WEEKLY BULLETIN

**September 25-29, 2023**

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| IN THIS ISSUE: | **DID YOU KNOW?**  **It’s National GEAR UP Week!**  Find resources from [WAGU](https://gearup.wa.gov/about/what-we-do/national-gear-week) and [NCCEP](https://www.edpartnerships.org/nguw). Share the proclamation and media coverage. Participate in the video challenge! Use #GEARUPworks and #GUWeek |
| * Program Updates * Student Recruitment & Outreach Events |
| * Optional Professional Development |
| * Resources |
| * In the News * Scholarships & Opportunities |

# WA STATE GEAR UP PROGRAM UPDATES

* **Reminder:** GEAR UP students qualify for college application fee waivers from Common App and NACAC by simply identifying as GEAR UP participants. [Educator flyer](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fedpartnerships.us2.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Da0d96cacbd72776b465181daf%26id%3Da306a615f6%26e%3Da2f060beda&data=05%7C01%7CBethK%40wsac.wa.gov%7C1d75719dccfc40a0461b08dbb5427b11%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C638303069365862709%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=W%2BUMRCiRT%2FXw%2BfULYQ541Ay55FDao%2FqXVVcwmTp0O2g%3D&reserved=0) and [Student flyer](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fedpartnerships.us2.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Da0d96cacbd72776b465181daf%26id%3D7358b6686c%26e%3Da2f060beda&data=05%7C01%7CBethK%40wsac.wa.gov%7C1d75719dccfc40a0461b08dbb5427b11%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C638303069365862709%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Nq%2F9L9D0ooqo%2FnnNalSlGGvCrATSIV2hWyzxPDzFczc%3D&reserved=0).
* **Reminder**: Review your Year 7 Work Plan & Budget and submit any necessary revisions by Sept. 30.
* [**College Knowledge Family Newsletters**](https://gearup.wa.gov/educators/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.*
* **Important FAFSA/WASFA Changes:** School counselors and other advocates should adjust financial aid outreach messaging and timelines to address the changes. WSAC offers [training for your staff](https://wsac.wa.gov/aim-higher-training) and helpful [resources and outreach materials](https://wsac.wa.gov/12th-year-campaign).

# STUDENT RECRUITMENT & OUTREACH EVENTS

* [**12th Year Campaign Financial Aid Information and Filing Events.**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oELovlvqYmCD7NY0nDw7A_b1Bbeoj4-M7VNBDaQfxoI/edit#heading=h.42fu3w63mb46) Join one of the events listed below to learn more and get help.  Please note, that most events are offered virtually. Spanish events are available. Dates vary throughout fall/winter.
* [**PNACAC College Fairs:**](https://www.pnacac.org/fall-fairs)10/4: Lacey and 10/5: Tacoma.
* [**NACAC College Fairs:**](https://www.nacacnet.org/nacac-college-fairs/) 10/6-10/7: Seattle, 10/8-10/9: Portland, and 10/24: Spokane.
* **Free:** [**Youth Advocacy Summit & Fall Fest!**](https://educationvoters.salsalabs.org/2023FallAdvocacyEvent/index.html) By LEV, CCER, and youth partners. For youth, by youth. Oct. 8, Highline College

# OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

* **[2023 Fall Counselor Workshop Slide Decks](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMzIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vZG9jcy5nb29nbGUuY29tL3ByZXNlbnRhdGlvbi9kLzF2b0VVdVREZmdWNnpERENoLUFmNC1hOTZqSENpV183MzJkQ25PUjY5Y0NvL2VkaXQ_dXNwPXNoYXJpbmciLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTI1LjgzMDk4NjExIn0.PXra4G0BU-F4g41HbpY0q21BtcwYPQjCV2VU6nm_0Wg/s/421506233/br/226759760863-l" \t "_blank).** Find the presentations from the Fall Counselor Workshops.
* [**OSPI-WSAC Webinar Series.**](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wpx7sGYESgqG7gpbNsa5Qw#/registration) See the link for topics and dates.
* [**PNACAC College Counseling 101 Sessions.**](https://www.pnacac.org/webinars) Open to school/college counselors, consultants, CBOs, career center specialists, transfer center coordinators, and other PNACAC members working with secondary school or transfer-seeking students. *Membership is free for individuals from public school communities.* See the link for details.
* **Webinar:** [**Sustaining Success: Investing in Showing Up**](https://www.attendanceworks.org/resources/webinars/). By Attendance Works. Sept. 27, Noon.
* **Webinar:** [**Dual Credit Updates**](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9..zLe4JxuqQLe41HwnoNoEOG3EPv_Kw0pKUegdShEa9fI/s/421506233/br/226759760863-l). Hosted by OSPI, SBCTC & CoP. Sept. 28, 1:30.
* [**PNACAC College Fairs:**](https://www.pnacac.org/fall-fairs)10/4: Lacey and 10/5: Tacoma.
* **Webinar:** [**College Bound Updates.**](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkc-yqrT0tH9HT_xasbN2qAElvq1LgdUo7) By WSAC and CSF. Oct. 5, 1 PM.
* [**NACAC College Fairs:**](https://www.nacacnet.org/nacac-college-fairs/) 10/6-10/7: Seattle, 10/8-10/9: Portland, and 10/24: Spokane.
* **Webinar:** [**What You Need to Know: FAFSA Simplification Act.**](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclduuvqjoqHtDZpbrmDoGgXDuP1W08kepi#/registration) By Aim Higher WA. Oct. 12, 10 AM.
* [**2023 NCAN National Conference.**](https://www.ncan.org/page/2023NCANConference)Dallas, Oct. 16-18.
* **Webinar:** [**Strategies to Support Transitions to Higher Ed**](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/4416903892252/WN_oJqo1QBrSs20nn0g8aCDGA?emci=56c521e7-4847-ee11-a3f1-00224832eb73&emdi=7ecb087f-584e-ee11-a3f1-00224832e1ba&ceid=11625301#/registration) (Foster/Homeless). By SchoolHouse Connection. Oct. 20, 10 AM.
* [**GEAR UP West Conference.**](https://gearup.wa.gov/about/what-we-do/gear-west)Spokane, Oct. 22-24. **Update:** The [Conference Website](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fgearup.wa.gov%2Fgear-west&data=05%7C01%7CBethK%40wsac.wa.gov%7C80b80ec0ef3d427ce05f08dba7f6059a%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C638288447342128760%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9r21oL6OiZMe64emU4CLAqWWoy%2BWRJ8hgVYjeVUY0tU%3D&reserved=0) is Now LIVE! Find the most current version of the session list, keynote bios, and more. [Register and book your lodging](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fweb.cvent.com%2Fevent%2F76645d71-ab7f-4a37-a057-5437bf945442%2Fsummary&data=05%7C01%7CBethK%40wsac.wa.gov%7C80b80ec0ef3d427ce05f08dba7f6059a%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C638288447342128760%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xIGtlNRYKZexWIsZiwKBab3MAzbSemramFjBWXKJoGg%3D&reserved=0) now for the early bird rate!
* **Webinar:** [**Middle School College and Career Readiness**](https://pages2.act.org/ccrw-2023-webinars.html)**.** By ACT. Oct. 24, 9 AM.
* **Save the Date: 2024 WSCA Conference.** Mar. 6-8, SeaTac.

# RESOURCES

* **WAGU Featured Resource:** [**ABC's of College Posters**](https://gearup.wa.gov/file/abcs-college)**and**[**College, Armed Services, & Opportunity Pennants**](https://gearup.wa.gov/educators/washington-state-gear-resources/college-going-culture/pennants)**.**
* [**https://bigfuturesmallpricetag.org/find-your-program**](https://bigfuturesmallpricetag.org/find-your-program). This new website replaces the Checkout a College website. Connect to a WA State Community or Technical College today!
* [**Google Doc: It's A Plan College Workbook.**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1c2XKdn-v5f_3f8lu4HdNJw-hVIURuSx_8vY92wK-3g4/copy) By OR goes to College. Help seniors stay organized with their post-high school plans! Our Google Doc workbook has tabs for college and scholarship application information, deadlines, and more. Using the link above prompts users to create a copy in their Google Drive so it's ready to use.
* [**Where Are You Going? Career Guides**](https://wtb.wa.gov/career-resources/order-publications/). These free guides feature a career quiz and include hundreds of occupations, projected growth rates in Washington, education requirements, and average pay in our state. Order from Workforce.

