

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- Student Recruitment & Outreach Events
- Optional Professional Development
- Resources
- News & Research
- Scholarships

### Did You Know?

Career-Focused Credentials Are Booming.  
We Need to Know What They're Worth.  
>>>[Keep Reading.](#)

## WA STATE GEAR UP UPDATES

- **Webinar: SLF Waiver 2.0: Get a Second Chance with the IDR Recount.** Take advantage of the IDR Recount before it ends on May 1! Presented by WA Student Loan Advocates. [Feb. 22, Noon.](#)
- **Download February: College Knowledge 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

- **Webinar: Student Loans: For Students & Families.** By College Success Foundation. [Feb. 21, 6 PM.](#)
- **NW Youth Careers Expo:** Feb. 22
- **Webinar: Student Loans: For Students & Families.** By College Success Foundation. Mar. 1, 6 PM.
- **Webinar: Financial Aid Award Letters: For Students & Families.** By College Success Foundation. Mar. 7, 6 PM.
- **NACAC Virtual College Fairs:** 3/19, 4/23
- **Webinar: Financial Aid Award Letters: For Students & Families.** By College Success Foundation. Apr. 5, 6 PM.
- **PNACAC College Fairs:** 4/19: Spokane, 4/22: Seattle, 4/30: Portland.

## OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Webinar: Making College Attainable.** By Harvard GSE. Feb. 22, Noon.
- **Webinar: Financial Aid 201: Verification, Appeals & Award Letters.** By PSCCN & WSAC. Mar. 1, 9:30-11:30 AM.
- **Open Lab: Revolutionizing Your College-Going Culture: Collective Impact.** By NCCEP. Mar. 14, Noon.
- **Webinar: Supporting Student Access to Career Preparation and Apprenticeships.** By WSAC, OSPI, L&I, and Clover Park Tech. Mar. 22, 9 AM.
- **2023 Rural Summit.** By Partners for Rural Impact & University of North Carolina. Charlotte, NC, Apr. 2-5.
- **Webinar: How Do We Improve the Workplace for Teachers?** By Harvard GSE. Apr. 5, Noon.
- **2023 SuperACAC Conference.** Spokane, Apr. 17-19. **The Washington Passport Network Passport to Careers State Conference.** SeaTac, May 23-24.

## RESOURCES

- **WAGU Featured Resource:** [Award Letter Key Components](#) | [Award Letter Worksheet - Living off-campus](#) | [Award Letter Worksheet - Living on-campus](#) | [Student Loans](#) | [Which Financial Aid Is the Best to Accept?](#) Help students decipher their award letters.
- **Making Schools a Welcoming Place for Immigrant Students.** Children from immigrant homes are the fastest growing segment of school-age students. Explore tips for how educators can lend a helping hand to newcomers.
- **The Great Reboot: Optimize Your Hard Drive.** From Seeds Training. The "new normal" should be different, better and more humane than we've ever been before. Use the Brain & Body connection to activate greater capacity.
- **Keep Your Eyes on the Prize: How to Prepare for the Future During Your Sophomore Year.** Free E-Book from ACT.
- **U.S. Teen Girls Experiencing Increased Sadness and Violence.** The CDC's new report raises the urgency to invest in schools as a lifeline to help struggling youth. Teen girls and LGBTQ+ youth are experiencing record-high levels of violence, sadness, and suicide risk. **The JED Foundation** partners with high schools and colleges to assess and strengthen mental health approaches and reduce suicide risk. [Visit their site](#) for resources such as the [Comprehensive Approach to Mental Health and Suicide Prevention.](#)

## IN THE NEWS

- [Elementary School. High School. Now College. Michigan State Students Are No Strangers to Mass Shootings](#)
- [Career-Focused Credentials Are Booming. We Need to Know What They're Worth.](#)
- [Bold Visions Needed to Solve Pandemic-Related Education Setbacks](#)
- [How One College Is Tackling the Rural Nursing Shortage](#)
- [Free Therapy for Students: How Colorado Is Responding to The Youth Mental Health Crisis](#)
- [Study Shows Limit to Benefits of Online Classes for Community College Students](#)

- [Top Child Welfare Official Discusses Her 2023 Priorities with The Imprint](#)
- [Countering The Rise of White Nationalism](#)
- [U.S. Teen Girls Experiencing Increased Sadness and Violence](#)
- [Why Studying Is So Hard, And What Teachers Can Do to Help](#)

## SCHOLARSHIPS & OPPORTUNITIES

Find more opportunities at: <https://gearup.wa.gov/educators/scholarships> and [our list of scholarship search engines and databases](#).

- **Video: [How to Effectively Find Scholarships](#).** Looking for scholarships can feel overwhelming. But have no fear; in this video, we will share some tips on how to improve your search
- **[SPARK Peer Counseling 4-week Exploration Class](#).** From WA State Health Care Authority. Learn about a career path to becoming a Youth/Young Adult Certified Peer Counselor in Washington State. Ages 17 to 30, then take the Certification class to start your career. This is a 4-week class. The schedule and materials will be sent out a week before class starts on March 1.
- **[BigFuture Scholarships](#).** All juniors: Make yourself eligible for \$500 and \$40,000 scholarships each month. Earn entries in monthly drawings for scholarships by completing steps to plan for college.
- **[AMS Scholarship for Underserved Communities](#).** \$3,000 scholarship renewable for up to two years for underrepresented students studying atmospheric or related oceanic or hydrologic sciences with a minimum 3.0 GPA. Due Feb. 24.
- **[Strong Voices Arts Academy](#).** From OSPI and the Centrum Foundation. For students in foster care. This free weeklong arts academy is in Port Townsend. Travel, accommodations, and food are included. Register by Mar. 1.
- **The [Washington Award for Vocational Excellence \(WAVE\)](#)** recognizes graduating high school seniors and community & technical college students for outstanding performance in career and technical education (CTE) programs. Due Mar. 17.
- **Accepting Applications. [The Education and Training Voucher \(ETV\) Program](#)** is a national program for youth who qualify and are likely to age out of the foster care system. To meet the priority deadline, submit an application by Apr. 30.
- **Free Summer Camp: [Neuroscience for Neurodiverse Learners \(NNL\) Summer Program](#).** DO-IT Center and Center for Neurotechnology at UW are recruiting high school sophomores, juniors, or seniors who are citizens and permanent residents of the United States and its possessions who identify as neurodiverse learners. Free 10-day hybrid summer camp. Aug. 7-18.

