

WSAC State Financial Aid Workshops
Legislative Overview & General Session
June 8 & 9, 2022

#### **Presenters**

#### **Becky Thompson**

Director of Student Financial Assistance

beckyt@wsac.wa.gov

360-485-1301

#### **Gabriele Matull Worst**

Assistant Director – Need Based Programs

Student Financial Assistance Division

gabrielem@wsac.wa.gov

360-522-2645

## **Spring Workshop Webinar Technology**

- Due to the number of registered participants, the chat function will be disabled as a group tool.
- Please post all questions in the Q & A during the session.
- Sessions will be recorded for later viewing.



### Agenda

- Legislative Update
- Washington Bridge Grant
- Program Updates
- Participation Renewal Process
- WSAC Initiatives and Resources
- Questions



This session will be repeated on Thursday, June 9 at 10:30 AM, and there is a Passport to Careers session starting at 1:00 PM on June 9.

#### The Council



Jeff Vincent, Chair
CEO & President
Laird Norton Company



Jeff Charbonneau, Secretary
Principal
Zillah School District



Sativah Jones
Assistant Director of College
and Career Readiness
Highline Public Schools



**Evangelina Shreeve**Director
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory



Jan Yoshiwara, Vice Chair Executive Director State Board for Community and Technical Colleges



Paul Francis
Executive Director
Council of Presidents



Chris Reykdal
Superintendent
Office of Superintendent of
Public Instruction



Dr. Terri Standish-Kuon
CEO & President
Independent Colleges of
Washington



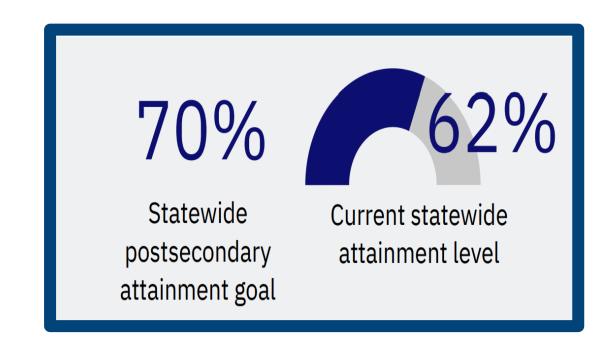
Alejandro Alcantar
Student
Central Washington University



Davon Thomas
Student
University of Washington

## Meeting the state's attainment goal

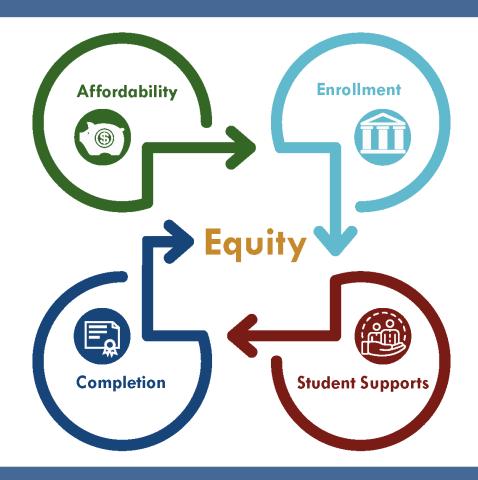
- More Washingtonians need to be competitive to meet the needs of our workforce.
- Although Washington has higher attainment than many states, there are stark gaps for people of color, and the pandemic has exacerbated challenges.



Source: Associate and higher data retrieved from American Community Survey, 2018 PUMS 1-Year Data, Washington postsecondary attainment, ages 25-44. Short-term credential data retrieved from Lumina Foundation, A Stronger Nation, Washington residents ages 25-64

## Strategic framework

Guided by our Council, WSAC's strategic plan addresses key challenges with data-driven, equityfocused, cross-sector solutions. **Everyone** needs some kind of education beyond high school.



If we build an **affordable** and **supportive** educational environment, more Washingtonians will **enroll** in programs and **complete** credentials.



# **Legislative Update**

### 2022 Legislative Session

- > Session started Jan. 10, and ended on March 10, 2022
  - Was a "short session" second half of the biennium
  - Ended as scheduled no special session
- Governor signed budget on Tuesday, April 5, 2022
  - **ESSB** 5693 2021-2023 biennium supplemental operating appropriations.

