

Washington Student Achievement Council

*Promoting educational attainment for the people and economy of
Washington.*

WFAA Summer 2013 Training Event

Pacific Lutheran University Presenters:

Julie Japhet, Associate Director

Alison Eldridge, Communications Specialist

Gonzaga University Presenter:

Steve Thorndill, Associate Director

Topics



Affordability policy options

Legislative and budget updates

State aid program updates

Ready, Set, Grad!

ROADMAP AFFORDABILITY POLICY OPTIONS



WSAC Agency

Strategic Planning

Two-Year Strategic Action Plan

Develop a two-year strategic action plan that identifies priorities to be addressed in the Roadmap.

Ten-Year Roadmap

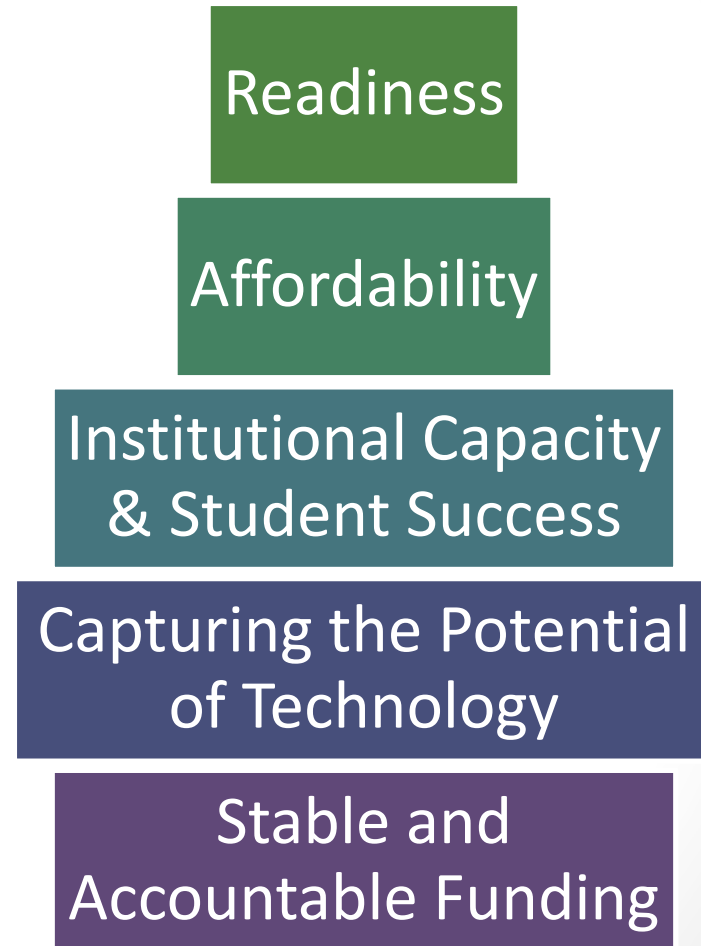
Develop a ten-year education roadmap for increasing educational attainment and sustaining a viable, accountable, and effective education system.

WSAC Agency

Strategic Action Plan

Critical Crossroads: A Call for Action

- Completed Strategic Action Plan in December 2012.
- Identified five areas for further analysis and action in the ten-year Roadmap.



Affordability Challenge

- The state of Washington and students are faced with the challenge of funding postsecondary education.
- Students are making hard choices about work hours, enrollment level, and debt load.



Affordability Policy Options

Policy Option	Outcome(s)
Increase state investments in public institutions.	<i>Limit tuition increases for all students improving access and affordability.</i>
Recommend full funding for the SNG program.	<i>Each eligible enrolled student receives SNG funding.</i>
Submit a comprehensive plan regarding SNG targeting.	<i>SNG is efficiently targeted.</i>
Evaluate the effectiveness of state financial aid programs.	<i>Improve program performance and outcomes.</i>
Invest in State Work Study.	<i>Additional students gain work experience and reduce student loan debt. Additional employers participate in the program and subsidize student wages.</i>
Restructure the former Educational Opportunity Grant program.	<i>Ensure more students with intent to transfer and credits accumulated, complete their baccalaureate degree.</i>
Identify a savings incentive program.	<i>Increase the amount families and individuals are saving and, as a result, increase postsecondary participation rates.</i>
Promote flexible payment methods.	<i>Additional institutions offer flexible payment options to allow students to cover their tuition throughout the term.</i>

Questions for the Council?

