

Washington State Financial Aid Information Session



Washington State
**OFFICE OF
EQUITY**



Welcome from the Office of Equity



Megan Matthews
(she | her)

Director for the Office of
Equity



Washington State
**OFFICE OF
EQUITY**



Welcome from the Washington Student Achievement Council



Christina Winstead
(she | her)

Associate Director for
College Access Initiatives





What Will I Learn Today?

Washington State Financial Aid Programs

- WA Grant
- College Bound
- Passport Program

Tools and Resources to Support Financial Aid Completion



Financial Aid Is 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 schools 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 non-profits, business, churches, etc.



Washington State Financial Aid & theWashboard.org

Washington College Grant

College Bound

State Work-Study

Passport to Careers

Opportunity Grant

Washington Bridge Grant



WASHINGTON
OPPORTUNITY PATHWAYS





Grant Overview

A grant is gift aid that is often based on financial need and does not need to be repaid (unless, for example, you withdraw from school and owe a refund).





Washington College Grant (WA Grant)




Washington State has made a groundbreaking commitment to financial aid for low- and middle-income people of all ages with the **Washington College Grant** (WA Grant). People may be eligible for free college or career training like certificate programs, job training, and apprenticeships.

Free money for career training, college, or an apprenticeship—it's possible!




Washington College Grant provides a unique opportunity.

With the Washington College Grant (WCG), more families are eligible for financial aid than ever before.

Family Size	Full Award	Partial Award
 Eligible Student Family of 1	Income \$40,500 or less	Income Up to \$62,500

Award amounts vary based on income, family size, and the school or program attended.

 Eligible Student Family of 4	\$78,500 or less	Up to \$131,000
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State Financial Aid Calculator

This tool calculates potential awards from the Washington College Grant and Pell Grant programs.

There may be more aid available to you from other state and federal programs, private scholarships, or directly from the college you attend.

The only way to know for sure how much financial aid you can receive is to complete a FAFSA or WASFA financial aid application

Financial Aid Calculator

Enter family information

The following information is used to determine your WCG award.

Please note: if you are considered a dependent student, you should use your and your parents information; if you are considered an independent student, you should use your and your spouse's (if married) information.

1. How many people are in your family, including yourself?

2. How many members of your family, including you, will be attending college in the academic year for which you are applying (Note: only include those family members you used in question 1 above)?

3. How much combined annual income does your family make, to the nearest \$500?

To learn how your award is calculated, see: <https://wsac.wa.gov/wcg-awards>.

[← Back](#)

[Estimated family contribution →](#)

portal.wsac.wa.gov/a/aid-calculator



College Bound Program



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



Can be used at over **65** two- and four-year public and private colleges and universities.



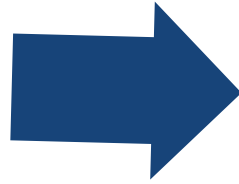
collegebound@wsac.wa.gov
o 888-535-0747, opción 1



College Bound Commitment Eligibility and Auto-Enrollment: A Two-Step Process

Step One

- 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.



Step Two

- Fulfill the College Bound Pledge.
- Meet income and residency requirements.
- Be accepted to and attend an eligible college within one year of graduation.
- **There is no longer a 5-year window.**
- **There is no longer a GPA requirement for students attending CTC**



Passport to Careers -

Supporting Former Foster Youth and Unaccompanied Homeless Youth



Passport to College Promise Scholarship

- Comprehensive supports from high school to higher education

Passport to Apprenticeship Opportunities

- Career-related training under state approved pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs



FAFSA/WASFA: Rule of One

FAFSA

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- FAFSA.gov

OR

WASFA

- Washington Application for State Financial Aid
- <https://wsac.wa.gov/wasfa>



Students and families are asked to provide personal information when applying for financial aid. It's a necessary part of the process, but it's natural to have concerns about privacy. Anyone uncomfortable with submitting a federal FAFSA form can use the WASFA to apply only for state aid; however, they will miss out on any federal aid they could be eligible for. Whether applying with [FAFSA](#) or, [WASFA](#) students and families should read any available privacy statements to understand where their data is going and how it is used.



Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

ENGLISH | ESPAÑOL

Federal Student Aid
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

PROUD SPONSOR of
the AMERICAN MIND®

Q Search FAFSA® Help

Prepare for College

Types of Aid

Who Gets Aid

FAFSA®: Apply for Aid

How to Repay Your Loans

Home » FAFSA®: Apply for Aid

FAFSA®: Apply for Aid

Use the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)* form to apply for financial aid for college or grad school.

NEW TO THE FAFSA® PROCESS?

Completing the FAFSA form is free. Fill it out now.

[START HERE >](#)

RETURNING USER?

Correct info • Add a school
View your *Student Aid Report (SAR)*

[LOG IN >](#)



FAFSA Website Language Options

Home » FAFSA®: Apply for Aid

FAFSA®: Apply for Aid

Use the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college or grad school.

NEW TO THE FAFSA® PROCESS? **RETURNING USER?**

Completing the FAFSA form is free. Fill it out now. Correct info • Add a school
View your *Student Aid Report* (SAR)

English

Home » FAFSA®: solicitar ayuda económica

FAFSA®: solicitar ayuda económica

Utilice el formulario *Solicitud Gratuita de Ayuda Federal para Estudiantes* (FAFSA®) para solicitar ayuda económica para pagar la universidad o los estudios de posgrado.

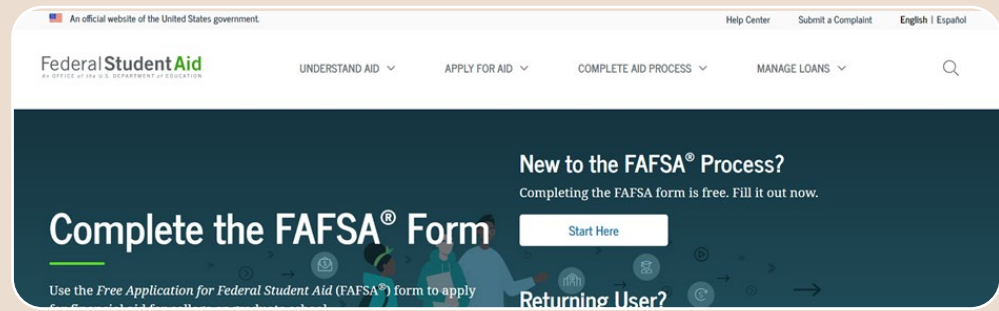
¿ES USTED NUEVO PARA EL PROCESO DE LA FAFSA®? **¿ES USTED UN USUARIO QUE REGRESA?**

Llenar el formulario FAFSA es gratuito. Llénelo ahora mismo. Corregir info • Agregar una institución educativa

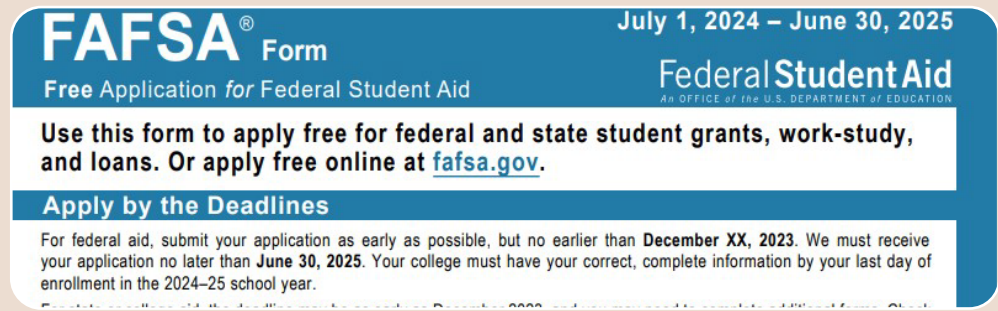
Spanish



Two Ways to Apply for the FAFSA



Website



Paper FAFSA



FSA ID – The First Step to the FAFSA

Social Security
Number

Their own mobile
phone number
and/or email
address

Create an Account (FSA ID)



Parents



Students



Borrowers

Whether you're a student, parent, or borrower, you'll need to create your own account to complete federal student aid tasks.

