WEEKLY BULLETIN

**March 11-15, 2024**

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| IN THIS ISSUE: | **DID YOU KNOW?**  Over [1/3](https://nscresearchcenter.org/signaturereport9/) of first-time students transfer at least once during their academic journey, [but they often lose college credit](https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-17-574.pdf) when entering a new institution.  Learn how WSAC is [Improving Credit Mobility Through Transparency.](https://www.insidehighered.com/opinion/blogs/beyond-transfer/2024/03/07/new-effort-improve-credit-mobility-through-transparency) |
| * Program Updates * Student Recruitment & Outreach Events |
| * Optional Professional Development |
| * Resources |
| * In the News * Scholarships & Opportunities |

# WA STATE GEAR UP PROGRAM UPDATES

* [**College Knowledge Family Newsletters**](https://gearup.wa.gov/educators/family-newsletters)**.** Monthly newsletters for students by grade level. Pre-loaded with info and areas to personalize! *Available in English, Arabic, Chuukese, Marshallese, Russian, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese.*
* **Update for College-Bound Seniors**: [Decision Day/Senior Signing Day has been extended to June 1](https://councilofpresidents.org/2024/02/23/washingtons-public-four-year-college-and-universities-extend-college-decision-day/), due to FAFSA delays.

# STUDENT RECRUITMENT & OUTREACH EVENTS

* [**uAspire** **Virtual Financial Aid Help Events**](https://www.uaspire.org/FinAidEvents). Free virtual events to walk students and families.
* [**12th Year Campaign Financial Aid Information & Filing Events.**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oELovlvqYmCD7NY0nDw7A_b1Bbeoj4-M7VNBDaQfxoI/edit#heading=h.42fu3w63mb46) Most events are virtual. Spanish events are available.
* [**Students of Color Career Conference**](https://www.everettcc.edu/administration/equity-social-justice/diversity-and-equity-center/soccc)**.** This one-of-a-kind conference brings MS &HS students from across Western WA to network with professionals of color to discuss college and career readiness. Mar. 21 at Everett CC.
* [**NACAC Spring 2024 National College Fair**](https://www.nacacattend.org/fairs)**.** 3/24-Virtual, 4/21-Virtual.
* [**PNACAC Spring College Fair**](https://www.pnacac.org/spring-college-fairs). 4/19-Spokane ([Download poster](https://mcusercontent.com/ff027d691a3c84ebed4563da9/files/b74d23de-3e99-ba74-981a-1692c443e000/Spring_2024_College_Fair_Poster.Spokane.pdf)), 4/22-Seattle ([poster](https://mcusercontent.com/ff027d691a3c84ebed4563da9/files/bec53497-71ac-c046-cead-d8d534a03291/Spring_2024_College_Fair_Poster.Seattle.pdf)), 4/25- Everett ([poster](https://mcusercontent.com/ff027d691a3c84ebed4563da9/files/32fbdb15-9535-f42e-a247-30bf88776847/Spring_2024_College_Fair_Poster.Snohomish_Cty.pdf)), 4/30-Portland ([poster](https://mcusercontent.com/ff027d691a3c84ebed4563da9/files/bec53497-71ac-c046-cead-d8d534a03291/Spring_2024_College_Fair_Poster.Seattle.pdf)).

# OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

* **Webinar:**[**Financial Aid Offer Review.**](https://www.uaspire.org/news-events/financial-aid-offer-review-c4e14c3067b365bda5c1bfb1a0990757) By uAspire. Mar. 12, 11 AM.
* **Webinar:** [**Financial Literacy & Asset-based Engagement**](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_df24F_6ETxaOIqVcviziiw#/registration)**.** By OSPI and WSECU. Mar. 13, 10 AM.
* **Virtual:** [**OSPI Grad Team News You Can Use**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81775131532)**.** Includes presentation, program/Legislative updates, and Q&A. Mar. 13, 2:30.
* **College Counseling 101 Webinar:** [**Disability Support Services in College: What Counselors Need to Know**](https://pnacac.memberclicks.net/webinars). Open to PNACAC members only. Intended for Secondary/High School Counselors. Mar. 14, 9:00 AM
* **Virtual:** [**GEAR UP Discussion Lab: Family Engagement**](https://www.edpartnerships.org/nccep-events/2023/3-14disclab-fameng). By NCCEP. Mar. 14, 11 AM.
* **Virtual:** [**Spring Learning Lab**](https://www.edpartnerships.org/learning-labs)**s**. By NCCEP. For GU professionals.Apply by Mar. 15.
* **Webinar:** [**Introduction to Apprenticeships**](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wpx7sGYESgqG7gpbNsa5Qw#/registration). By OSPI/WSAC. Mar. 20, 9:00-10:30
* **Webinar:** [**How Our Institutions are Accommodating and Navigating the Delay in Higher Education Financial Aid for 2024.**](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_H8mQgLIDRPSkLvupMKMBaA#/registration) By LEV. Live Spanish interpretation and closed captioning in English will be provided. Mar 28, 12:30 PM
* **College Counseling 101 Webinar:** [**Tips for Advising Prospective Student-Athletes**](https://pnacac.memberclicks.net/webinars). Open to PNACAC members only. Intended for Secondary/High School Counselors. Apr. 11, 9:00 AM
* [**NCAN Virtual Spring Institute**](https://www.ncan.org/news/665250/NCAN-Announces-2024-Virtual-Spring-Institute-Save-the-Date-April-15-19.htm)**.** April 15-19.
* [**PNACAC Conference: Where It All Began**](https://www.pnacac.org/annual-conference)**.** May 22 - 24, Salem, OR.
* [**NCCEP/GEAR UP Annual Conference**](https://www.edpartnerships.org/annual)**.** July 21-24, Washington, DC.

