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### Did You Know?

More than **one-in-three** American workers today are Millennials. Millennials now surpass Gen Xers as the largest generation in U.S. labor force.

Source: [Pew Research](#)

## GEAR UP UPDATES

- **ACT Update:** As of July, ACT will give waivers only to students who are eligible for free/reduced price lunch. Other GU students no longer qualify. If you need to revise your budget to fund test fees, please contact [Marcie](#).
- **GEAR UP West Registration & Lodging Accommodations:** [Conference Registration](#) is open. [Lodging](#): Doubletree room block closes Sept. 14. Davenport room block closes Sept. 16.

## OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Conference Call: Back to School.** Join a call with Senior White House and Department of Education Officials to learn about Back to School efforts to help more students access financial aid and resources to choose a school where they can reach their educational goals and career aspirations if they work hard. Preview new tools and learn ways for your communities to play a part in connecting more students with the College Scorecard and the FAFSA. Call 888-324-8143, Participant passcode: 429897. **Aug. 24, 10 AM.**
- **Webinar: [Planning for Changes Coming with 2017-18 FAFSA.](#)** A representative from the Department of Education will provide key information about the 2017-18 FAFSA changes involving the use of older income tax information (referenced in the past as PPY). Sept. 8, 10 AM.
- **[2016 Fall Counselor Workshops.](#)** For HS counselors/college access staff. Held in 9 locations in Sept. Hear updates from 4-year public/private universities, OSPI, WSAC, and more.
- **Webinar: [The Framing of Student Success through an Equity Lens](#)** by OSPI GATE. Sept. 14, 10-11am.
- **[Youth Mental Health First Aid Training Opportunity.](#)** Project AWARE offers no cost in-person trainings for parents, school staff, and community members in WA. The all-day training teaches adults how to identify and respond to signs of mental illness and substance abuse among youth. Interested? Contact [Deb Drandoff](#) at (360) 952-3396.
- **[2016 Washington Financial Aid Association \(WFAA\) Conference.](#)** With all the coming changes in Financial Aid, you won't want to miss this opportunity. Oct. 12-14, Spokane.

## RESOURCES

- **[Resources for Young Parents & Children Experiencing Homelessness.](#)** This database focuses on key federal or federally sponsored resources about relevant federal programs, federal guidance, evidence-based and promising practices, early childhood supports, parenting supports, behavioral health (mental health and substance abuse), housing, employment, and education. See also: [Questions on How to Support Homeless Students?](#) With new protections for homeless students taking effect this year, the Department of Education offers guidance to help districts and schools comply.

- [STEM Behind Sports](#). Power up! Explore the relationships between energy, work, and power with this activity from TI.
- [Financial Aid Essentials](#). This updated guide from the College Board contains handouts to share with your students and their families.
- [Why Students and Parents Need to Create Their Own FSA IDs](#). To protect the integrity of this important financial system and the private data of all of the students, parents and borrowers within it, it's essential that only the FSA ID owner create and use their account. See also: [FSA ID FAQs](#).
- [Free Data Tools Make Chronic Absence Calculations Easier](#). To simplify the process, Attendance Works has partnered with Applied Survey Research to develop self-calculating spreadsheets for school districts.
- [Campus Pride's 2016 Best of the Best Top 30 List of LGBTQ-friendly Colleges and Universities](#). Find out which Northwest institutions make the cut.

## RESEARCH

- [CDC Publishes First National Study of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual High School Students' Health](#). The first nationally representative study of U.S. lesbian, gay and bisexual high school students finds they experience substantially higher levels of physical and sexual violence and bullying than other students – and are at risk for several serious outcomes.
- [Racial Gaps: Does the Public Care?](#) New study documents continuing gaps (and some progress) in educational attainment of black and Latino students compared to white and Asian students. Another study suggests most people aren't that worried about the issue.

## IN THE NEWS

Please send any media coverage to Katherine at [katherinek@wsac.wa.gov](mailto:katherinek@wsac.wa.gov). We want to feature you here and in our newsroom: <http://gearup.wa.gov/news>.

- [A Solution As Obvious As It Is Rare: Making High School Graduates Ready For College](#). A few states have started intervening in high school to help students avoid remediation.
- [A Powerful Conversation on Schools, Poverty, and Race](#). Nate Bowling, Washington State Teacher of the Year, sits down with Bill Gates.
- [How Schools Can Get Homeless High Schoolers to College](#). Homeless students may not be aware of the resources, like college application fee waivers, that are available.
- [Expand Education Opportunities For Inmates With Pell Grants](#). Every dollar spent on educating prisoners *saves* \$5 in re-incarceration costs, a Rand Corp. analysis found.
- [What It's Like To Be College-Bound And Worried About Your Immigration Status](#). Hear from two students who decided to go public with their immigration status.
- [Reverse Transfer Serves as a Success Pathway for College Have-Nots](#). Reverse transfer provides an opportunity to change lives for the better.
- [Getting Drop-Outs Back In the Classroom](#). As a new school year begins, some districts are increasing efforts to re-enroll drop-outs.
- [Dropping Your Kids Off At College?](#) Dropping your kids off at college this weekend? Here are 4 pieces of advice you can give them to help them navigate college and make it through to commencement.
- [Tribal Dropouts Getting Second Chance At Diploma](#). Nearly 80 dropouts from Nisqually, Squaxin and Skokomish tribes have received diplomas thanks to the college's "High School 21+"