Bill	Brief Description	Chapter/Laws	Sponsor
SHB 1642	Washington national guard postsecondary education grant program.	C 68 / L 22	Leavitt
E2SHB 1736	Establishing a state student loan program.	C 206 / L 22	Sullivan
<u>HB 1805</u>	Concerning the opportunity scholarship program.	C 211 / L 22	Paul
2SHB 1835	Outreach and completion initiatives to increase postsecondary enrollment.	C 214 / L 22	Hansen
HB 1907	Concerning scholarship displacement in postsecondary institutions' gift equity packaging policies.	C 138 / L 22	Steele
HB 2007	Establishing a nurse educator loan repayment program under the Washington health corps.	C 276 / L 22	Slatter
<u>SB 5545</u>	Concerning survivor benefits (veteran or National Guard member is eligible for tuition waiver benefits)	C 45 / L 22	Wagoner
E2SSB 5600	Concerning the sustainability and expansion of state registered apprenticeship programs.	C 156 / L22	Keiser
SSB 5693	2021-2023 Biennium - Supplemental Operating Appropriations (Budget)	C 297 / L22	Senate
2SSB 5789	Creating the Washington career and college pathways innovation challenge program.	C 244 / L22	Randall
ESSB 5847	Providing information to public service employees about the public service loan forgiveness (PSFL) program.	C 248 / L22	Liias
ESSB 5874	Residency of students affiliated with the military.	C 249 / L22	Nobles

- SHB 1642 Washington National Guard grant program
  - Graduate students added as eligible.
  - Changes the calculation of the maximum award value.
    - Does not reduce award based on other state and federal aid.
    - Likely not enough funding for all eligible.
      - Working with the National Guard on funding priorities.

- SHB 1736 Establishing a state student loan program.
  - Language states: WSAC must design a student loan program in consultation with the State Treasurer and State Investment Board, and submit a report by Dec. 2022, determining the feasibility.
    - WSAC may award loans beginning 2024-25.

NOTE: There is a technical error related to the funding of this work that requires action by the 2023 Legislature.

- <u>2SHB 1835</u> Creating outreach and completion initiatives to increase postsecondary enrollment.
  - Automatic WCG income eligibility for students receiving the following public benefit programs, or for students whose parent is receiving, while in grade 10, 11, or 12.
    - Aged, blind, or disabled assistance benefits
    - Essential Needs and Housing Support Benefits
    - Pregnant Women Assistance Program
- State Financial Aid Workgroup engagement

- <u>2SHB 1835</u> Creating outreach and completion initiatives to increase postsecondary enrollment.
  - Promotion of Washington College Grant and FAFSA/WASFA
    - WSAC shall conduct a statewide advertising campaign to increase awareness of WCG.
    - SBCTC will administer pilot program and award grants to CTCs to provide outreach specialists to boost FAFSA and WASFA completion rates.
    - State library will administer a grant pilot program to increase FAFSA/WASFA filing rates.
    - WSAC will collaborate and share data with DSHS to increase awareness and usage of WCG.

- HB 1907 Gift Equity Policies (does not apply to community and technical colleges)
  - Institutions cannot reduce federal, state or institutional aid due to receipt of private scholarship if unmet need.

- <u>HB 2007</u> Establishing a nurse educator loan repayment program under the Washington health corps.
  - Nurse educators teaching for approved nursing programs is now added under the Washington Health Corps umbrella.
  - WSAC shall consult with planning committee to design.

- <u>E2SSB 5600</u> Concerning the sustainability and expansion of state registered apprenticeship programs.
  - Expands opportunities for apprenticeships (not specific to state financial aid).
- E2SSB 5764 Washington College Grant for Apprenticeship
  - Changes WCG-A maximum award value to align with CTC WCG award.
  - Apprentices doing RSI at CTC, to receive WCG-A via college by 2025-26.
  - Study by Ruckelshaus Center final report due in 2026.

- <u>2SSB 5789</u> Creating the Washington career and college pathways innovation challenge program.
  - WSAC received \$6 M for FY 2022-23, for the Career & College Pathways Innovations Challenge Program.
    - WSAC will award competitive <u>Regional Challenge Grants</u>\* to support local or regional partnerships among K-12, colleges, and community-based organizations.
  - Grantees will seek to:
    - Implement or expand interventions to increase college enrollment and completion.
    - Support high school students or adult learners.
    - Eliminate opportunity gaps for marginalized populations.

<sup>\*</sup>WSAC is hosting a public virtual feedback/input session to help inform the grant design on June 16. More details including registration can be found here: <u>Regional Challenge Grants | WSAC.wa.gov.</u>

#### 2022 Session Update – Residency Related Legislation

- ESSB 5874 Concerning residency of students affiliated with the military. NOT state aid eligible.
  - Modified Residency for active duty military members, National Guard, reservists, and their dependents.
- **ESSB 5874** Clarifies that students must live in Washington for a period of one year **prior to enrollment in higher education.** 
  - WASFA will be updated accordingly.

