NEW-S & RESOURCES

February 22-26, 2021

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| IN THIS ISSUE: |  **Did You Know?**[Otterbot](https://wsac.wa.gov/otterbot) can communicate in **over 100 languages?** Otterbot is a free texting service created to support high school seniors who have signed up for CBS. Otter sends financial aid info and reminders to CBS seniors. Students can access Otterbot via text message 24 hours a day, seven days a week by texting **"Hi Otter" to 360-928-7281.** |
| * GEAR UP Updates
 |
| * Virtual Student Recruitment and Outreach Events
* Optional Funding
* Optional Professional Development
 |
| * Resources
 |
| * News & Research
 |
| * Student Scholarships & Opportunities
 |

# WASHINGTON STATE GEAR UP UPDATES

* **Recommended Webinar:** [**GEAR UP for Student Success—Taking a Holistic Approach to Creating College-Bound Students**](https://pages2.act.org/gear-up-for-student-success.html). Hosted by ACT. Feb. 24, 10 AM.
* **FYI: Emergency Rule Regarding Non-Truancy Remote Learning Absences.** Non-truancy remote learning absence extended through end of school year 2020-21. Find the rule language here on the [OSPI Rules webpage](https://www.k12.wa.us/policy-funding/ospi-rulemaking-activity) and other attendance related guidance documents on the [OSPI Attendance webpage.](https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/support-programs/attendance-chronic-absenteeism-and-truancy)

# Virtual Student Recruitment and Outreach Events

* [**WA State GEAR UP: Virtual Campus Visit Series**](https://gearup.wa.gov/node/4410). View recorded virtual visits.
* [**On Tour! Visiting College Campuses**](https://getschooled.com/journey/get-to-college/on-tour-visiting-college-campuses/). From Get Schooled. Whether you’re starting to explore schools or needing help deciding, here are some tips, tricks, and tactics of visiting college campuses, virtually or in-person.
* [**BigFuture Days**](https://pages.collegeboard.org/big-future-days)**.** Register for any of the free events to chat with schools that interest you, hear from current students, get application tips, and more. (Feb. 23, March 7, March 11)
* [**Hispanic Scholarship Fund College 101 Series**](https://www.hsf.net/college-101)**.** (Feb. 24, Mar. 10) Features free, bilingual, 3-hour, college preparation workshops held virtually in various time zones. The programs are designed to help middle and high school students – and their parents – prepare, plan, and pay for college.
* [**NACAC Virtual College Fairs.**](https://www.nacacfairs.org/attend/attend-virtual-college-fairs/students/) Sign up now and register for one or more fairs. Click to see which colleges will be at each fair.
	+ Feb. 28 Fair:  [View online](https://virtualcollegefairs.org/events/42/exhibitors) | [Download PDF](https://www.nacacfairs.org/globalassets/college-fair--homepage/virtual-college-fairs/attend/nacac-virtual-college-fair-list-feb28-1220_3.pdf)
	+ Mar. 7 STEM Fair:  [View online](https://virtualcollegefairs.org/events/80/exhibitors)
	+ Mar. 16: Performing & Visual Arts Fair:  [View online](https://virtualcollegefairs.org/events/83/exhibitors)
	+ Mar. 21 Fair:  [View online](https://virtualcollegefairs.org/events/43/exhibitors) | [Download PDF](https://www.nacacfairs.org/globalassets/college-fair--homepage/virtual-college-fairs/attend/nacac-virtual-college-fair-list-mar21-1220_3.pdf)
	+ Apr. 10 Western US Fair:  [View online](https://virtualcollegefairs.org/events/84/exhibitors)
	+ Apr. 20 Fair Southeastern US Fair:  [View online](https://virtualcollegefairs.org/events/85/exhibitors)
	+ May 2 Fair:  [View online](https://virtualcollegefairs.org/events/44/exhibitors) | [Download PDF](https://www.nacacfairs.org/globalassets/college-fair--homepage/virtual-college-fairs/attend/social-media-2021/revised-120/nacac-2021-virtual-college-fair-lists-01_20_21_may2_1.pdf)

# OPTIONAL Funding & Opportunities

* **[Substance Abuse Prevention Curriculum, Botvin LifeSkills](https://eds.ospi.k12.wa.us/iGrants/%28S%28er5o2j45k1dlkb45obcs5045%29%29/WebPages/HomePages/FormPackageInventory/Profile.aspx?printable=true&FpId=3373&Fp=20)**. The purpose of this grant is to allow schools, districts and/or ESDs to assist schools and districts in examining their Healthy Youth Survey data to assess the need for substance use prevention and intervention. Due Mar. 4.

# OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

* **On-Demand Webinars:** [**GEAR UP West 2020**](http://bit.ly/GUWest20). View session recordings and materials for free at your convenience.
* **Attendance Office Hours with OSPI.** OSPI will offer weekly office hours for topics related to attendance throughout February and March. Your questions will drive our agenda! Tuesdays, Feb. 23–Mar. 30, 3 PM. [Join the Zoom Meeting](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMTAyMTcuMzU0NDEzNTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3VzMDJ3ZWIuem9vbS51cy9qLzg5Mjk3NjU5MDU1In0.wxaTYxc4oNbIxc9vsT0cNNoM2ueUOz1S74LXzen5d1U%2Fs%2F421506233%2Fbr%2F97781798066-l&data=04%7C01%7CBETHK%40WSAC.WA.GOV%7Cb71c7c2bc2df493f37d708d8d39f8dea%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637492029782717500%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=%2B5C4MxWK%2BdZ9LrO0sI2P34E40GPjVTrh3nScCkJTK9A%3D&reserved=0).
* **Webinar:** [**Training for Educators of Grades 9-12: Integrating Personal Finance and Mathematics**](https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6082255/FEPPP-9-12-Math-and-Personal-Finance-2-25-2021). Hosted by FEPPP. Feb. 27, 9-Noon. 3 clock hours available.
* **Virtual Event:** [**National Summit for Dual Credit Programs**](https://www.nsdcp.org/index.html). Mar. 7-9.
* **Webinar:** [**Supporting Seniors' Transitions: From High School to Leaving the Nest**](https://www.pdenroller.org/ospi/catalog/event/112490). Hosted by OSPI/WSAC. Mar. 31, 1 PM.
* **Virtual Event:** [**2021 A Virtual Rural Summit**](https://www.berea.edu/pfe/events/ruralsummit/)**.** Hosted by Partners for Education/Campus Compact NH. Apr. 26-30.

# RESOURCES

* **WAGU Featured Resource:** [**Which Financial Aid Is the Best to Accept?**](https://gearup.wa.gov/file/which-financial-aid-best-accept) This handout accompanies the 12th Year Campaign Junior/Senior Student Workbook, which guides students through navigating college admissions and financial aid.
* [**Washington State Student Loan Education Site**](https://www.studentloaned.wa.gov/)**.** From WSAC.Find modules to help make informed decisions.
* [**Educators Share Digital Learning Resources and Advice**](https://readywa.org/educators-share-digital-learning-resources-and-advice-part-1/)**.** WA’s Teacher Tech Project share their digital learning experiences, advice for educators, available resources, and more.
* [**District Attendance Resources on Padlet**](https://padlet.com/krissy_johnson/su3cgmya531j47ta)**.** From OSPI, developed by districts across the state. Find examples of tiered support plans, attendance letters, home visit protocols, community truancy/engagement board resources, and more.

