

College Bound from A to Z

SFA Workshop Webinar Series

June 25, 2025





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- We will utilize the Q&A feature for questions. Please ask anything using that feature!
- Reactions are available! Let us know what you think.





Today we'll be covering:

- Origin of College Bound
- Enrollment into the Program
- WSAC Resources for CB Students/Families
- The CBS Eligibility Checker
- Q&A



Tomorrow!	





DAY/DATE/TIME	SESSION TITLE AND PRESENTER
June 26	Passport to Careers
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Dawn Cypriano-McAferty

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Works together with other state financial aid (usually the <u>WA Grant</u>) to cover the cost of tuition (at public rates), some fees, and a small amount for books = commitment.

New info sheet for students & families coming soon: How the WA Grant & CB Funds Work Together

Can be used at about 60 two- and four-year public and private colleges and universities.



Eligibility and Auto-Enrollment: A Two-Step Process

Step One Sign Up Requirements

- Auto-enrollment for eligible public-school students.
- Eligible for FRPL in 7th, 8th, or newly eligible in 9th grade.
- Foster Youth* are auto-enrolled through HS graduation.

Based on <u>USDA</u> <u>Income Guidelines,</u> changes yearly

Step Two Receiving College Bound

- Fulfill the College Bound student requirements.
 - Enroll in ANY college <u>within one year of HS</u> <u>graduation.</u>
 - Be accepted to & attend an eligible college.
 - Meet income & residency requirements.

Based on <u>Median Family</u> Income (MFI) Chart, changes yearly

Eligible Private & Home School students must sign up through our CB office.



Graduate from a WA high school with a cumulative 2.0 GPA or higher if attending a four-year college <u>directly</u> after high school, or complete a GED (NEW).

• There is NO College Bound GPA requirement for students attending CTC.

Enroll in ANY college within **one year** of HS graduation to meet the **enrollment deadline**.

Students must attend one of 60+ eligible WA institutions to receive CB funds.

Complete the FAFSA or WASFA starting their senior year (and every year in college) and meet income requirements.

Have no felony convictions.



Receiving vs. Being Eligible for FRPL

FRPL eligible students at public schools. Noted by:

- FRPL application & family income survey called <u>CNEEB</u> (started in 24-25)
- School distributes & collects
- Direct certification (SNAP, TANF, and more!
- Other sources

School reports annual enrollment data to OSPI via CEDARS

- Students noted as FRPLeligible
- Enrollment data to CEDARS happens periodically starting Sept/Oct, annually
- Monthly reporting

OSPI sends data to WSAC with list of newly FRPLeligible students

 Monthly autoenrollment files, starting in November, annually. School staff Portal users to enter/update student & parent contact info via WSAC Portal

• Monthly, recommended

WSAC notifies auto-enrolled students with addresses

• Monthly

OSPI Resource: Meal Application & Toolkit



Monthly notifications to newly autoenrolled students with addresses

HS grade-level resource mailings and email campaigns

Collecting updated student contact info for OtterBot texting platform, designed to support CB HS students and their parents

CB Student Confirmation Letter Template for MS & HS Staff

WASHINGTON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL College Bound

Dear [College Bound student first & last name]

Congratulations! Nou are officially enrolled in the Washington State College Bound program!

You are receiving this letter as confirmation of your enrollment in the College Bound program. Your eligibility was confirmed by staff at our school. As a College Bound student, you will likely receive an email, mailing, or other form of communication in the years to come reminding you of this amazing opportunity. Now that you have been introduced, reach out to College Bound or school staff about what this means for you!

What is College Bound?

College Bound is an early commitment of financial aid from Washington State. It works with other state financial aid, like the Washington College Grant, to help pay for your education after high school. If you meet the program requirements, you could receive funding for:



- Tuition (at public college rates)
 Some fees
- A small amount for books

This funding is available at over 65 colleges, universities, and technical schools in Washington!

