



Washington Student Achievement Council

## Weekly Bulletin

Washington State GEAR UP

Issue: **May 26-30, 2025**

### WA State GEAR UP Program Updates

- **Customizable [Quarterly Family Newsletters](#).** These templates provide college and career readiness information for 7th—12th-grade students and are available in *Arabic, Chinese, English, Korean, Marshallese, Punjabi, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese*.
- **Match Tip of the Week:** Schools must submit match documentation each month along with their A19/invoice for reimbursement. If WSAC does not receive any match documentation along with the A19, WSAC will not reimburse the A19 until the match documentation is received.
- **Deadline: [GEAR UP West Call for Proposals](#).** Breakout session proposals **due by May 31**. Questions? Contact [info@oregongearup.org](mailto:info@oregongearup.org).

### FAFSA Updates and Resources

- **Financial Aid Events: [12th Year Campaign Financial Aid Information & Filing Events](#).** Virtual and Spanish events available. Share with students and families.
- **Encourage OfferBot signup.** Help high school students and parents get assistance with our [chatbot](#).

### Student Recruitment & Outreach Events

- **[Fall 2025 NACAC College Fairs](#):** Virtual and in-person events. Dates: Sept. 14 (Virtual), Oct. 9 (Performing and Visual Arts, Seattle), Oct. 12-13 (PDX), Oct. 15 (Spokane), Oct. 17-18 (Seattle), Oct. 19 (Virtual), and Nov. 9 (Virtual).

### Optional Professional Development

- **[CiHS Webinar: Legislative and State Level Updates](#).** By COP and SBCTC. Jun. 4, 11 AM.
- **[Discussion Lab: GU in Middle School— Building Foundations for Long-Term Success](#).** By NCCEP. Jun. 12, 11 AM.
- **[ASCA Conference](#).** Jul. 12-15, Long Beach, CA.
- **[NCCEP/GEAR UP Annual Conference](#).** Jul. 13–16, San Francisco, CA.
- **[Integrated MTSS Conference](#).** Jul. 30- Aug 1, Wenatchee.
- **[Apply for a Fall Learning Lab](#).** These NCCEP courses are for small cohorts of GU professionals. Join a three-month session starting Sept. 8! Save your spot by Aug. 25.
  - **[College Advising Learning Lab](#):** Led in collaboration with Bottom Line, participants practice college advising strategies including identifying fit factors, making college lists, completing applications for college and financial aid, and deciding which college to attend.
  - **[NEW! Onboarding Learning Lab](#):** Redesigned with input from GU Directors, this introductory experience covers the basics for anyone new to GU. Participants build a national network while learning about GU's history, administration, and regulations.
- **[NCAN National Conference](#).** Sept. 8-10, New Orleans, LA.
- **[WCHSCR Fall Counselor Tour](#).** Sept. 8 (ECC), Sept. 9 (UWB), Sept. 10 (CPTC), Sept. 11 (CBC), Sept. 12 (EWU), Sept. 16 (Virtual).
- **[GEAR UP West](#).** Oct. 26-28, Portland.

### Resources

- **WAGU Featured Resource: [Graduate Handbook: Next Steps for First-Year Students](#).** This student guide contains information on critical next steps.
- **[How Teachers Can Benefit From End-of-Year Reflections](#).** From Edutopia. A teacher mentor shows why reflecting at the end of the year is so important for growth, and shares a worksheet for getting started.
- **[The Wallace Foundation's Summer Learning Toolkit](#).** Find evidence-based tools and strategies, templates for all planning stages, and links to research to support your summer programming.
- **[WA Teen Health Hub](#).** Vetted by a public health team and youth leaders from across the state, Teen Health Hub WA offers information on health topics important to youth!

## In The News

Need help crafting a GEAR UP story for local media? Explore [NCCEP's tools](#) and don't forget to [Share Your GEAR UP Good News](#).

- [Federal Judge Blocks Trump's Executive Order To Close Education Department](#)
- [Harvard Wins Injunction To Protect International Students](#)
- [Helping Students Gain Emotional Stability In Schools](#)
- [Are Manufacturing Jobs Actually Special?](#)
- [Harvard's President Speaks Out Against Trump. And, An Analysis Of DEI Job Losses](#)
- [Getting Started With Student-Led Teaching](#)
- [After-School Programs, A Boon For Learning, Could Face Trump Cuts](#)
- [Is Federal Help For Homeless Students At Risk?](#)
- [Schools Across The U.S. Are Losing Immigrant Students Under Trump](#)
- [Rural School Districts Continue To Adopt 4-Day School Weeks. These Montana Parents Pushed Back.](#)
- [How Trump's School Priorities Will Shape New Ed. Dept. Grants](#)
- [How Trump's Policies Are Already Upending Special Education](#)
- [Educators Fear Their Homeless Students Could Become A Target For Trump Cuts](#)
- [Study Reveals How Model Minority Myth Influences School Choices](#)
- [McMahon Highlights Budget, Priorities](#)
- [High School Grads Lack Clarity On Next Steps, Survey Shows](#)

## Scholarships & Opportunities

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

- **Free and Safe: [Get Schooled Essay Review](#).** Submit your personal statement, supplemental college application essays, and scholarship essays for feedback. They will provide actionable suggestions and feedback within one week.