# In the news

* [**Apprenticeships Are the Catalyst for Opportunity**](https://www.chicagobusiness.com/equity-ideas/apprenticeships-are-catalyst-opportunity). Earn and learn partnerships are proliferating. See also: [**Stigmas Create A Dearth of Skilled Tradespeople.**](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/with-millions-looking-for-work-stigmas-create-a-dearth-of-skilled-tradespeople)
* [**How Some Mistakes Can be Generative for Teachers and Students Alike**](https://www.kqed.org/mindshift/57413/how-some-mistakes-can-be-generative-for-teachers-and-students-alike)**.** There is such a thing as a good mistake.
* [**Exploring Equity: Dis/ability**](https://www.gse.harvard.edu/news/uk/21/02/exploring-equity-disability). Designing schools and classrooms to benefit all learners.*See also:*[**What Distance Learning With a Disability Is Like**](https://www.teenvogue.com/story/what-distance-learning-with-a-disability-is-like)**.**
* [**Ensuring Homeless Students Are Seen During a Pandemic**](https://www.edweek.org/leaders/2021/ensuring-homeless-students-are-seen-during-a-pandemic). In WA, schools and emergency shelters closed simultaneously.
* [**Pandemic-Era Priorities**](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2021/02/22/u-oregon-student-government-wants-stop-payments-athletics)**.** The University of Oregon want athletic funds to go to students who are struggling financially.
* [**This Is What No One Tells You About Being Asian In America In 2021**](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/asian-hate-crimes-2021-covid_n_602c00e8c5b6c95056f3dd41?ncid=APPLENEWS00001)**.** We are used to minimizing our own pain because we don’t want to rock the boat.See also:[**What This Wave of Anti-Asian Violence Reveals About America**](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/21/opinion/anti-asian-violence.html)**.**
* [**Schools, Not Teachers, Must Reduce Stress and Burnout—Here’s How**](https://www.edutopia.org/article/schools-not-teachers-must-reduce-stress-and-burnout-heres-how). Educators’ health and well-being should be prioritized in school culture; school leaders can help create the conditions for that.
* [**‘What’s the Point?’ Young People’s Despair Deepens as Covid-19 Crisis Drags On.**](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/14/world/europe/youth-mental-health-covid.html) Experts paint a grim picture of the struggle with lockdown isolation — a “mental health pandemic” that should be treated as seriously as the coronavirus.
* [**Polls Show Most — Though Not All — Parents Are Getting The Type Of Instruction They Want For Their Kids**](https://www.chalkbeat.org/2021/2/18/22289735/parents-polls-schools-opening-remote)**.** Two new, nationally representative polls of American families offer the most detailed look yet at parent sentiment.
* [**Biden Rejects $50,000 Loan Forgiveness**](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2021/02/18/biden-rejects-plan-50000-loan-forgiveness)**.** Says his plan to support free public higher education will make a difference.
* [**Creating Calm in Your Middle School Classroom**](https://www.edutopia.org/article/creating-calm-your-middle-school-classroom)**.** Young teens need help coping with the stress and anxiety.
* [**National Survey: Youth Well-Being During COVID-19**](https://www.jedfoundation.org/youth-wellbeing-during-covid-19-survey-findings)**.** This study is one of the first of its kind to examine youth mental health.
* [**Admissions Officers Should Consider Resilience**](https://www.insidehighered.com/admissions/views/2021/02/16/covid-19-era-college-admissions-officers-should-pay-attention-resilience)**.** COVID-19 makes it all the more important.

# 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)*.*

* [**PNACAC Student Scholarships.**](https://pnacac.memberclicks.net/student-scholarships) Remind your students to submit an application for one of PNACAC's ten student scholarships. Scholarship criteria and the application form can be found on the PNACAC website. Due 3/1.

