NEWS & RESOURCES

August 10-14, 2020

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| IN THIS ISSUE: | **Did you know?** In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, more than **1,400 colleges and universities** have moved to a **test-optional admissions policy** for Fall 2021 admissions (and possibly beyond). What does this mean for students? [Learn more.](https://gearup.wa.gov/node/4393) |
| * GEAR UP Updates |
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| * Resources |
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# WASHINGTON STATE GEAR UP UPDATES

* ​**Register:** [**WA State GEAR UP Year 4 Kickoff Workshop.**](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/august-2020-gear-up-year-4-kick-off-virtual-workshop-tickets-115076715554) Register for this virtual event on Zoom. Aug. 18, 10 AM - 2PM.
* **Register:** [**2020 Fall HS Counselor Virtual Workshops**](https://www.washingtoncouncil.org/). Hear updates from OSPI, SBCTC, COP, ICW, and WSAC. Presentations will be available on YouTube. The Higher Education Handbook will be provided prior to the event via online PDF format. Clock hours will be provided by WSCA. Register: [Sept. 15-Option 1](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fall-counselor-workshop-option-1-tickets-106812940380) or [Sept. 17-Option 2](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fall-counselor-workshop-option-2-tickets-106816661510).
* **Save the Date!** [**National GEAR UP Week**](https://www.gearup.wa.gov/about/impact/national-gear-week)**.** Sept. 21-25. Check out the toolkit for new and improved activities.
* **Save the Date!** [**GEAR UP West: Virtual Event.**](https://gearup.wa.gov/about/what-we-do/gear-west) The in-person GEAR UP West conference has been canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions; however, we plan to host a one-day virtual event in its place. GEAR UP West Virtual Conference is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, October 20, 2020.  Please check back for additional details.

# OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

* **Today! Webinar:** [**Superintendents Across WA state on Racial Equity and Going Back to School.**](http://ow.ly/n7T250AJq3R)Aug. 11, 12:30.
* **Webinar:** By OSPI GATE. [**Attendance 101: How Do Schools Prioritize And Maintain Connections With All Students And Families This Fall?**](https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcqce2hrT8uHtGirAduvVQDoITOEuRFWQQm) Aug 12, 10 AM. [**Attendance 201: What Are Culturally Responsive Ways To Increase Student Engagement In Remote Learning?**](https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUtcu2opjksHt2Jnk9AOGhf7E59aAl9JjPB) Aug 12, 3 3PM.
* **Webinar:** [**Applying to College During a Pandemic: For the Class of 2021 Students & Families**](https://go.collegeboard.org/applying-to-college-during-a-pandemic-webinar). Hosted by College Board. Aug. 12, 4 PM.
* **Webinar:** [**Creating an Engaging and Restorative Environment to Support Transitions to School.**](https://www.attendanceworks.org/resources/webinars/) Hosted by Attendance Works. Aug. 19, 11 AM.
* **Webinar:** [**A Conversation on Special Education During COVID 19.**](https://www.facebook.com/events/230046408184211/) Hosted by Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council and The Arc - Washington State. Aug. 26, 11 AM.
* **Virtual Event:** [**NACAC Virtual College Fair Counselor Preview.**](https://www.nacacfairs.org/virtual) NACAC Virtual College Fairs seamlessly connect high school juniors and seniors with colleges and universities. Get a preview just for counselors. Aug.19.
* **Virtual Event:** [**NCAN 2020 Conference**](https://www.ncan.org/page/2020NationalConference). Sept. 14-16.
* **Virtual Event:** [**PNACAC Virtual College Fair**](https://pnacac.memberclicks.net/fall-fairs#Fairdates)**s.** Registration for their multiple virtual college fairs will open on Aug. 15.

