



# Financial Aid Is an Umbrella

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WASHINGTON STUDENT  
ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL  
EDUCATION · OPPORTUNITY · RESULTS



## WE WILL ANSWER

- How can I prepare for post-secondary options?
- What is financial aid?
- Who can get it?
- How much can I get?
- How do I apply?
- What is the College Bound Scholarship?



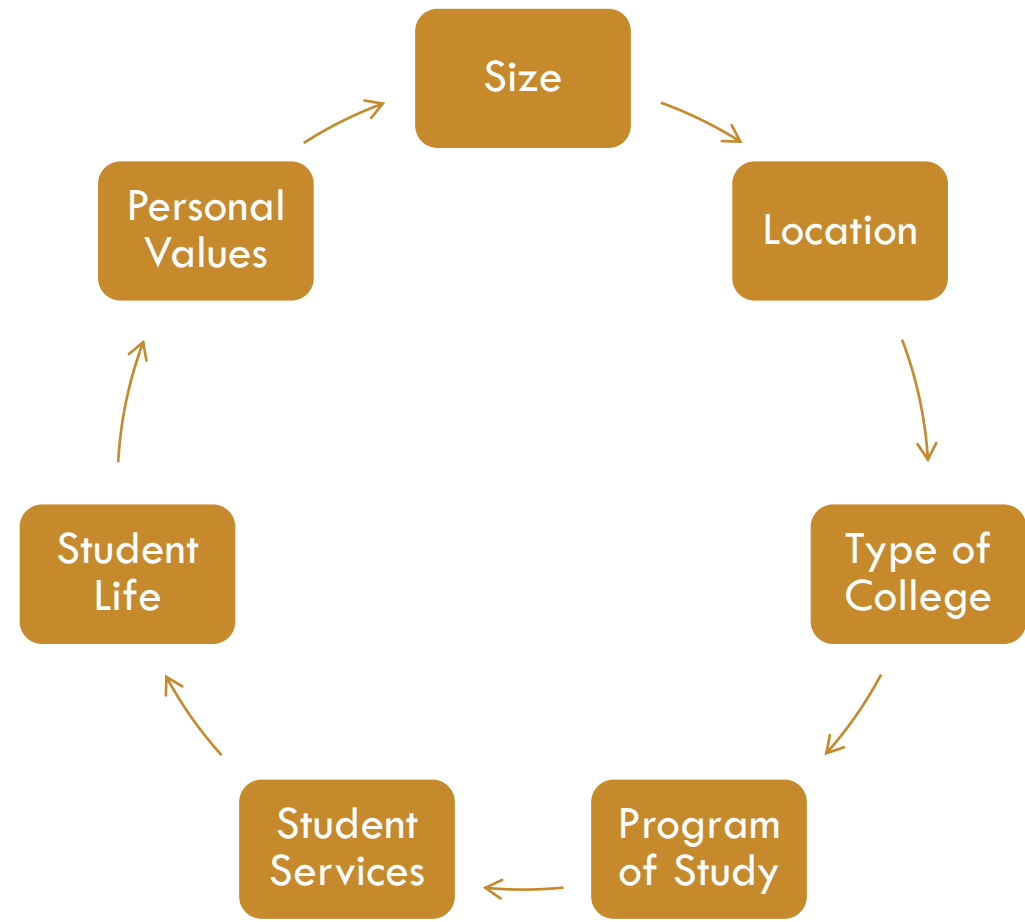
# POSTSECONDARY OPTIONS

- ✓ Two-Year College
- ✓ Technical Programs
- ✓ Four-Year College
- ✓ Apprenticeship Opportunities





# FINDING THE RIGHT FIT





# COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

## Two-year College

- Personal information
- Transcript
- Financial Aid Information
- Placement test
- Program-specific prerequisites

## Four-year College

- Personal Information
- Transcript
- Letter of Recommendation
- Standardized Test Scores
- Financial Aid Information
- Resume of Activities
- Essay and Short Answer Questions



# THE SENIOR CYCLE OVERVIEW

## Fall

- College application prep
- SAT/ACT tests
- Early admissions deadlines
- Scholarship applications
- Submit a FAFSA/WASFA

## Winter

- College applications due
- Scholarship applications

## Spring

- Award/acceptance letters
- Choosing a college
- Scholarship applications

## Summer

- Two-year financial aid awards
- Scholarship awards & applications
- College orientation



# WHAT ADMISSIONS OFFICERS LOOK FOR

## Fit

- Diversity
- Interest
- Community involvement
- Evidence of past and future academic performance

## Reflection

- Ability to grow and learn from challenges
- Evidence of critical thinking

## Writing

- Tone
- Use of appropriate examples
- Organization and focus
- Ability to follow directions



# FINANCIAL AID AS AN UMBRELLA



## Grants

Income-based,  
federal, state,  
and institutional.

