

**Washington Student  
Achievement Council**



# ***ON THE ROAD TO COLLEGE***

**What College Bound Students  
Need to Know About Their  
Scholarship**

Fall 2012



# OVERVIEW

# COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP

2

You ***applied*** by submitting a complete application to the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC ) by the deadline - *June 30 of your 8<sup>th</sup> grade year.*

- ❑ WSAC was formerly known as the Higher Education Coordinating Board.

You ***pledged*** to:

- ❑ Graduate with a cumulative high school GPA of 2.0
- ❑ Be a good citizen and not be convicted of a felony
- ❑ Apply for financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student aid (FAFSA) your senior year of high school.

You ***received a certificate*** that said you are College Bound!



# OVERVIEW

## COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP

3

Now to *receive* the Scholarship, you must:

- ❑ Complete your pledge requirements.
- ❑ File the FAFSA which will determine your income eligibility to receive the scholarship – **February 1, 2013 is the FAFSA priority filing date.** You may file as early as Jan. 1, 2013.
- ❑ Apply, be admitted, and enroll within one year of high school graduation in one of the 68 eligible institutions in Washington.
- ❑ Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen and have a Social Security Number.

To view a list of eligible institutions go to [collegebound.wa.gov](http://collegebound.wa.gov) and click on [“Which colleges and universities can I attend?”](#)





# MILEPOST 1

**FAFSA: What it is and  
Why it's Important**



# WHAT IS THE FAFSA?

**FAFSA** is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid

It is the primary application for student aid and is used for federal and state grants, work study, and other assistance.

File the FAFSA even if you are unsure about:

- ❑ Whether you want to attend college,
- ❑ How much financial aid you will need, or
- ❑ What other scholarships you may receive.

[www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)



# REASONS TO FILE THE FAFSA

- ❑ The FAFSA allowed 187,000 students to access \$2.4 billion in need-based aid in Washington.
- ❑ There are many types of financial aid: grants, scholarships, work study, and loans.
- ❑ The FAFSA takes about 30 minutes and is available in Spanish.
- ❑ Free assistance is available via email, by phone, and on the web: [FederalStudentAidCustomerService@ed.gov](mailto:FederalStudentAidCustomerService@ed.gov)
- ❑ Not eligible for College Bound? File a FAFSA anyway – you may be eligible for other financial aid programs.



# FAFSA FOR COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS

- ❑ File the FAFSA which will determine your income eligibility to receive the scholarship – **February 1, 2013 is the FAFSA priority filing date.** You may file as early as Jan. 1, 2013.
- ❑ The colleges you applied to will also require financial aid forms so check their websites and meet all deadlines.

## And remember:

- ❑ You may complete the FAFSA **before** your parents do their taxes. Use last year's tax information and then update the information after they file their taxes by logging into your application at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)
- ❑ Don't wait until you are admitted to a college to submit the FAFSA.



# FAFSA TIPS

## FAFSA Completion Tips

- ❑ Read the directions.
- ❑ Make sure your SSN & date of birth are accurate.
- ❑ You and your parents must sign the form.
- ❑ Keep copies of your family's prior years taxes.
- ❑ Include codes for all the colleges you apply to.
  - UW Seattle: 003798; Seattle Central CC: 003787; etc.
- ❑ Complete the FAFSA every year and file early!
- ❑ Never pay someone to fill out the FAFSA for you.  
The FAFSA is always **FREE**.

[www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)







# MILEPOST 2

College Bound, and Your  
Financial Aid Award



# YOUR FAFSA RECORD

The Department of Education sends your FAFSA data to the colleges listed on the FAFSA and to WSAC.

WSAC matches your FAFSA application to your original College Bound application and notifies you via e-mail if the match was successful.

**If you do not receive an email from WSAC within 2 weeks of submitting your FAFSA, call us: 1-888-535-0747**



**WSAC will use the email listed on your FAFSA**



# YOUR COLLEGE BOUND AWARD

- ❑ Your name will be sent to the college(s) confirming that you are a College Bound student.
- ❑ The college's financial aid office will determine if your family's current income meets the requirements to receive the College Bound Scholarship and other financial aid.
- ❑ The financial aid office will calculate your award and notify you.
- ❑ This notification is called an Award Letter and may come in the form of an actual letter or you may need to login to the college's financial aid website to review your offer of financial aid.



