

Washington Council for High School-College Relations

2024 Fall Counselor Workshop





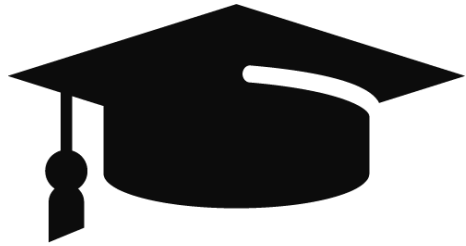
About WSAC



We advance educational opportunities and attainment in Washington.



Washington's Attainment Goals



100%

High school diploma
or equivalent



70%

Postsecondary
credential

Washington population ages 25-44



Key Takeaways

Financial Aid Terms, Financial Aid and Programs

Financial Aid Updates

Events, Workshops, and Support

Resources

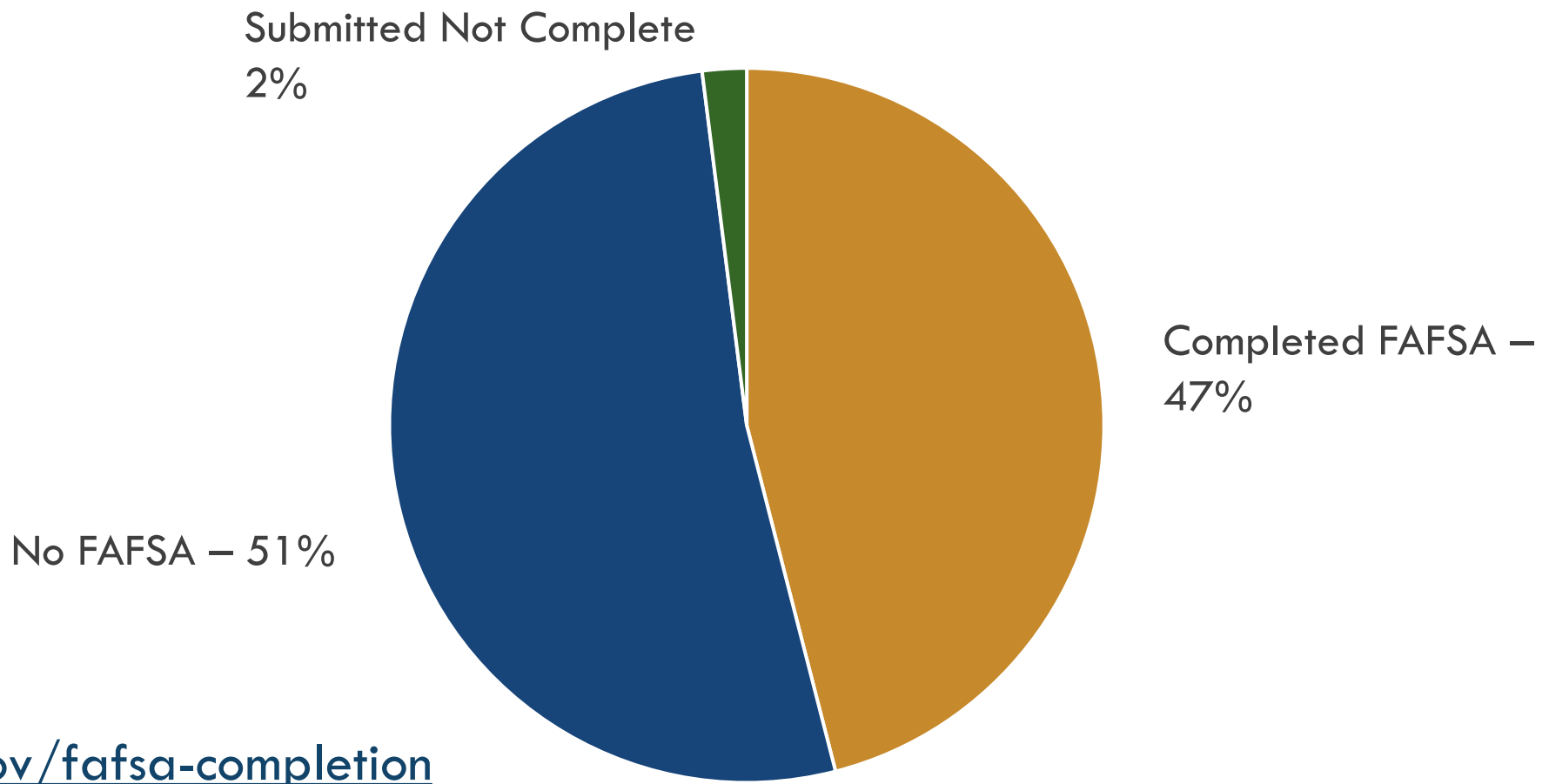
Financial Aid Programs and Applications





Over Half of WA Seniors Didn't Complete a FAFSA

WA Public HS Seniors FAFSA Completion 2023-24



wsac.wa.gov/fafsa-completion





Takeaways

The Umbrella

FAFSA/WASFA: Rule of One

State vs. Federal Programs and Updates



Financial Aid As An Umbrella



Grants

- Income-based, federal, state and institutional.

Scholarships

- Merit and income-based, from public, private, and nonprofit sources.

Loans

- Income-based, federal and private.

Work Study

- Income-based, federal, state and institutional.



FAFSA/WASFA: Rule of One

FAFSA

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov)

OR

WASFA

- Washington Application for State Financial Aid
- wsac.wa.gov/WASFA



Federal Financial Aid Programs

Pell Grant

Federal Work-Study

Unsubsidized/Subsidized Student Loans

Parent Loans





Washington State Financial Aid

Washington College Grant

College Bound

State Work-Study

Passport to Careers

Opportunity Grant

Washington Bridge Grant



WASHINGTON
OPPORTUNITY PATHWAYS





Washington College Grant





Washington State has made a groundbreaking commitment to financial aid for low- and middle-income people of all ages with the **Washington College Grant** (WA Grant). This grant gives eligible people more money for more types of education like certificate programs, job training, apprenticeships, or college.



Washington College Grant provides a unique opportunity.