# Resources:

* **WAGU Featured Resource:** **Tri-Fold:**[**Financial Aid 101: How to Pay for Education After High School**](https://gearup.wa.gov/file/financial-aid-101-how-fund-education-after-high-school)**and** [**Financial Aid 201: How to Pay for Education After High School**](https://gearup.wa.gov/file/financial-aid-201-how-fund-education-after-high-school)**.** Available in Arabic, Chuukese, English, Marshallese, Russian, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese.
* [**College Admissions Decoded**](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/college-admissions-decoded/id1469569875). Created by NACAC, every episode features insiders from the world of admissions breaking down the facts, myths, and rules of engagement for today's college landscape.
* [**Introducing Apprenticeships Lesson Plan**](https://www.accessingunionapprenticeships.org/apprentiship-resource). From Accessing Union Apprenticeships. Download a free lesson plan to introduce apprenticeship information to your students.
* [**https://www.youtube.com/@getschooled**](https://www.youtube.com/@getschooled). [Get Schooled](https://getschooled.com/) is a national nonprofit that helps young people get to college, find first jobs, and succeed in both. They have turned their best resources and content into videos for students and families.
* **Special $5 ACT Voucher for Your Students!** ACT would like to celebrate the crucial role counselors play in student journeys with a $5 test registration voucher, valid for a February, April, June, or July 2024 ACT® test. This special gift, exclusively for counselors to distribute, is designed to enhance the vital connections they have with students by creating an opportunity for a unique touchpoint. Download the customizable end-of-year cards to access the voucher code and share this unique opportunity. [Download your voucher code with](https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/Feb-ACT-Test-Offer-Editable.pdf) [customizable PDF](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Foregongoestocollege.us5.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D2f8d5fa6686219d36cc349dfd%26id%3D763eefd760%26e%3Dc4902e16a9&data=05%7C02%7Cbethk%40wsac.wa.gov%7Cad3fe02f39194d243a9808dc3dfee473%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C638453412189897854%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=cIyHsTJwEVJQLOiUfCnWq5qTcTg1yS5hbjaaNjVp6iI%3D&reserved=0) | [Download your voucher code with ready-made JPEG](https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/Images/Feb-ACT-Test-Offer-Image.jpg)

