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Did You Know?

Currently just **11%** of low-income students who are the first in their family to attend college earn their degrees within **6 years** of enrolling in college.

Source: [Busting Myths About What Matters for High School and College Success](#)

GEAR UP UPDATES

- **Update:** [GEAR UP Champion Awards](#). The deadline for nominations/applications has been **extended to Mar. 17**. Please nominate an educator and encourage your students to apply!

OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **OSPI/WSAC Webinar for School Counselors:** [K-12 Postsecondary Pathways](#). Learn how to help students reach their highest potential for their future career/college goals. **Feb. 22**, 10:30 AM.
- [A Conversation with John Lewis](#). This event is free. **Feb. 23**, 10:30 AM, UW Seattle. Note: At the request of Rep. Lewis, event registration and seating is prioritized for students.
- **Webinar:** [Role of Data to Support College and Career Readiness and Success for Students in Foster Care](#). Mar. 1, 10 AM.
- [OSPI, WSAC, and WCAN Regional Workshops](#): An optional in-depth College Bound workshop will be provided immediately after the workshop. Dates and locations vary in March.
- [Washington School Counselor Association Conference](#). Mar.1-3, SeaTac.
- [The WA Council Dual Credit Workshop](#). Mar. 24, CWU.
- [2017 OSPI Student Support Conference](#). May 11-12, Yakima.
- [2017 PNACAC Tour of Western Washington Colleges and Universities](#). Jun. 18 - 23.
- **Counselor Summer Institutes:** Jun. 23, Spokane or Jun. 29, Olympia. More information to come.

RESOURCES

- **WAGU Featured Resource: College Access and Support Webinars.** Missed a webinar? Watch the recording.
 - [Supporting Late\(r\) College Applicants and Off Track Seniors](#)
 - [Scholarships, the Washboard, CBS Re-pledge](#)
 - [College Award Letters, Understanding Financial Aid Packages](#)
- [Busting Myths About What Matters for High School and College Success](#). The path to and through high school and college can be confusing for some students, which can hurt their decisions about what to focus on in order to maximize their chances for success. Fortunately, more than a decade's worth of research and data has helped solidify the facts and dispel myths about what it takes to make it to and through college.

RESEARCH

- [Changing Minds: Supporting Students Who Have Experienced Trauma](#). Learn about the science of childhood trauma and how five everyday gestures can make a world of difference.
- [Online Education Costs More, Not Less](#). Study challenges the myth that digital instruction costs less -- both for students and for the colleges producing the courses.

IN THE NEWS

Please send any media coverage to Katherine at katherinek@wsac.wa.gov. We want to feature you here and in our newsroom: <http://gearup.wa.gov/news>.

- [How Learning About Black History Changed My Future](#). This story is part of the “90 for All” series, which examines the challenges facing traditionally underserved students.
- [Anatomy of a Developmental Relationship](#). Developmental relationships are close connections where young people discover who they are, cultivate abilities to shape their own lives, learn how to engage with others and learn how to contribute to the world around them.
- [The Glue Helping At-Risk Students Stick with School](#). Washington, D.C., added pathways coordinators to its high schools to try to help kids who are behind on credits catch up.
- [To Fight Student Homelessness, This School District Helps the Whole Family](#). In one of the poorest districts in Kansas, educators have realized that to help homeless students they needed to do more to help homeless families.
- [HBCU Presidents Are Not Happy With BET's 'The Quad'](#). Hampton University's president called the new HBCU-focused show "more analogous to a disgruntled adolescent."
- [Executive order that incarcerated Japanese Americans is 75](#). Survivors are speaking out to make sure that what happened to them doesn't happen to Muslims, Latinos or other groups.
- [The Life of an Undocumented High-School Senior](#). Knowing that one day my dreams would be cut short because I can't do something that I want to do, it just sucks.
- [Parents of Transgender Students Appeal to Trump on Bathrooms](#). The call follows a decision by the Trump administration last week to abandon a defense of the guidelines issued by the Obama administration.
- [Why Was a DACA Recipient Detained by ICE?](#) An immigration-law expert chimes in on what the recent detention of Daniel Ramirez Medina means for students around the country who still benefit from the Obama-era policy.
- [The Michelle Obama Effect](#). How Former First Lady Michelle Obama's Community Events Impact FAFSA Completion.
- [Harvard, Yale and Stanford Among 17 Colleges Joining Fight Against Trump's Travel Ban](#). Ivy League schools file court papers asking to join ACLU case.