With the Washington College Grant (WCG), more families are eligible for financial aid than ever before.

Family Size	Full Award	Partial Award
 Eligible Student Family of 1	Income \$40,500 or less	Income Up to \$62,500

 Eligible Student Family of 4	\$78,500 or less	Up to \$120,500
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Award amounts vary based on income, family size, and the school or program attended.





Passport to Careers -

Supporting Former Foster Youth and Unaccompanied Homeless Youth



Passport to College Promise Scholarship

- Comprehensive supports from high school to higher education

Passport to Apprenticeship Opportunities

- Career-related training under state approved pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs



Event: Financial Aid Night -

Supporting Former Foster Youth and Unaccompanied Homeless Youth



January 15, 2024 5:30-7:30pm

- Students can join us for support with their FAFSA or WASFA, college admissions, career exploration, College Bound, and scholarships. Students will leave with resources to support their pathway.
- More details will be on the 12th Year Campaign events page.

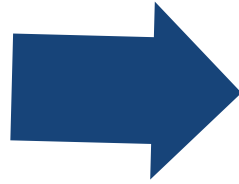




College Bound Commitment Eligibility and Auto-Enrollment: A Two-Step Process

Step One

- Auto-enrollment for eligible public-school students.
- Eligible for FRPL in 7th, 8th, or newly eligible in 9th grade.
- Foster Youth are auto-enrolled through HS graduation.



Step Two

- Fulfill the College Bound Pledge.
- Meet income and residency requirements.
- Be accepted to and attend an eligible college within one year of graduation.
- **There is no longer a 5-year window.**
- **There is no longer a GPA requirement for students attending CTC**



CBS Commitment



Combines with other state financial aid to cover the average cost of tuition (at public rates), some fees, and a small book allowance = **commitment**.



Can be used at over **65** two- and four-year public and private colleges and universities.





