



Legislative Session Overview: Washington College Grant & Other Highlights

Presented to the Washington Student Achievement Council
July 10th, 2019

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WASHINGTON STUDENT
ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL
EDUCATION · OPPORTUNITY · RESULTS



Presentation outline

- Legislative overview/Background
- Need-based aid background
- The Workforce Education Investment Act
- Other Bills Impacting WSAC
- Discussion



Washington's educational attainment goals for 2023

THE ROADMAP

A Plan to Increase Educational Attainment in Washington

Ensure our residents can compete for the best jobs in Washington

2017 rate: 91%
2013 baseline: 90%

100% of adults* will have a high school diploma or equivalent.

2017 rate: 56%
2013 baseline: 51%

At least 70% of adults* will have a postsecondary credential.

*Adults in Washington aged 25-44



Strategic priority areas

Equity across all of our work

Affordability

Student
Supports

Enrollment

- K-12 path
- Adult path

Completions

If we build an **affordable** and **supportive** educational environment, more Washington residents will **enroll** in and **complete** a credential-bearing program at a higher education institution.



2019 legislative session

- Session ended on April 28, 2019
- About 2,900 bills introduced
 - WSAC monitored 172 bills
 - 34 passed both chambers
 - 12 have direct implications for WSAC's work
- Funding of higher education investments
 - Biennial operating budget: HB 1109
 - Workforce Education Investment Act: HB 2158





State financial aid background



WSAC state financial aid programs

2018-19 Estimated Expenditures

Program	Fiscal Year 2019	Estimated Students
State Need Grant	\$324 million	72,800
College Bound Scholarship	\$26 million	22,400
State Work Study ¹	\$12.5 million	4,500
Passport to College for Foster Youth ²	\$2.1 million	375
American Indian Endowed Scholarship	\$13,300	12
Aerospace Loan	\$120,000	25
Alternative Routes to Teaching	\$1.4 million	230
Health Prof. Loan Repayment ³	\$4.685 million	70
Federal/State Loan Repayment ⁴	\$1.525 million	30
Total	\$372 million	

1. Includes \$5 million in employer matching funding.

2. Includes support service funding and apprenticeship opportunities.

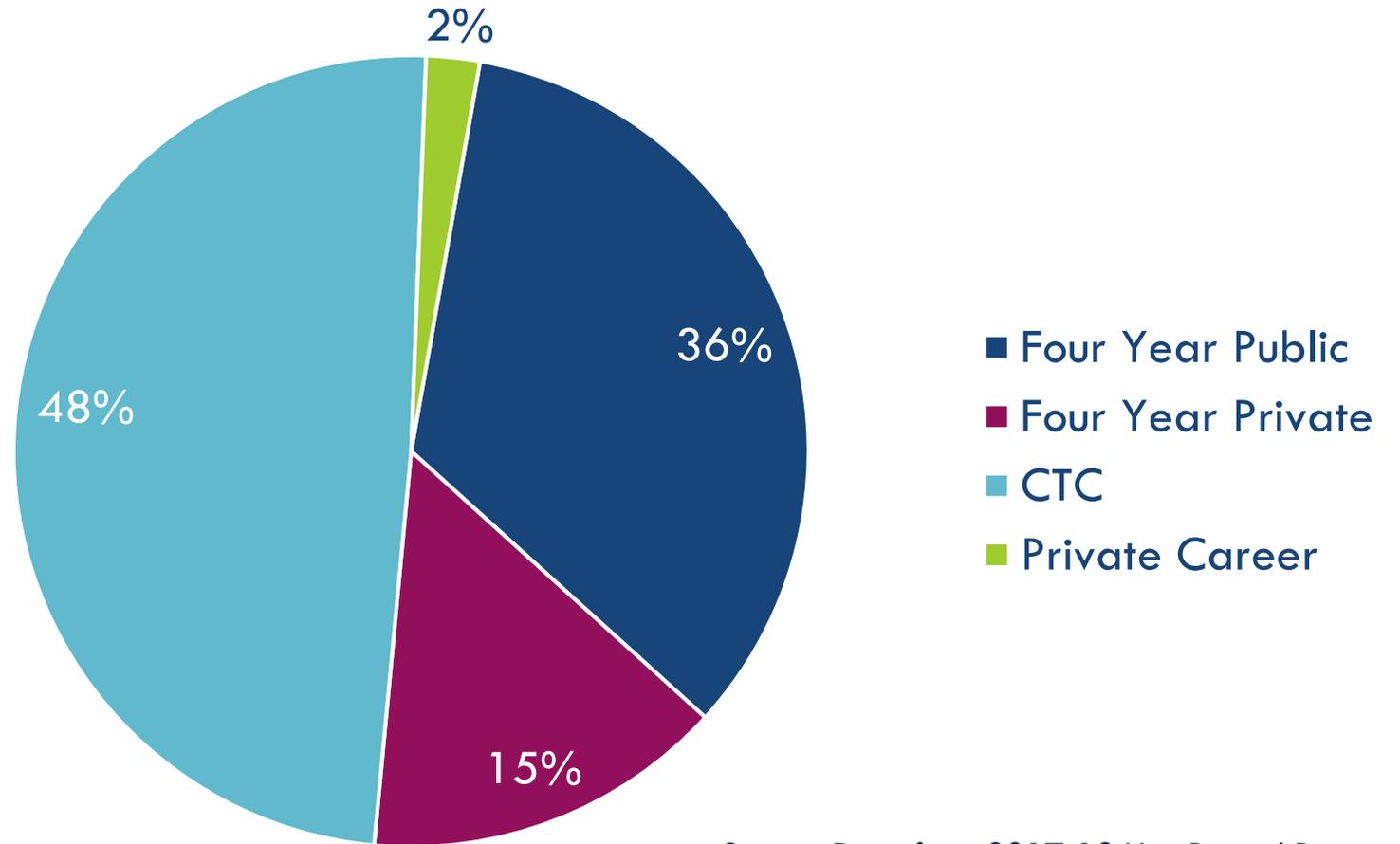
3. State only funds. Obligated in 2018-19 and disbursed 2019-22.