Scholarship	Brief Description	Due
<a href="#">Indian Health Services Scholarships</a>	Scholarships for qualified American Indian and Alaska Native students who plan to enter or are pursuing degrees in the health profession.	2/28
<a href="#">WAEF Tree Fruit Industry Scholarships</a>	Multiple sources of scholarships for Washington students raised in families with direct ties to Washington's tree fruit industry. WAEF awarded over \$1,000,000 to students last year!	3/1
<a href="#">AFA Teens Scholarship</a>	Applicants are asked to write a 1,200 to 1,500-word essay that describes the impact of Alzheimer's disease or another dementia-related illness on themselves, their families, or their communities and what they have learned in light of coping with the brain disorder. The grand prize winner receives \$5,000, with additional prizes awarded to runners-up.	3/1
<a href="#">ASHG DNA Day Essay Contest</a>	(\$100-\$1,000) -This contest is open to students in grades 9-12 worldwide and asks students to examine, question, and reflect on important concepts in genetics. Essays are expected to be well-reasoned arguments that indicate a deep understanding of scientific concepts related to the essay question.	3/1
<a href="#">American Chemical Society Scholars Award</a>	(\$5,000) - Renewable scholarships to underrepresented minority students who want to enter the fields of chemistry or chemistry-related fields. Awards of up to \$5,000* are given to qualified students. African American, Hispanic, or American Indian HS seniors or first-year college students, sophomores, or juniors pursuing a college degree in the chemical sciences or chemical technology are eligible to apply.	3/1
<a href="#">Tall Clubs International Student Scholarships</a>	Scholarships are for students under 21 years of age, about to attend their first year of higher education, and who meet the height requirements of TCI— 5' 10" (178 cm) for women and 6' 2" (188 cm) for men. Annually, TCI Foundation awards multiple student scholarship(s) of up to \$1000 each.	3/1
<a href="#">Washington State PTA Scholarship</a>	Washington State PTA offers four \$2,500 scholarships to graduating seniors from Washington state public high schools with an active PTA who will start college (two or four years) in the fall.	3/1
<a href="#">Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation- Undergraduate/Associate Scholarship</a>	The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation provides need-based scholarships to the children of Marines and Navy Corpsmen who attend college or career training. Before applying, verify your eligibility. CTE Version--Application available all year. Applications are processed monthly.	3/1
<a href="#">Create a Greeting Card Scholarship</a>	(\$10,000) - Submit original photos, artwork, or computer graphics for the front of a greeting card.	3/2
<a href="#">Sound Credit Union Scholarship</a>	\$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 on or before January 31, 2021.	3/3
<a href="#">Truman D. Picard Scholarship for Native Students</a>	Dedicated to the support of Native American students pursuing higher education in Natural Resources.	3/10

<a href="#"><u>Junior Duck Stamp Contest</u></a>	(\$200-\$1,000) - For K-12 students. Submit an original piece of artwork depicting a North American waterfowl species.	3/15
<a href="#"><u>Microsoft DisAbility Scholarship</u></a>	(\$20,000) - This scholarship will be awarded to promising high school seniors with disabilities who plan to attend a vocational or academic college and target a career in the technology industry. The scholarships are renewable – each winner who continues to meet the criteria is eligible to receive an annual award of \$5,000 for up to four (4) consecutive years for a potential \$20,000 scholarship.	3/15
<a href="#"><u>Louie Foundation Scholarship</u></a>	\$100,000 in scholarships available, especially for students with w/strong academics & whose parents are in the military or veterans of the armed forces.	3/17
<a href="#"><u>Nicholas A. Virgilio Memorial Haiku Competition</u></a>	For 7-12 graders. You 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.	3/21
<a href="#"><u>Chin: Shui Kuen &amp; Allen Chin Scholarship</u></a>	Grade level: Incoming freshman or current, full-time undergraduate at a four-year college or university. 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 other progressive causes	3/24
<a href="#"><u>LULAC National Scholarship Fund</u></a>	For youth in underserved communities to help make the dream of college enrollment a reality.	3/31
<a href="#"><u>Scholarship Poetry Contest - Summer Issue</u></a>	Open to all U.S. HS students. Applicant must submit an original poem with 20 lines or less. Up to \$500.	3/31
<a href="#"><u>National Youth Science Camp</u></a>	(Camp) - The National Youth Science Camp is a residential science education program for young STEM enthusiasts the summer after graduating high school. Students from around the country (two are selected to represent each state and Washington, D.C.) are challenged academically in exciting lectures and hands-on studies and have voluntary opportunities to participate in an outdoor adventure program, gain a new and deep appreciation for the great outdoors, and establish friendships that last a lifetime.	3/31
<a href="#"><u>National Federation of the Blind Scholarship Program</u></a>	(\$3,000-\$12,000) - All scholarships awarded are based on academic excellence, community service, and leadership.	3/31

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



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.