# COLLEGE BOUND AWARD SOURCES

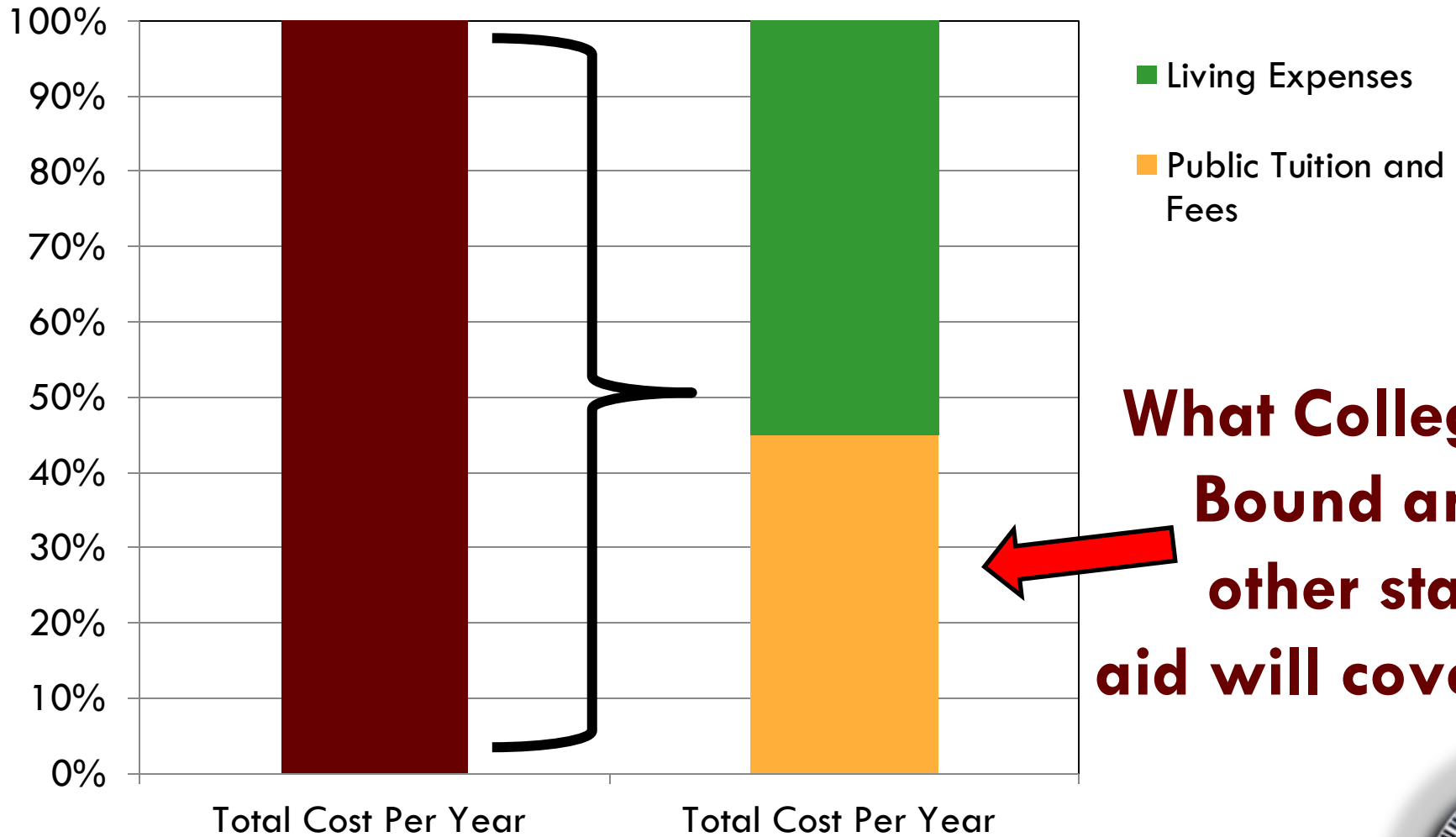
Your total College Bound award may consist of funds from State Need Grant, other state financial aid, and the College Bound Scholarship.

State Need Grant is the largest state financial aid program.

- ❑ The maximum award is based on tuition (at public institution rates), fees and a book allowance.
- ❑ College Bound was designed to coordinate with State Need Grant to cover the maximum award.



# EXAMPLE OF YOUR COST PER YEAR



**What College  
Bound and  
other state  
aid will cover!**



# WHY YOU MAY NOT RECEIVE THE FULL AWARD

## **College Bound may not be offered or may be reduced if:**

- ❑ Your family's income does not meet the income requirement based on the information provided on the FAFSA.
- ❑ Your financial aid award is greater than your "financial need."
- ❑ You do not enroll full-time.





# MILEPOST 3

Final Tips for the Road



# FAFSA REMINDERS

- ❑ Be at the “front of the line” by filing as soon after January 1 as possible and by the February 1, 2013 FAFSA priority filing date.
- ❑ Check with your college’s financial aid office for additional forms and deadlines.
- ❑ Complete a new FAFSA every year you are in college; file early.
- ❑ Never pay to fill out the FAFSA – it is FREE.





# COLLEGE BOUND IMPORTANT POINTS

- ❑ The College Bound Scholarship is a four-year scholarship that must be used within five years of high school graduation
  - equal to 12 quarters or eight semesters maximum.
- ❑ GPA for admission to a four-year institution will be higher than 2.0.
- ❑ You do not have to graduate with your class.
- ❑ You must enroll within one year of high school graduation.
- ❑ Enrollment does not have to be continuous.
- ❑ You may enroll part-time but your scholarship will be pro-rated.
- ❑ You must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).
- ❑ If you accept the award and drop all of your classes, you may owe a repayment to the program.



# YOUR JOURNEY ONWARD



Earning a college degree or certificate helps ensure that your future will be rewarding and economically stable.

You have demonstrated that you have what it takes to be successful: persistence, vision, and discipline.

You are ready to begin this part of your journey...

**YOU ARE COLLEGE BOUND!**



# RESOURCES

- ❑ FAFSA and general financial aid information: [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)
- ❑ College Bound information: [www.collegebound.wa.gov](http://www.collegebound.wa.gov)
- ❑ WSAC financial aid programs: [www.wsac.wa.gov](http://www.wsac.wa.gov)
- ❑ Washington Scholarships: [www.thewashboard.org](http://www.thewashboard.org)
- ❑ Resources for students who are not U.S. citizens:  
[www.wsac.wa.gov/PreparingForCollege/CollegeBound/2012](http://www.wsac.wa.gov/PreparingForCollege/CollegeBound/2012)



[College Bound Blog](#)



[I Am College Bound](#)

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