#### 2022 Session Update – Residency Related Legislation

ESSB 5874 further clarifies residency change from 2021-22

Live in WA for 1 year immediately before first term.

The Washington residency must be for purposes other than college. If you take any courses at another Washington college during the prior 12 months, you cannot have taken more than 6 credits in any given term. If you exceed that limit you must prove that you have a Washington residence for non-college reasons.

- <u>ESSB 5847</u> Providing info to public service employees about the public service loan forgiveness (PSLF) program.
  - Student Loan Advocate (SLA) shall develop and update annually, materials, such as FAQs, designed to increase public awareness of PSLF program.
  - SLA will coordinate with OFM, secretary of state, and local government entities to ensure materials are received by employers.
  - OFM shall develop a program for state agencies to certify employment for purposes of the PSLF program.

- SHB 1805 Concerning the opportunity scholarship program.
  - Expands the MFI range beyond 125 percent if student can demonstrate financial need and to remain eligible they must meet SAP.
  - Adds apprenticeship programs as an option. Aligning program definitions with WCG in "resident student," "eligibility time frame," and "SAP."
  - Expands definition of eligible county and eligible school district, again adding apprenticeship to the enrollment option.

- <u>SB 5545</u> Concerning survivor benefits.
  - A surviving spouse or surviving domestic partner of the eligible veteran or national guard member has 10 years to receive tuition waiver benefits under the waiver from the last recurring event: date of death; date of total disability; federal determination of service-connected death or total disability; or federal determination of POW or missing in action status.

#### Revisiting 2021 – WAVE (funded through budget)

The Washington Award for Vocational Excellence (WAVE) Scholarship relaunched in spring 2022.

- Administered in partnership with the Workforce Training Board (WTB) and WSAC.
- Awardees are being selected via the WTB process.
- WSAC will be disbursing funds starting Fall 2022.

APPLY NOW at theWashboard.org



#### **Revisiting 2020**

- Undocumented Student Loan Program SB 6561 (2020)
  - Contingent on private donations that would be matched with state funds up to \$2M/biennium. Private funding has not been secured.
- Expanding Access to Higher Education SB 6141 (2020)
  - WSAC to develop consistent definitions for financial aid awards (Section 3)
    - Estimated implementation for 2023-24 award notifications
    - WSAC financial aid workgroup engagement





The Washington Bridge Grant is an annual stipend awarded in addition to WCG for students who are not CBS eligible.

 To provide supplementary financial support to low-income students to cover higher education expenses beyond tuition and fees.



#### Only for 2022-23 award year

- ESSB 5693 (Budget Bill) This program was created by a proviso in the budget.
- The Legislature would need to take action for it to be effective beyond this year.
  - Step towards acknowledging that there are more costs associated with attending college than just tuition.



#### Maximum annual award amount is \$500

- Disbursed as either a lump sum payment or may be disbursed over enrolled terms.
- Each institution will determine which is in the best interest of the student.
- Award amount may be less based on student need.



- Who is eligible to receive the WA Bridge Grant?
  - Students who receive a maximum Washington College Grant award and still have need remaining;
    - 0-60% MFI
  - Are enrolled in at least three credits at an eligible institution;
  - Meet satisfactory academic progress.



- College Bound Scholarship eligible students are not eligible to receive the Washington Bridge Grant.
  - Please refer to "CBS Eligibility Cruncher" to determine eligibility.

#### Please note:

Students who signed up for CBS, but did not meet the high school graduation requirement, did not meet the enrollment deadline, and those who are past the 5-year eligibility, would be considered for Bridge Grant. (These students are not currently meeting CBS eligibility.)



# Washington Bridge Grant - Questions?

Our Communications office is working on adding WA Bridge Grant to student facing side of the WSAC website:

wsac.wa.gov/sfa-overview

If you want to get into the weeds...

