



# Washington College Grant - Connect (WCG-C)

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# Agenda

## Today we'll be covering:

- General Overview of the Washington College Grant – Connect (WCG-C)
- Requirements of the Program
- WCG-C Eligibility Checker Process
- WCG-C CSAW Information



# Washington College Grant - Connect (WCG-C)

- 2SHB 1835 (2022) allows for automatic WCG income eligibility for students receiving any of the following public benefit programs:
  - Aged, blind, or disabled assistance (ABD) benefits
  - Essential needs and housing support program (HEN) benefits
  - Pregnant women assistance program (PWA) financial grants
- WSAC is currently reviewing other public benefit programs and may expand this list this summer.



## Washington College Grant - Connect (WCG-C)

- The goal of 2SHB 1835 is to help connect students to higher education and to remove barriers to paying for college.
- Students who meet eligibility under this category are referred to being eligible under the Washington College Grant – Connect (WCG-C).
- **Program is still WCG, just a different way to qualify.**
- Effective July 1, 2023, for the 2023-24 Academic Year.



# Awarding Requirements

## Awarding students WCG under WCG-Connect:

- Must meet residency and all program requirements
- FAFSA or WASFA not required
  - May require coordination with other offices on your campus
- Qualify for maximum WCG award
- Qualify for WA Bridge Grant






# Awarding Requirements

- WCG-C students who filed FAFSA or WASFA
  - Must be awarded **maximum WCG even if MFI is over 65%**
    - Awards will need to be adjusted
    - Award WA Bridge Grant
  
- Awarding students CBS and/or PTC
  - Must have a FAFSA or WASFA
    - MFI must be met and is not included under WCG-Connect
    - CBS students not eligible to receive the WA Bridge Grant



# WCG-C Eligibility Checker

- WSAC has built the **WCG-C Eligibility Checker** as a way for schools to identify their students.
- To access the Eligibility Checker, log into the Portal and go to Home > Programs > WCG-Connect. 
- Click on Eligibility Checker.



Home ▾ | Programs ▾ | WCG-Connect ▾

Eligibility Checker

**Welcome to the WSAC portal.**

This site contains confidential student information on financial aid applicants provided by Washington Student Achievement Council. This site is for use only by authorized WSAC staff, institution staff, employers, and students. This site is not for use by the general public.

By logging in to this tool, I acknowledge that my responsibilities include:

- Protecting WSAC data in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- Protecting user authentication information from use by unauthorized persons.
- Using WSAC data only for purposes of administering and assisting students with state financial aid programs.

To update your account information (name, email, phone, etc.), link to your [My Account](#) Page





# WCG-C Eligibility Checker

There are several ways to search for eligible students at your institution.

- The first way is to search by individual name and DOB.

### WCG-Connect - Eligibility Checker

Selected year	<input type="text" value="— Select —"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <b>NAME SEARCH</b>
First name	<input type="text" value="First name"/>	<input type="radio"/> <b>SSN list search</b>
Last name	<input type="text" value="Last name"/>	<input type="radio"/> <b>SSN file upload search</b>
Birth date	<input type="text" value="MM/DD/YYYY"/>	



# WCG-C Eligibility Checker

- The second way is to search by a list of SSN separated by commas

**WCG-Connect - Eligibility Checker**

Selected year

Enter a list of SSN's separated by commas on each line:

Name search

**SSN LIST SEARCH**

SSN file upload search



# WCG-C Eligibility Checker

- The last way is to upload a .txt or .csv file of SSNs

### WCG-Connect - Eligibility Checker

Selected year

File search Upload a text (.txt) or csv (.csv) file that contains a list of SSNs. May contain dashes and can have multiple ssns per line separated by space or comma.

- Name search
- SSN list search
- SSN FILE UPLOAD SEARCH**



# WCG-C Eligibility Checker

The search can be for a given academic year or for all eligible years.

Note that the WCG-C program does not go into effect until the 2023-24 academic year, even though 2022-23 information is available.

## WCG-Connect - Eligibility Checker

2022-2023

— Select —

All eligible years

2023-2024

**2022-2023**

Last Name

MM/DD/YYYY

- NAME SEARCH**
- SSN list search**
- SSN file upload search**



# WCG-C Eligibility Checker

Last Name ⌵	First Name ⌵	MI	SSN ⌵	Birth Date ▾	WCG-C Eligible Year ⌵	WCG QER ⌵	CBS ⌵	In Repayment ⌵	Last DSHS Report ⌵
	JONATHAN		👁️.....		2023-2024	1 <a href="#">🔗</a>			Apr 2023
SMITH		R	👁️.....		2023-2024	14 <a href="#">🔗</a>		Yes \$	Apr 2023
		C	👁️.....		2023-2024	11.75 <a href="#">🔗</a>			Apr 2023
		A	👁️.....		2023-2024	15			Apr 2023
	JAMES		👁️.....		2023-2024	15			Mar 2023
	KEVIN		👁️.....		2023-2024	15			Apr 2023
MORRISON			👁️.....		2023-2024	15			Apr 2023
			👁️.....		2023-2024	15			Apr 2023
	SIMON		👁️.....		2023-2024	15			Apr 2023
	RACHEL		👁️.....		2023-2024	15			Apr 2023



Once a search has been executed, you will be able to see the following information for your students.



