WEEKLY BULLETIN

**April 29-May 3, 2024**

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| IN THIS ISSUE: | **DID YOU KNOW?**May is **Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage** and **National Foster Care** Month! |
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# WA STATE GEAR UP PROGRAM UPDATES

* **Reminder: Senior Exit Survey**. The survey window is open now through May 8. WSAC expects that a minimum of 90% of seniors complete the survey. You’ll receive a weekly update from Vela to help you track students.
* **Reminder**: **Final Work Plan & Budget Revisions** are due June 30. Please send to featherw@wsac.wa.gov
* **Action Required: WAGU Grant IV Wrap-Up Workshop!** June 17-18, Wenatchee. All WAGU-paid staff and lead administrators are welcome to attend. See the 4/8 email for the registration link and travel guidance.
* [**College Knowledge Family Newsletters**](https://gearup.wa.gov/educators/family-newsletters)**.** Monthly newsletters for students by grade level. Pre-loaded with info and areas to personalize! Available in English, Arabic, Chuukese, Marshallese, Russian, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

**STUDENT RECRUITMENT & OUTREACH EVENTS**

* [**12th Year Campaign Financial Aid Information & Filing Events.**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oELovlvqYmCD7NY0nDw7A_b1Bbeoj4-M7VNBDaQfxoI/edit#heading=h.42fu3w63mb46) Most events are virtual. Spanish events are available.

# OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

* [**Dual Credit Office Hours**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88648151925)**.** Join OSPI, SBCTC, and COP. Hear the latest updates and information. May 1, 3 PM
* **Discussion Lab:** [**College Tours with Families**](https://www.edpartnerships.org/nccep-events/2024/5-9-familycollegetours). By NCCEP. May 9, 11 AM.
* **Virtual:** [**Annual Passport to Careers Conference**](https://www.washingtonpassportnetwork.org/2024-conference/). Early bird registration is open! May 14.
* **Webinar:** [**Legislative Updates**](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wpx7sGYESgqG7gpbNsa5Qw#/registration). By OSPI-WSAC. May 15, 9:00-10:30 AM
* [**PNACAC Conference: Where It All Began**](https://www.pnacac.org/annual-conference)**.** May 22 - 24, Salem, OR.
* [**NCCEP/GEAR UP Annual Conference**](https://www.edpartnerships.org/annual)**.** July 21-24, Washington, DC.
* **GEAR UP West**. Oct. 27 – 29, Albuquerque, NM.

# Resources

* **WAGU Featured Resource:** [**Which Financial Aid Is the Best to Accept?**](https://gearup.wa.gov/file/which-financial-aid-best-accept) This handout accompanies the 12th Year Campaign Junior/Senior Student Workbook, which guides students through navigating college admissions and financial aid.
* [**Understanding Aid Options and Comparing Award Letters**](https://www.studentloaned.wa.gov/courses/understanding-aid-options-and-comparing-award-letters/)**.** WSAC’s student loan education site contains a series of modules with information on specific topics. Find short videos, and a glossary, and learn how to decipher an award letter.
* [**13 Things to Know When Evaluating Your Financial Aid Offers.**](https://studentaid.gov/articles/evaluating-financial-aid-offers)Understanding how to interpret and learn what you’re committing to could save you future surprises, not to mention thousands of dollars in payments. Here’s what you need to know.
* [**SwiftStudent**](https://formswift.com/swift-student). This free digital tool helps students with the financial aid appeals process and allows them to write an appeal letter. Learn more about financial aid appeals on the [WSAC website.](https://wsac.wa.gov/financial-aid-appeals)