4. Federal/state match funds. Obligated in 2018-19 and disbursed 2019-21.



Recipients of need-based aid by sector in 2017-18

Nearly 163,000 students received need-based aid in 2017-18



Source: Data from 2017-18 Unit Record Report

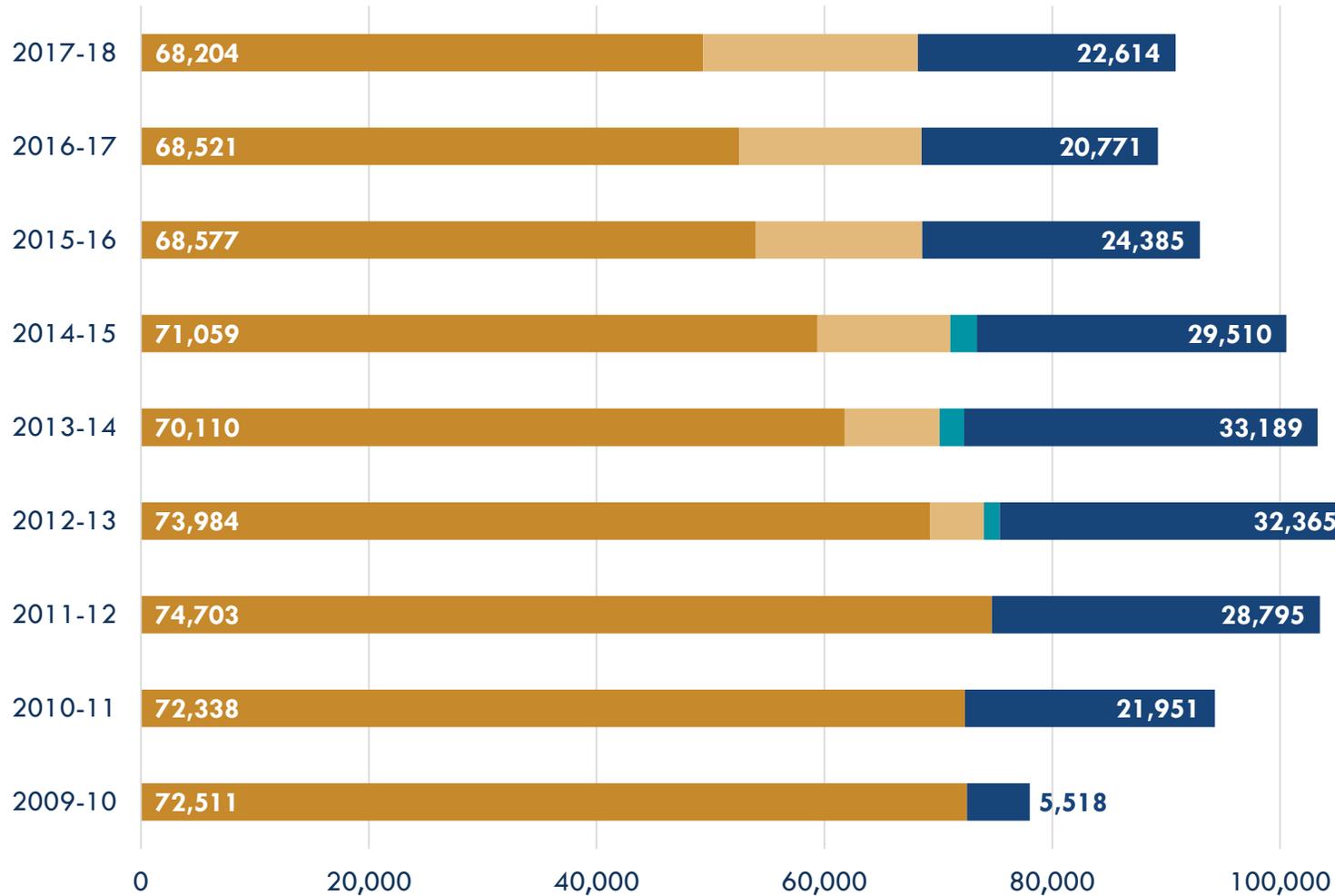


State Need Grant

- Flagship program serves about 70,000 low-income students each year
- Nationally recognized for flexibility
 - Age
 - Institution
 - Enrollment level
 - Credential type
- Funding limitations have meant not all eligible students receive grants



State Need Grant service levels



Large numbers of students remain unserved.

- SNG & CBS
- CBS Only
- SNG Served
- SNG Unserved

Source: Data from Interim Report



Workforce Education Investment Act Changes

Washington College Grant



