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Did You Know?

Who counts as your parent when you file your FAFSA form?

[Learn more and download a handy infographic.](#)

GEAR UP UPDATES

- **Staffing Changes:** Lori Vani's has moved on to a new position with Employment Security. Please send all budget/expenditure/match inquiries and follow up to Marcie Sample, marcies@wsac.wa.gov. Processing may be a little slower than normal for us until we are able to fill this position. Thanks for your understanding.
- **Action Required: Register & make lodging arrangements for our April workshop.** **Cohort:** Apr.24-25, **Priority:** Apr. 26-27, Wenatchee. NOTE: The room block closes on Apr. 2.
- **Match Tip of the Week:** Many colleges will donate pennants or other college swag to your program upon request. The value of these donations can be submitted as match on a Goods and Services form. The donor (college) must sign and document the value. Receipts are preferred, if available.
- **Free! Spring Regional Counselor Workshops.** Hosted by OSPI, WSAC, and WCAN. For counselors & college access professionals. Held in 10 locations in Feb. & Mar. Visit website for details. Clock hours available. **NOTE:** You may use WAGU funds to pay for travel costs related to this recommended pro-dev event.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Academic Acceleration Grant for Dual Credit Expansion. To be eligible for these 1-time grants, a school district must have an academic acceleration policy, which ensures that students who meet the state standard on the HS state assessment are automatically enrolled in the next most rigorous advanced course offered by the high school. Deadline has been extended to Feb. 28.

OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **PNACAC Summer College Tour.** Register today! The tour will visit schools in eastern WA, eastern OR and ID. \$400 for PNACAC members/\$450 for non-members. Jun. 17-22.
- **HGSE/HBS New Certificate Program.** The Harvard Graduate School of Education and Harvard Business School have a new professional learning opportunity designed for principals, assistant principals, teachers aspiring to move into school leadership. The Certificate in School Management and Leadership seeks to improve their effectiveness in schools, and help leaders navigate the intricacies of their challenging profession.
- **Webinar: Measuring Soft Skills Doesn't Need to Be Hard:** Gain information on the why, what and how of using SEL measures for formative purposes and receive an introduction to [a new free guide](#) on forming a strategy for measuring SEL in your specific school setting. **Feb. 22, 10 AM.**
- **Webinar: Serving Special Populations for College and Career Readiness.** Hosted by OSPI/WSAC. Mar. 7, 10:30 AM.
- **WA School Counselor Association State Conference.** Mar. 7-9, SeaTac.
- **Rural Counselor Network & Convening.** For counselors, administrators, and college access professionals for small rural school districts from Eastern WA. Teams encouraged to attend! Mar. 14, Spokane.
- **PNACAC Conference.** Through workshops, educational sessions, shared interest group conversations, counseling and enrollment professionals gain new knowledge and a revived enthusiasm to improve the opportunities for students. May 23-25, Spokane. **The Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access (IDEA) Pre Conference Workshop** is run in conjunction with the Conference. HS counselors and admission professionals are welcome to attend.
- **Beyond Paper Tigers Trauma-Informed Conference.** Get concrete strategies for implementation. Includes a day-long Trauma-Informed Certification track (in English and Spanish) and general conference sessions. Jun. 27-28, Pasco.
- **Save the Date: School Counselor Summer Institute.** Technical assistance for K-12 counselors and other interested educators. Get info/updates on a variety of topics from the experts. Jun. 27, Spokane or Jun. 29, Olympia. Stay tuned for registration.

RESOURCES

- **WAGU Featured Resource: Family Newsletters. Download March!** Add your school logo, events and contact information to customize for your school!

7	8	9	10	11	12
Preparing for High School Planificando para la Preparatoria	Right Classes for High School Las clases correctas para la preparatoria	What it Takes to Graduate from High School Lo que se necesita para bachillerarse	Getting Back on Track Volviendose a encaminar	Test Preparation Preparación para el examen	What Happens After You Complete the FAFSA Que pasa después de completar la FAFSA

- **Helping Kids after a Shooting.** To provide additional support, ASCA has compiled resources to help children affected by these situations.
- **Report: First Generation Students.** A study of first-generation college students has found that children of college-educated parents are more likely to persist and graduate. [Learn more](#) and [download the report.](#)
- **Teaching Hard History.** A new, first-of-its-kind free resource to teach the hard history of the United States from Teaching Tolerance.