Stay current on Council work and contact us.

Subscribe to news updates:

www.wsac.wa.gov/news

Visit the Roadmap website:

www.wsac.wa.gov/PlanningAndResearch/Roadmap

Give us your feedback:

communications@wsac.wa.gov

LEGISLATIVE/BUDGET UPDATES

Operating Budget for Education

- Total 2013-15 education budget increased by 44.2% from 2011-13.
- Public institutions received \$2.39 billion for the biennium including funding to:
 - Expand STEM enrollments at UW, WSU & WWU
 - Support the SBCTC's student achievement initiative
 - Create a Clean Energy Institute at UW
 - Expand WSU's medical school
- Budget assumes NO tuition increases for resident undergraduate students.
 - Institutions may not invoke tuition setting authority in Fiscal Year 2014 but they can for 2015.

Operating Budget for Student Financial Aid

- Financial aid administered by WSAC received \$672.8 million for the biennium.
- SNG and SWS funding stayed flat at \$303 million and \$7.8 million each year, respectively.
- \$36 million provided to College Bound Scholarship.
 - Expect additional funds will be needed in FY 2015

STATE STUDENT AID UPDATES



State Need Grant

- The 2013-14 MFI chart is the same as 2012-13.
- We will share the 2014-15 MFI ranges soon for institutions wanting to program MFIs early.
 - The MFI is based on a 3-year average – beginning this year, WSAC will continue to use the MFI from the prior federal fiscal year to avoid delays in awarding guidance.
- 2013-14 initial reserves sent this week.
- Final 2012-13 Interim Report and Reconciliation due **July 12th**.
- Final reserve amounts and the updated Archive available in August.
- Western Governors University (WGU-Washington) is eligible and has applied for SNG participation.

State Need Grant – new provisos

(budget language carries force of law)

- Regionally accredited for-profit institutions have higher SNG awards (Art Institute of Seattle).
- College Bound students prioritized in SNG.

Eligible CBS students shall be given priority for SNG if the students have applied by the institution's priority financial aid deadline and have completed their financial aid file in a timely manner. These students whose family incomes are less than 65 MFI shall be awarded the maximum SNG for which they are eligible under state policies and may not be denied maximum SNG funding due to institutional policies or delayed awarding of CBS students

College Bound Scholarship

- Over 151,000 students have applied since the program inception in 2007 (details on next page).
- About 85% of eligible students applied from the most recent 8th grade class (incoming 9th graders).
- Over half of next year's eligible 8th graders have already applied.
- WSAC and College Success Foundation are convening a campus student support services discussion to share practices related to outreach, recruitment and retention of College Bound students.



College Bound Scholarship

6/17/2013

Growth in the College Bound Scholarship Program 2007 to 2013

Cohort	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total All Years
Expected High School Graduation Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017*	2018*	
Eligible Free/Reduced Price Lunch Program Students	28,093	28,600	29,856	30,549	31,923	36,394	36,208	185,415
Total College Bound Scholarship Applicants	15,947	16,070	20,903	23,307	25,166	28,564	17,297	147,254
% of Total Eligible Students	57%	56%	70%	76%	79%	TBD	TBD	
Seniors filing FAFSA	9,600							