**IN THE NEWS**

* [Sick Parents? Caring for Siblings? Colleges Experiment with Asking Applicants How Home Life Affects Them. The Common App Is Trying to Look Beyond Grades to Other Challenges Facing Students](https://hechingerreport.org/sick-parents-caring-for-siblings-colleges-experiment-with-asking-applicants-how-home-life-affects-them)
* [Career Prep Tip: Organize a Career Trek](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/student-success/life-after-college/2024/03/11/best-practices-college-students-career)
* [How Thoughtful Postsecondary Planning Can Raise Expectations for Students in Special Education](https://www.kqed.org/mindshift/63307/how-thoughtful-post-secondary-planning-can-raise-expectations-for-students-in-special-education)
* [Biden Pitches Pell Increase, New Fund to Scale Proven Programs](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/government/student-aid-policy/2024/03/12/biden-seeks-750-pell-grant-increase-shortfall-looms)
* [Advancing Industries of the Future — Or Risk Losing the Race for the 21st Century](https://www.ccdaily.com/2024/03/advancing-industries-of-the-future-or-risk-losing-the-race-for-the-21st-century)
* [In a First, U.S. Students Will Take the SAT Entirely Online (No Pencils Required)](https://www.npr.org/2024/03/05/1235891530/sat-online-digital-test-college)
* [Transfer Enrollment Rose 5.3% In Fall 2023, Pointing to Pandemic Recovery](https://www.highereddive.com/news/transfer-enrollment-rose-53-percent-fall-2023-pandemic-recovery/708700)
* [Why Financial Literacy Education in the US Sucks. Blame the Space Race (Kind of).](https://www.vox.com/videos/24093384/us-financial-literacy-education-sucks)
* [UW Launches Research Center to Tackle Computer Science Education Challenges](https://www.geekwire.com/2024/univ-of-washington-launches-research-center-to-tackle-computer-science-education-challenges/)
* [From Controversial to Lifesaving, These WA School Bills Are Headed to Inslee to Sign](https://www.columbian.com/news/2024/mar/11/from-controversial-to-life-saving-these-wa-school-bills-are-headed-to-inslee-to-sign/)
* [Lily Gladstone Left the Oscars Empty-Handed. But Her Former Mountlake Terrace Classmates Say It's Just the Beginning](https://www.kuow.org/stories/lily-gladstone-s-former-classmates-say-it-s-just-the-beginning)
* [Why Washington's HS Financial Education Bill Didn't Survive the '24 Session](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001QgIjyMnyAr4oYBK80HF9qFGOU6gZmW0fxwouFEkg5stWj_Y3c1RZ7o_mIfVOLfiI39VmsVVS7pjuVwgj_IBiTmDev8mTBfTbQC06oMXlXFJs3zkxgpuHWsnJEACqrWU6e_auouZq-tp68hIo4P0sx09MjQj7OwAm9yylywtW3RurhF-vQdCZa89sP93kjgeHh6u1eAWt2zqTjaqdM9Piesr__RF6VFyjHA1OP1p67yEqW-2ogtEN4Fg2P_RaUqYy&c=Kzx-jXp91ydDzuAloEPoxYQttbEbs-v9BvbM4Xp0KD0EaJfkjOH3tQ==&ch=Yh7eX_KU95Z0zbPieYfcEfokndXLSp7zZzcC73Iaqmj1nTCTGYiioQ==)
* [NW Career & Technical Academy's First Community Appreciation Dinner a Success](https://www.goskagit.com/news/education/northwest-career-and-technical-academys-first-community-appreciation-dinner-a-success/article_62720bf4-dd67-11ee-be62-83fdbee2b5d6.html)
* [Kalispel Tribe Hosts Annual Celebrating Salish Conference to Build Community in Language Learning](https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2024/mar/10/kalispel-tribe-hosts-annual-celebrating-salish-con/)

**SCHOLARSHIPS & OPPORTUNITIES**

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

* **[Scholarship Junkies’ Free Scholarship Bank](https://www.scholarshipjunkies.org/scholarship-search)**. Scholarship Junkies has launched their brand-new Scholarship Bank! This organization is a reputable and safe source to search for scholarships.

