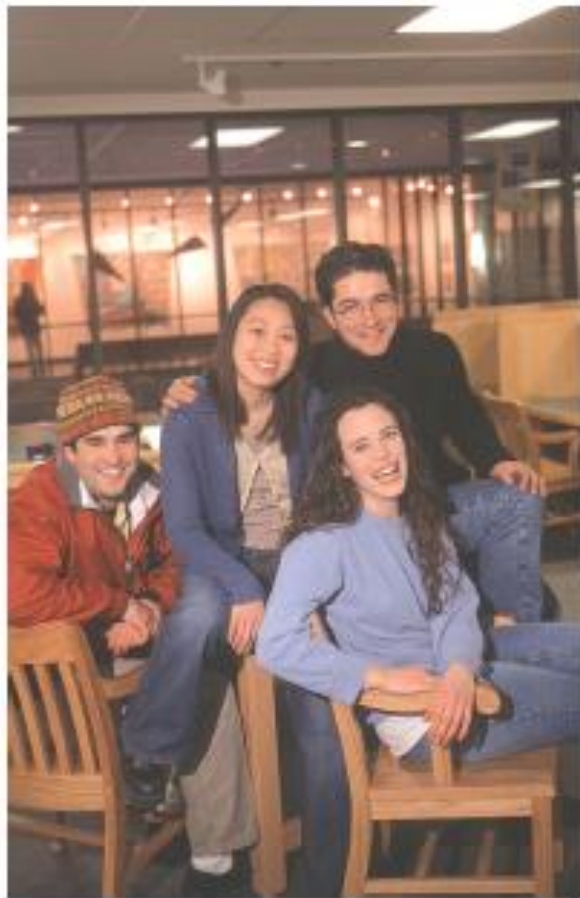


2012 Application



Washington Scholars Program

A Washington Opportunity Pathway

Recognizing . . .

the academic achievement, leadership ability, and community service of 147 high school seniors, three from each legislative district, and 49 alternate recipients.



WASHINGTON
**HIGHER
EDUCATION**
COORDINATING BOARD



Washington Scholars Program

Higher Education Coordinating Board
917 Lakeridge Way SW
P.O. Box 43430
Olympia, WA 98504-3430
Phone: 360-753-7843
Fax: 360-704-6243
www.hecb.wa.gov/paying

Cover photos courtesy of Edmonds Community College and the University of Washington

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Washington Scholars 2012 Application Form 9-12

The Higher Education Coordinating Board administers the Washington Scholars program, a Washington Opportunity Pathway, in cooperation with the Association of Washington School Principals. Foundations, corporations, organizations, and individuals interested in providing scholarships for Washington Scholars are invited to contact the Higher Education Coordinating Board.

**Washington Scholars Program,
A Washington Opportunity Pathway
Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB)**
917 Lakeridge Way SW / PO Box 43430
Olympia, Washington 98504-3430
360.753.7843 or 360.753.7850

**Association of Washington
School Principals (AWSP)**
1021 Eighth Avenue SE
Olympia, Washington 98501-1500
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STATE OF WASHINGTON
HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

917 Lakeridge Way · PO Box 43430 · Olympia, WA 98504-3430 · 360-753-7800 · www.hecb.wa.gov

December 5, 2011

Dear Washington Scholars candidate:

Congratulations! You have been nominated for Washington Scholars recognition award consideration because of your exceptional high school career. The Washington Scholars award represents the highest meritorious honor conferred on our state's most exemplary graduating high school seniors by the state's education and government leaders, recognizing excellence in academic achievement, leadership, and community service.

Candidates chosen as Washington Scholars will receive award certificates and gubernatorial congratulatory letters. Their names will appear in the Washington Scholars directory, and the announcement is distributed to news media, college admissions and scholarship officers across the state, members of the Legislature, and the Governor. In addition, June 2012 will be designated "Washington Scholars Month" by gubernatorial proclamation to honor the Scholars' achievements and contributions to their communities.

Scholars chosen for 2012 will not receive monetary awards due to state budget cuts, however, the Washington Scholars designation remains a prestigious highlight on the successful candidate's resume, and a valuable asset in securing other educational scholarships (such as the Educational Excellence Award, sponsored by the Association of Washington School Principals, and open only to Washington Scholars candidates). In addition, many colleges offer other financial and special incentives to attract the Scholars to their campuses.