What does being a College Bound student mean? Scan the QR code above to learn what the College Bound Pledge requirements are.

Stay Connected!

OtterBot is a free texting service for College Bound high school students and their parents/guardians. You will receive regular messages about financial aid, college planning, and reminders. Plus, you can text anytime for help! Sign up now using the QR code or visit <u>bit.lv/CBContactFortMetroCentEng</u>!



Got Questions? You can reach the College Bound staff at <u>collegebound@wsac.wa.gov</u> or call 888-535-0747, option 1. Visit the College Bound website at <u>collegebound.wa.gov</u> for more information.

This is a fantastic opportunity, and I'm excited to support you on this journey!

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact me at (insert counselor or school staff's email address) or (insert phone number)

Thank you,

Counselor Name Counselor at (School Name)



 MS & HS staff can personalize this template with their school info and share it with their College Bound students and their parents!

 Student focus groups show that students prefer receiving information from trusted sources/messengers.





OtterBot is a free texting service created to support high school students and their parents/guardians.

OtterBot is Al-informed, but always human powered. Messaging is designed for high school students who are enrolled in College Bound.

wsac.wa.gov/otterbot







 Supporting over 33,000 9-12th grade College Bound students – growing every day!

 Supporting over 95,000 parents/guardians with this additional support





CONTENT AREAS

Financial Aid

- FAFSA completion
- WASFA completion
- Verification
- Award letters
- Appeals
- Scholarship search

Admissions & Enrollment

- Admissions applications
- Admissions requirements
- Enrollment steps

College-going Info

- Terms and definitions
- Campus navigation
- Transition prep
- Socioemotional support

Reminders & Notifications

- Orientations
- Class registrations
- Scholarships
- Priority application dates



The 12th Year Campaign boosts college and financial aid application rates in Washington by helping those working with high school seniors and their families complete applications for college admissions and financial aid.

- Free training
- Printed and digital resources
- Online financial aid events





wsac.wa.gov/12th-year-campaign



Student completes their financial aid application (FAFSA/WASFA) If there is matching criteria, it then shows up to get matched.

Possible matches are reviewed by the WSAC CB Team.



Some with enough information, such as matching SSN and last name, match automatically If they have multiple apps with different numbers (usually WASFA), CB staff must review and connect them accordingly

Number that is matched shows in the CBS Eligibility Checker

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- Students can contact our College Bound staff at collegebound@wsac.wa.gov if their college does not have their high school transcript or if they are homeschooled or private school students.
- Our staff will provide guidance on the required steps and update the checker accordingly.

College Bound Eligibility







Program Requirements

Once enrolled in college, a student must:

- ✓ Be a resident of Washington state, attending an approved participating institution
- ✓ Have graduated from a Washington high school or earned a high school equivalency*
- ✓ Complete a FAFSA or WASFA
- ✓ Have enrolled no later than the fall term one year after high school graduation
- \checkmark Be within the 6-year eligibility time frame**
- \checkmark Have a qualifying income (be within 0-65% MFI)
- ✓ Not pursuing a degree in theology
- ✓ Not be in default or owe a repayment on another state financial aid program
- ✓ Have no felony convictions
- * High school equivalency is new as of 2025-26
- ** 6-year time frame is new as of 2025-26





- What is the maximum time frame to receive CBS?
 - Students can receive the full-time award for up to 18 quarters or 12 semesters. That is 6 years of eligibility and aligns with Pell Grant limits as well!
 - Even though there are 6 years of eligibility, students must use it within 6 years from their first term of receiving CBS and within one year of high school graduation.



