College & Career Culture Recognition Program



A culture worth celebrating: Meet Washington's first recognized schools

Across Washington, schools are helping students see postsecondary education and training as an attainable part of their future. We're proud to celebrate the first recognized schools, honoring those that build strong, equitable, and sustainable college-going cultures through the system, relationships, and opportunities that prepare students for life after graduation.

Cascade High School • Everett, WA • Everett Public Schools



2026-27 WA College & Career Culture - Exemplary School

Cascade High School combines a structured readiness curriculum with data-informed support, focusing on first-generation, low-income, multilingual, and historically underserved students. By monitoring progress toward High School and Beyond Plan requirements, teachers, counselors, and district staff can see where students need extra help. Seniors participate in a College and Career Readiness seminar covering postsecondary planning, financial literacy, scholarships, and financial aid. Support also extends beyond the classroom through community and college partners who bring added expertise to students and families.

Chelan High School • Chelan, WA • Lake Chelan School District



2026-27 WA College & Career Culture - Exemplary School

Chelan High School has built college and career readiness into the fabric of the school day, pairing monthly advisory lessons, dual credit, internships, and job shadowing with individualized support for seniors and families. Bilingual and migrant-focused services, along with partnerships like CAMP, GEAR UP, Dare to Dream, and Project SEARCH, help students who may face added barriers move from exploring options to taking concrete next steps.

John R. Rogers High School • Spokane, WA • Spokane Public Schools



2026-27 WA College & Career Culture - Exemplary School

John R. Rogers High School has built a college and career going culture rooted in relationships, exposure, and belonging. Its signature Familia Sumus Pipeline brings alumni representing college, military, and other pathways back to speak candidly with students, then mentor rising seniors through summer workshops on FAFSA, personal statements, and scholarships. Students also benefit from college visits, career speakers, internships, FAFSA/WASFA completion nights, and partnerships with local colleges and community organizations.

Sign up for next year's cycle now!