Workforce Education Investment Act – HB 2158

- Historic investment creates dedicated revenue source for higher education
 - Three-tiered increase to state's business-and-occupation tax paid by professions that depend on higher education
 - Oversight board
- Revenue of \$373.8M for 2019-21
- Used on higher education operations, compensation, programs, and student aid





Washington College Grant

- Replaces the State Need Grant
- Two year phase-in

2019-20

- Additional funding to serve about 6,000 more students
- Maximum award amounts for public institutions increase to cover full tuition and fees

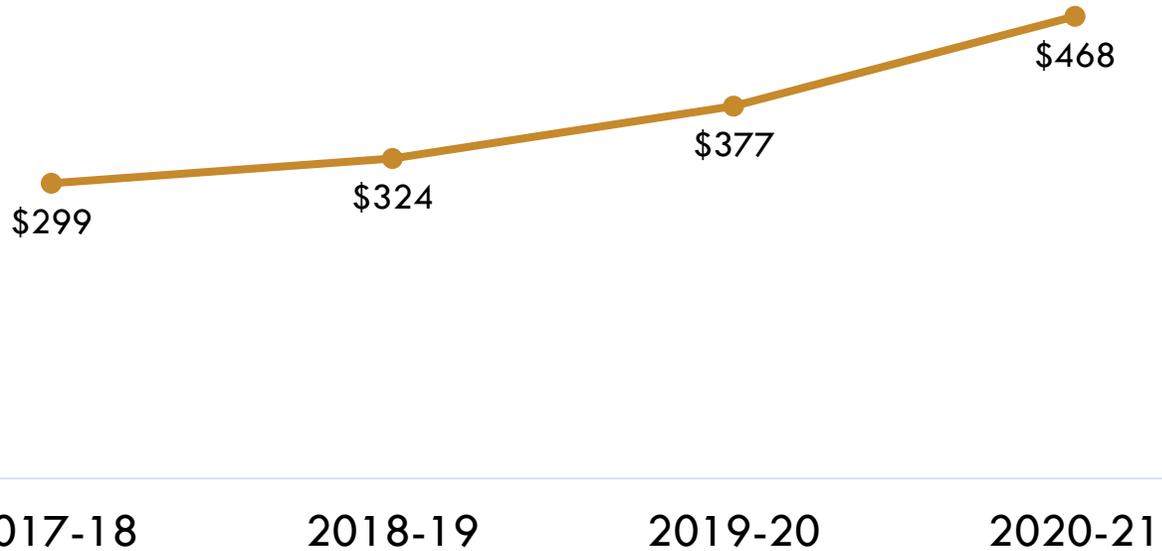
2020-21

- Guaranteed funding for eligible students
- Expanded eligibility to 100% MFI (previously 70%)
- Registered apprenticeships added