* Preliminary numbers as the cohort deadline has not passed

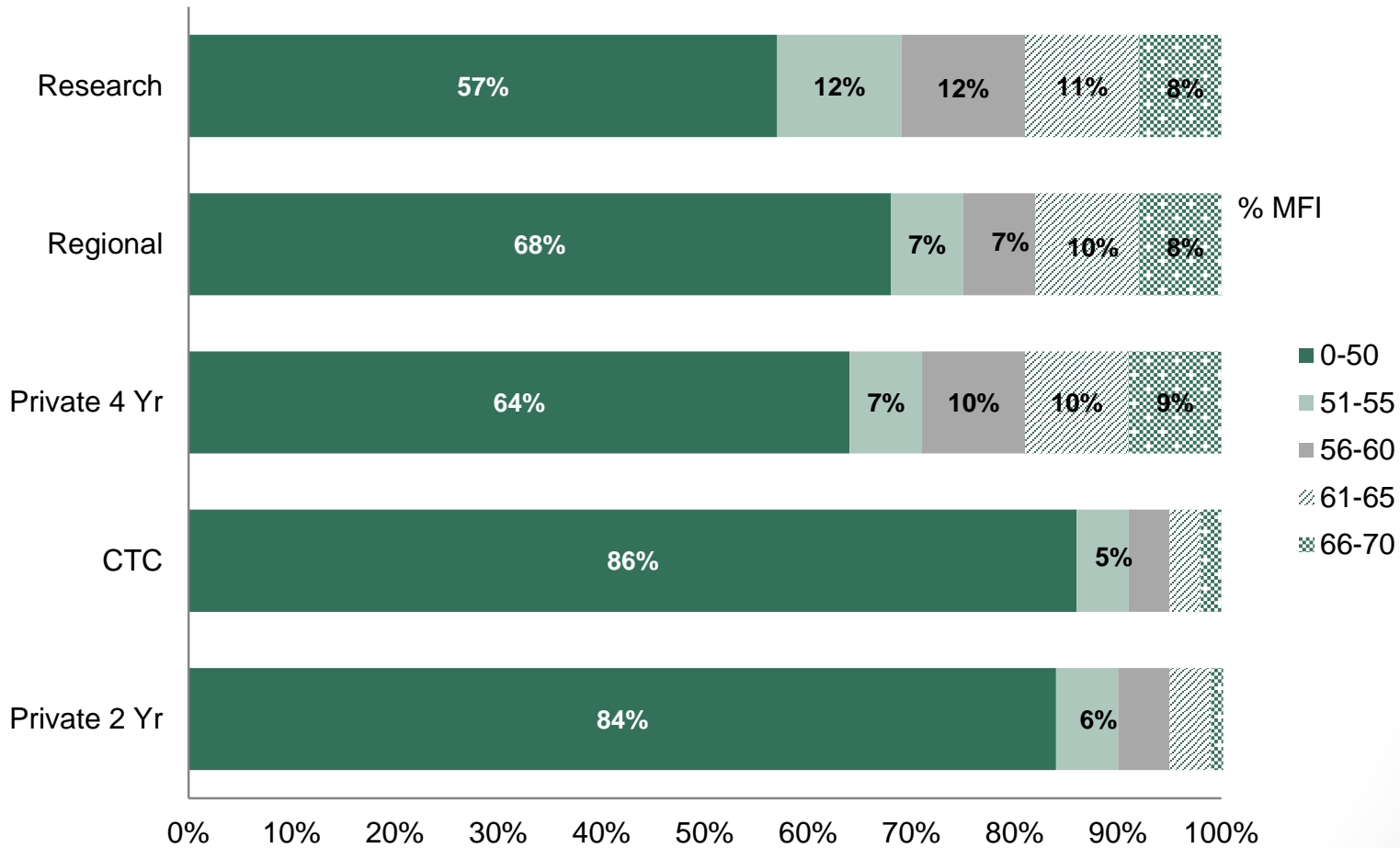
N/A = Data currently not available from OSPI



Summary of Packaging Policies

- **Priority dates** range from February 1 to May 15 (a few in June).
 - Campus will attempt to award SNG to all students within that group; some will “date order” the applications; some will start a wait list when funds are exhausted.
 - Only a few campuses (typically community colleges) will reserve funding for mid-year start students.
- **Other priorities** may affect the likelihood that a student is served (or unserved).
 - Prioritization to lowest income (either 50 or 55 MFI) or Expected Family Contribution ranking.
 - Differing deadlines/prioritization for new vs. continuing vs. transfer students.
- Several private campuses **combine merit criteria** with need in their packaging.
- About 10 campuses use “**gift equity packaging**” that reduces the amount of SNG received based on a maximum percent of need (or budget) that can be received in gift assistance.

