

College Bound Scholarship (CBS) - Eligibility Checker FAQ for Financial Aid Administrators

1. Is the CBS Eligibility Checker a replacement for the CBS Cruncher?

Yes, the Eligibility Checker has replaced the Cruncher. Once schools have updated their systems the Cruncher will be disabled.

2. When will the CBS Cruncher officially be removed?

The CBS Cruncher will be available until all institutions have completed their implementation process to be able to use the new CBS Eligibility Checker in the WSAC portal, specifically integrating the new file format. However, schools should be using the CBS Eligibility Checker for their students, as the CBS Cruncher doesn't have the ability to identify students who are newly eligible for CBS under [HB 1232](#).

3. What do institutions do if a student has been awarded WA Bridge but is CBS eligible, need their high school graduation information verified, and doesn't have a high school transcript on file?

If you know the student has graduated high school and it's just a matter of getting the correct documentation (official or unofficial high school transcript), WA Bridge should not be awarded because they are likely College Bound eligible. Until it is officially confirmed that a student is not CBS eligible, please do not alternatively award WA Bridge. Since the student is likely eligible for CBS, they should be awarded CBS in CSAW.

4. Does the high school transcript have to be official to verify high school graduation information (graduation date and GPA)?

No, an official or unofficial copy of the student's high school transcript can be used to verify high school graduation and GPA information. Please keep the transcript in your records and update the CBS Eligibility Checker once a transcript has been received.

5. Can you clarify the 5-year window? Would a student who graduated in 2018 still be eligible for CBS in summer at a header school?

The CBS Eligibility Checker will display when students are eligible through summer. These students will show as "Eligible for CBS" through the last term they're eligible for.

- For example: The CBS Eligibility Checker shows a student graduated from high school in June of 2018. The student would be eligible for CBS through Summer 1 2023. Eligibility through Summer 1 will be indicated in the student detail record in CSAW, like the example below:

Eligible for CBS through Summer 1 **i**
9.000 CBS QER **i**

6. Does a high school diploma with a graduation date work as an acceptable form of verification for HS Grad Year?

No, a high school diploma does not fulfill the requirements to verify high school graduation and GPA status. An official or unofficial high school transcript should be collected.

7. For students who receive the “Student is OK to award, not OK to pay, and hasn’t been awarded CBS” edit due to needing their HS Grad Year and/or HS 2.0 GPA verified in the CBS Eligibility Checker, how is the edit resolved? Do institutions have to override all edits for this noting that they are waiting on transcripts, so that they can request WCG funds?

Students who are eligible for CBS, but still need to be verified, should be awarded CBS in CSAW. This edit shouldn’t be overridden. Schools can choose to award these funds in their system but are encouraged to not disburse any CBS funds to the student until high school information is verified through a high school transcript. One option may be to have the CBS funding at “offered” or a similar status in your system.

Awarding CBS in CSAW will resolve this edit, but the student will receive the “CBS is not OK to Pay” edit until any high school information that needs to be verified is verified in the CBS Eligibility Checker. Interim reports can still be submitted with this edit in place, and this may be a good way to track students who need to submit their high school transcripts.

8. For schools that do not require high school transcripts for admissions, what should they do so they can request WCG funds in the meantime?

For students to be eligible for WCG, they must have graduated high school, received a GED/equivalent, or meet the ability to benefit requirements. If after awarding WCG you receive the CBS edit of not having a diploma, this is now considered conflicting information. This requirement must be verified for the student to be eligible for WCG and/or Passport funds, therefore any student who is missing confirmed high school information for CBS, is likely ineligible for WCG and/or Passport as well. It is important that high school graduation information (or its equivalent) is collected and updated in the Checker as soon as possible.

9. If a student received CBS in an academic year, but runs out of eligibility, do they then need to be awarded WA Bridge Grant?

Yes, once a student runs out of quarters of eligibility (QER) for CBS, they would then be eligible to be awarded WA Bridge the following term after.

10. If a student graduated from high school with less than a 2.0 GPA, then attended an out-of-state school and transferred back to a Washington 4-year school, could they then be eligible for CBS?

No, they would not be eligible if they were transferring from an out-of-state school back to Washington.