		CBS Max	0 - 60%	0 - 60%	61 - 65%	61 - 65%	
The Full CBS	Institution/Sector	WCG + CBS = Full CBS Award	Full WCG award (100%)	CBS Award	WCG (60% of full award)	CBS Award	
Award = The	University of Washington	\$13,280	\$12,780	\$500	\$7,668	\$5,612	60% MFI
College Bound Commitment	Washington State University	\$12,787	\$12,287	\$500	ər,312	\$5,415	Awards
	Central Washington University	\$8,822	\$8,322	\$500	\$4,993	\$3,829	
The amount	Eastern Washington University	\$8,271	\$7,771	\$500	\$4,662	\$3,609	
awarded in total	The Evergreen State College	\$8,857	\$8,357	\$500	\$5,014	\$3,843	
is the same	Western Washington University	\$9,010	\$8,510	\$500	\$5,106	\$3,904	
whether the	Private Four-year Non-Profit	\$13,034	\$9,739	\$3,295	\$5,843	\$7,191	
student falls in	Private Four-year For-Profit	\$13,034	\$8,517	\$4,517	\$5,110	\$7,924	
the 60% or 65%	WGU Washington	\$8,800	\$5,619	\$3,181	\$3,371	\$5,429	
MFI category, just different	Community & Technical Colleges	\$5,423	\$4,923	\$500	\$2,954	\$2,469	65% MFI
amounts of	CTC Applied Bachelor's	\$8,365	\$7,865	\$500	\$4,719	\$3,646	Awards
WCG and CBS	Private Two-Year Non-Profit	\$5,423	\$3,694	\$1,729	\$2,216	\$3,207	
	Private Two-Year For Profit	\$5,423	\$2,823	\$2,600	\$1,694	\$3,729	
Washington Student Achievement Council	Northwest Indian College - Tribal College	\$5,423	\$3,694	\$1,729	\$2,216	\$3,207	

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65% MFI or Lower

To be eligible for CBS funding, the student must be at or below 65% MFI.



- Must be awarded WCG and PTC, before awarding CBS.
 - Students must be awarded all aid for which they are eligible at the beginning of each term to ensure students receive the full amount to which they are entitled.

The CBS Eligibility Checker





The CBS Eligibility Checker was created due to 2023 legislation, replacing the Cruncher:



HB 1232 – College Bound Scholarship

- Enrolled for 2023-24, 2.0 GPA only required for direct admission to 4-year public or private institutions.
- 2.0 GPA requirement eliminated for attendance at 2-year institutions or for transfer students.



We have and are continuing to make changes due to passed legislation:

<u>2024:</u>

SB 5904 – Extending the terms of eligibility for financial aid programs.

- Increased QERs for CBS from 12 to 18.
- Removed the 5-year eligibility window for CBS, after enrollment but kept the one-year enrollment requirement from high school graduation.

<u>2025:</u>

- ESSB 5543: Eligibility for CBS is expanded to students who have received a high school equivalency certificate.
- **SSB 5785:** Limits usage of a College Bound award to within six years of receipt, beginning in AY 2025-26.

Washington Student Achievement Council

Stay tuned -

still a work in

progress







Access the CBS Eligibility Checker by going to

Programs > College Bound > CBS Eligibility Checker



Home
 Programs
 College Bound

CBS Eligibility Checker | Cruncher | CSAW | Toolbox

Welcome to the WSAC portal.

This site contains confidential student information on financial aid applicants provided by Washington Student Achievement Council. This site is for use only by authorized WSAC staff, institution staff, employers, and students. This site is not for use by the general public.

By logging in to this tool, I acknowledge that my responsibilities include:

- Protecting WSAC data in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- Protecting user authentication information from use by unauthorized persons.
- Using WSAC data only for purposes of administering and assisting students with state financial aid programs.

To update your account information (name, email, phone, etc.), link to your My Account Page



CBS Eligibility Checker

The excel download option will give you a csv file useful for integrating into your own systems. You can download an example of the csv headers here

The CBS Eligibility Checker does NOT determine income and some other eligibility criteria. ()

Show SIDs for this institution

 Search by Name
 Search by SSNs or SIDs
 Search by File Upload
 Watch List

 Name (full or partial)
 First name
 Middle initial

 Date of birth
 mm/dd/yyyyy
 Image: CHOOSE YOURE®

 Search
 Search
 Search

Students can be searched individually, by SSNs/SIDs, or by file upload.