# In the News

* [Tapping into the Power of Purpose to Engage Students](https://www.kqed.org/mindshift/63532/tapping-into-the-power-of-purpose-to-engage-students)
* [Immigrant Students Need Trained Advisers To Navigate The Problematic College Admissions Process](https://hechingerreport.org/opinion-immigrant-students-need-trained-advisers-to-navigate-the-problematic-college-admissions-process)
* [A Crisis Call Line Run By Native Youth, For Native Youth](https://hechingerreport.org/a-crisis-call-line-run-by-native-youth-for-native-youth)
* [As Student Protesters Get Arrested, They Risk Being Banned From Campus Too](https://www.npr.org/2024/04/29/1247761719/campus-protests-arrests-suspensions)
* [Hundreds Of WA Students Walk Off Campuses To Protest U.S. Aid To Israel](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fheeptedbb.cc.rs6.net%2Ftn.jsp%3Ff%3D001BwKmqWdNNxZTGI1Q7zhyo2jbIMbI1KWt2IFeX9WalFAE_Iu7hp54MCHJvrrfIGnIvfMXX8u8wNdLWbLRiFSt2E8Zbvl2YwNozv-UDfephOJ75gw-ndjrwCOTer6B36BZYolp9oTgHTrQOI9awjGFAWgYT-C1RgVW38PY9tk43LMPK-3rYqux85_9IG_2jQ_srpRNUruBBHlGtixYduKqHyDvGdsoUmazgtH3yBxnrIL2RYbD_EhyjbmbaJDt5Upqw5069cWL7JouGXkMtMccuA%3D%3D%26c%3D3s2uCrV_2oHwsm5tBBGSazgnYlQfgFwdSSPX4rbC26avd1QTT2olLw%3D%3D%26ch%3DPUb8Dbxg3Cm0BCB2zB6l60igCwZMyB2VEO0X7_HTDkLXn27i0A315Q%3D%3D&data=05%7C02%7Cbethk%40wsac.wa.gov%7C35788d094663439f651f08dc647aa2ca%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C638495725101142986%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9jzYx8HHjH6FfUEBe2o%2FPZH3JCT%2BgPfCRFexs75WtTE%3D&reserved=0)
* [Distracted Students? Understanding These 3 Myths Of Attention Span Can Help](https://www.kqed.org/mindshift/63519/distracted-students-understanding-these-3-myths-of-attention-span-can-help)
* [Iowa Lawmakers Pass Last-Minute Ban On DEI, Institutional Statements](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/diversity/2024/04/26/iowa-gop-oks-11th-hour-ban-dei-institutional-statements)
* [First Nonbinary State Lawmaker In The U.S. Reflects On A Hard Time In The Okla. House](https://www.npr.org/2024/04/26/1245432165/first-nonbinary-state-lawmaker-in-the-u-s-reflects-on-a-hard-time-in-the-okla-ho)
* [You Need $500. How Should You Get It?](https://www.vox.com/videos/24141483/you-need-500-how-should-you-get-it)
* [The Ultimate Survival Guide To Acing A College Transition For Parents](https://www.usatoday.com/interactives/sponsor-story/college-ave/this-guide-helps-parents-with-college-bound-kids)
* [Student Stories: My Experience Of Running Start](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fheeptedbb.cc.rs6.net%2Ftn.jsp%3Ff%3D001iS54GL-nsjrsd4vfjMPKMQJHW49bddd2H5AAcWxBB309Xspt2LOXkugDA5trFHVgpfwiGWOgjNQDTnIndm6KgOxBjVa_6QTJk9bqBaegrJI71giDoplC5T448Kt-JyM8Dx9Dgx6rXFAWIm8sJDzT7_QDOHmAKNqO6J_f9hcxVcmCy6lWfNttLAyqcEi9baPwDEjNA8rGTO2hNNpe5ORm-4HnzuMTLGIHj3Tm6nHmXzABB90muhV4eCEDtF49FZZQrgXhMbXG9JI%3D%26c%3Do4qOMVrb7972bq_8uG3hxSJjmFOdKhcHL2hAdCURVy0KpaikopTywg%3D%3D%26ch%3Djfb3cCDmAL5DXB2Xc0Y3sONFSqc7eIsto5WtgF2CwWmxnCxI4ht23g%3D%3D&data=05%7C02%7Cbethk%40wsac.wa.gov%7Ccadb307118c14234832b08dc65455ae6%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C638496595773922733%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=XqWCsfs%2BfP40VMiXznDsDvd6S2XZt6XRoNRiaFafVHQ%3D&reserved=0)
* [Gov. Bill Lee Says He’ll Sign Bill To Let Some Tennessee Teachers And Staff Carry Guns In Schools](https://www.chalkbeat.org/tennessee/2024/04/26/gov-bill-lee-to-sign-bill-letting-some-teachers-carry-guns-in-schools/)
* [High Schoolers Make Up Growing Proportion Of Oregon Community College Enrollment](https://www.opb.org/article/2024/04/25/oregon-high-schoolers-fuel-growing-community-college-enrollment/)
* [Kennewick School Board Clashes Over Gender Identity, Defining CRT. What It Decided](https://www.aol.com/kennewick-school-board-clashes-over-120000413.html)

**SCHOLARSHIPS & OPPORTUNITIES**

*Find more opportunities at:* <https://gearup.wa.gov/educators/scholarships>.

* **[Scholarship Junkies’ Free Scholarship Bank](https://www.scholarshipjunkies.org/scholarship-search)**. Scholarship Junkies has launched their brand-new Scholarship Bank! This organization is a reputable and safe source to search for scholarships.

