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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 4, 2016  
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**Council receives annual update on state financial aid programs**

**Olympia**—On Feb. 10, the council will review an annual update on Washington State’s financial aid programs, which include State Need Grant and the College Bound Scholarship. Highlights for the past year include:

- College Bound served over 11,600\* students, and the State Need Grant served over 71,000 students. However, lack of funding prevented over 27,000 eligible students from receiving the State Need Grant.
- The College Bound Scholarship shows promise. Low-income students who applied for the scholarship graduated from high school at higher rates than their low-income peers who did not receive the scholarship. Early findings indicate the scholarship also supports increased enrollment and persistence in college.

The council will also hear updates on the 2015 Legislative Session, the *Skilled and Educated Workforce Report*, and the Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET) Program.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday February 10 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Tumwater. Public comment is scheduled at 11:45 a.m. All [materials](#) will be available online the day of the meeting.

*\*Updated at 2:00 PM on 2/4/2016. The number in the original press release was 9,300 which is incorrect.*

**Meeting Location**

Capital Event Center (ESD 113)  
Thurston Room  
6005 Tye DR SW  
Tumwater, WA 98512

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**About the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC):** Established as a cabinet-level state agency in 2012, WSAC provides strategic planning, administrative oversight and advocacy to support increased student success and higher levels of educational attainment in Washington.

The [nine-member Council](#) includes five citizen members, one of whom is a current student, and one representative from each of Washington's four major educational sectors. The Council proposes improvements and innovations to meet the evolving needs of students, employers and the educational community. In recognition of the economic, social and civic benefits of public education, the council advocates for increased financial support and civic commitment to ensure a thriving Washington.

Find us online at [www.wsac.wa.gov](http://www.wsac.wa.gov), on Twitter [@WSACouncil](https://twitter.com/WSACouncil), and on [Facebook](#).