## Scholarships

Merit and  
income-based,  
from public,  
private, and  
nonprofit  
sources.

## Loans

Income-based,  
federal and  
private.

## Work Study

Income-based,  
federal, state,  
and institutional.





# SOURCES OF FINANCIAL AID

## Federal

Typically can be used at most institutions in most states.

## State

Typically for residents to attend most colleges in the state.

## College

Offered by a specific school to attend that school.

## Organizations

Offered by nonprofits, businesses, churches, etc.



# HOW IS COA USED TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY?





# EXAMPLES OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

Pell Grant

Federal Work Study

Unsubsidized/Subsidized  
Student Loans

Parent Loans

FAFSA

Federal**StudentAid**

An office of the U.S. Department of Education



# EXAMPLES OF STATE FINANCIAL AID

State Need Grant

College Bound Scholarship

State Work Study

Passport to Careers for Foster Youth

Targeted workforce programs



**WASHINGTON**  
OPPORTUNITY PATHWAYS



# HOW DO YOU APPLY? RULE OF ONE

In order to be considered for financial aid, you must complete the **FAFSA** or **WASFA** your senior year, and every year you go to college.

Applications open  
October 1 of each year.

The earlier you apply, the more likely you are to get financial aid.

## FAFSA

Free Application for  
Federal Student Aid

[FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov)

**OR**

## WASFA

Washington  
Application for  
State Financial Aid

[readyssetgrad.org/wasfa](https://readyssetgrad.org/wasfa)



# MYTH BUSTERS

**MYTH:** Financial aid applications take forever to fill out and are hard to do.

**REALITY:** Look, if you have 30 minutes to spare, you're good. Because that's how long it takes to fill out the FAFSA or WASFA. Could it be easier? Sure, but there is help available!

## THINGS THAT TAKE ABOUT 30 MINUTES TO DO

Deciding what to watch  
on Netflix

Getting your friends to agree  
on pizza toppings

Filling out the FAFSA



# WHAT IS THE COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP?



Early **commitment** of state financial aid to eligible 7th and 8th grade students who apply no later than June 30 of 8th grade year.



**Combines** with other state financial aid to cover the average cost of tuition (at comparable public college rates), some fees, and a small book allowance = **commitment**.



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



# WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Students must meet one of the following requirements during **7th or 8th grade**.

Student's family's income meets the minimum on the USDA chart.

Student's family receives TANF benefits.

Student is a foster youth at any point between 7th grade and age 21.

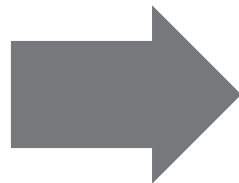




# ELIGIBILITY: A TWO-STEP APPLICATION PROCESS

## Step One

- Apply in 7<sup>th</sup> **or** 8<sup>th</sup> grade, by June 30 of 8<sup>th</sup> grade year (foster youth are auto-enrolled).
- Meet income requirements; verified on the application.
- Foster Youth are auto-enrolled if they are in care at any point in time from grade 7 to age 21



## Step Two

- Fulfill the College Bound Pledge.
- Meet income requirements; verified by the college using information from FAFSA or WASFA.
- Be accepted to and attend an eligible college within one year of graduating high school.



# THE PLEDGE



- Graduate from a Washington State high school with a 2.0 GPA or better.



- Have no felony convictions.



- Be income eligible, determined by the college with information from the FAFSA or WASFA.



- Enroll in college within one year of high school graduation.



# MAINTAINING ELIGIBILITY



- Must enroll in college within one year of high school graduation.



- Must be used within five year of HS graduation (Class of 2017's CB scholarship expires in 2022).



- Remain “in good standing” with your college to maintain scholarship (GPA, honor code, etc.).