Complete the application at <http://www.hecb.wa.gov/wascholarsinitial>, using Adobe Acrobat Reader software, Version 10.0 or newer, to be considered for Washington Scholars recognition. In order to limit applications to valid nominations only, there is no direct link to the application from the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) web site.

As you complete the application, describe your achievements in detail and remember that handwritten materials may be difficult to read. Do not abbreviate organizational names. The application includes statements for signature by you and your parent or guardian. Return the form to your principal for certification, attachment of documents, and mailing well before the **January 17, 2012** postmark deadline. **Late applications will not be considered.**

If your school is not mailing the application for you, please use ***Express Mail, Federal Express, United Parcel Service, or USPS certified mail with a return receipt*** to ensure delivery tracking to HECB.

Applications will be scored by committee in late February or March 2012. Your accomplishments will be evaluated on the strength of information on the application, cumulative grade transcript, senior year first quarter grade report (or equivalent October/November 2011 progress report), and SAT/ACT test score(s). A continuation page may be attached to complete requested categories; **all other materials are discarded.**

Contact Ann Voyles, program manager, if you have any questions by calling 360.753.7843, or by emailing wascholars@hecb.wa.gov. We look forward to receiving your completed application packet.

Sincerely,

Don Bennett
Executive Director
Higher Education Coordinating Board

WASHINGTON SCHOLARS PROGRAM SUMMARY 2012

A Washington Opportunity Pathway

► What is the purpose of the program?

High schools in Washington graduate a significant number of students each year who distinguish themselves through outstanding academic achievement. The Washington Scholars program establishes a consistent and uniform method to:

- Recognize and honor the accomplishments of those students.
- Encourage and facilitate privately-funded scholarship awards by non-state organizations.
- Encourage outstanding students to attend Washington public and independent colleges and universities.
- Allow educational leaders, the Legislature, and the governor to reaffirm the importance of educational excellence to the future of this state.

► Who are the Washington Scholars, and how are they selected?

This merit award represents the highest honor the state confers each year on graduating seniors, recognizing academic excellence, leadership, and community service during the high school career. The principals of in-state high schools are asked to nominate 1 percent of the graduating senior class for Washington Scholars consideration.

Nominated students complete and return the application to the principal for final signature, attachment of required materials, and mailing to the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB). To be eligible for nomination, the student must be a qualifying “resident student,” as defined in state higher education residency statutes and Washington Administrative Code (WAC) (see “Eligibility Criteria for Resident Tuition Status” and “State Laws and Rules” on the HECB web site at <http://www.hecb.wa.gov/ProgramAdministration/Residency>).

About 700 applications are received annually, representing students in all 49 legislative districts statewide. Applications are separated according to the legislative district of the student’s residence. A committee of approximately 24 - 27 representatives from public and private high schools and colleges, state agencies, and education associations reviews and scores the applications by legislative district.

The selection criteria include academic excellence, leadership, honors and awards, and community service. The academic score is calculated using the cumulative grade point average (GPA) and the highest combined math and critical reading scores from a single test sitting of a national standardized exam, such as the SAT or ACT. The SAT/ACT writing section score does not apply.

Maximum points allocated to each review element are:

Academic (test scores and GPA)	75 pts. max.
Leadership	10 pts. max.
Community service	5 pts. max.
Honors and awards	5 pts. max.
Overall excellence	<u>5 pts. max.</u>
Maximum score	100 pts. max.

Only the application form, continuation page (if any), 9th – 11th grade transcript, 12th grade first quarter grade report (or mid-semester equivalent progress report), and test scores are reviewed. All other materials (such as photos, letters of recommendation, award certificates, newspaper articles, resumes, folders or report covers) are discarded.

The selection committee identifies three Washington Scholars and one alternate from each legislative district, a total of 147 Washington Scholars and 49 alternates statewide. The Washington Scholars are the candidates with the highest final scores in each legislative district. All applicants and high schools receive final status notices.

WASHINGTON SCHOLARS PROGRAM SUMMARY 2012

A Washington Opportunity Pathway

► What do Washington Scholars receive?

Washington Scholars finalists and alternates receive:

- ▶ An honorary recognition award certificate signed by the Governor, Secretary of State, and the chair of the Higher Education Coordinating Board.
- ▶ A congratulatory letter from the governor.
- ▶ Statewide recognition through:
 - Announcement of award recipients to admissions and scholarship officers at in-state public and private colleges and universities, members of the Legislature, and the governor.
 - Publication of the “Washington Scholars Directory.”
 - A statewide media press release.
 - Declaration of “Washington Scholars Month” by gubernatorial proclamation in the spring of high school graduation.

