

WSAC 2025 Legislative Session Recap—Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How did [SB 5785](#) impact Washington College Grant (WA Grant) and College Bound Scholarship (CBS) awards?

SB 5785 established new income eligibility thresholds for the WA Grant in the 2025-26 academic year (AY) and adjusted maximum award amounts by institution type for both the WA Grant and CBS in future AYs. The tables below summarize these changes:

Median Family Income (MFI) Range	WA Grant Award % (up to full public tuition and fees)	Qualifying Income for Household of Four in 2025-26 AY
0-60	100%	\$78,500
61-65	60%	\$85,000
66-70	50%	\$91,500
71-75	24.5%	\$98,500
76-100	10%	\$131,000

A full chart of MFI levels for the 2025-26 AY is available [here](#).

Institution Type	New Max. WA Grant Award (starting in 2026-27 AY)	New Max. CBS Award (starting in 2027-28 AY)
Private four-year not-for-profit	50% of average UW/WSU award	50% of average UW/WSU award
Private two-year not-for-profit	Same (\$3,694)	Average community and technical college (CTC) award
Private two- and four-year for-profit	No award	No award
WGU WA	\$4,150	\$4,650
WA Grant-Apprenticeship	50% of CTC award	N/A

A full list of institutions participating in state financial aid programs is available [here](#).

How did SB 5785 impact the amount of time that students have to utilize CBS awards?

Starting in the 2025-26 AY, students must use their CBS awards within six years of receipt.

Will Bridge Grants continue in the 2025-27 biennium?

Bridge Grants are annual \$500 stipends awarded in addition to WA Grant to provide supplementary financial support to low-income students for higher education expenses beyond tuition and fees. Due to the elimination of funding for Bridge Grants in 2025-27, they will not continue after the 2024-25 AY.

Was funding for [Passport to Careers](#) maintained in the 2025-27 biennium?

Yes. There were no cuts to funding for Passport to Careers in 2025-27, and WSAC will continue to receive \$6.999 million per fiscal year for the program.

What is the status of the Washington Student Loan Program?

The Washington Student Loan Program was intended to provide graduate students in high-demand fields of study with low-interest loans and set to launch in Fall 2025. Due to the elimination of funding initially appropriated for this purpose, program implementation has been suspended indefinitely. *(The underlying statute—[Chapter 28B.93 RCW](#)—was preserved.)*

Will the Dual Enrollment Scholarship (DES) Pilot Program continue in the 2025-27 biennium?

The DES Pilot Program will end after June 30, 2025. While [HB 1565](#) would have continued DES, it did not pass the Legislature this session.

How much new funding was provided for College in the High School (CiHS) programs in the 2025-27 biennium?

Public four-year institutions of higher education and CTCs collectively received \$5.9 million in new funding, based on recent enrollments, to support CiHS programs in 2025-27. More information about how this amount is determined can be found in [RCW 28B.10.058](#).

What funding for financial aid outreach was cut from the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)?

SBCTC lost \$5.440 million in 2025-27—originally provided in the 2022 supplemental operating budget—to help all 34 CTCs partner with community-based organizations to extend financial aid access and support.

However, SBCTC received \$340,000 in new funding for 2025-27 to expand the Student Aid Outreach and Completion Initiative Pilot Program to participating CTCs in North Central ESD 171. More information about this program can be found in [RCW 28B.50.940](#).