# IN THE NEWS

* [Inslee Right To Support Individual Tutoring To Help Students Make Up For COVID Learning Loss](https://columbiabasinherald.com/news/2023/sep/19/column-inslee-right-support-individual-tutoring-he/)
* [Western Oregon University To Offer New Certificates In American Sign Language](https://www.opb.org/article/2023/09/11/western-oregon-university-sign-language-deaf-blind-protactile-education" \t "_blank)
* [Gen Z Values College, But Affordability Concerns Remain](https://www.highereddive.com/news/gen-z-values-college-affordability-concerns-gallup/693762" \t "_blank)
* [2023 Niche Senior Enrollment Survey: Reflections After The Pandemic](https://www.niche.com/about/enrollment-insights/2023-niche-senior-enrollment-survey-reflections-after-the-pandemic" \t "_blank)
* [Anonymous "Dog Whistle" Letters Were Sent To Spokane Valley Churches Regarding Local Schools' Gender-Inclusive Policies — Including Progressive Pro-LGBTQ+ Churches](https://www.inlander.com/news/anonymous-dog-whistle-letters-were-sent-to-spokane-valley-churches-regarding-local-schools-gender-inclusive-policies-including-progressiv-26632796)
* [Tumwater Middle Schools Try New Approach In Science Classes After Pandemic](https://www.king5.com/article/news/local/tumwater-middle-schools-try-new-approach-in-science-classes-after-pandemic-covid/281-febbef83-5afc-40ac-9ddd-b7f5f94c8c4d)
* [Washington Recalculates Math Courses To Students’ Career Relevance](https://crosscut.com/news/2023/09/washington-recalculates-math-courses-students-career-relevance)
* [Tacoma School District Is Working To Address Students' Mental Health Despite Limited Funds](https://www.king5.com/article/news/education/tacoma-working-to-support-students-mental-health-school-year/281-96cddc81-ab2f-4c7b-83d4-5e34dda5b05a)
* [My Disability Activism Models My Pride In Who I Am](https://www.nea.org/nea-today/all-news-articles/my-disability-activism-models-my-pride-who-i-am)
* [Is This The Year Students Finally Catch Up From The Pandemic? Educators Think So](https://www.edweek.org/leadership/is-this-the-year-students-finally-catch-up-from-the-pandemic-educators-think-so/2023/09)
* [Biden Credits School Shooting Survivors As He Creates Gun Violence Prevention Office](https://www.edweek.org/policy-politics/biden-credits-school-shooting-survivors-as-he-creates-gun-violence-prevention-office/2023/09)
* [A Black Texas Student Sues After He Was Suspended Over His Hairstyle](https://www.npr.org/2023/09/22/1200374764/crown-act-texas-hairstyles-law-nationwide)

# 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.
* [**Path to Pro Scholarship**](https://www.myscholarship.app/home-depot-foundation)**.** $2,000 scholarship for students attending an approved trade-related program (Carpentry, Electrical, HVAC, Plumbing, or Construction Management) at an accredited two-year school. Due Sept. 30.

* **[2024 YoungArts Award Competition](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fedpartnerships.us2.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Da0d96cacbd72776b465181daf%26id%3D06b04a16c8%26e%3Da2f060beda&data=05%7C01%7CBethk%40wsac.wa.gov%7Cfca140779ad94fefd2cb08dbb459c73d%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C638302069950331588%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=bBpccANWhKDvmEirm5aDvZnfbMOIoVOI7V2pjR%2BPYJ0%3D&reserved=0).** Open to artists (1) between the ages of 15–18 or in high school grades 10–12 (as of December 1, 2023) (2) that are U.S. citizens, permanent residents, or legally able to receive taxable income in the U.S. and (3) that demonstrate excellence in Classical Music, Dance, Design, Film, Jazz, Photography, Theater, Visual Arts, Voice or Writing. Winners receive cash awards, and opportunities to work with renowned artists, and become eligible for creative and professional development support throughout their careers. Due Oct.13.
* [**U.S. Presidential Scholar Nominations for Overall Achievement Award**.](https://www.k12.wa.us/sites/default/files/public/graduation/pubdocs/2023-24%20Overall%20Achievement%20Nomination%20Form.pdf) *Schools may nominate* one student who identifies as female and one as male. Candidates should have demonstrated leadership; school and community involvement; academic and extracurricular achievement and writing skills. Nominees may receive discretionary points for extraordinary scholastic achievement, long-lasting commitment to community service, heavy workload, additional family responsibilities, or significant obstacles that they overcame. Submit a nomination form and writing sample by Oct. 20.