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| **Scholarship** | **Brief Description** | **Due** |
| [Washington Association of County Officials](http://www.countyofficials.org/247/How-to-Apply) | ($3,000) - The fund awards up to three $3,000 scholarships to eligible children of county employees and county elected officials in the following offices: assessors, auditors, clerks, coroners, medical examiners, prosecutors, sheriffs, and treasurers. Recipients must be full-time students in a baccalaureate degree, associate degree, or vocational/technical certification program. | 4/30 |
| [All About Education Scholarship](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/all-about-education-scholarship) | ($3,000) - In 250 words or less submit a response to the question: "How will a $3,000 scholarship for education make a difference in your life?" | 4/30 |
| [E-waste Scholarship](http://www.digitalresponsibility.org/ewaste-scholarship/) | ($1,000) - Complete the application form including a 140-character message about e-waste. The top 10 applications will be selected as finalists. The finalists will be asked to write a full-length 500- to 1,000-word essay about e-waste. | 4/30 |
| [FIRST x AISES Scholarship](https://aises.org/students/scholarships) | The FIRST x AISES scholarship is a new initiative designed to provide Indigenous students pursuing STEM studies in higher education. | 4/30 |
| [ETV Program](https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/foster-youth/etv) (For youth in foster care) | Do you know students experiencing foster care who are planning to enroll in an accredited college, university, technical, vocational, or dual-credit high school program? ETV offers financial assistance to eligible youth (up to $5,000 per academic year and $2,000 for dual credit). To meet the priority deadline, apply by Apr. 30. All applications received after will be awarded on a funds-available basis. | 4/30 |
| [Shawn Carter Foundation Scholarship Fund](https://shawncartersf.com/scholarship) | For students who demonstrate resiliency in the face of hardship and give back to their communities. Scholarship recipients can use the money to cover tuition and related educational expenses. Students are welcome to re-apply yearly, from admission to graduation. Scholarship awards vary.  | 4/30 |
| [The Paradigm Challenge](http://www.projectparadigm.org/) | ($200 - $100,000) - The Paradigm Challenge is an annual competition that invites students aged 4 to 18 around the world to use kindness, creativity, and collaboration to help solve a real-life problem and make a difference in the world. | 5/1 |
| [Rover College Scholarship](https://www.rover.com/college-scholarship) | ($2,500) For graduating HS seniors and current college freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. Must submit a short essay on the following topic: "How did growing up with a pet in your life (could be a friend's or family member's) impact the person you are today?"  | 5/1 |
| [NURSE Corps Scholarship](https://bhw.hrsa.gov/funding/apply-scholarship/nurse-corps) | Funding for tuition, fees, and other educational costs in exchange for working as a nurse at an eligible Critical Shortage Facility for two years upon graduation. | 5/2 |
| [Blaze Your Own Trail Scholarship](https://www.trailheads.com/scholarship) | Available to high school seniors, undergraduate, and graduate students. To be considered, students must submit an essay of between 600 and 800 words that describes a challenge they faced, how they overcame it, and how the experience affected them. Award recipients will receive a $1,000 scholarship.  | 5/6 |
| [Jack Kent Cooke Young Scholars Program](http://www.jkcf.org/scholarship-programs/young-scholars/) | The Cooke Young Scholars Program is a selective five-year, pre-college scholarship for high-performing 7th-grade students with financial need. It provides comprehensive academic and college advising, as well as financial support for school, Cooke-sponsored summer programs, internships, and other learning enrichment opportunities. | 5/9 |
| [Humane Education Network: A Voice for Animals HS Essay Contest](http://www.hennet.org/contest.php) | For HS students (ages 14-19). $150-$650. Rules & requirements may vary from year to year. | 5/31 |
| [Fifth Month Scholarship](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/fifth-month-scholarship) | ($1,500) - In 250 words or less submit a response to the question: "May is the fifth month of the year. Write a letter to the number five explaining why five is important. Be serious or be funny. Either way, here's a high five to you for being original." Must be 14 years of age or older at the time of application. | 5/31 |
| [College is Power Scholarship](http://www.collegeispower.com/scholarship.cfm) | ($1,000) A scholarship to help you pay for college! The "College Is Power" scholarship is open to students aged 17 and older who are currently in college or plan to start college within the next 12 months. Use the scholarship to pay for tuition, books, room and board, computers, or anything else related to your education! | 5/31 |
| [UW Young Executives of Color Program](http://foster.uw.edu/academics/degree-programs/undergraduate-programs/diversity-services/young-executives-of-color-yeoc/) | YEOC is a nine-month college pipeline program hosted by the University of Washington Foster School of Business. The program currently serves 190 high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors from 75 schools in the state of Washington. Students attend sessions on the UW campus one Saturday every month for college preparation, business lectures, professional development, and powerful mentorship. YEOC is a FREE nine-month program. The only cost to students is transportation to UW Seattle. | 5/31 |