# WCG-C Eligibility Checker

If the student is in CSAW, you can click on their WCG QER to go to their student detail information.

		C			2023-2024	11.75			Apr 2023
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Student detail - [award view](#)

11.750 WCG QER [Not eligible for CBS](#)

Eligible under WCG-C

12.000 CBS QER

Add new year

			WCG	Bridge	CBS	PTC
Winter		Full time	\$1,486.00	\$166.00		
Fall		Full time	\$1,486.00	\$166.00		

			WCG	Bridge	CBS	PTC
Summer 2		< Half Time	\$361.00			
Spring		Full time	\$1,444.00			



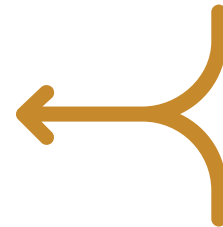


# WCG-C CSAW Information

In the student detail, WCG-C students will have “Eligible under WCG-C” indicated.

Hover over this to view the eligible years.

Click on the link to go back to the Eligibility Checker for that student.



11.750 WCG QER [i](#)  
[Eligible under WCG-C](#) [i](#)

**WCG-Connect Eligibility**

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**Eligible Years**

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2022-2023

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2023-2024



# WCG-C CSAW Information

- CSAW has been updated to recognize WCG-C eligible students.
  - There will be no edits for WCG-C students that are awarded with max WCG and Bridge.
- If a WCG-C student has no WASFA or FAFSA information, there will be no information (including MFI).

Fall term					
Enrollment:	Full time	Calendar:	Quarter	Apprenticeship:	no
	Award	Paid	Max Award	Receivable	
WCG	\$1,489.00	\$1,486.00	\$1,489.00	add receivable	
Bridge	\$166.00	\$166.00	n/a	add receivable	
CBS			n/a		
PTC			n/a		







# WCG-C CSAW Information

If there is no WASFA or FAFSA on file and a student has CBS or PTC awarded, there will be edits to stop funds from being requested. The example below is for a CBS student that is WCG-C eligible but does not have a FAFSA or WASFA, but school awarded CBS.

The screenshot displays a financial aid system interface with several error messages. At the top, a blue banner contains a warning icon and an edit icon. Below this, a navigation bar shows 'WCG', 'Bridge', 'CBS', and 'PTC'. The main content area is divided into 'Winter' and 'Fall' sections, each with a warning icon. A 'Term Edit' callout points to the 'Fall' section. A 'Student Edit' callout points to a '3 edits' pop-up window. The '3 edits' window lists the following errors:

- 1 edit** (from Term Edit):
  - ⚠️ CBS student is not OK to Pay NonOverrideable as of Jun 20, 2023
- 3 edits** (from Student Edit):
  - ⚠️ Family income information is required for WCG and CBS students NonOverrideable as of Jun 20, 2023
  - ⚠️ Family income exceeds 65% CBS MFI Threshold NonOverrideable as of Jun 20, 2023
  - ⚠️ Total CBS awards for year cannot exceed \$2 of maximum Overrideable as of Jun 20, 2023



# WCG-C CSAW Information

Another important thing to remember is that WCG-C eligible students must receive the maximum amount of WCG and WA Bridge award, regardless of their MFI.

Add new year

		WCG	Bridge	CBS	PTC
Winter	Full time	\$1,489.00	\$166.00		
Fall	Full time	\$1,489.00	\$166.00		

Even though the MFI is 75%, there are no edits for this student that is receiving the maximum WCG, since they are WCG-C eligible

Student ID #:	not specified	MFI:	75%	ISIR/WASFA Trans #:	4
Family income:	\$100,000.00	Family size:	5	# in college:	2



Fall term

	Enrollment:	Full time	Calendar:	Quarter	Apprenticeship:	no
	Award	Paid	Max Award	Receivable		
WCG	\$1,489.00	\$1,486.00	\$1,489.00		+ add receivable	
Bridge	\$166.00	\$166.00	n/a		+ add receivable	
CBS			n/a			
PTC			n/a			



# Adding Eligible Students Not In Checker

- If a student self-identifies that they are WCG-C eligible, but is not in the eligibility checker, schools will need to collect documentation of their eligibility from their program and let WSAC know by emailing the WCG team through secure messaging in the portal.
- Please attach/include the following:
  - Any documentation of their approval
  - Name
  - DOB
  - Client ID
  - SSN



## WCG-C Reminders

- ✓ The WCG-Connect Eligibility Checker will identify which students are eligible.
- ✓ WCG-C is not a different fund, but a different way for students to qualify for Washington College Grant (WCG).
- ✓ Students are eligible for maximum WCG, regardless of their MFI or if they have filed a WASFA or FAFSA.
- ✓ Students can receive WCG and Bridge without a WASFA or FAFSA on file, but they cannot receive CBS or PTC.

At the end of this webinar, a short survey will pop up. Please take a couple of minutes to complete the survey.



Your feedback is appreciated!



Questions?

**Thank you  
for joining  
us!**

Contact Us at  
[wcg@wsac.wa.gov](mailto:wcg@wsac.wa.gov)