NOTE: State-funded monetary awards for Washington Scholars chosen for 2011 and 2012 have been suspended due to state budget cuts. Washington Scholars selected from these graduating classes will receive honorary recognition awards, but will not be offered the monetary scholarship. However, some colleges and universities may offer other financial or special incentives to attract the Scholar, and Washington Scholar designation is a valuable asset in securing other educational scholarships.

► How do I apply?

You must complete the application form. The application is in electronic PDF, fillable-form format, accessible online at <http://www.hecb.wa.gov/wascholarsinitial> using Adobe Acrobat Reader software Version 10.0 or newer. If you do not have Acrobat Reader software, a free copy is available for download from the Adobe Web site at www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/.

There is no direct link to the electronic application from the main HECB agency web site. The form is posted to a non-public web address to protect the integrity of the nomination process and limit applications to valid nominations only. The full web address must be typed into the internet address bar. Please keep the web address confidential to prevent general public access to the document.

As you complete the application, state your accomplishments carefully since these will differentiate you from other students of similar scholastic achievement. You may attach a separate page to continue entries for listed headings.

Where indicated on the application, you must write the number of the legislative district in which you reside (this is a one or two digit number between 1 and 49). If you do not know your legislative district number, do not guess. Use the legislative district look-up utility on the Legislature’s home web page (the “Find Your District” tab at <http://www.leg.wa.gov/pages/home.aspx>), or call the elections division of your local County Auditor’s Office.

You must provide the physical street address where you reside as well as the address where you receive your mail, if different, such as a post office box. Without the physical residence address, the HECB is unable to verify that your application is identified to the appropriate legislative district. If a post office box address is given without a second (physical) residential street address, the application is considered to be incomplete and will not be reviewed by the committee.

WASHINGTON SCHOLARS PROGRAM SUMMARY 2012

A Washington Opportunity Pathway

► How do I apply? continued:

Print a hard copy for mailing to the HECB. The electronic form resets upon document closure, clearing any typed entries.

You must sign the statement of understanding that information may be shared with the selection committee, Washington public and independent colleges and universities, and legitimate private scholarship and foundation offices. The signature of your parent or legal guardian also is required.

Return the application to your principal to obtain his or her certification and signature well before the postmark deadline. To be considered complete, the application packet must include the fully signed application form, a copy of the high school grade transcript (9th through 11th grade), a photocopy of the senior year first quarter grade report, and a print-out or photocopy of your SAT/ACT test score document(s).

Helpful hints for completing, printing and assembling the application packet:

- **Print the application and attachments using black ink toner on white paper stock.** Colored paper stock is not acceptable. It renders the application difficult to read by the selection committee and illegible for processing by HECB (digital scanning).
- **If printing in duplex, print the confidential information pages (contains Sections I through IV) together, separate from the other application materials.** Otherwise, HECB staff must re-photocopy your application materials to detach these pages before the committee scores the application.
- **Avoid attaching photocopies of documents originally printed on colored paper stock, if possible.** Photocopies of colored paper stock may “black out” important information located in any shaded areas, making it illegible and difficult to read. It renders the page illegible for processing by HECB (digital scanning).
- **Do not use a highlighter pen to make information “stand out.”** Highlighter may “black out” important information in the highlighted areas, making it illegible and difficult to read when reproduced for the committee. It renders the shaded area illegible for processing by HECB (digital scanning).
- **Attach documentation of the highest scores for any one test date for each exam type (SAT or ACT) if you have tested in both.** HECB will give you the benefit of the highest converted result when calculating the academic score. **The SAT and ACT writing section scores do not apply.**
- **Do not “mix and match” math and critical reading scores from different SAT test dates.** Report the highest math and critical reading scores resulting from any *ONE* test date when recording SAT results.
- **An electronically-typed application is preferred.** Completing the form electronically will pre-fill information that also is required on subsequent pages; for example, the student name, legislative district, GPA, and test data appear on multiple pages. However, a legible application handwritten in ink (**not pencil**) is acceptable.
- **Avoid 3-hole punching the application materials or placing the pages in a folder or report cover.** Folders and report covers are discarded prior to committee review. Hole punches may delete critical words.
- **Remember that one staple is sufficient to connect the entire packet.** More staples are not better. The packet is taken apart and the pages reordered to a uniform standard for the committee to review. Removing staples tends to tear pages and increases processing time.
- **Photocopy and retain a copy** of the completed, signed application for your file before mailing.