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| **College Scholarship** | **Brief Description** | **Due** |
| [Microsoft DisAbility Scholarship](http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/diversity/programs/microsoftdisabilityscholarship.aspx) | ($20,000) – For HS 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 total $20,000 scholarship. | 3/13 |
| [Louie Foundation Scholarship](http://www.louiefamilyfoundation.org/scholarship-application) | $100,000 in scholarships available especially for students with strong academics & whose parents are in the military or veterans of the armed forces. | 3/15 |
| [Junior Duck Stamp Contest](http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck/) | ($200-$1,000) - For K-12 students. Submit an original piece of artwork depicting a North American waterfowl species. | 3/15 |
| [Horatio Alger Scholarship - State Scholarships](https://scholars.horatioalger.org/about-our-scholarship-programs/state-scholarships/) | ($10,000) - The program specifically assists HS students who have faced and overcome great obstacles in their young lives. | 3/15 |
| [National Institutes of Health (NIH) Undergraduate Scholarship Program](https://www.training.nih.gov/programs/ugsp) | For students from disadvantaged backgrounds who are committed to careers in biomedical, behavioral, and social science health-related research. Must be accepted to an accredited 4-year institution. Up to $20,000 per year. Renewable for 4 years. | 3/29 |
| [National Federation of the Blind Scholarship Program](https://nfb.org/scholarships) | ($3,000-$12,000) – For blind scholars. All scholarships awarded are based on academic excellence, community service, and leadership. | 3/31 |
| [LULAC National Scholarship Fund](https://www.lnesc.org/scholarships/lulac/) | Designed to help youth in underserved communities make the dream of college enrollment a reality. | 3/31 |
| [Scholarship Poetry Contest - Summer Issue](https://www.justpoetry.org/scholarships.html) | Open to all U.S. HS students. Applicant must submit an original poem with 20 lines or less. Up to $500. | 3/31 |
| [AFA Teens Scholarship](https://alzfdn.org/young-leaders-of-afa/alzheimers-awareness-scholarship/) | This Alzheimer’s Awareness College Scholarship Essay Contest is an annual competition for college-bound HS seniors. The grand prize winner receives $5,000, with additional prizes awarded for runners-up. | 4/1 |
| [Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund](http://www.davisputter.org/apply/apply-for-scholarships/) | (Up to $15,000 per Year) - These need-based scholarships are awarded to students who can do academic work at the college or university level or are enrolled in a trade or technical program and who are active in the progressive movement. | 4/1 |
| [STEM Stars Actuarial Scholarship Program](https://www.actuarialfoundation.org/scholarships/) | ($20,000). The STEM Stars Actuarial Scholars Program was created to help increase diversity in the actuarial profession. | 4/1 |
| [American Foreign Service Association National HS Essay Contest](http://www.afsa.org/essay_contest.aspx) | For 9-12th graders. Must submit an essay related to Foreign Service. The winner receives $2,500 a trip to Washington, D.C. to meet the Secretary of State, and full tuition for a Semester at Sea educational voyage. | 4/1 |
| [The USDA 1994 Tribal Scholars Program](https://www.usda.gov/partnerships/1994-program) | The program provides full tuition, employment, employee benefits, fees, books, and room and board each year for up to 4 years to selected students pursuing a bachelor’s degree in agriculture, food science, natural resource science, or a related academic discipline at one of 35 federally recognized tribal colleges and universities. The scholarship may be renewed each year, contingent upon satisfactory academic performance and normal progress toward the bachelor's degree. | 4/10 |
| [KMR Group Foundation](http://kmrgrp.com/?page_id=2722) | ($1,000-$3,500) For HS seniors graduating in Southwest Washington. Applicant must be currently enrolled or will be enrolled in Clark College, Lower Columbia College, or Mt. Hood Community College. | 4/12 |
| [USDA/1890 National Scholars Program](https://www.usda.gov/partnerships/1890NationalScholars) | Scholarships are awarded annually and must be used at one of the 1890 Historically Black Land-Grant Universities. Each award provides full tuition, as well as room and board, for the term of the scholarship. The scholarship may be renewed each year, contingent upon satisfactory academic performance and normal progress toward the bachelor's degree. | 4/15 |
| [Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes](http://www.barronprize.org/) | ($10,000) - Honoring outstanding young leaders (ages 8-18) currently working on an inspiring service project or have done so within the past 12 months. Student needs to be working as an individual to lead their service work. The Barron Prize does not accept applications from large groups of young people. | 4/15 |
| [Incight Scholarship](https://www.incight.org/scholarship) | ($500-$2,500) - Incight awards up to one hundred scholarships to students with disabilities, who have demonstrated outstanding merit in giving back to the community and overcoming obstacles to pursue higher education. These scholarships range in value from $500 to $2,500. Open to students who are residents of OR, WA, or CA. | 4/15 |
| [LEAP Rise Above (aka LEAP1%) Scholarship Fund](https://seamar.org/scholarship-leap1.html) | The Latine Educational Achievement Project Scholarship Fund provides financial support for students who demonstrate a history of advocacy, responsibility, accountability, and perseverance; are go-getters, and have shown or have the strong potential to be contributors to their community. | 4/15 |
| [SEA-MAR - Farm Worker Scholarship](https://www.seamar.org/scholarship-farmworker.html) | For students who work or have worked OR whose parent/legal guardian is or has worked as a farm worker. | 4/15 |
| [WWIN Star Scholar (Formerly - Washington Women in Need Education Grant)](https://wwin.org/star-scholars/) | Each WWIN Star Scholar receives up to $5,000 per academic year and up to $20,000 over her undergraduate college career at the approved Washington college or university of her choice. For females 18 and older. | 4/18 |
| [Chin: Shui Kuen & Allen Chin Scholarship](http://asianpacificfund.org/information-for-student-applicants#banatao) | For 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/or other progressive causes | 4/26 |
| [Washington Association of County Officials](http://www.countyofficials.org/247/How-to-Apply) | ($3,000) - The fund awards up to three $3,000 scholarships to eligible children of county employees and county elected officials in the following offices: assessors, auditors, clerks, coroners, medical examiners, prosecutors, sheriffs, and treasurers. Recipients must be full-time students in a baccalaureate degree, associate degree, or vocational/technical certification program. | 4/30 |
| [All About Education Scholarship](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/all-about-education-scholarship) | ($3,000) - In 250 words or less submit a response to the question: "How will a $3,000 scholarship for education make a difference in your life?" | 4/30 |
| [E-waste Scholarship](http://www.digitalresponsibility.org/ewaste-scholarship/) | ($1,000) - Complete the application form including a 140-character message about e-waste. 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 e-waste. | 4/30 |
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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. | | |