Official Guidance, Q&A, and the 2022-23 Washington College Grant & College Bound Scholarship program manual are posted at:

wsac.wa.gov/FAA-resources

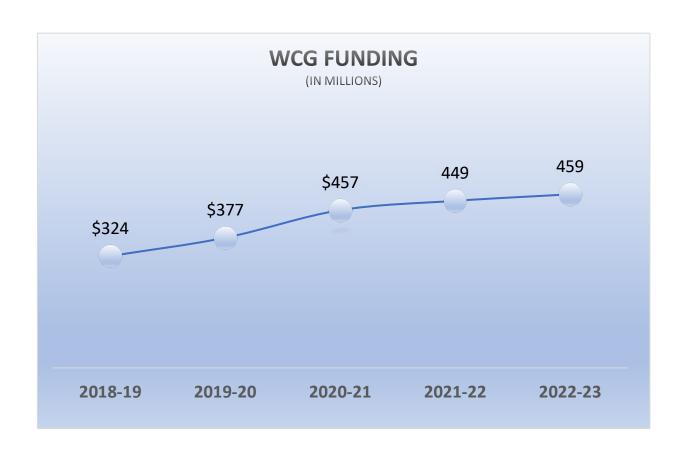


# **Program Updates**

- Washington College Grant
- Passport to Careers
- Workforce Programs
  - National Guard Grant
  - Educator Workforce
- State Work Study



#### Washington College Grant: Increased Funding



#### Funding of other need-based programs

Program	2021-22	2022-23
College Bound	\$17.3 M	\$16.9 M
State Work Study	\$7.8 M	\$7.8 M
Passport to Careers	\$6.5 M	\$ 6.5 M

#### Washington College Grant Reminders

#### Reminders for 2022-2023

- Guaranteed funding for eligible students
- Expanded eligibility to 100% Median Family Income
- 100% eligibility (max award) expanded to 60%
   Median Family Income - new
- Registered apprenticeships increased award amounts new

- Must have unmet need
- Aid eligible programs that contain apprenticeships remain eligible for regular WCG
- 15 quarter/10 semester or the equivalent (5 year) maximum timeframe usage limit

## Washington College Grant: Income Eligibility

Income level (% of WA Median Family Income)	Income at MFI cap for a family of 4 (2022-23 levels)	Award proration (% of max award) 2022-23
0 – 60	\$64,500	100%
61 – 65	\$69,500	60%
66 – 70	\$75,000	50%
71 – 75	\$80,500	24.5%
76 – 100	\$107,500	10%

Source: WSAC Published MFI Chart for 2022-23 WCG

## Washington College Grant: Award Amounts

Maximum award amounts for public institutions cover full tuition and fees.

- Must be awarded for all terms a student is enrolled and eligible.
- Award amount is prorated based on income eligibility (MFI level) and enrollment level.
- Cannot exceed need.

#### **CBS** and WCG

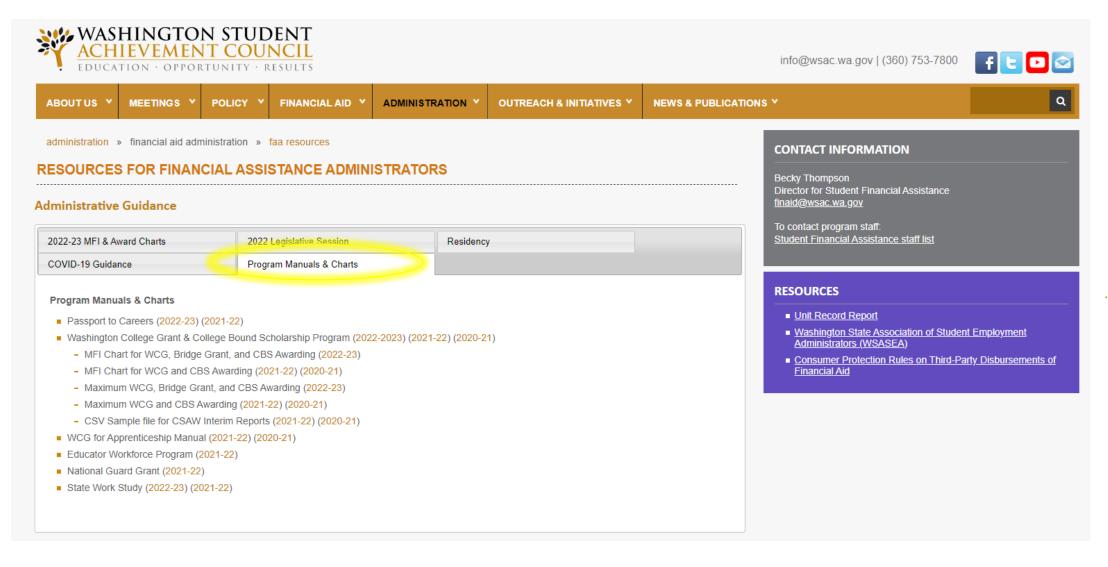
#### CBS eligible students receive WCG

- Provides additional funding for a small book allowance.
- CBS awards are not prorated based on income level for eligible students up to 65% MFI.
- CBS eligible students receive funding up to 65% MFI and are eligible for WCG up to 100% MFI.
- College Bound Scholarship <u>eligible</u> students
   cannot receive the Washington Bridge Grant.