# RESOURCES

* **Featured WAGU Resource:** [**Virtual Visit Resources.**](https://gearup.wa.gov/node/4318) We will continue to add options, but here are just a few ways that students can explore potential schools. See also: [**Choosing Your College While Campuses Are Closed**](https://getschooled.com/article/5453-choosing-your-college-while-campuses-are-closed).
* [**Bitmoji Lockers Are the New Bitmoji Classrooms—and a Great Icebreaker for Students!**](https://www.weareteachers.com/virtual-bitmoji-locker/) Virtual lockers to get to know you!
* [**Making the Case for College During COVID-19**](https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=reg20.jsp&referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fpages2.act.org%2Fcollege-during-covid19.html&eventid=2523027&sessionid=1&key=63D08DFE046DE8B5EC1D29D1D8F3EC19&regTag=&sourcepage=register). On-Demand Webinar by ACT.
* [**Research-Based Recommendations for What Schools Should Do Next**](https://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2020/07/28/7-research-based-recommendations-for-what-schools-should.html)**.** Researchers have reached a consensus.
* [**Online Activities to Help Students Cope.**](https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/six_online_activities_to_help_students_cope_with_covid_19) They can help students feel connected and resilient during the pandemic.
* [**Social, Emotional, and Academic Development Through an Equity Lens.**](https://edtrust.org/social-emotional-and-academic-development-through-an-equity-lens) Ed Trust’s new report, provides 6 recommendations.

* **[Innovation of Educators in Immigrant-Serving Districts.](https://www.gse.harvard.edu/news/20/08/new-report-explores-innovation-educators-immigrant-serving-districts)** How districts are adapting and connecting with communities.

* **[PBS Virtual Professional Learning Series](https://kcts9.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/virtual-professional-learning-series-collection/)**. Created for teachers—by teachers.
* [**WA Listens**](https://www.walistens.org/). A new program that provides nonclinical support to people experiencing elevated stress due to COVID-19.
* **[IEP on Pause?](https://wapave.org/iep-on-pause-how-to-support-continuous-learning-with-school-buildings-closed)** How to support continuous learning with school buildings closed. See also: [**High School Halt: Ways to Support Youth Working on Adult Life Plans During COVID-19.**](https://wapave.org/high-school-halt-ways-to-support-youth-working-on-adult-life-plans-during-the-school-shutdown/)
* [**How to Read Your College Bill**](https://getschooled.com/article/5590-how-to-read-your-college-bill)**.** Learn how much you owe, when it’s due, and how the amount came to be.

* **<http://driveinwifi.wa.gov/>** freetemporary, emergency internet access for Washingtonians.

# IN THE NEWS

* [**‘We Have A Chance To Confront Change’**](https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2020/aug/06/we-have-a-chance-to-confront-change-mandy-manning)**.** Mandy Manning joins other top Washington teachers to offer advice
* [**Educational Triage**](https://medium.com/waospi/educational-triage-be2d29751916)**.** 2020 Washington Regional Teachers of the Year share strategies and reflections.
* [**Much Work To Be Done**](https://www.insidehighered.com/admissions/views/2020/08/03/dropping-standardized-tests-only-one-part-equalizing-college-admissions)**.** Promoting fairness must mean more than killing the SAT, writes Anthony P. Carnevale.
* [**Back To School Mental Health?**](https://philadelphia.cbslocal.com/2020/08/03/child-psychologist-says-back-to-school-mental-health-depends-on-students-feeling-these-3-things) Depends on students feeling these 3 things. See also: [**Kids' Mental Health Can Struggle During Online School.**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/education/2020/07/31/covid-online-school-kids-mental-health-teachers/5529846002) Here's how teachers are planning ahead.
* [**Demystifying the Mind**](https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/spring-2019/demystifying-the-mind)**.** Across the country, educators are integrating mental health literacy into their curricula.
* [**The Pandemic’s Toll on Children With Special Needs and Their Parents**](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/27/well/family/children-special-needs-pandemic.html)**.** Missing social contacts and altered routines, disturbed sleep and eating habits can be particularly intense for the kids with developmental challenges.
* [**A ‘Weird Dance’.**](https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/a-weird-dance-washington-schools-caught-in-limbo-in-fight-for-coronavirus-stimulus-mone) Washington schools caught in limbo in fight for coronavirus stimulus money.
* [**COVIDsomnia**.](https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/covidsomnia-why-the-pandemic-is-messing-with-people-s-sleep-1.5049266https:/www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/covidsomnia-why-the-pandemic-is-messing-with-people-s-sleep-1.5049266) Why the pandemic is messing with people's sleep.
* [**How Safe Is Your School's Reopening Plan?**](https://www.kqed.org/mindshift/56430/how-safe-is-your-schools-reopening-plan-heres-what-to-look-for) Here's what to look for.
* [**Culturally Relevant Teaching Can Build Relationships While Students Are Home**](https://www.kqed.org/mindshift/56450/how-culturally-relevant-teaching-can-build-relationships-while-students-are-home). Teacher submitted resources/lesson plans.
* [**August: Four Things I Need to Remember**](http://storiesfromschool.org/august-four-things-i-need-to-remember/). I cannot plan in a vacuum: the pandemic, the protests, the politics, these are all realities that I understand will impact what I do as the outside world pushes into my classroom unlike ever before.
* [**A Teacher’s Game Plan for Easing Into a New Online School Year.**](https://www.pbssocal.org/education/at-home-learning/teachers-game-plan-easing-new-online-school-year) We have the opportunity to model to their kids what it looks like to learn and overcome obstacles together.
* [**How to Proactively Prepare for Distance Learning**](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/05/parenting/parents-distance-learning.html)**.** This fall doesn’t have to be like the spring.
* [**When Forced Him to Teach Online, This Professor Got Creative**](https://narratives.insidehighered.com/covid-19-forced-him-to-teach-online). How a flipped classroom, journal clubs, and “ad-lib” conversations kept students engaged.
* [**Make Remote or Hybrid Math/Science Instruction Engaging**](https://www.edutopia.org/article/how-make-remote-or-hybrid-math-and-science-instruction-engaging)**.** Take advantage of online resources and simple experiments.