Washington College Grant: Increased funding

WCG funding
(in millions)

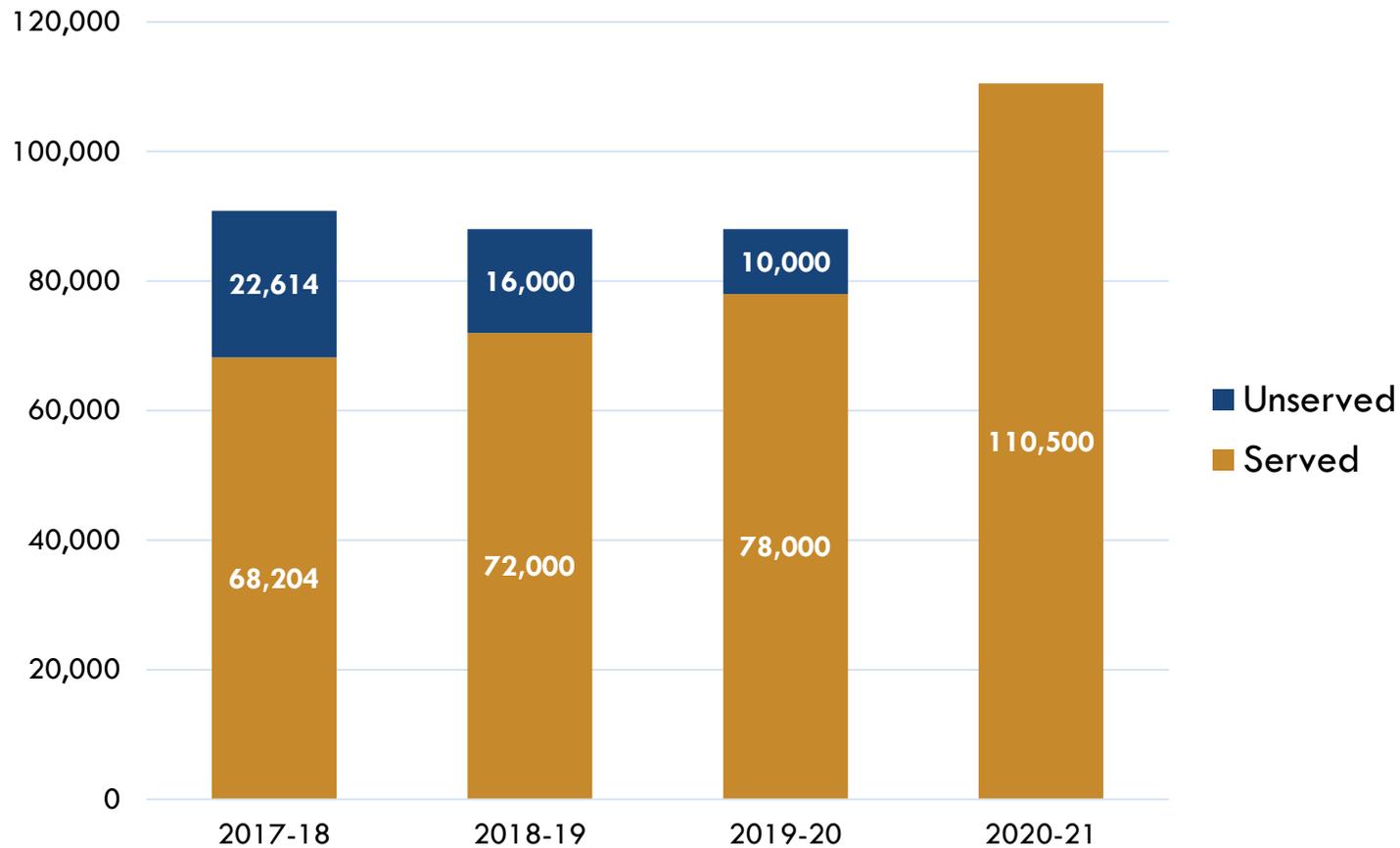


Funding of other
need-based programs

Program	2019-20	2020-21
College Bound	\$19.5 M	\$17 M
State Work Study	\$7.8 M	\$7.8 M
Passport to College	\$2.2 M	\$2.2 M
Passport to Careers	\$0.5 M	\$0.5 M



Impact on service level



Note. Estimates for illustration purposes only. Projections shown are based on the characteristics of the current population of students who have completed a financial aid application and enrolled. The Caseload Forecast Council is developing a more sophisticated forecasting model.



