



## **September 23, 2021, College Bound Webinar Questions & Answers**

### Awarding

1. Do Running Start students have the same time limit to use the scholarship?
  - Yes, all students have five years after receiving their high school diploma to use the 4-year scholarship. A bachelor's degree is the highest degree a student can earn using the scholarship.
  
3. What is the book allowance?
  - The book allowance is a \$500 stipend that can be used towards books and supplies. It will be included in their financial aid award letter as "College Bound."
  
4. Did the FRPL auto-enrollment change the College Bound income eligibility?
  - Income eligibility to receive the scholarship will still be based on the state's Median Family Income (MFI). You can find the income requirements at <https://wsac.wa.gov/college-bound#using-the-scholarship>.
  
5. Is College Bound awarded last in the award package after all other aid?
  - College Bound is awarded after other state aid towards the student's tuition expenses. Federal aid, work-study and loans are then awarded separately.
  
6. If a student drops out of college do they need to pay CB back?
  - Students must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) at their college. If they drop their classes after the allowable drop date, they may be required to pay back any funds received.

### Portal

1. How do we get access to the College Bound and FAFSA portals?
  - For access to the College Bound portal, please email us at [collegebound@wsac.wa.gov](mailto:collegebound@wsac.wa.gov) with your name, title, school, district name, and office phone number.
  - For access to the FAFSA portal, please email us at [fafsa@wsac.wa.gov](mailto:fafsa@wsac.wa.gov) with your name, title, school, district name, and office phone number.
  
2. How can I assist students with missing addresses?
  - You can upload your list of FRPL students into the portal. That will update all contact information for those students.
  
3. What's the deadline for updating addresses from 20-21?
  - There isn't a specific deadline, but the sooner the better! WSAC can't send their certificates or other important information without their address. WSAC recommends uploading your FRPL list monthly.

4. How do we fix students who show up twice in the portal?
  - Email us at [collegebound@wsac.wa.gov](mailto:collegebound@wsac.wa.gov), and we will take care of that.
5. What does “complete” mean in the portal?
  - That the application is complete – either by the family completing and signing the required form or by the auto-enrollment. The application may still be missing contact information, and that does not affect completion status but is important for outreach.
6. How do I know which students have a bad address?
  - You can sort your student list by “bad address” using the selections in the Toolbox.

#### Auto-enrollment

1. Is the online application gone?
  - Yes, we no longer have the online application because free and reduced price lunch eligible students are automatically enrolled, as are eligible foster youth. Students who attend private schools or home school programs can contact us directly at [collegebound@wsac.wa.gov](mailto:collegebound@wsac.wa.gov) or 888-535-0747, option 1, to begin the application for them.
2. What if our school is giving free lunches to all students this year?
  - Districts and schools still have to report income information to OSPI. This will be used to determine eligibility for auto-enrollment into College Bound.
3. How can we get families to return the FRPL forms if lunch is already free?
  - OSPI has some fantastic resources on their [website](#) in the “it’s more than a meal application” toolkit.
4. Were current 9<sup>th</sup> graders eligible for auto-enrollment?
  - Yes, ESSB 5321 is retroactive to eligible students from the 2019-20 school year, so those students would have been in middle school.
5. Will older students be auto-enrolled?
  - No, the bill is retroactive only to the 2019-20 school year.
6. Will you be letting students know they were auto-enrolled?
  - Yes, we will send certificates and a letter to all students with addresses on file.
7. Should we still continue to upload our FRPL lists?
  - Yes! That is the only way we can get their addresses and other contact information.
8. Do you still want us to notify WSAC if students have moved to other districts or out of state?
  - No – their enrollment will be updated as schools report to OSPI.

#### Otterbot

1. Is Otterbot available in other languages?
  - Students can text #language to Otterbot to change the language to 1 of over 100. This will then work for messages the students send in and receive from Otterbot. However, messages that are pushed out by WSAC staff (i.e. reminders, nudges, etc) are currently only available in English.
2. Can non-College Bound seniors also access Otterbot?
  - Yes, but note many of the messages are designed for College Bound students. Students who are not receiving Otterbot messages already can text "Hi Otter" to 360-928-7281.
3. Can parents use Otterbot?
  - Yes, they will be asked if they are a student or parent when signing up. Much of the messaging, though, is designed with students in mind and is in a student voice.

### Materials

1. Where can we order materials such as brochures and posters?
  - You can order materials at <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2184117/CBS-Order-Form>.
2. Is there a letter which we can print and hand to parents to make sure they know of their eligibility?
  - You can use the Middle School Intro Flyer at <https://wsac.wa.gov/college-bound#MS-Resources>.

### General

1. Where should new counselors start to support College Bound students?
  - New counselors should visit the College Bound website at [www.collegebound.wa.gov](http://www.collegebound.wa.gov) for resources and answers to frequently asked questions. They should also email us at [collegebound@wsac.wa.gov](mailto:collegebound@wsac.wa.gov) to request access to our secure portal. Finally, new staff should connect with their College Bound Regional Officer at [www.wcan.org](http://www.wcan.org).
2. Is it possible to get data about how many CBS students enrolled in college?
  - Please reach out to us at [collegebound@wsac.wa.gov](mailto:collegebound@wsac.wa.gov) if you have questions about your data.
3. Where can we find our local WCAN rep?
  - You can visit [www.wcan.org](http://www.wcan.org).
4. How can I register to be a 12<sup>th</sup> Year Campaign site?
  - You can register to be a 12<sup>th</sup> Year Campaign site [here](#). You can also access 12<sup>th</sup> Year Campaign materials at [wsac.wa.gov/12<sup>th</sup>-year-campaign](http://wsac.wa.gov/12th-year-campaign).