- File the FAFSA or WASFA early every year in college.



# SOURCES FOR SCHOLARSHIPS



**KEEP SEARCHING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS!**

- Organizations, clubs
- Local credit unions, faith-based organizations, Rotary or Kiwanis
- Institutional scholarships
- Students' or families' employers
- State or national programs



# SCHOLARSHIPS: BASIC MESSAGING

- Do not have to be repaid *provided that you successfully complete your coursework.*
- Types: **need-based** and **merit-based**.
- Most come from organizations and colleges.
- Many require FAFSA/WASFA completion regardless of family income level.

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



 [Search Scholarships](#)

## Smarter Scholarship Matches

Looking for scholarships? theWashBoard.org makes it simple. We **connect** Washington students of all types with Washington scholarship providers...for FREE.

Whether you'll be attending in state or out, you save time by entering your profile once and letting us find the scholarship opportunities that fit. theWashBoard.org is spam-free and will never sell your information.

[Check us out in this video](#)

**Sign In or Register Today!**

[Sign In](#)

[Forgot your password?](#)

### For Seekers



Create a profile and let us do the rest. We will match you with scholarships you are most likely to qualify for and applying online is easy.

[Check us out in this video](#)

[Seeker Registration](#)

### News & Announcements

College Goal Sunday events help students understand and complete the FAFSA.

[Learn More](#)

### For Providers



Post your scholarship to reach a larger group of students. We make reviewing and evaluating applications easy. Find the next recipients of your scholarship.

[Check us out in this video](#)

[Provider Registration](#)

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# TIPS FOR STUDENTS

- Start early
- Pay attention to deadlines
- Read eligibility requirements thoroughly before starting
- Organize materials
- Follow instructions
- Check applications
- Keep copies of materials
- Continue to apply throughout college

**PROCRASTINATION**

**DOESN'T PAY**



# SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH ENGINES/BANKS

- [TheWashboard.org](http://TheWashboard.org)
- [Gearup.wa.gov](http://Gearup.wa.gov)
- [Bigfuture.collegeboard.com](http://Bigfuture.collegeboard.com)
- [Collegegreenlight.com](http://Collegegreenlight.com)
- [Unigo.com](http://Unigo.com)
- [Scholarship Junkies' Scholarship Bank](http://ScholarshipJunkies.com)
- [My College Dollar\\$](http://MyCollegeDollar.com)
- [Scholarship 360](http://Scholarship360.com)
- [Fastweb.com](http://Fastweb.com)
- [Scholarships.com](http://Scholarships.com)







# OTHER WAYS TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

529 college savings plans (i.e. GET/DreamAhead)

Job/savings

Payment plan (talk to the colleges)



# COLLEGE SCORECARD

The College Scorecard is available on the U.S. Department of Education's website.

This tool takes all schools in the country that accept federal funding (federal student loans) and allows them to be easily searched in one place.

The tool allows students to select majors, states, size of the institution, even school mission and religious affiliation.

[collegescorecard.ed.gov](https://collegescorecard.ed.gov)

## Find Schools

Compare schools now

Programs/Degrees	+
Location	+
Size	+
Name	+
Advanced Search	+

**FIND SCHOOLS**



# COMPARISON SHOP: COLLEGE NAVIGATOR

**ies** INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES

NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS

Enter search terms here

Publications & Products | Surveys & Programs | Data & Tools | Fast Facts | School Search | News & Events | About Us

**COLLEGE**Navigator

English | [Español](#) | [About](#)

Name of School  
Type name of school here

States (use map for more than 1 state)  
No Preference | Alabama | Alaska | [Use Map](#)

ZIP Code | Miles from

Programs/Majors  
0 Items Selected | [Browse for Programs](#)

Level of Award  
 Certificate |  Associate's |  Bachelor's |  Advanced

Institution Type  
 Public |  Private non-profit |  Private for-profit |  4-year |  2-year |  < 2-year

+ MORE SEARCH OPTIONS

[Show Results](#)

[Guide Me](#) | [Clear Search](#)

**Find the right college for you**

[Guide Me](#)

- » Refine your search with [More Search Options](#) to select additional search criteria.
- » Build a list of schools using [My Favorites](#) for side-by-side comparisons.
- » Pinpoint school locations with an [interactive map](#).
- » Export search results into a [spreadsheet](#).
- » Save your session including search options and favorites.
- » [Add College Navigator](#) to your browser search bar.