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| **Scholarship** | **Brief Description** | **Due** |
| [**Doodle for Google**](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/high-school-students/scholarships-for-high-school-seniors/doodle-4-google) | The national winner will receive $30,000 scholarship & $50,000 tech package for your school/nonprofit & your artwork will be displayed on Google's homepage.  | 2/26 |
| [**National Youth Science Camp**](http://www.nysf.com/w/programs/nyscamp/) | A residential science education program for young STEM enthusiasts the summer after they graduate from high school.  | 2/28 |
| [**American Chemical Society Scholars Award**](http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/funding-and-awards/scholarships/acsscholars.html) | For students who are African American, Hispanic, or American Indian HS seniors or college freshman, sophomores, or juniors pursuing a college degree in the chemical sciences or chemical technology are eligible to apply. | 3/1 |
| [**Microsoft DisAbility Scholarship**](http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/diversity/programs/microsoftdisabilityscholarship.aspx) | All candidates must be HS students living with a disability who plan to attend a 2- to 4-year University or College program, maintain a cumulative 3.0 GPA or equivalent and have declared a major from the approved list. | 3/1 |
| [**Tall Clubs International Student Scholarships**](http://www.tall.org/tci-foundation.html) | Scholarships are for students under 21 years of age, about to attend their first year of higher education, and who meet the height requirements of TCI— 5' 10" (178 cm) for women, and 6' 2" (188 cm) for men.  | 3/1 |
| [**Washington State PTA Scholarship**](http://wastatepta.org/leadership/scholarships.html) | $2,000 for 4-year postsecondary institutions. $1,000 for community colleges, CTE schools or other accredited institutions. | 3/1 |
| [**ASHG DNA Day Essay Contest**](http://www.ashg.org/education/dnaday.shtml) | For 9-12th graders. Must submit an essay addressing a question related to genetics. | 3/3 |
| [**Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation-Undergrad/Associate**](https://mcsf.scholarshipapps.org/)  | Need-based scholarships to the children of Marines and Navy Corpsmen who attend college or career training. Before applying, verify your eligibility. CTE Version--Application available all year. Applications processed monthly. | 3/3 |
| [**Sound Credit Union Scholarship**](https://www.soundcu.com/about-us/our-community/scholarships/) | Must be a graduating HS senior who plans to attend a 2- or 4-year college, w/ a min. 3.0 GPS, & be a member of Sound Credit Union on or before January 3, 2020. | 3/5 |
| [**SBE Seeks Western WA Student Rep.**](https://www.sbe.wa.gov/news/sbe-seeks-western-wa-student-rep) | SBE seeks a current HS sophomore from Western WA to serve as the student representative. This student will also serve a 2-year term on the AWSL Student Voice & Advisory Council.  | 3/8 |
| [**Create a Greeting Card Scholarship**](https://www.gallerycollection.com/greetingcardscontests.htm) | ($10,000) - Submit original photo, artwork, or computer graphics for the front of a greeting card. | 3/9 |
| [**Chin: Shui Kuen & Allen Chin Scholarship**](http://asianpacificfund.org/information-for-student-applicants#banatao) | Grade level: 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. Minimum GPA: 3.0, Financial need, No citizenship status requirement.  | 3/12 |
| [**Junior Duck Stamp Contest**](http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck/) | For K-12 students. Submit an original piece of artwork depicting a North American waterfowl species.  | 3/15 |
| [**National Institutes of Health (NIH) Undergraduate Scholarship Program**](https://www.training.nih.gov/programs/ugsp) | For students from disadvantaged backgrounds who are pursuing careers in biomedical, behavioral, & social science health-related research. To qualify for this scholarship, applicants must have a minimum 3.3 GPA. Must be accepted to an accredited 4-year institution. Renewable for 4 years. | 3/17 |
| [**Odenza Marketing Group Scholarship**](http://www.odenzascholarships.com/awards/8/eligibility_odenza_marketing_group_scholarship.phphttp%3A/www.odenzascholarships.com/) | 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 required. $500. | 3/30 |
| [**Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund**](http://www.davisputter.org/apply/apply-for-scholarships/) | For those active in movements for social and economic justice. 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. | 3/31 |
| [**National Federation of the Blind Scholarship Program**](https://nfb.org/scholarships) | All scholarships awarded are based on academic excellence, community service, and leadership. | 3/31 |
| [**Paid, Multi-Year Summer Fellowship for Minority Student- Emma L. Bowen Foundation**](http://www.emmabowenfoundation.com/) | Minority HS seniors & college freshmen w/ a min. 3.0 GPA & an interest in media careers (business, creative, journalism, technology, or sales) are eligible to apply. During this multi-year internship, students in the program receive an hourly wage & matching scholarship. | 3/31 |
| [**Scholarship Poetry Contest - Summer Issue**](http://www.justpoetry.org/submissions) | Open to all U.S. HS students. Applicant must submit an original poem with 20 lines or less.  | 3/31 |
| [**American Fire Sprinkler Association Scholarship Program**](https://www.afsascholarship.org/) | Open to HS seniors. Citizenship/legal residency is required.  | 4/1 |
| [**American Nuclear Society (ANS) Incoming Freshmen Scholarship**](http://www.ans.org/honors/scholarships/) | For graduating HS seniors who have enrolled, full-time, in college courses & are pursuing a degree in nuclear engineering or have the intent to pursue a degree in nuclear engineering.  | 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. 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. | 4/5 |
| [**National Peace Essay Contest for HS Students**](http://www.usip.org/AFSAEssayContest) | Must write an essay related to their assigned topic. $1,000-$10,000. | 4/5 |
| [**Actuarial Diversity Scholarship**](https://www.actuarialfoundation.org/scholarships/) | For those intent on pursuing a career in the actuarial profession. Must have at least 1 birth parent who is a member of one of the following minority groups: Black/African American, Hispanic, Native North American, Pacific Islander. For HS seniors w/ a min. 3.0 GPA & a min. ACT math score of 28 or SAT math score of 600. $1,000. | 4/15 |
| [**CJ Pony Parts Scholarship Video Contest**](https://www.cjponyparts.com/cj-pony-parts-scholarship-video-contest) | Create a short video, under 3 minutes long, on a given topic. | 4/15 |
| [**Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes**](http://www.barronprize.org/) | Honoring outstanding young leaders (ages 8-18) who have focused on helping their communities and fellow beings and/or on protecting the health and sustainability. | 4/15 |
| [**Incight Scholarship**](https://www.incight.org/scholarship) | For students with disabilities, who have demonstrated outstanding merit in giving back to the community and overcoming obstacles to pursue higher education. | 4/15 |
| [**All About Education Scholarship**](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/all-about-education-scholarship) | 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/) | 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 |
| [**CCD Law Spokane Community Scholarship**](https://ccdlaw.com/scholarship/) | For HS seniors who reside in WA, have a minimum 3.0 GPA, and will be attending college in the fall. | 5/1 |

**SUBSCRIBE** **|** **UNSUBSCRIBE**

[gearup.wa.gov](http://www.gearup.wa.gov)



*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.*