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Did You Know?
Why Apply Day is Friday,
Sept. 16th.

[>>Learn more.](#)

WASHINGTON STATE GEAR UP UPDATES

- **Save the Dates:** The [2022-2023 WAGU Program Calendar](#) has been finalized. Find it in the [Grant IV Coordinator Manual](#).
- **Download September:** [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*.
- **FYI:** [GEAR UP Week Toolkit](#). Use these resources to plan for National GEAR UP Week 2022 (Sept. 26-30).
- **New!** The 2022-23 WCHSCR [Fall Counselor Workshop Higher Education Book](#) is available to download. This counselor resource provides information to encourage and assist Washington students in transitioning from high school to college.
- **Optional Webinar:** [NCCEP Open Lab: Family Engagement](#). Explore how to support GEAR UP families. Open Labs bring together the GEAR UP community for informal conversations and networking. Come prepared to engage! Sept. 16, 11 AM.
- **Optional Webinar:** [NCCEP Special GEAR UP Webinar: FSA Student Loan Forgiveness for GEAR UP Professionals and Alumni](#). NCCEP in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education will be hosting a webinar on how to take advantage of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program including information on the PSLF limited waiver. Register to learn more about this program and there will be an opportunity to ask questions. Sept. 21, 11 AM.

OPTIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

- **SPI SEL Curriculum Grant Open!** School districts can now apply in iGrants ([Form Package 167](#)). Due Sept. 24. For more information, see: [FAQ & Key Points](#).

STUDENT RECRUITMENT & OUTREACH EVENTS

- **Video Series:** [WAGU Career & Technical Programs](#) | [WAGU Campus Visits](#) | [WAGU Speaker Series](#)
- **Virtual 12th Year Campaign Training:** [Financial Aid 101 for Parents and Caregivers](#). Sept. 27, 5:30 PM.
- **Virtual 12th Year Campaign Training:** [FAFSA & WASFA for Students & Families](#). Sept. 27, 6 PM.
- **PNACAC Fall College Fair:** [Thurston County-Saint Martin's University](#). Sept. 27, 6-8 PM.
- **PNACAC Fall College Fair:** [Pierce County-Tacoma Community College](#). Sept. 28, 5:30-7:30 PM.
- **Virtual 12th Year Campaign Training:** [FAFSA & WASFA for Students & Families \(Spanish\)](#). Sept. 29, 6 PM.
- **Virtual Event:** [My Journey](#). Hosted by ACT. This free virtual event will teach you how to navigate college admissions confidently. Sign up to be notified when registration opens. Sept. 24, Noon.
- **NACAC National College Fairs:** [Virtual](#). Oct. 9 and Nov. 6.
- **Webinar:** [Debt Slapped for Parents](#). Hosted by FEPPP. Oct. 19, 4 PM.
- **NACAC National College Fair:** [Spokane](#). Nov. 1.
- **NACAC National College Fairs:** [Seattle](#). Nov. 4-5.

OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **NEW! PNACAC Webinar Series: College Counseling 101.** Monthly event - 8 sessions with credit available. FREE to PNACAC members. For school counselors, college counselors, CBOs, and career center specialists. Registration links to be posted.
- [2022 Fall Counselor Workshops](#). Sept. 14-WSUV, Sept. 15-UWB, Sept. 16-CPTC, Sept. 20-Virtual.
- **Webinar:** [Hope & Healing Centered Engagement](#). Hosted by OSPI GATE. Sept. 14, 10 AM.
- **Webinar:** [What's New with EVERFI!](#) Hosted by FEPPP. Sept. 22, 4 PM.
- **Webinar:** [What Works to Sustain Engagement and Attendance?](#) Hosted by Attendance Works. Sept. 28, Noon.
- **Virtual Event:** [The Power of Student Voice](#). Hosted by LEV. Oct. 13, 11:30 AM.
- **Virtual 12th Year Campaign Training:** [Financial Aid Information Session](#). Sept. 20, 5:30 PM.
- **Webinar:** [Financial Aid Advising Day & Financial Aid Supports](#). Hosted by WSAC/OSPI. Oct. 5, 9 AM.
- [GEAR UP West](#). Oct. 23-25, Salt Lake City, UT.

- **Webinar: [Debt Slapped](#).** Hosted by FEPPP. Oct. 26, 4 PM.
- **[AVID National Conference](#).** Dec. 8–10, Orlando, FL.