SCHOLARSHIPS & OPPORTUNITIES

- [Washington Aerospace Scholars](#). Student and teacher applications are now being accepted. [Teacher applications](#) due by Feb. 17. [Student applications](#) due by **Feb. 24**.
- [The Princeton University Summer Journalism Program](#). An all-expenses paid journalism and college prep program at Princeton for HS juniors from low-income backgrounds. Due **Feb. 24**.
- [Caminos al Futuro](#) is a fully-funded summer scholarship program that engages high-achieving juniors (rising seniors) in a residential academic leadership development program at the George Washington University. Due Mar. 1.
- [2017 Disability Rights Storytellers Fellowship](#). College students with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Not restricted to college students. All individuals with disabilities who hold a strong interest in disability rights advocacy and who can commit to the time requirements are eligible to apply. Due Mar. 15.

TITLE	DESCRIPTION	DUE
Shui Kuen & Allen Chin Scholarship	For incoming freshman or current, full-time undergraduate at a four-year college or university in 2017-18. Student or parent currently/formerly employed at an Asian-owned or Asian cuisine restaurant. Any ethnic heritage. Community advocacy and social justice work on behalf of Asian American, immigrant, gay and lesbian and/or other progressive causes. Minimum GPA: 3.0. Financial need. No citizenship status requirement.	2/24
CORE's Que Lleva Café Scholarship	HS senior. Undocumented Latino/a students. \$500-1,000.	2/25