IN THE NEWS

- **Who's Missing From America's Colleges? Rural High School Graduates.** The reasons for low college-going by rural students are as myriad as they are consequential. Many are historic.
- **Advising Equals Engaged Students.** Retention and graduation rates increase for community colleges that beef up or get creative with their student advising services.
- **Senate Leaders Reconsider Ban on Pell Grants for Prisoners.** The move would restore a federal lifeline to the nation's cash-strapped prison education system.
- **If Americans Really Cared About Students' Mental Health, These School Ratios Would Be Very Different.** Too many schools don't have anywhere near enough health professionals to help students before the catastrophes.
- **Study: DACA Increased Immigrants' Education, Labor Force Participation, And Productivity.** It also cut teen pregnancy.
- **The Power of Sharing Your Story with Students.** Revealing imperfections and showing vulnerability connects teachers to students—and students to deeper engagement.
- **Is Seattle's Homeless Crisis the Worst in the Country?** Maybe. It depends on how you count — but Seattle is definitely worse per capita than New York or L.A.
- **Report Busts Myth of Unemployable Humanities Grads.** No, they're not all working as baristas. When it comes to pay, job satisfaction and career advancement, humanities majors do just fine, a new report says.
- **Walla Walla Community College Adds Second Bachelor's Degree.** WWCC will launch a four-year degree in applied management and entrepreneurship, beginning in the fall of 2019.
- **Is School-Discipline Reform Moving Too Fast?** In some districts, efforts to curb suspensions result in rushed solutions and even a loss of teachers. (Features Highline Schools).
- **First Generation College Students Face Obstacles to Graduation.** It's important for first gen students to build a supportive community around them.
- **The Best College for Every Major.** A new report highlights schools producing the highest-earning grads for each major.
- **Law Would Ban Lunch Shaming In Washington State.** The bill also looks at long-term solutions for students who repeatedly are unable to afford lunch.
- **Success And Pain In 'Tell Them We Are Rising'.** PBS will feature the inspiring story of historically black colleges and universities, about higher education, and ultimately about our economic and social trajectory as a nation.
- **With Clean Clothes, This Detroit School Sees A New Attitude And Improved Attendance.** Parents volunteer to run the washer in this Detroit school.
- **Making Good Decisions.** An interactive module helps students get to know their own values and see how their decisions can ripple out to affect their wider communities.
- **The 7 Things Students Think About When Choosing a College.** A new report offers tips based on information from more than 100,000 HS students nationwide.
- **A College in the Library.** Bard College opens its second "microcollege" in Brooklyn Public Library. The free program, which selects ambitious applicants from underprivileged backgrounds, culminates in an associate's degree.

SCHOLARSHIPS & OPPORTUNITIES

- **Greenlight to College Marathon.** Students can now register to participate in the online Greenlight to College Marathon on 2/24. During this FREE online event, students can earn up to \$100 every hour and qualify for a \$1,000 scholarship.
- **Are You A Student With Something To Say?** If you go to a public school or university in Washington and aspire to be a writer or a journalist, here's a chance to see your work published in the pages of the state's largest newspaper. Apply for the 2018 Seattle Times Student Voices program. Due Mar. 18.

Scholarship	Brief Description	Due
Gordon A. Rich Memorial Scholarship	(\$12,500) – For exceptionally qualified HS students with demonstrated financial need whose parents or guardians have, or had, a career in the financial services industry.	2/20
Vegetarian Resource Group Scholarship	One award of \$10,000 & two awards of \$5,000 will be given to graduating HS students who have promoted vegetarianism in their schools and/or communities.	2/20