WASHINGTON SCHOLARS PROGRAM SUMMARY 2012

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► How do I apply? continued:

The application must be **postmarked by January 17, 2012**. The school will most likely offer to mail the application for you. If you are responsible for mailing, please note that **Express Mail, Federal Express, United Parcel Service, or USPS certified mail with a return receipt** is recommended to ensure delivery tracking to HECB. **Late or incomplete application packages will not be considered.**

Mail the complete packet to:

Washington Scholars Program
Higher Education Coordinating Board
917 Lakeridge Way, Olympia, WA 98502 (use street address for UPS or FedEx delivery)
P.O. Box 43430, Olympia, WA 98504-3430 (use PO Box for U.S. Postal Service delivery)

If you have questions, contact the HECB at:

Phone: 360.753.7843 or 360.753.7850
Fax: 360.704.6243 or 360.753.7808 (original hard copy mailing **must** follow the fax)
E-mail: wascholars@hecb.wa.gov

► How is the Washington Scholars program publicized?

In late fall every year, the Higher Education Coordinating Board distributes nomination materials and the program policies and guidelines to the principals of the state's public and private high schools with a 12th grade graduating class.

A statewide media press release announces the new award recipients and alternates after selection by the committee, and a "Washington Scholars Month" is designated by gubernatorial proclamation. Separate notices are provided by the HECB to inform applicants, the in-state public and independent colleges and universities, legislators, the governor, and participating high schools. The HECB also posts the names of the current year recipients to its agency web site in a "Directory of Washington Scholars and Washington Scholars-Alternates."

The HECB assumes no responsibility for local recognition. School administrators are encouraged to coordinate local recognition efforts for their Washington Scholars.

► What happens to the personal information I provide?

An important part of the program is bringing state and local recognition to the achievements of these outstanding students, while encouraging non-state entities to fund private scholarships that support Washington Scholars.

The program expressly prohibits the sharing of information for commercial or non-scholarship purposes.

Last Name:	First Name:	MI:	Leg. Dist.:
SSN (required*):	School Code: (HECB use only)	Identifier: (HECB use only)	Year: 2012

The header at the top of this page must be completed in full, with the exception of the gray shaded areas. The name, social security number (SSN), and legislative district are required. *

Any information you provide in Section I is confidential. Your Section I responses are optional and will be used for statistical reporting purposes only. Sections II through VIII must be completed in full.

This page, and the page containing Sections II through IV, will be detached before committee review.

* The Washington Scholars application will not be processed in the absence of your name, address, social security number (SSN), required attachments, or validating signatures. The SSN must match the SSN you use on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). If you are a qualifying non-citizen resident of Washington state, a 9-digit Internal Revenue Service (IRS) taxpayer ID (TIN) or Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) alien ID number may be used to replace the SSN.

SECTION I: Optional, for reporting purposes only.

To be completed by the student

Gender: *(Check one)*

Male	<input type="checkbox"/>
Female	<input type="checkbox"/>

Ethnic Origin: *(Check as many as may apply)*

American Indian/Alaskan Native	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asian or Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/>
African American or Black (Not of Hispanic origin)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hispanic	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caucasian (Not of Hispanic origin)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> (please specify):

Estimated Family Income: *(Check one)*

\$ 0 - \$19,999	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$20,000 - \$39,999	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$40,000 - \$49,999	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$50,000 - \$59,999	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$60,000 - \$79,999	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$80,000 - \$99,999	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>

The college or university I plan to attend beginning fall 2012 is:

(Name of School and State)

Washington State Scholars A Washington Opportunity Pathway 2012 Application

Electronically-typed responses are preferred. This form must be accompanied by: (1) a high school transcript (9th through 11th grade); (2) a senior year first quarter (or semester mid-term) grade report; and, (3) a copy of SAT and/or ACT test score results. **Postmark no later than January 17, 2012** for mailing to the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB). Use *Express Mail, Federal Express, United Parcel Service, or certified with a return receipt* to ensure a delivery tracking mechanism to HECB. **Late or incomplete applications are not considered.**

SECTION II: Washington Scholars candidate certification To be completed and signed by the student