**College Affordability and Transparency Center**  
Browse lists of institutions with the highest and lowest tuition & fees and net price. [» GO](#)

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

**Preparing for your Education**  
Find out what you need to do to prepare for education beyond high school. [» GO](#)

**Financial Aid**  
Apply for Federal Student Aid on FAFSA. [» GO](#)

**Careers**  
Deciding on a career? Consult the [bls.gov](#) Occupational Outlook Handbook. [» GO](#)

U.S. Department of Education  
Institute of Education Sciences  
National Center for Education Statistics

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**INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF STATISTICS**



Resources on  
this website are  
also available in  
Spanish



# COMPARISON SHOP: NET PRICE CALCULATOR

## Net Price Calculator

For Net Price Calculator Help Call 1-877-299-3593 [npc@inovas.net](mailto:npc@inovas.net)



**Please read.** Welcome to the Net Price Calculator application. This application will assist you in setting up a Net Price Calculator to post on your institution's website as required in the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 (see HEOA Sec. 111 which amended HEA Title I, Part C: added HEA Sec. 132(a), Sec. 132(h) (20 U.S.C. 1015a(a), 20 U.S.C. 1015a(h))).

Before proceeding, please download and review the Quick Start Guide and accompanying glossary of key terms (accessible by clicking on the **Help** button in the upper-right hand corner of the screen) for assistance with correctly inputting data and setting up your institution's net price calculator. Once you are ready, click **Continue** to begin.

CONTINUE



**Note:** The Higher Education Opportunity Act defines net price as the net price for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking students. Title IV institutions that do not enroll full-time, first-time students are not required to have a net price calculator under the HEOA.

Additional resources, such as a bulk data file upload tool and frequently asked questions related to both the net price calculator requirement and the Department's template are also available online at: [http://www.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/resource/net\\_price\\_calculator.asp](http://www.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/resource/net_price_calculator.asp).



U.S. Department of Education

## Net Price Calculator Center

← Back to CATC



**Q.** Do you want to know how much it will cost for you to attend college?

**A.** Enter the name of a college to find its net price calculator.



# COMPARISON SHOP: COLLEGE COST CENTER

<http://collegecost.ed.gov>



U.S. Department of Education  
**College Affordability and Transparency Center** 



Welcome to the College Affordability and Transparency Center  
Start here to find information about how much it costs students to attend different colleges, how fast those costs are going up, and information related to why costs are going up.

<p><b>College Scorecard</b></p> <p>College Scorecards make it easier for you to search for a college that is a good fit for you. You can use the College Scorecard to find out more about a college's affordability and value so you can make more informed decisions about which college to attend.</p> <p><a href="#">Enter</a></p>	<p><b>College Navigator</b></p> <p>Here you can search for and compare colleges on all sorts of criteria including costs, majors offered, size of school, campus safety, and graduation rates.</p> <p><a href="#">Enter</a></p>	<p><b>90/10 Information</b></p> <p>Here you will find a list of for-profit (proprietary) postsecondary institutions that receive more than 90 percent of their revenues from Title IV Federal Student Aid.</p> <p><a href="#">Enter</a></p>
<p><b>Net Price Calculator Center</b></p> <p>Here you will find links to colleges' net price calculators. Net price calculators help you estimate how much colleges cost after scholarships and grants.</p>	<p><b>College Affordability and Transparency List</b></p> <p>Here you will find information about tuition and net prices at postsecondary institutions. The site highlights institutions with high and low tuition and fees as well as high and low net prices (the price of</p>	<p><b>State Spending Charts</b></p> <p>Here you will find summary information on changes in state appropriations for postsecondary education, state aid for students, and tuition and fees.</p> <p><a href="#">Enter</a></p>



# ONLINE RESOURCE

SO YOU WANT TO GO  
TO COLLEGE, NOW WHAT?



TWITTER

▶ 1 SELECT YOUR GRADE

I'M A **6<sup>th</sup>**  
GRADER

▶ 2 START YOUR JOURNEY

**READY**

**SET**

**GRAD**



FACEBOOK

- [ReadySetGrad.org](https://www.ReadySetGrad.org)
- Comprehensive college readiness and financial aid website.



QUESTIONS?