Served vs. Unserved by MFI



Unit Record Migration

- There are two reporting options available for 2013 URR report.
 - New Portal submission process.
 - Term award amounts reported for each program.
 - This process will be required for the 2014 report.
 - Secure Site process (historical method).
 - Minimal changes to data.
 - Minimal improvements to edits.
- URR manuals available in August.
- Training dates E-mailed this week.
- Report due **October 11, 2013**

READY, SET, GRAD

Alison Eldridge, Communication Specialist

READY
SET
GRAD

Relevant Background

Information Needs

- Finding information is easy, but finding *relevant* and *trustworthy* information is not.

Support Integration

- Web portal should augment, not replace, existing services offered by institutions and agencies.

Commitment

- Creating, maintaining and supporting a higher education and career planning web portal will be a significant task and will not be a onetime effort.

Research-Based Development

Market research included interviews and focus groups with key stakeholders.

Students

- Focus Groups
- Interviews

Parents

- One-on-One Interviews

Educators

- One-on-One Interviews

SO YOU WANT TO GO TO COLLEGE, NOW WHAT?

TEXT ALERTS

VIDEO

▶ 1 SELECT YOUR GRADE

▶ 2 START YOUR JOURNEY

I'M AN **8th** GRADER

READY

SET

GRAD

EMAIL SIGN UP

FACEBOOK

WWW.READYSETGRAD.ORG

Search bar



Upload



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Funding your education



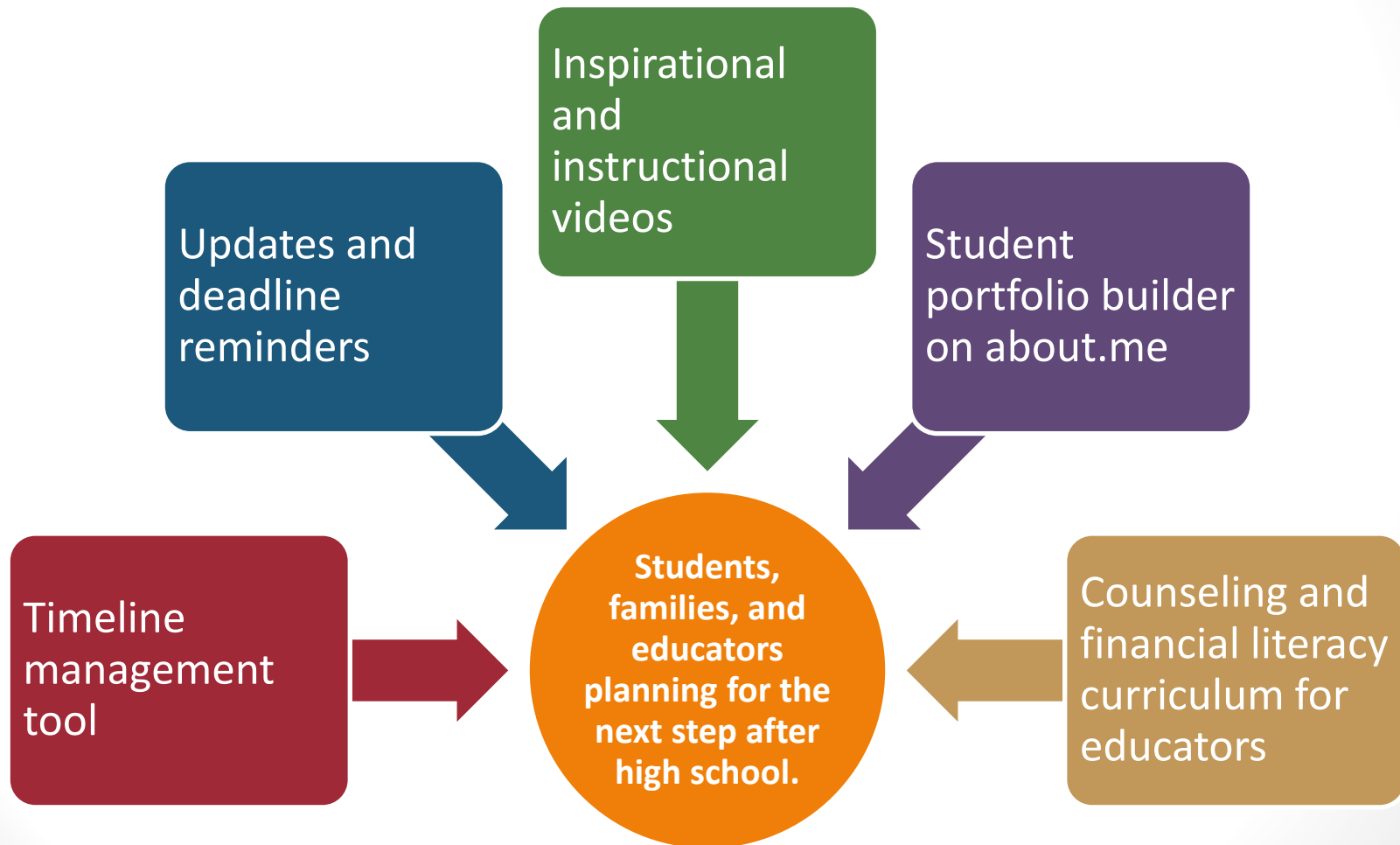
ReadySetGrad - 6 videos

Subscribe 0

10 views

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Ready, Set, Grad Website



Timeline Management



Almost in high school

- Different types of postsecondary institutions
- Career planning – what are your strengths and skills?
- Transition to high school



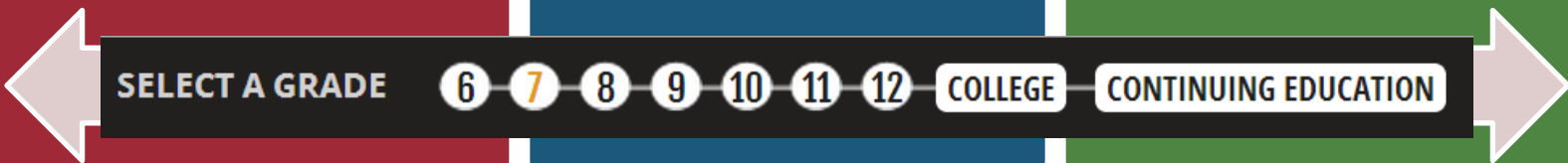
Get ready

- September – August calendar of preparation activities
- Choosing a college
- FAFSA4Caster



Returning to school

- Residency & citizenship
- Workforce Board's Career Bridge link
- Career, transfer planning, and military info



Updates & Reminders



Students and families receive updates about events and deadlines.