College Bound Legislative Updates

- [SB 5904](#) – College Bound 5-year Window Elimination
 - **Previously:** 4-year award to be used within 5 years of HS graduation.
 - **NOW:** Up to 6 years of funding to align with federal programs and WCG. Doesn't expire **IF** enrolled in college within 1 year of HS graduation and still meets "other program requirements."
 - **Note:** Still funds up to a Bachelor's degree only.
- [SB 6053](#) – Data Sharing with OSPI for Contact Info
 - Allows WSAC to get student contact info from OSPI.
 - **Purpose:** Inform students about financial aid and educational opportunities in WA.
 - **Implementation Date:** Early 2025 – data to WSAC from OSPI.



Call to Action: Update CBS Contact Information

- While we wait for SB 6053, please continue updating student contact information using the College Bound Portal!
- This will give students and parents access to WSAC resources like OtterBot, resource mailings, GovDelivery message, and MORE!





2024-25 Financial Aid Update

Class of 2024 are still applying for financial aid.

Paper applications started processing in August 2024.

Paper for corrections will be available late September.

20% of paper applications had errors and will be returned to students.

Class of 2024 are invited to any 12th Year Campaign event.





FAFSA and WASFA in December

The 2025-26 FAFSA
& WASFA will be
available
December 1st 2024

Class of 2025 will
complete the 2025-
26 FAFSA or WASFA
using 2023 income
information





2025-26 Financial Aid Changes

The questions on the 2025-26 FAFSA will mirror the 2024-25 FAFSA.

Federal Student Aid is developing new resources to support completion efforts.

Some flexibilities from 2024-25 will be extended for 2025-26.

Subscribe to the padlet for update alerts!



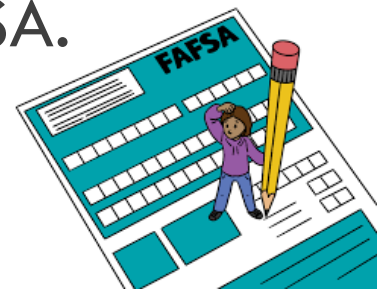
Identity Validation Flexibilities for Individuals without Social Security Numbers

2025-26 FAFSA cycle and will not implement any form of restricted status for students or contributors without an SSN.

This means that parents without an SSN can create an FSA ID and complete their portion of the FAFSA without verifying the FSA ID.

FSA will need to be verified when FSA develops:

- A longer-term solution to the manual identity validation process that avoids the delays and confusion associated with the current process; and
- The ability for those without an SSN to utilize the FUTURE Act Direct Data Exchange (FA-DDX) to transfer their tax information into the FAFSA.





Financial Aid Advising Day With Delayed FAFSA

Inform Students and Families

- Use FAAD Advising Day less plans to talk to your students about financial aid and how to apply.
- Gather documents for when the application opens.

Create an FSA ID or WASFA Account

- FSA ID Worksheet and presentations are available
- Students and parents can create an FSA ID at 12th Year Campaign events this fall.

12th Year Campaign FAAD Planning Session

- Learn how others are doing similar work!
- Walkthrough of resources, supports, and opportunities to partner with FA completion work regionally.

Resources





Financial Aid Training Opportunities

Free Financial Aid Training



FAFSA Simplification
August 21st at 10-11:30 am

Financial Aid Basics
September 25th at 10-11am

Financial Aid Navigation
October 10th at 9-11am



For more information and to register for these free trainings go to wsac.wa.gov/aim-higher-training or scan the QR code

Trainings are available in English and Spanish

Coming Soon – Trainings to support special populations

This partnership is a strategy central to our efforts to achieve racial equity in higher education. In alignment with each of our own organization's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion commitments, the Aim Higher Training initiative is a step in the direction to providing all of Washington students with access to financial aid resources, information and support.

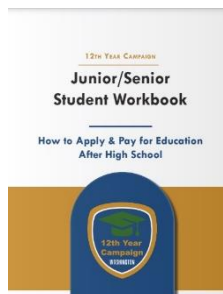
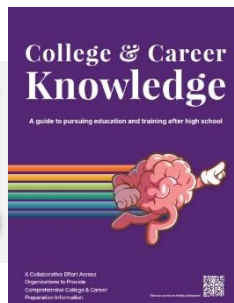




The 12th Year Campaign

The 12th Year Campaign boosts college and financial aid application rates in Washington by helping those working with high school seniors and their families complete applications for college admissions and financial aid.

