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BACKGROUND

The College Bound Scholarship is an early commitment of state funding intended to improve high school graduation, college enrollment and completion rates for low-income students.

The program is intended to alleviate the financial barriers that may prevent low-income students from considering the possibility of a higher education.

Eligible students, typically those who are eligible for free and reduced price lunch, apply in 7th or 8th grade. They pledge to graduate from high school with a 2.0 GPA or higher, to not be convicted of a felony, and to file the FAFSA or WASFA senior year to determine their income eligibility.

The scholarship combines with State Need Grant and other state aid to cover the cost of average tuition (at comparable public college rates), some fees, and a small book allowance.



FUNDING

The Legislature provided \$43 million in funding for the 2015-17 biennium.

PARTNERSHIPS

The program works collaboratively with the K-12 system, state agencies, non-profit organizations, and regional college access groups to help students as they move through middle and high school.

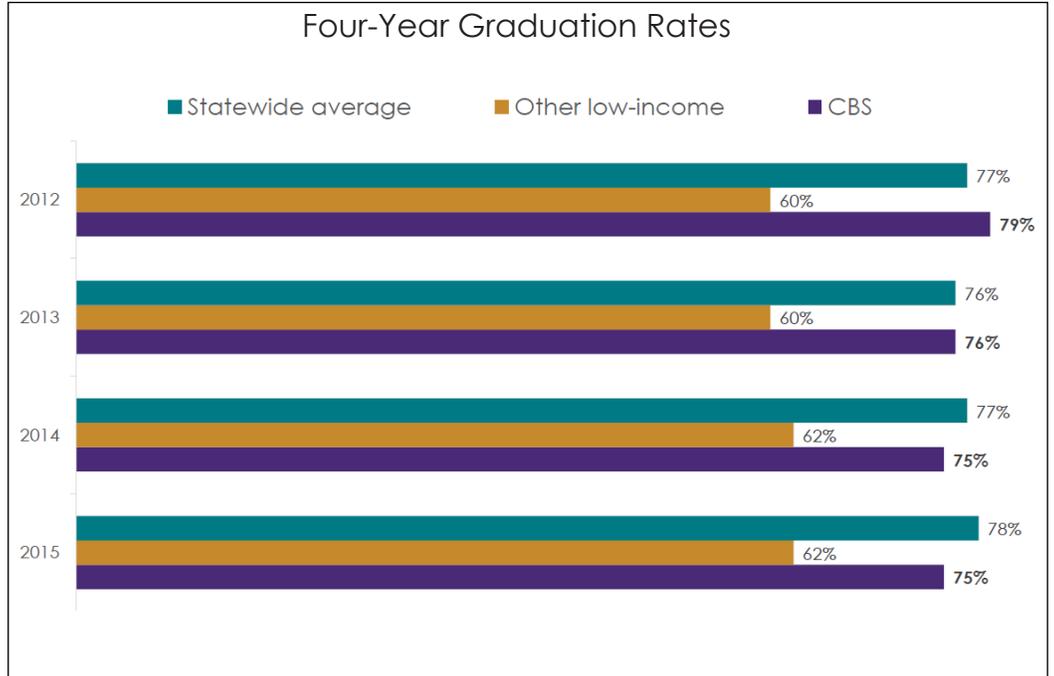
Statewide partners such as the College Success Foundation/Washington College Access Network assist students and families with the sign up process and filing the FAFSA or WASFA.

"Since applying for the scholarship, my future is brighter. After looking at all the schools I could attend, I am really excited about college. The College Bound Scholarship has and will open doors for me."



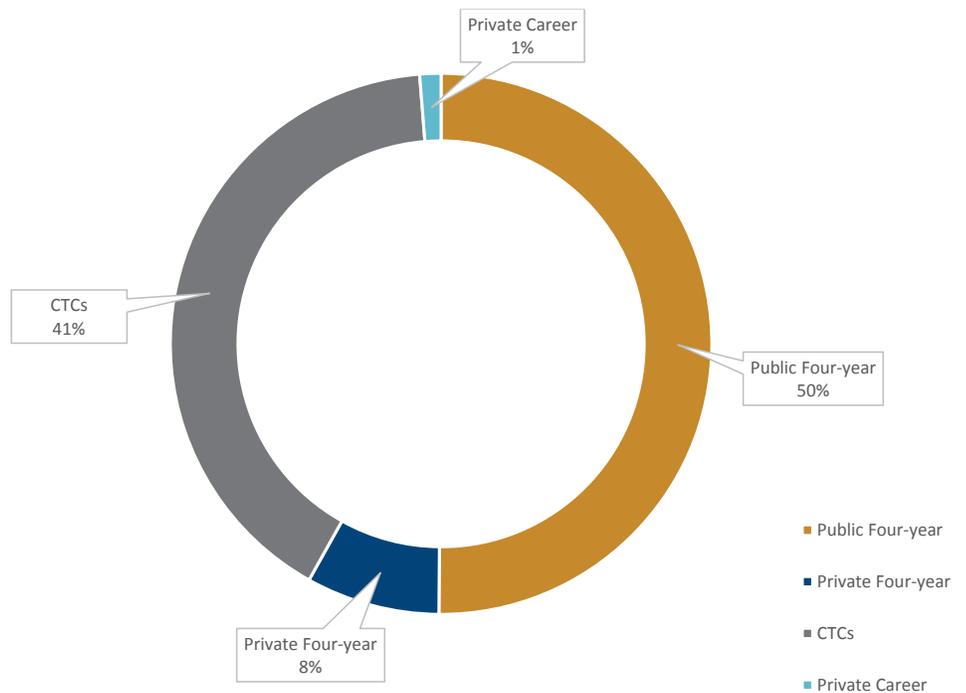
PROGRAM RESULTS

CBS students' high school graduation rates averaged 15 percentage points higher than their low-income peers from 2012-15.



Source: OSPI staff analysis of WSAC CBS Applicant Data.

The total number of College Bound Scholarship recipients enrolled in postsecondary education is **14,605**, with more recipients attending four-year institutions than anticipated.



Source: WSAC Interim Report, 2015-16

NOTE: This overall number is representative of the number of students in eligible Washington institutions receiving College Bound Scholarship funds. It does not count eligible students who were funded by other means, or attending college out of state or at an ineligible Washington institution. This is an unduplicated total count, meaning not all enrollments are counted; rather, an individual enrolled in multiple institutions is counted once.