#### 2022-23 Award Chart

## Award Charts are now posted under RESOURCES on the <u>WSAC website</u>



## WCG - Operational Considerations

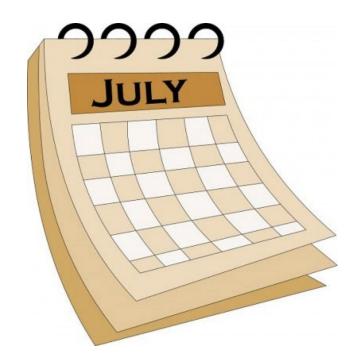
- Reporting will continue quarterly.
  - Need ongoing updates for forecasting costs – including projected awards and payments requested timely
- 2022-23 funding and reporting will continue like presently done.
- Timely, reconciled data from colleges is critical.



#### 2021-22 Final Interim Reminder

## Due Date: July 11, 2022

- Includes reconciled data.
- Funds due to or due from the colleges/WSAC.
- Funds for the new year may not be drawn until all funds are reconciled/returned for your specific college and Participation Agreement renewals are approved.



## 2022-23 Interim Reporting Dates

Report	Due Dates
Fall Interim Report	November 7, 2022
Winter Interim Report	February 3, 2023
Spring Interim Report	May 8, 2023
Final Interim Report*	July 10, 2023

<sup>\*</sup>The interim report in CSAW opens four weeks before the interim report due date. Colleges can upload their interim report data any time within that four-week window.

## 2021-22 Unit Record Reporting Timeline

Date	Action
July 2022	URR Training Webinars ( <u>wsac.wa.gov/unit-record</u> )
August 8, 2022	URR application available for initial upload of data into WSAC Portal
October 10, 2022	Unit Record Report final submission date
October – Nov/Dec 2022	WSAC staff data editing and review
December 2022	URR data finalized
January 2023	URR Institutional Profile reports available for 2021-22 year



## Passport Program Budget

The Legislature increased program funding to accommodate higher numbers of eligible Passport students.

Passport Program	Contracts	Total 2022-23 Allocation
\$6,535,000	\$500,000	\$7,035,000

## Passport by the Numbers

Academic Year	Foster Youth	Unaccompanied Homeless Youth	Apprentice or Pre-Apprentice
2021-22*	445	488	46
2020-21	467	416	1 <i>7</i>
2019-20	470	362	18
2018-19	317	0	0
2017-18	257	0	0

<sup>\*</sup>Year to date

## Passport by the Numbers

Academic Year	Scholarship Funds	Student Support Funds to Institutions
2021-22*	\$3,493,188	\$1,915,400
2020-21	\$2,886,778	\$2,564,750
2019-20	\$2,917,017	\$966,500
2018-19	\$1,160,000	\$340,000
2017-18	\$883,000	\$274,000

<sup>\*</sup>Year to date





### National Guard Grant

#### New for 2022-2023

- SHB 1642
  - The maximum award value calculation changes for 2022-23.
     Maximum award value cannot exceed Washington College Grant maximum award, plus \$500 for books and supplies.
    - Will likely set max under statutory authority, as demand likely to exceed appropriation.
  - Allows graduate students to participate in the program.



## Educator Workforce Awards for AY 2022-23

- Student Teaching Grant and Teacher Shortage Conditional Scholarships Application cycle is twice a year.
- Last cycle for awards opened April 4, and closed April 29.
- Applicants can apply for both programs with the same application.

Program	Number of Applicants	Anticipated awards	Total Award Amounts
Student Teaching Grant	173*	61	\$488,000
Teacher Shortage Conditional Scholarship	227*	100	\$800,000
Total	304	161	\$1,288,000

<sup>\*</sup> Duplicated headcounts



## 2022-23 SWS Operational Updates

#### As a result of the 2022 Legislative Session:

- SWS Appropriation remains at \$7.8 million.
- No changes to legislatively-directed employer matching requirements or SWS reimbursement rates.
- Continued focus on improving alignment between SWS and public assistance programs, like the Basic Food program otherwise known as SNAP.