- Free training
- Printed and digital resources
- Online financial aid events



wsac.wa.gov/12th-year-campaign



Hello From Your 12th Year Campaign Team!



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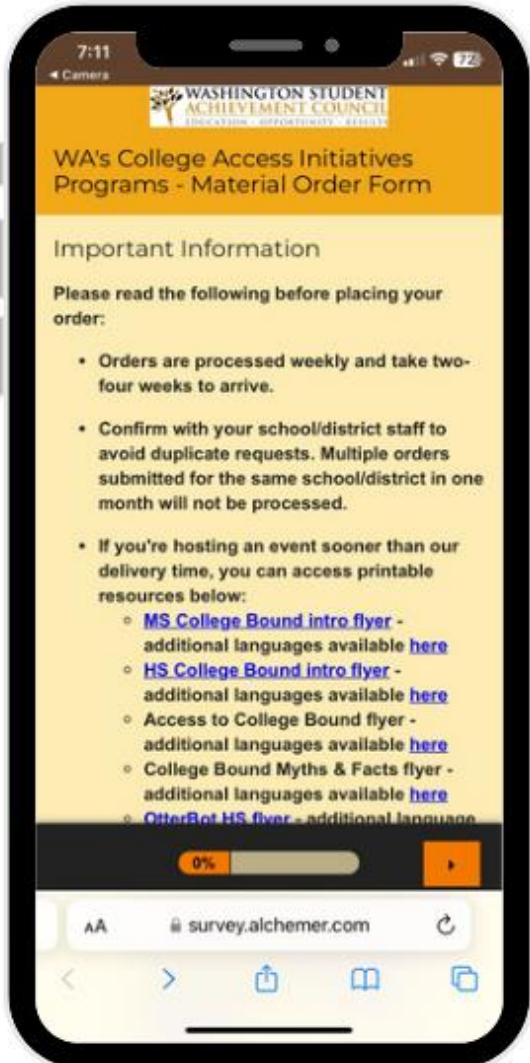


WASHINGTON STUDENT
ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL

12th Year Campaign



New: College Access Initiatives Material Order Form



Order Materials from OtterBot, College Bound, and 12th Year Campaign at the same time!

Orders are processed weekly and take 2-4 weeks to arrive.

Please coordinate with school and district staff when placing orders.



College Access Resource Padlet

Christina Winstead + 1 • 27d

12th Year Campaign Key to Success Financial Aid Resources

These resources will help you as you as you plan your Financial Aid Advising Day (FAAD) and support students with financial aid and admissions applications.

FINANCIAL AID UPDATES

BREAKING: 2025-26 FAFSA TO OPEN DECEMBER 1

FSA just announced that the 2025-26 FAFSA will be released on **December 1, 2024, with full, end-to-end functionality.** The outreach tools and resources that typically accompany the form will be released in advance and FAFSA processing will occur within one to three days of submission. If realized, this announcement means that the system will be fully functional for all students on December 1, 2024.

This Week in Financial Aid

Update on Identity Validation Flexibilities for Individuals without Social Security Numbers and Key Remaining Scope for the 2024-25 FAFSA Cycle

2025-26 FAFSA cycle and will not implement any form of restricted status for students or contributors without an SSN.

New 2024-25 FAFSA Issues Identified

Training Opportunities

Washington Council for High School-College Relations (WCHSCR) 2024 Fall Counselor Workshops

2024 Fall Counselor Workshops

These very popular workshops provide professional development for school counselors, career center specialist, HSBP coordinators and those in college-access work. Held in-person and virtually, we're excited to provide current information from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), The State Board of Education (SBE), State

Financial Aid Advising Day Supports

Sample Financial Aid Advising Week Schedule Graphic

FA Advising Week Sample Schedule

If you have more time to implement Financial Aid Advising Day activities. Here is a sample agenda for a Financial Aid Advising Week.

