

The National Center for Education Research has awarded \$1 million to WSAC and MDRC to support the evaluation of the Washington College Grant.

The Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) is excited to share a new research project that evaluates the effectiveness of the Washington College Grant for increasing postsecondary access and attainment. This research will be supported by an award of approximately \$1 million from the National Center of Education Research (NCER) and data from the Washington Education Research & Data Center (ERDC).¹

The project will address four main research questions: (1) How was the Washington College Grant program implemented and how did this differ from prior support? (2) What is the extent to which the Washington College Grant was utilized by students from families with low incomes, immediately after students' high school graduation and throughout their postsecondary experience? (3) What was the pattern of postsecondary outcomes in the state for public K-12 students from low-income families before and after the Washington College Grant program was implemented? (4) What is the effect of students' receipt of Washington College Grant funding on their postsecondary education outcomes? Does this relationship differ across funding levels?

The work will be a collaborative effort between WSAC, ERDC, and the nonprofit research organization, MDRC. The team will produce an implementation-focused Washington College Grant infographic, a policy-focused report on findings from the access and attainment studies, and a peer-reviewed publication focused on the findings.

This project is part of WSAC's research-driven strategy to build credible evidence to ensure that educational programs are promoting increased postsecondary access and implemented in a manner that supports success across Washington's diverse population.



¹ The project is supported by the Institute for Education Sciences. A total of \$1 million, or 100% of the project, will be financed with federal funds.