The watch list option still exists for SSNs/SIDs or file upload searches.

Check the box during your search and it will add any SSNs/SIDs that are included on the watch list.

Search by Name Search by SSNs or SIDs Search by File Upload Enter at least one SSN or SID. Separate a list by commas or white space (tabs, spaces, or new lines)

Include SSNs/SIDs in my watch list

Search

Watch List



- Students will display in alphabetical order
- The entire list of students can be downloaded -
- Sort by column

View students with changes to OK to Award or OK to Pay as of mm/dd/yyyy

/ 🗖

Name ≑	SSN \$	Birth Date 🔷	SID \$	OK to Award ≑	OK to Pay 🌲	HS Grad Year 🌲	HS 2.0 GPA 🜲	Enrolled By Deadline 🗘	Elig. Open 🜲	CBS Qtrs Used 🜲	CBS Qtrs Remaining 🗘	In Repayment ≑	Last Updated ≑
Smith ^I ☐ Details	() ••••-•• -			No updated 06/24/2025	No updated 08/15/2023	<mark>Verify</mark> estimated 2023, from OSPI	Verify	Yes	No	0.00	18.00	No	06/24/2025
. Smith ^{I™} i Details	() •••-••-			No updated 02/04/2025	No updated 08/15/2023	Verify estimated 2012, from OSPI	No	No	No	0.00	18.00	No	02/04/2025
⊆ Smith ^{IZ} i Details	() •••(No updated 06/24/2025	No updated 06/24/2025	2012 actual from OSPI	Yes	Yes	No	12.00	6.00	No	06/24/2025
Smith ^{C®}	() ••• -••-			No updated 02/22/2025	No updated 02/22/2025	2012 actual from OSPI	Yes	No overridden	No	0.00	18.00	No	02/22/2025

📥 Download CSV

1-20 of 1444 students



OK TO AWARD/OK TO PAY

OKtoAward	Yes – Student is likely to meet or has met CBS eligibility requirements
	No – Student has not met other CBS requirements
	2-Year/Transfer – Student meets requirements at a two-year institution or as a transfer student only
	Verify – Student has been awarded the last of their QERs, but not all have paid
OKtoPay	Yes – Student confirmed to have met all program requirements
	No – Student did not meet program requirements
	2-Year/Transfer – Student meets requirements at a two-year institution or as a transfer student only
	Verify – Student has been awarded the last of their QERs, but not all have paid



OK TO AWARD/OK TO PAY





HS GRAD YEAR

	4-digit number – OSPI data
HSGradYear*	Ineligible HS or not graduated – The HS Grad Year is unknown or has been overridden to "Ineligible HS or not graduated"
	Verify – WSAC doesn't have information, the student has graduated from a non-Washington State high school, was home- schooled, WSAC has information that the student exited school prior to graduation, the graduation date is estimated, the student graduated from a non-GPA based school, or the student obtained a high school equivalency.**

**High school equivalency will be effective after July 27, 2025 – more details to come.

Still a work in progress more details to come



Expect to see this status if a student's high school graduation year is estimated. The status can be updated by overriding the HS Grad Year information if an official or unofficial high school transcript is available.

