

Financial Aid Is An Umbrella









About the Council



We advance educational opportunities and attainment in Washington.

We Will Answer

- What is financial aid?
- Who can get it?
- How much can students get?
- How do students apply?
- What is the College Bound Scholarship?
- GET/DreamAhead 529 College Savings Plans
- Award Letters

Financial Aid Is An Umbrella

Grants

Income-based, federal, state, and institutional.

Scholarships

Merit and income-based, from public, private, and nonprofit sources.

Loans

Income-based, federal and private.

Work Study

Income-based, federal, state, and institutional.

Sources of Financial Aid

Federal

Typically can be used at most institutions in most states.

State

Typically for residents to attend most colleges in the state.

College

Offered by a specific school to attend that school.

Organizations

Offered by nonprofits, businesses, churches, etc.

Examples of Federal Financial Aid Programs

Pell Grant

Federal Work Study

Unsubsidized/Subsidized
Student Loans

Parent Loans



Examples of State Financial Aid

State Need Grant

College Bound Scholarship

State Work Study

Passport to College for Foster Youth

Opportunity Grant



Myth Busters



- MYTH: Grants & scholarships are free money!
- **REALITY**: Grants and scholarships might have to be repaid if you do not successfully complete the courses in which you were enrolled.

Applying - Rule of One

Opens October 1 every year

Apply early to maximize aid opportunities

FAFSA

or WASFA

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

FAFSA.gov

Washington
Application for
State Financial Aid

readysetgrad.org/wasfa

Myth Busters



- MYTH: Financial aid applications take forever to fill out and are hard to do.
- REALITY: Look, if you have 30 minutes to spare, you're good. Because that's how long it takes to fill out the FAFSA or WASFA. Could it be easier? Sure, but there is help available!

What Is the College Bound Scholarship?



Early **commitment** of state financial aid to eligible 7th and 8th grade students who apply no later than June 30 of 8th grade year.



Combines with other state financial aid to cover the average cost of tuition (at comparable public college rates), some fees, and a small book allowance = **commitment**.



Can be used at **over 60** two- and four-year public and private colleges and universities.

Who is Eligible?

Students must meet one of the following requirements during 7th or 8th grade.

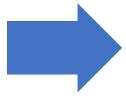
Student's family's income meets the minimum on the USDA chart.

Student's family receives TANF benefits.

Student is a foster youth at any point between 7th grade and age 21.

Eligibility: A Two-Step Application Process

Step One



- Apply in 7th or 8th grade, by June 30 of 8th grade year.
- Meet income requirements; verified on the application.
- Foster Youth are autoenrolled if they are in care at any point in time from grade 7 to age 21.

Step Two

- Fulfill the College Bound Pledge.
- Meet income requirements; verified by the college using information from FAFSA or WASFA.
- Be accepted to and attend an eligible college within one year of graduating high school.

The Pledge



 Graduate from a Washington State high school with a 2.0 GPA or better.



Have no felony convictions.



• Be income eligible, determined by the college with information from the FAFSA or WASFA.



• Enroll in college within one year of high school graduation.

Maintaining Eligibility



 Must enroll in college within one year of high school graduation.



 Must be used within five year of HS graduation (Class of 2017's CB scholarship expires in 2022).



• Remain "in good standing" with your college to maintain scholarship (GPA, honor code, etc.).



• File the FAFSA or WASFA early every year in college.

What Is the Commitment?

That the cost of tuition at public rates, some fees, and a small book allowance will be covered by state financial aid.

College Bound works
in combination with other
state financial aid (such as
State Need Grant) to
cover a students costs
for college.



Actual amounts for the College Bound award are based on the type of college the student attends and their tuition rate.

Other Ways to Pay for College

GET/DreamAhead 529 college savings plans

Job/savings

Payment plan (talk to the colleges)

Scholarships

What is a 529 Plan?

- Tax-advantaged savings plan designed to encourage saving for future college costs.
- Legally known as "qualified tuition plans," are sponsored by states, state agencies, or educational institutions and are authorized by Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code.
- Two types of 529 plans:
 - Prepaid tuition plans (defined benefit)
 - College savings plans (defined contribution)

What Are The Advantages of a 529 Plan



• Earnings grow tax-free and remain tax-free when used for qualified educational expenses.



 Students can attend public, private, community or technical colleges nationwide.



 Money can be used for tuition, fees, room and board, books and required supplies.



• Can be transferred to other family members.

Three Things to Know About 529s and Financial Aid

1. Considered a parental asset.

2. Grandparent ownership may affect outcome.

3. Preparation is key.

Common Misconceptions

1. Cannot afford to save.

2. Savings prevent student from receiving financial aid.

3. My kids will just get financial aid.

Call to Action – How You Can Help

- 1. Gather college savings plan resources in your workplace.
- 2. Share information with parents and students when you can.
- 3. Attend a college savings workshop or webinar to learn more about GET and DreamAhead.
- 4. Reach out and ask questions by contacting us.
- 5. Let us know how we can help you and your students!

Sources for Scholarships



- Organizations, clubs.
- Local credit unions, faith-based organizations, Rotary or Kiwanis.
- Institutional scholarships.
- Students' or families' employers.
- State or national programs.

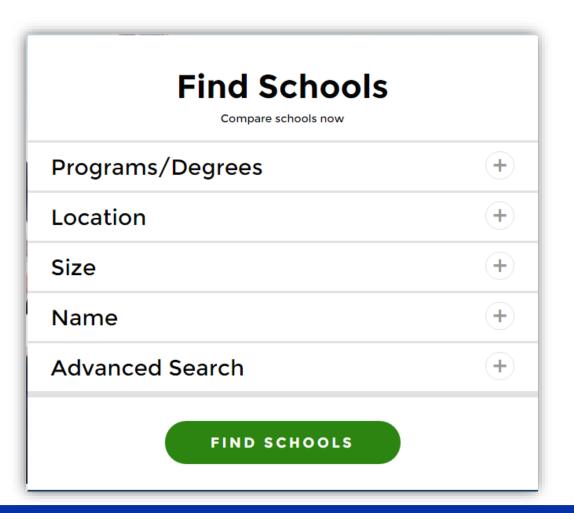
theWashBoard.org



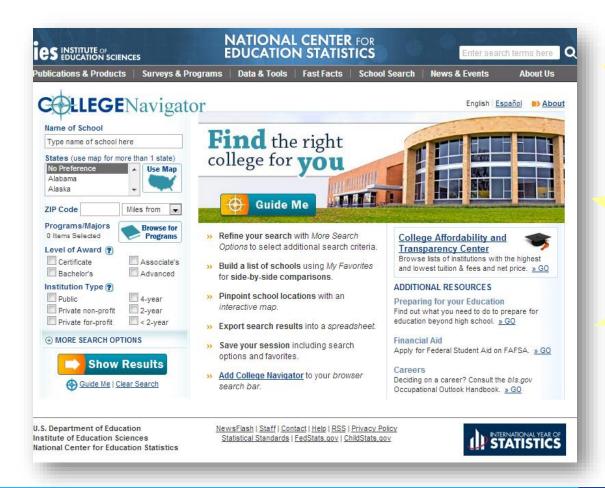
The WashBoard matches Washington students to scholarships from local businesses, rotaries, institutions, and other donors.

Collegescorecard.ed.gov

- Takes all schools in the country that accept federal funding (federal student loans) and allows them to be easily searched in one place.
- Allows students to select majors, states, size of the institution, even school mission and religious affiliation.



College Navigator - nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator



Resources on this website are also available in Spanish

Net Price Calculator – collegecost.ed.gov

