Special thanks to the Washington State Adult Education Advisory Council for their ongoing dedication to Basic Education for Adults and the creation of this document.

Please note:
Financial aid may be available for those who qualify. The information contained in this guide is for informational and navigational support purposes only and is not an assurance of financial aid. Information is subject to change.

The Adult Education Advisory Council and the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges shall not be liable for any errors contained in this material or for incidental or consequential damages in connection with the furnishing or use of this material. The contents of this manual are subject to revision without notice.

Individuals seeking admission to a postsecondary educational institution are encouraged to apply for federal and state financial aid in support of developing a funding plan in order to meet their educational and employment goals. This requires submitting a FAFSA and/or WASFA application to identify all funding possibilities available to each individual.
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Federal Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

FAFSA, the standard form students must complete to apply for federal and state need-based assistance/aid programs and, in some circumstances, campus-based assistance/aid.

www.fafsa.gov

- Ability to Benefit Option- students without a high school credential must either earn 6 college credits or pass an approved Ability to Benefit test before placement on federal aid or the Washington State Need Grant (SNG) and be enrolled in a Title IV (Pell)-eligible pathway program

Contact: Ruben Flores, Policy Associate, Student Services, SBCTC rflores@sbctc.edu

Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) for DREAMers

Washington State offers financial aid programs to students who aren’t eligible for federal financial aid because of immigration status. These students still need to meet other program requirements. www.readysetgrad.org/WASFA

Contact: Becky Thompson, WSAC, beckyt@wsac.wa.gov, 360.753.7840
Types of Funding
Grants, Loans, Work Study, Workforce Transition Supports, Undocumented Students/DREAMers, and other funding sources.

Grants

Federal Pell Grant
Pell Grants are awarded usually only to students who have not earned a bachelor's or a professional degree. To be eligible for a Pell grant, you must also meet the general federal student aid eligibility requirements.

- Student Eligibility:
  - be an undergraduate student who has not yet earned a bachelor's degree
  - be a United States citizen or an eligible non-citizen (usually, a permanent resident)
  - have a high school diploma or a GED® or be able to demonstrate the ability to benefit from the program (see Ability to Benefit (ATB))
  - sign a statement certifying that they will use the aid only for education-related purposes
  - not be currently in default for any federal student loans, and that they owe no refund for any federal education grants
  - maintain satisfactory academic progress in a degree-oriented program as defined by the school they attend
  - must register with the Selective Service if a male between the ages of 18 and 25
  - not receive Pell Grant funds from more than one college at a time

- Allowable Expenditures - Students
  - educational-related purposes (e.g., tuition, fees, textbooks, materials, living expenses, etc.)

- Allowable Expenditures - Program
  - no allowable program support funds

Contact: Ruben Flores, Policy Associate, Student Services, SBCTC rflores@sbctc.edu

Ability to Benefit (ATB)
Provision of the Higher Education Act. Under this provision, otherwise-eligible students who do not have a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent, but who are enrolled in Title IV eligible programs, may qualify for federal financial aid.

- Student Eligibility
  - pass either an approved Ability to Benefit Test or earn 6 college credits before placement on Ability to Benefit
  - be enrolled in a Title IV-eligible career pathway program

- Colleges must:
o maintain documentation that the programs students enroll in are Title IV eligible
o offer students on Ability to Benefit the opportunity to earn a high school credential and at least one recognized postsecondary credential (earning the postsecondary credential is not dependent on earning the high school credential)
o include counseling to support an individual in achieving their education and career goals
o help an individual enter or advance within a specific occupation or occupational cluster

- Allowable Educational Programs
  - Title IV pathway programs with an option to earn a high school credential

- Allowable Expenditures - Students
  o educational-related purposes (e.g., tuition, fees, textbooks, materials, living expenses, etc.)

- Allowable Expenditures - Program
  o no allowable program support funds

Contact: William Durden, Policy Associate-I-BEST, Basic Education for Adults, SBCTC, wdurden@sbctc.edu

Washington State Need Grant (SNG)
Program provides need-based financial aid to income-eligible students pursuing postsecondary education. Additionally, under this provision, otherwise-eligible students who do not have a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent, but who are enrolled in Title IV eligible programs, may qualify for SNG.

- Student Eligibility
  o be a Washington State resident.
  o have a family income at or below the amounts specified in the State Need Grant Family Income Eligibility Chart
  o demonstrate financial need
  o attend classes at one of the eligible institutions in Washington
  o enroll in an eligible program with a minimum of three credits as an undergraduate student
  o pursue a first bachelor’s degree, a certificate, or a first associate degree in any field of student excluding theology
  o make satisfactory academic progress
  o not exceed five years of SNG term usage or 125% of enrolled program length
  o not owe a repayment to another student aid program
  o complete the federal Application for Federal Student Aid, the standard form students must complete to apply for federal and state need-based assistance/aid programs and, in some circumstances, campus-based assistance/aid. www.fafsa.gov
  o students without a high school credential must either pass an approved Ability to Benefit Test or earn 6 college credits before placement on SNG and be enrolled in a Title IV-eligible pathway program
If an individual is not eligible to complete the FAFSA due to immigration status, they still may be eligible to apply for the State Need Grant by completing the Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA). For more information go to www.readysetgrad.org/wasfa.”

