female-labor-its-not-sustainable/2023/08)

# SCHOLARSHIPS & OPPORTUNITIES

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

* [**Path to Pro Scholarship**](https://www.myscholarship.app/home-depot-foundation)**.** $2,000 scholarship for students attending an approved trade-related program (Carpentry, Electrical, HVAC, Plumbing, or Construction Management) at an accredited two-year school. Due Sept. 30.
* **Seeking** [**U.S. Presidential Scholar Nominations**](https://www.k12.wa.us/sites/default/files/public/graduation/pubdocs/2023-24%20Overall%20Achievement%20Nomination%20Form.pdf) **for Overall Achievement Award**. Schools may nominate one student who identifying as female and one student who identifies as male. Candidates should have demonstrated leadership; school and community involvement; academic and extracurricular achievement and writing skills. Nominees may receive discretionary points for extraordinary scholastic achievement, long-lasting commitment to community service, heavy workload, additional family responsibilities, or significant obstacles that they overcame.  Submit a nomination form and writing sample for each student by Oct. 20.

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| **College Scholarship** | **Brief Description** | **Due** |
| [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 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 regarding 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. |