What You Can Use Your Account For

- Filling out the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)* form
- Signing your *Master Promissory Note (MPN)*
- Applying for repayment plans
- Completing loan counseling
- Using the *Public Service Loan Forgiveness Help Tool*

Items Needed to Create an Account

- Social Security number
- Your own mobile phone number and/or email address

Get Started

or

Log In

Create an Account (FSA ID)

Step 1 of 7

Personal Information

I understand that I'll be required to certify that the information I provide to create an account (FSA ID) is true and correct and that I'm the individual I claim to be.

If I'm not the person I claim to be, I understand that I'm not authorized to proceed and that I should exit this form now. If I provide false or misleading information, I understand that I might be subject to a fine, prison time, or both.

First Name

Middle Initial

Last Name

Date of Birth

Month	Day	Year
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Social Security Number

Note: A user can only have one account associated with his or her Social Security number.



Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA)



info@wsac.wa.gov | (360) 753-7800



Select Language Powered by Google Translate

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 - OUTREACH & INITIATIVES ▾
 - NEWS & RESEARCH ▾
-
-

[home](#)

WASFA QUESTIONNAIRE

The Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) is for people who don't file a federal FAFSA application. People who complete a WASFA are applying for state aid. There are various reasons to complete a WASFA instead of a FAFSA:

- A person may not be eligible for federal aid due to:
 - Citizenship or immigration status, including being undocumented.
 - Defaulted federal student loans.
 - Repayments owed on federal grants.
- A person may choose not to apply for federal aid due to:
 - Family members who do not want to file the FAFSA.
 - Other personal reasons.

After you complete the WASFA, the college(s) or program(s) you choose will determine whether you meet [state residency requirements](#) and [state financial aid eligibility](#). State financial aid could include Washington College Grant, the College Bound Scholarship, Passport to Careers, National Guard Grant, or State Work Study.

The following questions will confirm if the WASFA is the correct application for you.

[Start](#)



<https://wsac.wa.gov/WASFA>



WASFA Account Creation – The First Step to the WASFA

You will need
your own email
address

The WASFA is
available in
English and
Spanish

You will need
internet access

Registration Step 1 of 3: Account Creation



Sign Up

Please fill out the form below to create your account.

All the information you provide is confidential. Once you complete the information, your account will be created and you will be able to access the Student Experience Portal.

Email

i Please ensure that this is a valid, permanent email address that you check regularly.

Confirm Email

Password

i New passwords must be at least 8 characters and meet the following:

- 1 upper case (A-Z) characters
- 1 lower case (a-z) characters
- 1 numeric characters (0-9)
- 1 special characters (e.g. !@#\$%^&*)
- Not exceed 2 sequential numbers (e.g. 12, 456, 789)
- Not exceed 2 repeating characters or numbers (e.g. AA, bb, 77, &&)
- Do not include common words or names.

Confirm Password



WASFA Guide



2024–2025 WA Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) 2024–2025

STUDENT INFORMATION	
Student Identity Information Información de identidad del estudiante	
Provide the student's first name, middle name, and last name exactly as it appears on the student's Social Security, DACA, or ITIN card, and provide the student's date of birth. If the student does not have a Social Security, DACA, or ITIN card, the student's first/last name should match the name provided to the student's college(s). Proporcione el nombre, segundo nombre y apellido del estudiante exactamente como aparecen en la tarjeta del Seguro Social, DACA o ITIN del estudiante, y proporcione la fecha de nacimiento del estudiante. Si el estudiante no tiene una tarjeta de Seguro Social, DACA o ITIN, el nombre/apellido del estudiante debe coincidir con el nombre proporcionado a la(s) universidad(es) del estudiante.	
First name Nombre	
Last name Apellido	
Date of birth Fecha de nacimiento MM/DD/YYYY	
Social Security number (SSN) Número de seguro social (SSN)	
Provide the exact number listed on the student's Social Security card, excluding the dashes. If the student does not have a Social Security number, leave blank. Proporcione el número exacto que figura en la tarjeta de Seguro Social del estudiante, excluyendo los guiones. Si el estudiante no tiene un número de Seguro Social, déjelo en blanco.	