HS GRAD YEAR

Name ≑	SSN \$	Birth Date ≑	OK to Award ≑	OK to Pay 🖨	HS Grad Year 🔺	HS 2.0 GPA ≑	Enrolled By Deadline ≑	Elig. Open ≑	CBS Qtrs Used 🗘	CBS Qtrs Remaining 🗘	In Repayment 🜲	Last Updated ≑
Smith ^{Ca}	@ •••-• -,		Yes updated 04/23/2025	Yes updated 06/17/2025	2025 actual from OSPI	Yes	Verify	Yes	0.00	18.00	No	06/17/2025
. Smith 🏽 Details	۵ •••-••		Yes updated 02/21/2025	Verify updated 02/21/2025	Verify estimated 2025, from OSPI	Yes	Verify	Yes	0.00	18.00	No	02/21/2025
Smith ^I ∄ Details	۰۰۰-		Yes updated 05/20/2025	Verify updated 05/21/2025	Verify estimated 2026, from OSPI	Yes	Verify	Yes	0.00	18.00	No	05/21/2025
Smith 2ª Details	۰۰۰-۰۱ ()		2-Year/Transfer updated 04/05/2025	No updated 04/05/2025	Verify estimated 2026, from OSPI	No	Verify	Yes	0.00	18.00	No	04/05/2025
Smith	()		Yes updated 03/27/2025	Verify updated 03/27/2025	Verify estimated 2027, from OSPI	Yes	Verify	Yes	0.00	18.00	No	03/27/2025
Smith- on Student Achie Details	evement Cou	uncil	Yes updated 02/04/2025	Verify updated 11/20/2024	Verify estimated 2027, from OSPI	Yes	Verify	Yes	0.00	18.00	No	02/04/2025





admits to 4-year schools


ENROLLED BY DEADLINE

EnrolledByDeadline*	Yes – Student enrolled in college within one year of HS graduation
	No – Student does not appear to have enrolled in college within one year of HS.
	Verify – One year has not passed since graduation.

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ENROLLED BY DEADLINE

Name ≑	SSN \$	Birth Date ≑	SID 🗧	OK to Award \$	OK to Pay 🖨	HS Grad Year 🔺	HS 2.0 GPA ≑	Enrolled By Deadline 🗘	Elig. Open ‡	CBS Qtrs Used ≑	CBS Qtrs Remaining 🗘	In Repayment ≑	Last Updated ≑
Smith ^C	••••-،			Yes updated	Yes updated	2025 actual from OSPI	Yes	Verify	Yes	0.00	18.00	No	06/17/2025
Details				04/23/2025	06/17/2025								

This can be overridden but doesn't impact the ability to award or pay funds until a year after high school graduation.



• To access the override screen, click on "Details" underneath the student's name in the Checker.

Name ≑	SSN \$	Birth Date ≑	SID \$	OK to Award ≑	OK to Pay 🔷	HS Grad Year ≑	HS 2.0 GPA ≑	Enrolled By Deadline ≑	Elig. Open \$	CBS Qtrs Used 🜲	CBS Qtrs Remaining 🗘	In Repayment \$	Last Updated ≑
Smith C Details	()			Yes updated 02/04/2025	Yes updated 07/31/2024	2024 actual from OSPI	Yes	Verify	Yes	0.00	18.00	No	02/04/2025
Smith ^{C*} Details	۰۰۰-۰۰-			Yes updated 02/04/2025	Yes updated 08/22/2023	2023 actual from OSPI	Yes	Yes	Yes	2.50	15.50	No	06/24/2025
Smith C Details	۰۰۰-۰۰ (۲)			Yes updated 02/04/2025	Yes updated 08/20/2024	2024 actual from OSPI	Yes	Verify	Yes	0.00	18.00	No	02/04/2025
Smith Details	()			No updated 02/04/2025	No updated 10/29/2024	2022 actual from OSPI	No	No	No	0.00	18.00	No	06/24/2025





OK to Award: Yes updated: 02/04/2025

updated: 06/23/2025

Verify indicates that the last of their QER has been awarded, but not yet paid.

Eligibility Information	
Date of Birth	
SSN	() ••••-••.
SID	None
HS Grad Year	2026 (overridden) 🛈
HS 2.0 GPA	Yes
Enrollment Deadline Met	Yes (overridden) 🕄
Previously enrolled in a 2-year college	No
CBS Quarters Used	0
CBS Quarters Remaining	18
In Repayment	No
Override History	
Grad Year Override Created	
6/23/2025 by Carlie Curlee	

The override screen will show all the student details, override box, and any prior overrides made.