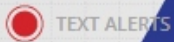
- College Bound Sign-up
- College Application Week
- SAT/ACT dates
- College admission and financial aid deadlines

Planning Tools & Resources

SELECT A GRADE **6** 7 **8** 9 10 11 12 COLLEGE CONTINUING EDUCATION

8th
GRADE

- What You Need To Know
- **Preparing for My Education**
- Timeline



READY : PREPARING FOR MY EDUCATION

There are so many ways you can prepare for high school graduation and beyond, even in 8th grade! You should also start thinking about visiting colleges and preparing for them by thinking through the classes you need to register for in high school.

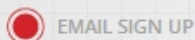
Use our checklist to personalize and navigate the process, saving it and your notes – all the way through high school graduation and college acceptance. Below are some of our suggestions:

- Take the Measures of Student Progress Test Prep [Add Note](#) ▶
- Take the ACT's EXPLORE, which prepares you to take the ACT in high school [Add Note](#) ▶
- Take the most challenging English, math, science, and social studies classes you can handle. Don't be afraid to stretch a little bit – most schools offer extra homework help or tutoring to support you. [Add Note](#) ▶
- Take classes in art, computers, or world language if you can. [Add Note](#) ▶
- Do assignments for extra credit.

Talk to Mr. Smith about history credit.

- Focus on learning and mastering key concepts. [Add Note](#) ▶

READY
SET
GRAD



What's Next?

Academic Program Database

- Ability to search all academic programs in Washington—Summer 2013

Dual Credit look-up

- Drop-down menu feature to look-up and compare AP scores needed for credit at specific universities—Summer 2013

The Vault financial literacy curriculum

- Partnering with WSECU to provide interactive financial literacy curriculum—Fall 2013

Ready, Set, Grad marketing campaign

- Seattle-based marketing firm contracted to plan and execute an 18-month marketing campaign, targeting counselors & other educators, students, and families.

Your Feedback is Important!

Contact:

Alison Eldridge, Communications Specialist

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