## **SWS & COVID-19 Emergency**

#### 2022-23 Emergency SWS Program Guidance Expiring

- The emergency rule enacted in 2020 that enabled institutions to reclassify state work study awards as general financial aid is expiring.
- Schools for whom the Summer term is the last term of the 2021-22 academic year may continue following the emergency guidance through the end of that term.

## 2020-21 SWS Expenditure Profile

- Just under \$9 million in gross earnings; over \$2.5 million in employer match.
- 2,849 students earned an average of \$3,110 in SWS dollars.
  - 36% earned by students attending public four-years
  - 27% earned by students attending private four-years
  - 37% earned by students attending public two-years
- 88% of gross SWS earnings earned on-campus, 12% earned off-campus.
- 87% earned by undergraduate students, 8% by graduates.

#### **Current SWS Status**

- SWS earnings for the current 2021-22 year are below 2020-21 earnings.
- Overall, SWS expenditures are almost 8% below from 2020-21 levels.
- We appreciate all you have done over the last year in this challenging time!
  - Please contact Debbie (<u>debbiej@wsac.wa.gov</u>) or Calvin (<u>calvinr@wsac.wa.gov</u>) if you have any questions about SWS.



## Changes to Renewal and New Agreements

# New for 2022-23:

- Fields for additional contacts added on the PPA compliance certification form
- Added ERDC data release statement to PPA certification

# **Pending for 2022-23:**

 No pending applications for new WCG colleges.

#### 2022-23 Renewal Process

- Deadline for submission is week of June 15.
- WSAC seeks to make renewal determinations for all institutions prior to 7/1/22, but institutions approved after this date are approved retroactively to 7/1/22.





#### **Student Access to SNAP Benefits**

- National research indicates nearly 3 in 5 college students have experienced basic needs insecurity since the pandemic.
  - Encourage colleges to provide proactive communication to students who are likely to be eligible for Washington Basic Food/SNAP.
  - WSAC has provided a template letter for students with a \$0 EFC and/or a Work Study award or eligibility.



#### Resource: Student Loan Advocate



https://www.studentloaned.wa.gov/

### loanadvocate@wsac.wa.gov





## theWashBoard.org

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





Leslie Gonzalez Program Coordinator, Need Based Programs



Nicole Fry
Program Coordinator,
Passport to Careers

## NEW SFA STAFF



Sarah Alkurdi Program Manager, Health Programs



Lyle Irimata
Program Manager,
NGG & WAVE



Remy Plate Program Manager WCG-A

## NEW SFA STAFF

## **Contact Information**

Questions/Subject	Email us at
Financial Aid Administrators – WCG & General Questions	wcg@wsac.wa.gov
Repayments	repayment@wsac.wa.gov
Students – State Financial Aid Questions	finaid@wsac.wa.gov
Unit Record Report	unitrecord@wsac.wa.gov
WASFA Help	wasfa@wsac.wa.gov

Online	On Facebook	On Twitter
www.wsac.wa.gov	www.facebook.com/WSACouncil	@WSACouncil
www.theWashBoard.org	www.facebook.com/pg/thewashboardorg	

#### **WSAC** Website Resources

Program Manuals

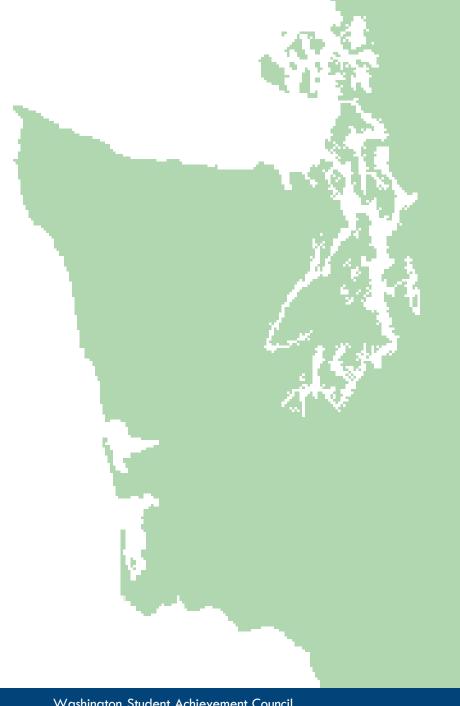


WSAC Portal



theWashBoard.org





## Questions?

# Thank you for joining us today!

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The 2022 SFA Workshops Continue . . .

Thursday, June 9, 2022

- > 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Legislative Overview and Program Updates (Repeat session)
- > 1:00-1:45 p.m. Passport to Careers Updates