Washington College Grant: Award amounts

- Maximum award amounts vary by sector
 - For public institutions, increase to cover full tuition and fees
 - For private institutions, remain flat for 2019-20
- Can be used to cover other educational costs, as determined by financial aid administrator
- Award amount is prorated based on income eligibility (MFI level) and enrollment level



Washington College Grant: Income eligibility

Income level (% of WA Median Family Income)	Income at MFI cap for a family of 4 (2019-20 levels)	Award proration (% of max award)	
		Current through 2019-20	Starting in 2020-21
0 – 50	\$46,000	100%	100%
51 – 55	\$50,500	70%	100%
56 – 60	\$55,000	65%	70%
61 – 65	\$59,500	60%	60%
66 – 70	\$64,000	50%	50%
71 – 75	\$69,000	<i>Not eligible</i>	24.5%
76 – 100	\$92,000	<i>Not eligible</i>	10%

Source: [WSAC Published MFI Chart for 2019-20 WCG](#)



Washington College Grant: Award examples

Example	Income level (% of WA Median Family Income)	Income at MFI cap for a family of 4 (2019-20 levels)	Current through 2019-20		Starting in 2020-21	
			Award proration	Award amount	Award proration	Award amount
Ex.1	51 – 55	\$50,500	70% of max award	\$2,875	100%	\$4,108
Ex.2	76 – 100	\$92,000	<i>Not eligible</i>	<i>Not eligible</i>	10%	\$410

Note. Examples for illustration purposes only. Based on full-time CTC student and 2019-20 award amounts.



Other WEIA investments

- Funding to public institutions.** Foundational support, compensation and high demand fields.
- Guided Pathways at CTCs (\$32.1 M).** Research-based approach incorporating clear course-taking pathways, targeted advising, and student support.
- Career Connected Learning (\$24 M).** Cross-agency work group. Grant program to support regional networks and program intermediaries. School district support for student participation in career launch programs.
- WA Student Loan Refinancing Program (\$2.2 M).** WSAC to contract with private financial institutions to refinance student loans.
- Statewide campaign to increase financial aid application (\$1.2 M).** Digital engagement tools. Expanded training. Increased events at high schools.



Other Bills Impacting WSAC and Educational Attainment



College Bound Expansion – HB 1311

- Middle school students from low-income families sign pledge for early commitment of state funding
- Extends the sign-up opportunity to newly eligible 9th graders
- Prioritizes WCG funding to CBS pledge signers in the 66-70% MFI category who are not eligible for CBS





Dual enrollment scholarship pilot – HB 1973 (\$1.6 M)

- WSAC in consultation with colleges and OSPI
- Covers costs of Running Start and College in the High School for low-income students
 - RS: Mandatory fees, textbook voucher (\$10/credit)
 - CiHS: Tuition fees
- Eligible students:
 - Qualify for free or reduced price lunch
 - Have at least a 2.0 GPA





K-12 educator career pathway supports – HB 1139 (\$3.6 M)

- Streamlined administration of conditional scholarships
 - Pipeline for Paraeducators
 - Alternative Route
 - Career & Technical Education
 - Teacher Shortage (+\$2M WEIA)
 - Educator Retooling
 - + Loan Repayment
- Grants
 - Student Teaching
 - Teacher Endorsement and Certification Help (testing fees)





Addressing college student homelessness – SB 5800 (\$0.8 M)

- Pilot programs to assist college students experiencing homelessness or formerly in foster care
- Launching programs at four CTC districts and two public baccalaureates





Emergency grant program – HB 1893 (\$1.5 M)

- Grant program for CTCs to assist students experiencing emergencies or unforeseen situations
- Initiates work exploring coordination of public benefits (e.g., SNAP and Work Study)





Increased access to Working Connections child care subsidy

- HB 1303 removes the work requirement for full-time students in certain certificate programs (\$1.4 M)
- WEIA extends exemption to single parents pursuing vocational education full-time (\$4.2 M)





Discussion



Issues to consider

- Washington College Grant
 - Significance of guarantee and expanded eligibility
 - Is it “free college”?
 - Foundational
 - Revenue
- Importance of applying for financial aid
 - Power of combined messaging
- Gaps remain
 - Student loan debt crisis
 - Housing and food insecurity
 - Emergencies
 - Child care



Discussion questions

In light of these changes...

- How do we demonstrate the effectiveness of these investments?
- What should be the next area of focus for the Council's legislative efforts?
- How do we ensure WSAC is at the table as new issues emerge?



Continue the conversation