- **Allowable Educational Programs**
  - a program of organized instruction or study of a certain length that leads to an academic, professional, or vocational degree or certificate, or other recognized education credential.

- **Allowable Expenditures - Students**
  - educational-related purposes (e.g., tuition, fees, textbooks, materials, living expenses, etc.)

- **Allowable Expenditures - Program**
  - no allowable program support funds

Contact: Becky Thompson, WSAC, beckyt@wsac.wa.gov, 360.753.7840

**Early Achievers Grant**

The Early Achievers Grant is a student financial aid program to help employed child care providers and early learning educators complete certificates and associate degrees in early childhood education.

- **Student Eligibility**
  - be a Washington state resident or have a valid work visa
  - be employed as a child care provider at a child care center, family child care business or Head Start/ECEAP program that is actively participating in the Department of Early Learning’s Early Achievers
  - work a minimum of 10 hours a week or 40 hours a month at an eligible child care program
  - have worked in the eligible program for a minimum of three months
  - intend to enroll in an approved Early Childhood Education program at the college
  - make a formal application to the college

- **Allowable Educational Programs**
  - Certificates and associate degrees in early childhood education

- **Allowable Expenditures - Students**
  - tuition and fees
  - required books and instructional materials
  - Students may also get:
    - Tutoring
    - Career planning
    - Mentoring
    - Loaned textbooks, calculators or laptops
    - College success classes
    - Assistance to mitigate student emergency conditions

- **Allowable Expenditures – Program**
  - no allowable program support funds

Contact: Kathy Goebel, Policy Associate, Workforce Education, SBCTC kgoebel@sbctc.edu
Rural Jobs Program

The rural county high employer demand jobs program is created to meet the workforce needs of business and industry in rural counties by assisting students in earning certificates, associate degrees, or other industry-recognized credentials necessary for employment in high employer demand fields.

- Student Eligibility
  - a resident student who received his or her high school diploma or high school equivalency certificate as provided in RCW 28B.50.536 in Washington
  - has a family income at or below one hundred twenty-five percent of the state median family income at the time the student applies for an opportunity scholarship

- Allowable Educational Programs
  - "Eligible county" has the same meaning as "rural county" as defined in RCW 82.14.370 and also includes any county that shares a common border with Canada and has a population of over one hundred twenty-five thousand.
  - "Eligible education programs" means high employer demand and other programs of study as determined by the board.

- Allowable Expenditures - Students
  - "Eligible expenses" means reasonable expenses associated with the costs of acquiring an education such as tuition, books, equipment, fees, room and board, and other expenses as determined by the program administrator in consultation with the council and the state board for community and technical colleges

- Allowable Expenditures – Program
  - no allowable program support funds

Contact: ??

Institutional Financial Aid Fund (3 ½ Percent Loan Fund)

The fund is used for grants and loans to eligible needy students and are most often used as a grant as opposed to a loan. For full information see RCW 28B.15.820. The applicable part of the RCW is:

- (10) Any moneys deposited in the institutional financial aid fund that are not used in making long-term or short-term loans may be used by the institution for locally administered financial aid programs for needy students, such as need-based institutional employment programs or need-based tuition and fee scholarship or grant programs. These funds shall be used in addition to and not to replace institutional funds that would otherwise support these locally administered financial aid programs. First priority in the use of these funds shall be given to needy students who have accumulated excessive educational loan burdens. An excessive educational loan burden is a burden that will be difficult to repay given employment opportunities and average starting salaries in the student's chosen fields of study. Second priority in the use of these funds shall be given to needy single parents, to assist these students with their educational expenses, including expenses associated with child care and transportation.
• (11) Any moneys deposited in the institutional financial aid fund may be used by the institution for a locally administered financial aid program for high school students enrolled in dual credit programs. If institutions use funds in this manner, the governing boards of the state universities, the regional universities, The Evergreen State College, and the state board for community and technical colleges shall each adopt necessary rules to implement this subsection. Moneys from this fund may be used for all educational expenses related to a student’s participation in a dual credit program including but not limited to tuition, fees, course materials, and transportation.

• Student Eligibility the applicant must:
  o be registered for at least three credit hours or the equivalent
  o be eligible for resident tuition and fee rates
  o be a needy students as defined in RCW 28B.92.030

• Allowable Educational Programs
  o Title IV eligible programs of study

• Allowable Expenditures - Students
  o educational-related purposes (e.g., tuition, fees, textbooks, materials, living expenses, etc.)

• Allowable Expenditures - Program
  o no allowable program support funds

Contact: Ruben Flores, Policy Associate, Student Services, SBCTC rflores@sbctc.edu
Loans

Subsidized Stafford Loans

The Subsidized Stafford Loan is a need-based loan. With this loan, the federal government makes interest payments on your loan at certain times, such as while you are in school or if you are in deferment. (A deferment allows you to temporarily stop making payments on your federal student loans.)