| [American Indian College Fund Full Circle Scholarship](http://collegefund.org/student-resources/scholarships/scholarship-programs/) | Full Circle Scholarship: The American Indian College Fund supports American Indian and Alaska Native college students seeking technical, undergraduate, and graduate degrees at tribal colleges and other nonprofit, accredited schools. Any Native American U.S. citizen that is a member or descendant of a state or federally recognized tribe with at least a 2.0 grade point average, and enrolled as a full-time student can apply for a scholarship. | 5/31 |
| [A.T. Anderson Memorial Scholarship](http://www.aises.org/students/scholarships) | ($1,000) - This scholarship is awarded to American Indian/Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian AISES members pursuing degrees in the sciences, engineering, medicine, natural resources, math & technology. Students are required to submit 3 essays (prompts provided), up to 1,000 words each.  | 5/31 |
| [We the Future Contest](http://constitutingamerica.org/downloads.php) | Open to K-12 students, college students, law school students, graduate school students, adults 25 years of age and older, and seniors 65 years of age and older.  | 5/31 |
| [Wilson-Hooper Veterinary Medicine Assistance Program](https://www.nativeforward.org/scholarships/wilson-hooper-veterinary-medicine-assistance-program-2022-2023/) | For native students pursuing a degree in Veterinary Medicine (DVM) or Veterinary Technology (Associate of Applied Science Degree). | 6/1 |
| [Wells Fargo Scholarship for Undergraduates](https://www.nativeforward.org/scholarships/wells-fargo-scholarship-for-undergraduates/#:~:text=The%20Wells%20Fargo%20Scholarship%20for,in%20any%20field%20of%20study.) | (Up to $5,000) - For college freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors who hold a current GPA of 2.7 or higher with up to $5,000 for one year of study in any chosen major at any accredited institution in the US. | 6/1 |
| [Stuck At Prom Scholarship Contest](http://stuckatprom.com/) | ($10,000) - This is the coolest scholarship contest around! Students are challenged to create and wear their prom outfits made entirely from Duck Tape for the chance to win scholarship cash! | 6/5 |
| [National First-Generation Recognition Program](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/communities-events/national-recognition-programs) | From College Board. For HS students whose parent(s) does not have a bachelor’s degree or has some education that is less than a bachelor’s degree.  | 6/14 |
| [2024 Breakthrough Junior Challenge](https://breakthroughjuniorchallenge.org/) | Win a life-changing $250,000 college scholarship! For 13–18-year-olds who are good at explaining math or science. To enter, they must create a less than 2 min. video explaining a key concept in math, physics, or life sciences for a chance to win a prize for them, their teacher, and their school. | 6/25 |
| [Navigate Your Future Scholarship](http://www.nata.aero/Scholarships/Navigate-Your-Future-Scholarship.aspx) | A $2,500 scholarship is offered to an HS graduate continuing his or her education in the aviation industry. | 6/28 |
| [Geoscience IDEA Scholarship (formerly AWG Minority Scholarship)](https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.awg.org/resource/resmgr/awards/student_awards/geoscienceideascholarship22.pdf) | The scholarship provides up to $5000 in awards, annually, typically split between two or more undergraduate students, and matches them with AWG mentors to enhance their careers. It also includes a one-year, sponsored, AWG student membership. | 6/30 |
| [Do-Over Scholarship](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/do-over-scholarship) | ($1,500) - In 250 words or less submit a response to the question: "If you could get one 'do-over' in life, what would it be and why?" | 6/30 |
| [Scholarship Poetry Contest - Fall Issue](http://www.justpoetry.org/submissions) | Open to all U.S. HS students. Applicant must submit an original poem with 20 lines or less. Up to $500. | 6/30 |
| [Flavor of the Month Scholarship](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/flavor-of-the-month-scholarship) | ($1,500) -Summer and ice cream go hand-in-hand. July is National Ice Cream Month, and that's the inspiration behind this award. We think people are very similar to ice cream; some are nutty, others a little exotic, while some are very comforting. If you were an ice cream flavor, which would you be and why?" (250 words or less) | 7/31 |
| [Make Me Laugh Scholarship](https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/make-me-laugh-scholarship) | ($1,500) - Make Me Laugh is a fun scholarship that lets you cut loose and lighten things up. Looking for a scholarship for comedians? Now is your chance to show us your funny bone. Perhaps you always have an embarrassing - but funny - story to share. Great! We'll promise to laugh with you, not at you. Must be 14 years of age or older at the time of application. | 8/31 |
| [Beauty & Wellness Professionals Scholarship](https://www.beautyschoolsdirectory.com/cosmetology-school-scholarships) | ($2,500) For students currently enrolled in an eligible program and prospective students planning to enroll in an eligible program before the scholarship deadline.  | 9/1 |
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| The opinions expressed in these articles do not necessarily represent those of Washington State GEAR UP, the Washington Student Achievement Council, or the Department of Education. You should not assume endorsement by these entities. |