Financial Aid Advising Month Sample Schedule

Financial Aid Events

12th Year Campaign Events

24/7 Financial Aid Text Support
wsac.wa.gov

Financial aid events

You can share this list of events with your students. If you are hosting an event and want it added to this list, please email ChristinaW@wsac.wa.gov

Class of 2025 Financial Aid Night Hosted by The 12th Year Campaign

Learn More About Paying for Education After High School and Resources to Help You Take Your Next Steps
For more information and to register go to <https://highschooler.wa.gov>

May 22, 2024
5:30-6:30pm
Hosted on Zoom in



padlet.com/christinaw12/cxbz1z64bch5jbsf



Student Loan Advocate



The Student Loan Advocate collaborates with other state agencies to support current and future student loan borrowers in Washington State by:

- Addressing student borrowers' questions and complaints.
- Providing borrowers information and resources about student loans.
- Educating the public about the rights and responsibilities of student loan borrowers.



Washington Financial Aid for Education and Training Videos

Informational videos about education after high school in the following languages:

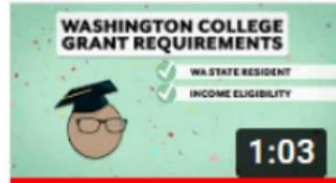
- English
- Mandarin
- Russian
- Somali
- Spanish
- Tagalog
- Vietnamese

2-YEAR DEGREE 4-YEAR DEGREE TRAINING (WCG)