WA State legislative district	IMPORTANT: Type in the state legislative district of the student's physical residence address in the box at left (this is a number between 1 and 49). Do not guess. If unsure, use the legislative district look-up utility on the Legislature's Web site at http://www.leg.wa.gov/pages/home.aspx ("Find Your District" tab), or phone the elections division of your local County Auditor's Office.	Identifier: (HECB use only)		
Student name	Last	First	Middle initial	Phone number
Street address (required)		City	State	Zip Code + 4
			WA	
Mailing address (if different)		City	State	Zip Code + 4
			WA	
E-mail address		Fax number	Intended field of study	

I, _____ (student's name), hereby permit the information contained in this application to be shared with Washington public and independent college and university admissions and student financial aid officers, legitimate private scholarship committees and foundations, the Governor of Washington state, members of the Washington State Legislature, and others in keeping with the purpose of the Washington Scholars Program. The information contained in this application is true and correct.

The name of my local/hometown newspaper is: _____

Student signature	Date
-------------------	------

SECTION III: Parental certification To be completed and signed by the student's parent or guardian

I declare that I am the parent or legal guardian of _____ (student's name), who has my permission to participate as a candidate nominated to the Washington Scholars program. I understand that the names of candidates who are awarded recognition as a Washington Scholar, or as a Washington Scholars-alternate, will be announced to the governor, members of the Washington State Legislature, service clubs, and news media. Information contained on this application may be shared in keeping with the purposes of the Washington Scholars Program.

Parent or guardian signature	Date
------------------------------	------

SECTION IV: High school certification To be completed and signed by the high school principal

Candidate's cum. GPA: (9th - 11th grade, on a 4.0 scale)	Candidate's test scores (Report the highest scores for any ONE test sitting of each exam. Do not combine SAT scores from two sittings. Both SAT and ACT test scores may be reported. Include the ACT test date. The highest converted score will be used. Do not report writing section scores.) SAT critical reading: SAT math: ACT composite: ACT Test Date: (mo/yr)	(HECB use only)
Class rank of candidate: _____ / _____		
Rank	Total class size	

It is my privilege to nominate _____ (student's name) as a candidate for the Washington Scholars award, based on the information contained on this application. I have attached a copy of the candidate's **high school grade transcript, senior year grade/progress report, and SAT/ACT test scores** as verification of academic excellence. The information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

High school principal signature (Sign only after the student has completed the form.)	Date
---	------

Name of high school	School phone number & ext.	(HECB use only)
School mailing address (or P.O. Box if on-site mail delivery unavailable)	City	State Zip Code + 4
		WA
Name of principal or headmaster	School fax number	
Name and title of on-site school contact (if different than principal or headmaster)	E-mail address	

Last Name:

First Name:

LD#:

SC#:

ID#:

SECTION VII: Honors and Awards To be completed by the student

List below any honors, recognition, or awards that you have received.					
Honor or Award	9th	10th	11th	12th	Group or Activity

SECTION VIII: Other School and Miscellaneous Activities To be completed by the student

List all activities in which you have participated during high school. Include clubs, teams, musical groups, etc., and major accomplishments in each. It is not necessary to repeat activities already listed elsewhere on this form.					
Activity	9th	10th	11th	12th	Accomplishments

PLEASE NOTE:

The completed application packet, with all required attachments, must be postmarked no later than **January 17, 2012**, to:

Washington State Scholars Program, a Washington Opportunity Pathway
Higher Education Coordinating Board
917 Lakeridge Way, Olympia, Washington 98502 (use street address for UPS or FedEx delivery)
P.O. Box 43430, Olympia, Washington 98504-3430 (use PO Box for US Postal Service delivery)

Express Mail, Federal Express, United Parcel Service, or USPS certified mail with a return receipt is recommended *to ensure a delivery tracking mechanism* to the HECB. Affix sufficient postage when mailing; the HECB will not accept "postage due" packets. **Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.**

If you have questions, please contact us:

Direct phone: 360.753.7843
 Fax: 360.704.6243 or 360.753.7808 (follow-up fax by mail with signed original hard copy)
 E-mail: wascholars@hecb.wa.gov

CHECKLIST: To be considered complete, the application packet must include the following documentation:

- Application form with:
 - Student's signature
 - Parent's signature
 - Principal's signature
- 9th – 11th grade transcript
- 12th grade first quarter grade report (or October/November 2011 mid-term progress report equivalent)
- SAT/ACT results (photocopy of official ACT or College Board/SAT test result sticker, or web page score print-out)