Select a field to override	
— Select —	~
Reason	

Academic Year	2025-2026
Institution Name	WSAC
Overridden By	Carlie Curlee
Override Date	6/23/2025
Override Reason	Per high school transcript



The following can be overridden:





The HS Grad Year can be overridden to an academic year.

- Override to an academic year if there is an official high school transcript on file for students who graduated from a Washington state public or private high school
- With new legislation, there will be new options for students with high school equivalency or those who haven't graduated.

Overrides	
Select a field to override	
HS Grad Year	~
Value	
2025-2026	~
Reason	
Per high school transcript	
	h
Submit Override	Cancel

Important Note: Please do not update HS Grad Year for home-schooled students, students graduating from a non-GPA-based school, or students graduating from a non-Washington state high school. Contact <u>collegebound@wsac.wa.gov</u> for assistance.



The **GPA** can be overridden to a specific grade point value.

Overrides	
Select a field to override	
GPA	~
Value	
2.2	
Reason	
Per high school transcript.	
	10
Submit Override	

- Override GPA to a certain value if an updated high school transcript is received that would change a student's eligibility for CBS or a high school transcript was requested due to being at "Verify".
- As a reminder, only students who are seeking direct admission from high school to a public or private four-year institution require a 2.0 GPA for CBS purposes.

Important Note: Please do not update GPA for home-schooled students, students graduating from a non-GPA-based school, or students graduating from a non-Washington state high school. Contact <u>collegebound@wsac.wa.gov</u> for assistance.



The Enrollment Deadline Met override can be overridden to "Yes" or "No".

Override this field when a student is currently attending your institution within one year of graduation or there is documentation that the student enrolled within one year of high school graduation elsewhere and **Enrolled By Deadline** is listed as "No".

~
~



The **Previously Enrolled in a 2-Year College** override can be updated to "Yes" or "No".

Previously Enrolled in a 2-Year College	*
/alue	
Yes	*
Reason	
Student transferred from	

Override this field if there is an official transcript showing the student attended another institution or if they enrolled in Running Start prior to attending a 4-year institution.



CBS IS NOT OK TO PAY

Some students with this edit show up due to something that needs verified in the Checker, putting them at "Likely eligible for CBS" or "2-Year/Transfer Likely eligible for CBS" status.

	17.000 WC	CG QER	i	Likely eligible for CBS
				CBS Eligibility Info
				Last updated: May 22, 2025
				OK to pay: verify
			1 edit	OK to award: yes
				HS grad year: verify
	Spring		CBS student is not OK to Pay NonOverridable	HS 2.0 GPA: yes
			as of Jun 23, 2025	Enrollment deadline met: yes



CBS IS NOT OK TO PAY RESOLUTION



- Click on "Likely eligible for CBS" link which will take you to the override screen
- Override HS Grad Year with high school transcript information

~

Cancel



Contact WCG for questions about:

- Solving interim report edits
- Eligibility questions
- CBS Eligibility Checker questions (other than ID matching issues)

@wsac.wa.gov



Contact CB for questions about:

- ID number not matching between CSAW and the CBS Eligibility Checker
- Contact us for guidance if the student attended private school, homeschool, or out-of-state high school.



wcq(





Email

<u>collegebound@wsac.wa.gov</u>

Call

• 888-535-0747, Option 1

Website

<u>Collegebound.wa.gov</u>

Sign up for our e-newsletter

<u>bit.ly/collegeboundnewsletter</u>



In a few short words, add a takeaway from this presentation.



A short survey will pop up after this presentation. Please let us know how we did and what you'd like to see in the future. Your feedback is important to us!





Thanks for your time!