## SCHOLARSHIPS & OPPORTUNITIES

- **Calling all HS Seniors: [Better Make Room](#) & [Story2](#)** are calling all high school students to take to Instagram to share why they're excited about college. **Participate and enter to win [FREE college essay mentoring with EssayBuilder](#).**
- [Academic Acceleration Grant](#). Grants available to develop new capacity for dual credit courses. iGrant application #661. **Due Sept. 30.**

- **Hispanic Heritage Youth Awards.** For HS seniors who identify as Hispanic/Latinx. Min. 3.0 GPA. Must be a US Citizen/Permanent Resident/ qualify under DACA. \$1,000 to \$3,000. Due 10/2.

TITLE	DESCRIPTION	DUE
<a href="#">Make me Laugh Scholarship</a>	Describe an incident in your life, funny or embarrassing (fact or fiction), and make us laugh! Ages 13+. 250 words. \$1,500.	8/31
<a href="#">College Greenlight 2016 Summer Challenge Scholarship</a>	4 Easy Steps to Apply for the College Greenlight Summer Challenge Scholarship. You can win \$500 for college! See also: <a href="#">How to Use Fit to Build Your College List</a> .	9/1
<a href="#">We the Future Contest</a>	Open to K-12 students, college students, law school students, graduate schools students, adults 25 years of age and older, and seniors 65 years of age and older. Each age group has different requirements, so applicants should visit website for details. Amount varies.	9/17
<a href="#">Siemens: Competition in Math, Science, and Technology</a>	Maximum award: \$100,000 college scholarship. Eligibility: students must enrolled in HS (grades 9-12) during the 16-17 school year, individually or as a team.	9/20
<a href="#">QuestBridge National College Match</a>	Online platform that helps outstanding low-income HS seniors gain admission and full 4-year scholarships to some of the nation's most selective colleges.	9/27
<a href="#">Disney Friends for Change Grants</a>	Offers young change-makers \$500 to gather their friends and turn their creative ideas to help their communities into projects. Youth ages 5-18 located in all 50 states and DC are eligible.	9/30
<a href="#">Don't Text and Drive Scholarship</a>	Open to HS students in grades 9-12 and current college or graduate school students. Must complete a short form and share a 140-character statement explaining why they will not text and drive. \$1,000.	9/30
<a href="#">Odenza Marketing Group Scholarship</a>	Must submit 2 small essays, one related to travel, & the other on why they deserve a scholarship. Must be 16-25, w/ 2.5 GPA or greater. US citizenship required. \$500.	9/30
<a href="#">Scholarship Poetry Contest</a>	Open to all U.S. HS students. Applicant must submit an original poem with 20 lines or less. Up to \$500.	9/30
<a href="#">Shout It Out Scholarship</a>	Open to students 13 years of age or older who are legal residents of the 50 US or the DC and are currently enrolled (or will enroll no later than the fall of 2021) in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education. Applicant will need to submit a short response to a given prompt. \$1,500.	9/30
<a href="#">U.S. Bank Scholarship Program</a>	Complete a series of Financial Genius for Life online learning modules for a chance to win \$20,000.	9/30

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**SAVE THE DATES!** To view the Calendar of Events for WAGU and also partner events related to access, visit: <http://www.gearup.wa.gov/calendar>.

- **EWU Fall Information Night: Tacoma.** Take advantage of this opportunity to meet with an admissions representative and a current student who will answer your questions about life on campus, the programs that interest you, and the admissions and financial aid process. Sept. 13.
- **WSU Vancouver: A to Z Paying for College Workshop.** Learn about the different ways to pay for college. Free and open to all, no matter which college you choose. Sept. 13.
- **Saint Martin's Open House.** You will be able to interact with their world-class professors, explore the academic and athletic facilities, visit residence halls, and have all of your questions about the admissions and financial aid processes answered. Sept. 17.
- **WSU Future Cougar Day.** See what it's like to be a Cougar in Pullman. Sept. 17.
- **EWU Fall Information Night: Bellevue.** Sept. 21.
- **PNACAC Regional College Fair.** Save the date! Attendance is free and open to students, parents, and educators. Oct. 21-22- Seattle, Oct. 25- Spokane, Oct. 23- Portland.

gearup.wa.gov