The Christophers' Poster Contest	Open to 9-12 graders. Must create an original poster that interprets the theme "One Person Can Make a Difference," & illustrates the idea that one person can change the world for the better. \$100-\$1,000.	2/27
Governor's Scholarship for Foster Youth	For HS seniors w/ min 2.0 GPA and plan to enroll in college fulltime in the fall. See link for add'l criteria and details. \$2,000-\$4,000.	2/28
Leadership 1000 Scholarship	Must plan to attend, or currently be attending an eligible 4-year college or university in WA state in 2017. Must meet financial need requirements & maintain a minimum 2.75 cum. HS GPA thru fall quarter/semester, if applying as a HS senior. \$1,500-5,000.	2/28
Washington Opportunity Scholarship	For low- and middle-income students pursuing eligible high-demand majors in STEM or health care.	2/28
INSPIRE Pre-College Program.	Full scholarship for Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian rising HS junior/seniors. Spend 3-weeks on the George Washington University campus to learn about intergovernmental relations between tribal governments and the federal government. Includes room and board, travel, materials and more.	3/1
Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation	Need-based scholarships to the children of Marines and Navy Corpsmen who attend college or career training. Before applying, verify your eligibility.	3/1
National Youth Science Camp	2 HS seniors from WA State will receive a full scholarship to exchange ideas with scientists and other professionals from the academic and corporate worlds.	3/1
WAEF Tree Fruit Industry Scholarships	Multiple sources of scholarships for Washington students. WAEF awarded over \$1,000,000 to students last year!	3/1
Washington State PTA Scholarship	\$2,000 for 4-year postsecondary institutions. \$1,000 for community colleges, voc-tech schools or other accredited institutions.	3/1
Create a Greeting Card Scholarship	Submit a photo, drawing or image to be used at the front of a greeting card to have a chance to win at \$10,000 scholarship.	3/2
Colin Higgins Youth Courage Awards	For LGBTQ youth activists under 20. \$10,000 and an all-expenses paid trip to attend the National Conference on LGBT Equality: Creating Change presented by the National LGBTQ Taskforce in 2018.	3/3
Sound Credit Union Scholarship	\$1,000 individual scholarships. Must be a graduating HS senior who plans to attend a 2- or 4-year college, w/ a min. 3.0 GPS, & be a member of Sound Credit Union since 11/25/16.	3/3
Washington State Foundation Scholarship.	5,000 for recipients attending 4-year post-secondary institutions. \$2,500 for recipients attending other post-secondary institutions.	3/3
TheDream.US - National Scholarship	For first gen, HS seniors with financial need who seek to earn a career-ready associate's or bachelor's degree at one of our Partner Colleges.	3/8
ASHG DNA Day Essay Contest	For 9-12th graders. Must submit an essay addressing a question related to genetics. \$100-\$1,000. See link for question.	3/11
National Institutes of Health (NIH) Undergraduate Scholarship Program	For students from disadvantaged backgrounds who are pursuing careers in biomedical, behavioral, & social science health-related research. Must have a min. 3.3 GPA or rank in the top 5% of their class & demonstrate exceptional financial need. Up to \$20,000 per year. Renewable for 4 years.	3/14
American Foreign Service Association National HS Essay Contest	For 9-12th graders. Must submit an essay related to Foreign Service. Winner receives \$2,500, a trip to D.C. to meet the Secretary of State, and full tuition for a Semester at Sea educational voyage.	3/15
Junior Duck Stamp Contest	For K-12 students. Submit an original piece of artwork depicting a North American waterfowl species. \$500-\$2,000.	3/15
National Peace Essay Contest for HS Students	Must write an essay related to the topic of "Security Sector Reform, Political Transition, & Sustainable Peace." \$1,000-\$10,000.	3/15
Nicholas A. Virgilio Memorial Haiku Competition	This competition is for students in grades 7- 12 who are enrolled in school as of Sept. 2014. Applicants must submit up to 3 haiku poems. All haiku must be previously unpublished, original work, & not entered in any other contest or submitted elsewhere for publication. \$50.	3/25
Indian Health Services Scholarships	Scholarships for Native American students who plan to enter or are pursuing degrees in the health profession.	3/28

Odenza Marketing Group Scholarship	Must submit 2 small essays, one related to travel, & the other on why they deserve a scholarship. Must be 16-25, w/ 2.5 GPA or greater. US citizenship required. \$500.	3/30
KMR Group Foundation	For seniors graduating from high schools in Clark or Cowlitz counties. \$1,000 to \$3,500 per school year and may be renewable for up to four years.	3/31
Louie Foundation Scholarship	\$100,000 in scholarships available especially for students w/ strong academics & whose parents are in the military or veterans of the armed forces.	3/31
National Federation of the Blind Scholarship Program	\$3,000 to \$12,000. All scholarships awarded are based on academic excellence, community service, and leadership.	3/31
Paid, Multi-Year Summer Internship Opportunity For Minority Student- Emma L. Bowen Foundation	Minority HS seniors & college freshmen w/ a min. 3.0 GPA & an interest in media careers are eligible to apply. During this multi-year internship, students in the program receive an hourly wage & matching scholarship.	3/31
Scholarship Poetry Contest - Summer Issue	Open to all U.S. HS students. Applicant must submit an original poem with 20 lines or less. Up to \$500.	3/31

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES! To view the Calendar of Events for WAGU and also partner events related to access, visit: <http://www.gearup.wa.gov/calendar>.

- 2/23- [Bates Technical College: Open House](#)
- 3/2- [WSU Vancouver Noche De Familia](#)
- 3/4 [Youth For Health Career Fair at Big Bend](#)
- 3/10-3/11- [WSU Future Cougars Embracing Diversity](#)

[gearup.wa.gov](http://www.gearup.wa.gov)



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