How to Complete the WASFA

Washington Application for State Financial Aid

wsac.wa.gov/wasfa



<https://wsac.wa.gov/wasfa>

Tools and Resources to Support Financial Aid Completion





OtterBot Texting Service - Help with Financial Aid & Post-secondary Navigation

OtterBot is a free texting service to support Washington high school students and their parents/guardians. It is designed for students who are enrolled with College Bound.

wsac.wa.gov/otterbot





OtterBot Content Areas

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

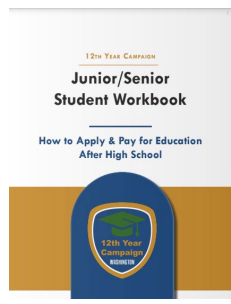
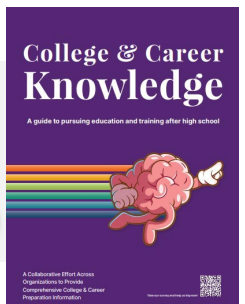
- Orientations
- Class registrations
- Scholarships
- Priority application dates



Resource: The 12th Year Campaign

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 completion events



<https://wsac.wa.gov/12th-year-campaign>



Hello From Your 12th Year Campaign Team!



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WASHINGTON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL

12th Year Campaign



12th Year Campaign Financial Aid Events

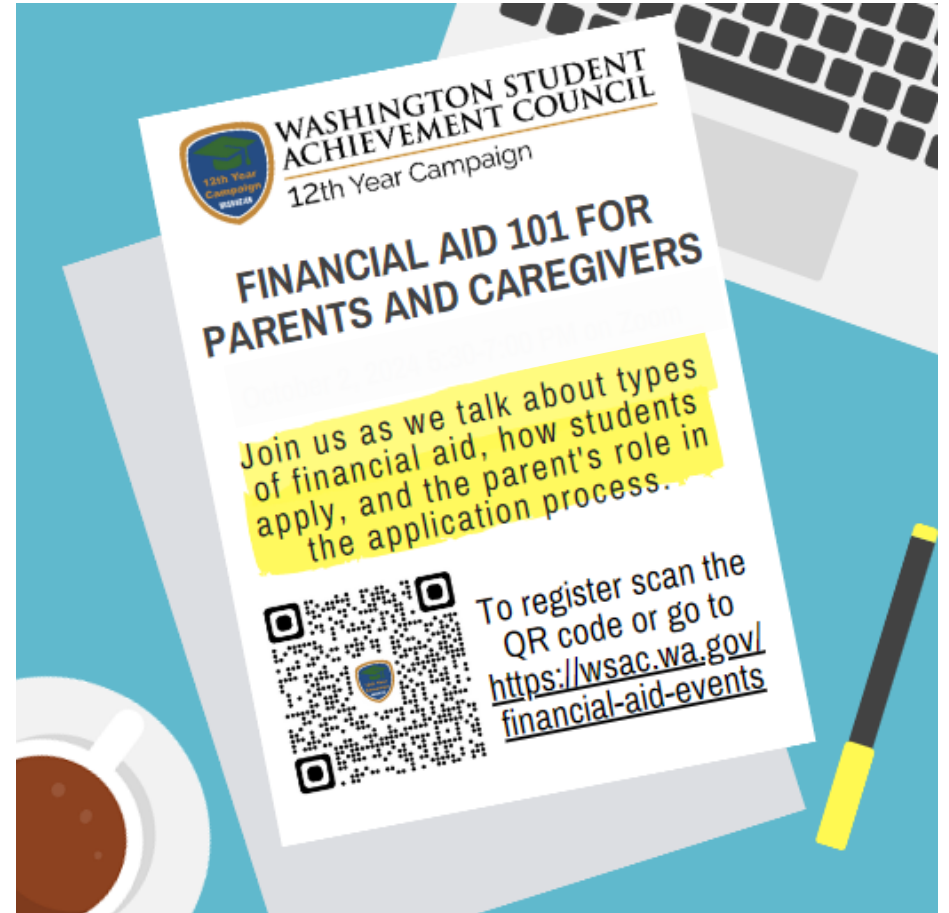
Class of 2025 Financial Aid Nights

Learn More About Paying for Education After High School and
Resources to Help You Take Your Next Steps

To register go to <https://wsac.wa.gov/financial-aid-events>



Hosted on Zoom in English and Spanish



wsac.wa.gov/financial-aid-events



Resource: Financial Aid Events

WASHINGTON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL
EDUCATION · OPPORTUNITY · RESULTS

info@wsac.wa.gov | (360) 753-7800

ABOUT US MEETINGS POLICY FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATION OUTREACH & INITIATIVES NEWS & PUBLICATIONS

12TH YEAR CAMPAIGN

12th Year Campaign

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. This page contains information and resources designed to help schools and partners host a successful financial aid advising day. Explore the different sections below to learn more.