RESOURCES

- **WAGU Featured Resource: [12th Year Campaign Student Workbook Supplemental Handouts](#).** Find additional resources to support a variety of pathways including: [College and Career Pathways](#) | [How to Become an Apprentice](#) | [Military Pathways](#) | [Technical and Specialty Colleges](#)
- **[Washington Attendance Awareness Campaign](#).** From OSPI and the ESD network. Find social media messages, editable material templates, and other resources. These Washington resources are in addition to the many national campaign resources available through [Attendance Works website](#).
- **[New Case Study: The Benefits Of Dual Credit](#).** Partnership 4 Learning's new [report](#) explores how earning college credit while in high school can help Washington students succeed in post-high school education, examines how to increase equity in dual credit participation, and spotlights a successful partnership between Wenatchee Valley College and Bridgeport High School.

IN THE NEWS

- **[Ways to Support the Well-Being of School Leaders](#).** How can we fight burnout and promote self-care?
- **[The Secret to Creating Effective Community Partnerships](#).** How one school integrated community volunteers.
- **[Teacher Shortages Are Real, But Not For The Reason You Heard](#).** Districts flush with federal money are struggling to hire.
- **[How COVID Changed Children's Lives](#).** Former NPR correspondent shares the impacts of keeping students out of school.
- **[High School Students Can Take A Different Path To High-Paying Jobs](#).** Hands-on learning has increased graduation rates.
- **[Teachers Add A Mental-Health Check-In To Lesson Plans](#).** The idea is to connect them to help before issues escalate.
- **[LGBTQ+ Advocacy Group Releases List Of 'Worst' College Campuses](#).** "It's critical that we boldly call out and push back on schools with anti-LGBTQ+ policies at every level of community," one SPU student said.
- **[State Test Scores a Promising Signal of Pandemic Recovery](#).** The data show 70% of students were proficient.
- **[Free Lunch At School Is More Than Just A Meal — It's Fuel For Students' Futures](#).** Pandemic waivers expired on June 30.
- **[4 Essential Guidelines for Mentors](#).** An experienced mentor trainer shares key components of mentoring.
- **[The Unasked Question About The Student Loan Bailout: What's Colleges' Responsibility?](#)** Schools that benefit from all that debt share almost no accountability for poor returns.

SCHOLARSHIPS & OPPORTUNITIES

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

- **[GEAR UP Alumni Association National Scholarship](#).** The GEAR UP Alumni Association is providing a scholarship to students for the Fall 2022 semester. Eligible students must provide proof of enrollment at an institution of higher education, a short response providing information related to financial need, a short response explaining their GEAR UP participation, and a GEAR UP point of contact from their prior participation in GEAR UP. Due Sept. 19.
- **[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.
- **[Cooke College Scholarship Program](#).** Students can access the application [here](#). The deadline is Nov. 17. Juniors can [sign up here](#) to receive notifications about the application for next year.

Scholarship	Brief Description	Due
We the Future Contest	Open to K-12 students, college students, law school students, graduate students, adults 25 years of age and older, and seniors 65 years of age and older. Each age group has different requirements, so applicants should visit the website for details. Amount varies.	9/17
QuestBridge National College Match	Online platform 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	(\$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	(\$100-\$500) - Applicant must submit an original poem with 20 lines or less.	9/30
Shout It Out Scholarship	(\$1,500) - In 250 words or less, submit an online written response to the question: "If you could say one thing to the entire world at once, what would it be and why?"	9/30
Community College Scholarship	For those with high financial need. Students must answer two open-ended, personal, and thought-provoking questions to provide our judges with a proper understanding of each applicant.	9/30
LEAP Rise Above (aka LEAP1%) Scholarship Fund	Financial support for students who demonstrate advocacy, accountability, perseverance, and have shown a commitment to improving their community. It is open to any student regardless of citizenship status. Amount: \$2,500	10/1
SEA-MAR - Farm Worker Scholarship	For students who work or have worked OR whose parent/legal guardian is or has worked as a farm worker.	10/1

SchoolHouse Connection Youth Leadership and Scholarship Program	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 in locating and establishing local contacts for general support and services. Undocumented students who meet the criteria are eligible.	10/15
Golden Door Scholars Scholarship for Undocumented Students	(Full Tuition) - Golden Door Scholars lights the way undocumented students 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 welcomed to apply. However, we do not support funding for graduate degrees. Students must be eligible for DACA.	10/23
US Bank Scholarship Program	Complete a series of Financial Genius for Life online learning modules for a chance to win.	10/30
Disney Dreamers Academy Applications.	(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
Coca-Cola Scholars Scholarship	(\$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 Oct. 31 deadline. 150 Coca-Cola Scholars are selected each year to receive this \$20,000 scholarship.	10/31
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 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.	(\$30,000) Voice of Democracy audio-essay program provides high school students with the unique opportunity to express themselves through 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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