Chin: Shui Kuen & Allen Chin Scholarship	For incoming freshman or current, full-time undergraduate at a 4-year college or university. For any ethnic heritage. Student or parent currently/formerly employed at an Asian-owned or Asian cuisine restaurant. Must meet add'l criteria.	2/24
Governor's Scholarship for Foster Youth	(\$2,000-\$4,000) - For HS students from foster care continue their education and earn a college degree.	2/28
Leadership 1000 Scholarship	(\$1,500-\$5,000) - Provides assistance to students who want to attend an eligible four-year college or university in Washington state.	2/28
PNACAC Scholarship	Students from diverse backgrounds & all family income backgrounds may apply. (\$1,000)	3/1
TheDream.US - National Scholarship	For DREAMers w/ DACA. Covers tuition & fees up to \$14,500 for an AA & \$29,000 for a BA at one of our Partner Colleges (EWU & UW). Renewable each year.	3/1
American Chemical Society Scholars Award	(\$5,000) - American, Hispanic, or American Indian HS seniors pursuing a college degree in the chemical sciences or chemical technology are eligible.	3/1
INSPIRE Pre-College Program.	Full scholarship for Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian rising HS junior/seniors. Spend 3-weeks on the George Washington University campus to learn about intergovernmental relations between tribal governments and the federal government. Includes room and board, travel, materials and more.	3/1
Marine Corps Scholarship	These need-based scholarships are for children of Marines and Navy Corpsmen.	3/1
Association of Computer Professionals in Education (ACPE) Scholarship	(\$2,500) – For HS seniors who have been actively involved in the use of technology during their high school careers and are planning to pursue a STEM field.	3/1
Create a Greeting Card Scholarship	(\$10,000) - Submit original photo, artwork or computer graphics for the front of a greeting card.	3/1
Washington State PTA Scholarship	\$2,000 for 4-year postsecondary institutions. \$1,000 for community colleges, voc-tech schools or other accredited institutions.	3/1
ASHG DNA Day Essay Contest	(\$100-\$1,000) - For 9-12th graders. Must submit an essay addressing a question related to genetics.	3/9
American Foreign Service Association National HS Essay Contest	For 9-12th graders. Must submit an essay related to Foreign Service. Winner receives \$2,500 a trip to D.C. to meet the Secretary of State & full tuition for a Semester at Sea.	3/15
National Peace Essay Contest for HS Students	Must write an essay related to the topic of "Security Sector Reform, Political Transition, & Sustainable Peace." \$1,000-\$10,000.	3/15
Junior Duck Stamp Contest	(\$200-\$1,000) - For K-12 students. Submit an original piece of artwork depicting a North American waterfowl species.	3/15
Microsoft DisAbility Scholarship	(\$20,000) - All candidates must be HS students living with a disability who plan to attend a 2 to 4 year university or college program.	3/15
Indian Health Services Scholarships	Scholarships for Native American students who plan to enter the health profession.	3/28
A.T. & Anderson Memorial Scholarship	(\$1,000) - For American Indian/Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian AISES members pursuing degrees in STEM. Must submit 3 essays.	3/31
AISES Intel Scholarship	For American Indian/Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian AISES members pursuing degrees in STEM.	3/31
LULAC National Scholarship Fund	(\$250-\$2,000) - Submit a short essay on how your academic studies will contribute to your personal & professional goals. In addition, please discuss any community service or extracurricular activities you have been involved in that relate to your goals.	3/31
National Federation of the Blind Scholarship Program	(\$3,000-\$12,000) - For blind students. All scholarships awarded are based on academic excellence, community service, and leadership.	3/31
Scholarship Poetry Contest - Summer Issue	Open to all U.S. HS students. Applicant must submit an original poem with 20 lines or less. Up to \$500.	3/31

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 2/22-[Clark College Professional Technical Day](#)
- 2/23- [Bates Open House](#)
- 3/1-[Lake Washington Open House](#)
- 3/3- [6th Annual Beyond HB 1079 Conference](#). YVCC.
- 3/9-3/10- [WSU Future Cougars Embracing Diversity](#)
- **Save the Dates: 2018 College Planning Days.** It's a 1-stop opportunity for your HS sophomores, juniors, & undecided seniors to learn about higher ed options in WA. [8th Grade College Exploration Days](#). Events are designed to introduce 8th graders to higher ed options. Dates in March. Locations vary.

TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE WASHINGTON STATE GEAR UP WEEKLY BULLETIN [CLICK HERE](#)
gearup.wa.gov