Supporting Washington's Financial Aid Advising Day

Financial aid matters. Nationally, seniors who complete a financial aid application are 84 percent more likely to enroll in postsecondary education. The rate is **even higher for students from lower-income families**. From an apprenticeship program to a two-or-four-year college degree, education beyond high school prepares students for jobs that move them beyond minimum wage. Even a one-year credential program at a community or technical college can increase future earnings.

Districts across Washington have an exciting opportunity to provide students with new support by sharing critical information for planning life after high school. Financial aid advising day, created with the passage of [ESSB 8141](#) in the 2020 Legislative session, is an opportunity to focus on educational equity related to students pursuing postsecondary education.

What is a financial aid advising day?

Learn about the details and requirements of financial aid advising day, as well as the resources the 12th Year Campaign has to support schools.

What is a financial aid advising day?	The 12th Year Campaign is here to help	What should the notification include?
Getting out		

Financial aid advising day lesson plans

Use these easy to implement lesson plans to support your financial aid advising day activities.

Financial Aid 101: Paying for education	Understanding the Washington College Grant	Using the Washington financial aid calculator
Which financial aid application should I use	Creating an FSA ID or WASFA account	

12th Year Campaign and partner materials

OrderBot	Financial aid event materials	More materials
Federal student aid info@graphics	College and Career Pathways handouts	Translated resources

12TH YEAR CONTACT INFORMATION

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360.485.1133

Financial Aid Events

12th Year Campaign Sign up

Financial Aid Resources

WASHINGTON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL
EDUCATION · OPPORTUNITY · RESULTS

info@wsa

ABOUT US MEETINGS STRATEGY & PARTNERSHIPS FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATION

FINANCIAL AID EVENTS

12th Year Campaign

Do you know the steps you need to take to apply for college?
Do you need money for college?

The 12th Year Campaign can help you with two important steps you need to take to go to college: applying for college and applying to file a FAFSA or WASFA financial aid application.

Join one of the events listed below to learn more and get help.

Please note: Most events are offered virtually.

Statewide events

- The College Success Foundation is offering virtual financial aid application support in English and Spanish. Open to any [appointment](#) today!
- Class of 2025 Financial Aid Night webinar** — September 24, 4–5:30 p.m.
Inviting all class of 2025 students to learn about how to pay for education after high school. You will learn about the types of financial aid available and receive support on taking the first step to applying.
Invitando a todos los estudiantes de la clase del 2025 a aprender cómo pagar la educación después de la preparatoria. Con que se le ofrecen y recibirá apoyo para dar el primer paso para solicitarla.
[Register now!](#)

We have created a list of financial aid informational and completion events open to students across WA



Financial Aid Padlet For Students

Christina Winstead + 1 · 1d

Financial Aid Resources for Students

Welcome to our student padlet of financial aid resources. These resources will help you with completing financial aid and admissions applications.