WASHINGTON COLLEGE GRANT

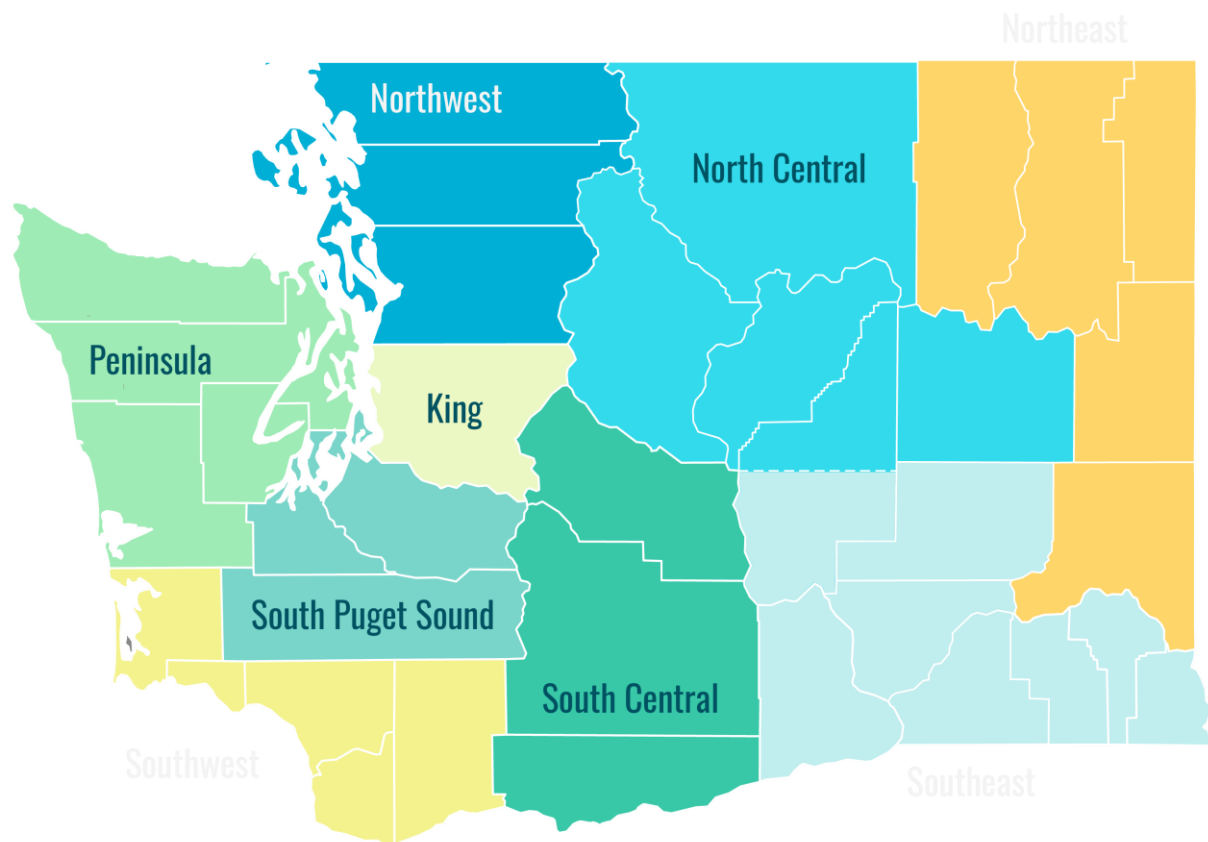
YOU →

APPRENTICESHIPS CERTIFICATES





Connect with Your College Bound Regional Officer!



King:

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Northeast & North Central:

Raul Sanchez | rsanchez@collegesuccessfoundation.org

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Amber Goodrich | agoodrich@collegesuccessfoundation.org

South Puget Sound & Southwest:

Cennady Coleman | crcoleman@collegesuccessfoundation.org

<https://bit.ly/WCANteam>

**COLLEGE
SUCCESS
FOUNDATION**

Events, Workshops, and Support





Join Us For WSAC Wednesday

WSAC Wednesdays



Practitioners, do you have questions about financial aid?

WSAC's College Access Initiatives is here to help! Join us the first Wednesday of every month from 10:00-11:00am for an open Q&A.

Register in advance
<https://bit.ly/WSACWednesday>



10:00-11:00am 1st Wednesday of the Month





12th Year Campaign Financial Aid Events

Class of 2025 Financial Aid Nights

Learn More About Paying for Education After High School and
Resources to Help You Take Your Next Steps

To register go to <https://wsac.wa.gov/financial-aid-events>



Hosted on Zoom in English and Spanish



wsac.wa.gov/financial-aid-events



Resource: Financial Aid Events


WASHINGTON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL
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12TH YEAR CAMPAIGN



12th Year Campaign

The 12th Year Campaign boosts college and financial aid application rates in Washington by helping those working with high school seniors and their families complete applications for college admissions and financial aid. This page contains information and resources designed to help schools and partners host a successful financial aid advising day. Explore the different sections below to learn more.

Supporting Washington's Financial Aid Advising Day

Financial aid matters. Nationally, seniors who complete a financial aid application are 84 percent more likely to enroll in postsecondary education. The rate is **even higher for students from lower-income families**. From an apprenticeship program to a two-or-four-year college degree, education beyond high school prepares students for jobs that move them beyond minimum wage. Even a one-year credential program at a community or technical college can increase future earnings.

Districts across Washington have an exciting opportunity to provide students with new support by sharing critical information for planning life after high school. Financial aid advising day, created with the passage of [ESSB 8141](#) in the 2020 Legislative session, is an opportunity to focus on educational equity related to students pursuing postsecondary education.

What is a financial aid advising day?

Learn about the details and requirements of financial aid advising day, as well as the resources the 12th Year Campaign has to support schools.

What is a financial aid advising day?	The 12th Year Campaign is here to help	What should the notification include?
Getting out		

Financial aid advising day lesson plans

Use these easy to implement lesson plans to support your financial aid advising day activities.

Financial Aid 101: Paying for education	Understanding the Washington College Grant	Using the Washington financial aid calculator
Which financial aid application should I use	Creating an FSA ID or WASFA account	

12th Year Campaign and partner materials

OrderBot	Financial aid event materials	More materials
Federal student aid info@graphics	College and Career Pathways handouts	Translated resources

12TH YEAR CONTACT INFORMATION

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Financial Aid Events

12th Year Campaign Sign up

Financial Aid Resources



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info@wsa

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FINANCIAL AID EVENTS




Do you know the steps you need to take to apply for college?
Do you need money for college?