# SCHOLARSHIPS & OPPORTUNITIES

*Find more opportunities at:* [*https://gearup.wa.gov/resources/scholarships*](https://gearup.wa.gov/resources/scholarships) *and* [*our list of scholarship search engines and databases*](https://gearup.wa.gov/node/3239)*.*

* [**The SchoolHouse Connection Youth Leadership and Scholarship Program**](https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/youth-leadership/scholarship-program/). Provides scholarships to youth who have experienced homelessness to ensure their completion of a post-secondary education program. Due Oct. 1.
* [**Find Big Money Scholarships for College**](https://getschooled.com/article/5227-find-scholarships-for-college/)**.** We're talking about tens of thousands of dollars in money!

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| **Scholarship** | **Brief Description** | **Due** |
| [**American Fire Sprinkler Association Scholarship Program—2**nd **Chance Scholarship**](https://www.afsascholarship.org/) | ($1,000) - Open to anyone who has graduated high school or equivalency and wants to pursue a college degree or trade school education. | 8/31 |
| [**Make Me Laugh Scholarship**](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/make-me-laugh-scholarship) | ($1,500) In 250 words or less describe an incident in your life, funny or embarrassing (fact or fiction), and make us laugh! | 8/31 |
| [**We the Future Contest**](http://constitutingamerica.org/downloads.php) | Open to K-12 students, college students, law school students, graduate school 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 website for details. Amount varies. | 9/17 |
| [**Don’t Text and Drive Scholarship**](http://www.digitalresponsibility.org/dont-text-and-drive-scholarship) | ($1,000) - Write a 140-character statement that completes this sentence: I pledge to not text and drive because… | 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 of 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 |
| [**CJ Pony Parts Scholarship Video Contest**](https://www.cjponyparts.com/cj-pony-parts-scholarship-video-contest) | ($500) - Create a short video, under 3 minutes long, on one of their topics. | 10/15 |
| [**Horatio Alger Scholarship - National Scholarships**](https://scholars.horatioalger.org/scholarships/about-our-scholarship-programs/national-scholarships/) | ($25,000) - The Horatio Alger National Scholarship Program is one of the major scholarship programs nationally that specifically assists high school students who have faced and overcome great obstacles in their young lives. | 10/25 |
| [**Horatio Alger Scholarship - State Scholarships**](https://scholars.horatioalger.org/scholarships/about-our-scholarship-programs/state-scholarships/) | ($10,000) - State scholarships are awarded to eligible students in all fifty states and the District of Columbia. The program specifically assists high school students who have faced and overcome great obstacles in their young lives. | 10/25 |
| [**Voice of Democracy Scholarship.**](https://www.vfw.org/VOD/) | Provided by the VFW, students in grades 9-12 are eligible for up to $30,000. | 10/31 |
| [**ZipRecruiter Scholarship**](https://www.ziprecruiter.com/scholarship) | ($3,000) To enter, please write a 500-800-word essay that addresses a job you previously held and your ideal post-grad job. | 10/31 |
| [**Zombie Apocalypse Scholarship**](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/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 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 |

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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, and you should not assume endorsement by these entities.*