- How to Apply For the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)**
Step #1 - Create an FSA ID
studentaid.gov
Federal Student Aid
This is your first step! Whether you're a student, parent, most families will need to create their own account to complete federal student aid tasks. Some students may have already completed this process. You can create an FSA ID anytime before you start your FAFSA. There are resources below to help you create your FSA ID.
Step #2 - Apply for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)
- How to Apply For The Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA)**
Step #1 - Determine WASFA Eligibility With Questionnaire
wsac.wa.gov
WASFA Questionnaire
You can use this tool to assess yourself for WASFA Eligibility.
Step #2 - Apply for the Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA)
NEW USER & Short on New WASFA
wsac.wa.gov
WASFA (Washington Application for State Financial Aid) | WSAC
The Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) is for people who don't file a federal FAFSA application. People who complete a WASFA are applying for state aid. There are various
- Stuck or Need Help**
A Step-By-Step Guide To Completing The 2022-2023 FAFSA
nitrocollege.com
This is a break down of the 2022-2023 FAFSA, question by question. In this interactive guide (screenshots included), Nitro College clarifies why each question is asked, and how to best answer each one accurately.
12th Year Campaign and Partner Events
Financial Aid Information & Filing Status
google docs
12th Year Campaign Events
The 12th Year Campaign can help you with two important steps you need to take to go to college: applying for college and applying for financial aid. The first step is to file a FAFSA or WASFA financial aid
- Award Letters**
Key Components to Understanding Your Award Letter
award letter worksheet - key components 1
UNDERSTANDING YOUR AWARD LETTER WORKSHEET: LIVING ON-CAMPUS
award letter on campus form
UNDERSTANDING YOUR AWARD LETTER WORKSHEET: LIVING OFF-CAMPUS AND/OR WITH PARENTS
- Other Financial Resources**
Washington State Aid Calculator
portal.wsac.wa.gov
WSAC Aid Calculator
Many undergraduate cover some or all the costs with the Washir Grant (WCG) and Fed Grant (Pell).
To get an estimate, you enter information about size and income. You optionally enter the family contribution (EFC), completed FAFSA or WASFA to estimate an
Federal Student Aid Estimator
studentaid.gov



<https://padlet.com/christinaw12/t6jfitu7m8in10xc>



College Access Resource Padlet for Practitioners

Christina Winstead + 1 • 27d

12th Year Campaign Key to Success Financial Aid Resources

These resources will help you as you plan your Financial Aid Advising Day (FAAD) and support students with financial aid and admissions applications.

FINANCIAL AID UPDATES

BREAKING: 2025-26 FAFSA TO OPEN DECEMBER 1

FSA just announced that the 2025-26 FAFSA will be released on **December 1, 2024, with full, end-to-end functionality**. The outreach tools and resources that typically accompany the form will be released in advance and FAFSA processing will occur within one to three days of submission. If realized, this announcement means that the system will be fully functional for all students on December 1, 2024.

This Week in Financial Aid

Update on Identity Validation Flexibilities for Individuals without Social Security Numbers and Key Remaining Scope for the 2024-25 FAFSA Cycle

2025-26 FAFSA cycle and will not implement any form of restricted status for students or contributors without an SSN.

New 2024-25 FAFSA Issues Identified

Training Opportunities

Washington Council for High School-College Relations (WCHSCR) 2024 Fall Counselor Workshops

2024 Fall Counselor Workshops

These very popular workshops provide professional development for school counselors, career center specialist, HSBP coordinators and those in college-access work. Held in-person and virtually, we're excited to provide current information from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), The State Board of Education (SBE), State

Financial Aid Advising Day Supports

Sample Financial Aid Advising Week Schedule Graphic

FA Advising Week Sample Schedule

If you have more time to implement Financial Aid Advising Day activities. Here is a sample agenda for a Financial Aid Advising Week.

Financial Aid Advising Month Sample Schedule

Financial Aid Events

12th Year Campaign Events

Financial aid events

You can share this list of events with your students. If you are hosting an event and want it added to this list, please email ChristinaW@wsac.wa.gov

Class of 2025 Financial Aid Night Hosted by The 12th Year Campaign

Class of 2025 Financial Aid Night

Learn More About Paying for Education After High School and Resources to Help You Take Your Next Steps

For more information and to register go to <https://highschooler.wa.gov>

May 22, 2024
5:30-6:30pm
Hosted on Zoom in



padlet.com/christinaw12/cxbz1z64bch5jbsf



Washington Financial Aid for Education and Training Videos

Informational videos about education after high school in the following languages:

- English
- Mandarin
- Russian
- Somali
- Spanish
- Tagalog
- Vietnamese



Questions





We Are Here to Help!



Online:

- wsac.wa.gov
- www.thewashboard.org
- wastate529.wa.gov



On Twitter:

- [@WSACouncil](https://twitter.com/WSACouncil)



On Facebook:

- www.facebook.com/WSACouncil