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| **College Scholarship** | **Brief Description** | **Due** |
| [QuestBridge National College Match](http://www.questbridge.org/for-students/ncm-national-college-match) | 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](http://www.digitalresponsibility.org/dont-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](http://www.justpoetry.org/submissions) | ($100-$500) - Applicant must submit an original poem with 20 lines or less. | 9/30 |
| [Shout It Out Scholarship](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/shout-it-out-scholarship) | ($1,500) - In 250 words or less, respond to the question: "If you could say one thing to the entire world at once, what would it be and why?" | 9/30 |
| [Golden Door Scholars Scholarship for Undocumented Students](http://www.goldendoorscholars.org/) | (Full Tuition) Recent HS grads, currently enrolled undergrads, and transfer students (CC or 4-year) are welcome to apply. Apps are considered on a rolling basis, so applying early is helpful. Students must be eligible for DACA. | 10/1 |
| [Coca-Cola Scholars Scholarship](http://www.coca-colascholarsfoundation.org/apply/#programs) | ($20,000) - HS seniors with a min. A 3.0 unweighted GPA may apply. 150 Coca-Cola Scholars are selected each year. | 10/2 |
| [Horatio Alger Scholarship - National](https://scholars.horatioalger.org/about-our-scholarship-programs/national-scholarships/) | ($25,000) - For HS students who have faced and overcome great obstacles in their young lives. | 10/25 |
| [Horatio Alger Scholarship - State](https://scholars.horatioalger.org/about-our-scholarship-programs/state-scholarships/) | ($10,000) – For HS students who have faced and overcome great obstacles in their young lives. | 10/25 |
| [U.S. Bank Scholarship Program](https://www.usbank.com/community/financial-education/scholarship.html) | Complete a series of Financial Genius for Life online learning modules for a chance to win. | 10/30 |
| [Disney Dreamers Academy Applications](https://www.disneydreamersacademy.com/be-a-dreamer/apply/) | (Academy) - This 4-day, power-packed event is for 100 selected HS students. Should be 13-19, inspired, motivated, and prepared to dream big. | 10/31 |
| [Zombie Apocalypse Scholarship](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/zombie-apocalypse-scholarship) | ($2,000) - In 250 words or less respond to the question: "Imagine that your HS or college has been overrun with zombies. Your math professor, the cafeteria ladies, and even your best friend have all 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.](https://www.vfw.org/VOD/) | ($30,000) This audio-essay program provides HS students with the unique opportunity to express themselves regarding a democratic and patriotic-themed recorded essay. | 10/31 |
| [Elks Most Valuable Student Competition](http://www.elks.org/ENF/scholars/mvs.cfm) | Ranging from $1,000 per year to $12,500 per year. For students pursuing a 4-year degree, on a full-time basis. | 11/13 |
| [Odenza Marketing Group Scholarship](http://www.odenzascholarships.com/awards/8/eligibility_odenza_marketing_group_scholarship.phphttp:/www.odenzascholarships.com/) | ($500) 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 is required. | 11/15 |
| [10 Words or Less Scholarship](https://www.studentscholarships.org/easy.php#sthash.2vdhoRcz.dpbs) | ($500) - In 10 words or less, say why you deserve the scholarship. | 11/15 |
| [NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing](https://www.aspirations.org/award-programs/apply-for-an-award) | For 9th-12th graders who self-identify as women, genderqueer, or non-binary for their computing-related achievements and interests, and encourages them to pursue their passions. | 11/20 |
| [SchoolHouse Connection Youth Leadership and Scholarship Program](https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/youth-leadership/scholarship-program/) | For youth who have experienced homelessness. Assists 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 these criteria are eligible. | 11/24 |
| [ACT SIX - Portland](http://www.actsix.org/nw/portland/) | (Full Tuition) - Act Six will award 14 of Portland-Salem's most promising community leaders full scholarships worth up to $200,000 to two partner colleges: George Fox University and Warner Pacific College. Act Six scholars are chosen through a rigorous, highly competitive, three-phase selection process that spans four months. | 11/28 |
| [ACT SIX - Tacoma-Seattle](http://www.actsix.org/nw/tacsea/) | (Full Tuition) - Act Six will award 18 of Tacoma-Seattle’s most promising urban leaders full scholarships worth up to $245,000 to five partner colleges: Gonzaga University, Northwest University, Pacific Lutheran University, St. Martin's University, and Whitworth University. Act Six scholars are chosen through a rigorous, highly competitive, three-phase selection process that spans four months. | 11/28 |
| [ACT SIX - Yakima Valley](http://www.actsix.org/nw/yakima/#toggle-id-1) | (Full Tuition) - Act Six will award 15 of Yakima Valley’s most promising community leaders full scholarships worth up to $240,000 to three partner colleges. ACT Six scholars are chosen through a rigorous, highly competitive, three-phase selection process that spans four months. | 11/28 |
| [Education Matters](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/education-matters-scholarship) | ($5,000) - In 250 words or less respond to the question: "What would you say to someone who thinks education doesn't matter, or that college is a waste of time and money?" Must be 14 years of age or older to apply. Must be a legal U.S. resident. Must reside in the 50 United States or the District of Columbia. | 11/30 |
| [cid:image003.jpg@01D341AB.22959DC0](http://www.facebook.com/gearupwa)[cid:image005.jpg@01D341AB.22959DC0](http://www.instagram.com/gearupwa)[cid:image015.jpg@01D341AF.8987B190](http://bit.ly/gearupwa) | | |
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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. | | |