Scholarship	Brief Description	Due
<a href="#">Puget Sound Scholarships (PRSA): Horace and Susie Revels Cayton Scholarship</a>	Award: \$4,000 - Established in 1992 in memory of Horace and Susie Revels Cayton, former editors of The Seattle Republican and likely Seattle's first Black public relations practitioners. This scholarship recognizes a student from a systemically underrepresented racial or ethnic background in Washington State who demonstrates academic achievement and a desire to pursue a career in public relations.	5/29
<a href="#">PRSA: Sally Heet Memorial Scholarship</a>	Award: \$4,000 - This annual award is presented to an outstanding public relations student from a college or university in WA.	5/29
<a href="#">Get Out and Get Active Grant</a>	The Anxiety & Depression Initiative (ADI) is offering grants of up to \$10,000 for projects that promote mental health through physical activity. Eligible applicants include K-12 schools, colleges, government agencies, and nonprofits. Funding supports education, direct services, and research using movement-based approaches.	5/30
<a href="#">Islamic Society of North America Scholarships</a>	Several scholarships are open to Muslim students pursuing higher education.	5/30
<a href="#">Ann Gallagher Memorial Scholarship</a>	(\$1,000) This scholarship is available to graduating high school seniors whose parent or guardian is a member of an affiliated union.	5/30
<a href="#">Humane Education Network: A Voice for Animals HS Essay Contest</a>	For HS students (ages 14-19). \$150-\$650. Rules & requirements may vary from year to year. For 2025, a special topic category, "Protecting Marine Life from Human Impact," is available, which can be applied across all eligible age groups and submission types. This option is in addition to the standard categories: Companion Animals, Farm Animals, Wildlife on Land, and Wildlife in the Oceans.	5/31
<a href="#">Jayme Biendl Working Womxn's Scholarship</a>	Teamsters Local 117 has established a new scholarship fund to support working Teamster women and their dependents. The Jayme Biendl Working Womxn's scholarship was established in memory of Officer Jayme Biendl of the Monroe Correctional Complex, who was killed in the line of duty in 2011.	5/31
<a href="#">American Indian College Fund Full Circle Scholarship</a>	For American Indian and Alaska Native college students seeking technical, undergraduate, and graduate degrees at tribal colleges and other nonprofit, accredited schools. Any Native American U.S. citizen who is a member or descendant of a state or federally recognized tribe, has at least a 2.0 grade point average, and is enrolled full-time can apply for a scholarship.	5/31
<a href="#">College is Power Scholarship</a>	(\$1,000) Open to students age 17 and older who are currently in college or plan to start college within the next 12 months.	5/31

<a href="#">Fifth Month Scholarship</a>	(\$1,500) - In 250 words or fewer, submit a response to the question: "May is the fifth month of the year. Write a letter to the number five explaining why five is important. Be serious or be funny. Either way, here's a high five for being original." Must be 14 years of age or older at the time of application.	5/31
<a href="#">We the Future Contest</a>	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 are advised to visit the website for detailed information. The amount varies.	5/31
<a href="#">UW Young Executives of Color Program</a>	YEOC is a nine-month college pipeline program hosted by the UW Foster School of Business. The program serves 170 high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors from 73 schools in Washington. Students attend sessions on the UW campus one Saturday every month for college preparation, business lectures, professional development, and powerful mentorship. YEOC is a FREE 9-month program. The only cost is transportation.	5/31
<a href="#">ACF Visionary Scholarship</a>	A \$5,000 scholarship is available for students who complete an essay on why college is important to them. The scholarship is open to all high school students.	6/1
<a href="#">Native Forward Scholars (was Wells Fargo Scholarship)</a>	This is the application for all Native Forward Scholars Fund scholarship opportunities for the 2025-2026 academic year. By submitting this application, you will be considered for all academic year scholarships for which you are eligible.	6/1
<a href="#">SchoolHouse Connection Youth Leadership and Scholarship Program</a>	Provides scholarships to youth who have experienced homelessness to ensure their completion of a postsecondary education program. Assists youth with financial aid processes, mental health advocacy and referrals, professional legal advocacy and referrals, and assistance locating and establishing local contacts for general support and services. \$2,000 scholarship award (\$1,000 for the 1st year, \$1,000 for the 2nd year of college). Undocumented students who meet these criteria are eligible.	6/2
<a href="#">Stuck At Prom Scholarship Contest</a>	(\$10,000) - This is the coolest scholarship contest around! Students are challenged to create and wear their prom outfits made entirely from Duck Tape to win scholarship cash!	6/4
<a href="#">Ted &amp; Holly Rollins Scholarship</a>	High school seniors are invited to submit a 500-word essay sharing compelling stories about their lives, intended fields of study, career goals, and how they plan to make a positive impact. Scholarships of \$5,000 will be awarded.	6/15
<a href="#">Horatio Alger Association Career &amp; Technical Scholarship</a>	Up to \$2,500 for students to pursue a career or technical certificate/degree.	6/16
<a href="#">Navigate Your Future Scholarship</a>	A \$2,500 scholarship is offered to a high school graduate continuing their education in the aviation industry.	6/27
<a href="#">Korean American Scholarship Foundation Western Regional Chapter</a>	Scholarships for students of Korean heritage who will be full-time students in Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, or Washington.	6/30
<a href="#">Scholarship Poetry Contest - Fall Issue</a>	Open to all U.S. HS students. Applicant must submit an original poem with 20 lines or fewer. Up to \$500.	6/30
<a href="#">Do-Over Scholarship</a>	(\$1,500) - In 250 words or fewer, submit a response to the question: "If you could get one 'do-over' in life, what would it be and why?"	6/30
<a href="#">Geoscience IDEA Scholarship (formerly AWG Minority Scholarship)</a>	The scholarship provides up to \$5000 in awards annually, typically split between two or more undergraduate students, and matches them with AWG mentors to enhance their careers. It also includes a one-year, sponsored AWG student membership.	6/30



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.

[SUBSCRIBE](#) | [UNSUBSCRIBE](#)

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