The 12th Year Campaign can help you with two important steps you need to take to go to college: applying for college and applying to file a FAFSA or WASFA financial aid application.

Join one of the events listed below to learn more and get help.

Please note: Most events are offered virtually.

Statewide events

- The College Success Foundation is offering virtual financial aid application support in English and Spanish. Open to any [appointment](#) today!
- Class of 2025 Financial Aid Night webinar** — September 24, 4–5:30 p.m.
Inviting all class of 2025 students to learn about how to pay for education after high school. You will learn about the types of financial aid available and receive support on taking the first step to applying.
Invitando a todos los estudiantes de la clase del 2025 a aprender cómo pagar la educación después de la preparatoria. Con que se le ofrecen y recibirá apoyo para dar el primer paso para solicitarla.
[Register now!](#)

We have created a list of financial aid informational and completion events open to students across WA



OtterBot Texting Service - Help with Financial Aid & Post-secondary Navigation

OtterBot is a free texting service to support Washington high school students and their parents/guardians. It is designed for students who are enrolled with College Bound.

wsac.wa.gov/otterbot





OtterBot Content Areas

CONTENT AREAS

Financial Aid

- FAFSA completion
- WASFA completion
- Verification
- Award letters
- Appeals
- Scholarship search

Admissions & Enrollment

- Admissions applications
- Admissions requirements
- Enrollment steps

College-going Info

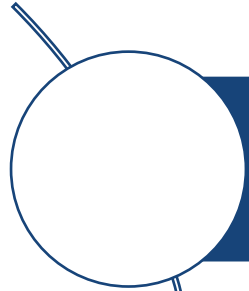
- Terms and definitions
- Campus navigation
- Transition prep
- Socioemotional support

Reminders & Notifications

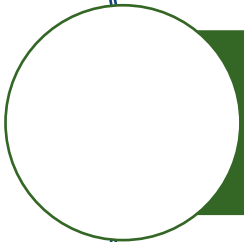
- Orientations
- Class registrations
- Scholarships
- Priority application dates



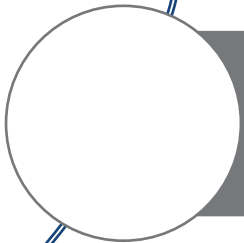
www.wsac.wa.gov/actionplan



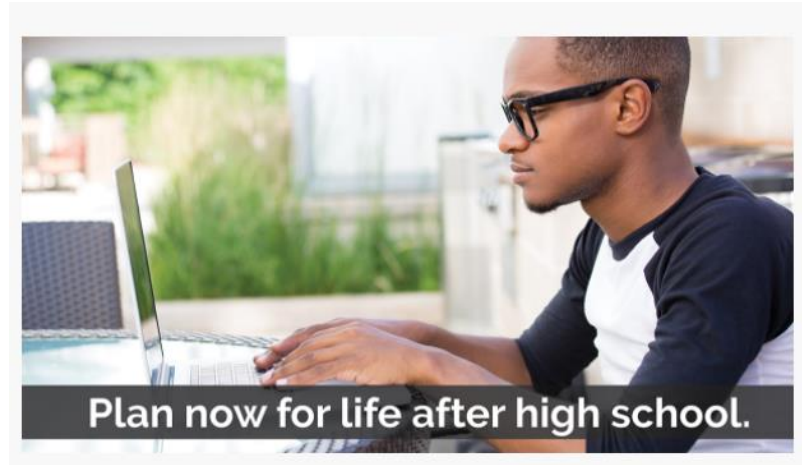
One-stop site for juniors and seniors



Career exploration resources to application information



Financial aid resources





2024 Counselor Survey – Your Voice Matters!

Shape the Future of Student Success!

Your Voice Matters –
Complete Our 10–Minute Survey!

The Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) is on a mission to improve the tools and resources available to help you guide students through their financial aid journey. We need YOUR insights to make sure we're providing the right support.



Take the Survey NOW
Scan the QR Code!

Be entered for a chance to win one of five Amazon gift cards \$50 just for completing the survey!





Thank You From the College Access Initiatives Team!