- Student Eligibility
  - enrolled at least half-time at a school that participates in the Direct Loan Program
  - enrolled in a program that leads to a degree or certificate awarded by the school
  - be an undergraduate who has financial need

- Allowable Educational Programs
  - Programs that lead to a degree of certificate awarded by the school

- Allowable Expenditures - Students
  - education related expenses including:
    - Tuition and fees
    - Room and board (including off-campus housing)
    - Books and supplies
    - Transportation (cost of travel to/from school, but not for purchase of a vehicle)
    - Miscellaneous personal expenses
    - Cost of rental or purchase of required equipment, materials, and supplies
    - Personal computer (if enrolled at least half-time)
    - Dependent care expenses
    - Disability-related expenses
    - Loan fees
    - Licensing and certification fees for students enrolled in programs requiring the student to obtain professional licensure or certification
    - Reasonable costs associated with a study abroad program approved for credit at the student’s home institution
    - Expenses associated with a cooperative education program
  - room and board including
    - On-campus in housing that is owned or operated by the college
    - At home with parents (only applies to students without dependents)
    - In housing on a military base or for which a basic housing allowance (BHA) is provided (allowance restricted to board; room is excluded because it is already paid for)
    - Off-campus

- Allowable Expenditures – Program
  - no allowable program support funds

Contact: Ruben Flores, Policy Associate, Student Services, SBCTC rflores@sbctc.edu
Unsubsidized Stafford Loans

The Unsubsidized Stafford Loan is not need-based. With an unsubsidized Stafford loan, you are responsible for interest payments, even while you are in college. You can either make interest payments while you’re in college or postpone them. If you postpone interest payments, interest will accrue (accumulate) and be capitalized (that is, your interest will be added to the principal amount of your loan).

- Student Eligibility
  - US citizen, national, or eligible non-citizen
  - have received a high school diploma or equivalent
  - enrolled at least half-time in an eligible degree or certificate program
  - not in default on any existing federal student loans
  - meet general eligibility requirements for federal student aid

- Allowable Educational Programs
  - Programs that lead to a degree of certificate awarded by the school

- Allowable Expenditures – Students
  - cost of attendance including
    - Tuition and fees
    - Room and board
    - Books
    - Supplies
    - Equipment
    - Transportation
    - Miscellaneous personal expenses

- Allowable Expenditures – Program
  - no allowable program support funds

Contact: Ruben Flores, Policy Associate, Student Services, SBCTC rflores@sbctc.edu

Parent Plus Loans

Parent Plus loans are not need-based and they require interest payments. These are for parents of a dependent student to help with the cost of a student's education. Eligible borrowers include: biological or adoptive parent; stepparent if married to the student’s parent; grandparent, aunts, uncles, other relatives only if they have legally adopted the student.

- Student Eligibility
  - must be enrolled in school on at least a half-time basis
  - male students must have registered with the Selective Service (not required for father)
  - students and parents must be U.S. citizens or nationals, permanent residents, or eligible noncitizens
  - students and parents can’t be in default on a federal student loan

- Allowable Educational Programs
  - programs that lead to a degree of certificate awarded by the school

- Allowable Expenditures - Students
  - Parent PLUS Loan proceeds must be used for educational purposes including:
    - Tuition and fees
    - Room and board
- Books
- Supplies
- Equipment
- Transportation
- Miscellaneous personal expenses

• Allowable Expenditures – Program
  o no allowable program support funds

Contact:
Work Study

Federal Work Study
The work-study program subsidizes the paychecks of college and graduate students who work qualifying part-time, typically on-campus jobs. Participants can use funds earned through work-study to pay for college expenses.

- **Student Eligibility**
  - Undergraduate, graduate, and professional students who demonstrate financial need
  - be a part time or full time students
  - in addition to the rules provided by the Work Study Program, the schools may provide their own restrictions

- **Allowable Educational Programs**
  - programs that lead to a degree of certificate awarded by the school participating in the Federal Work-Study program

- **Allowable Expenditures - Students**
  - postsecondary educational expenses

- **Allowable Expenditures – Program**
  - Costs associated with administering the Federal Work Study program: staff, goods and services, indirect
  - Provides funding for part-time work opportunities for eligible students

Contact: Ruben Flores, Policy Associate, Student Services, SBCTC rflores@sbctc.edu

State Work Study
State Work Study is financial aid for low- and middle-income students. Qualifying students get an approved job, on- or off-campus, to support their education. Work study builds students’ skills, increases their earnings, and reduces reliance on student loans. Many employers hire work study employees on a permanent basis after graduation.

- **Student Eligibility**
  - file for financial aid by completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) or WASFA (Washington Application for State Financial Aid).
  - **Note:** U.S. citizens and eligible non-citizens should complete the FAFSA. Students who are ineligible for federal financial aid but who have DACA (Deferred Action for Early Childhood Arrivals) status should file the WASFA. For more information on which form to file, see our WASFA questionnaire
  - be a resident of Washington State
  - enroll at least half-time in an eligible program at a participating college or university
  - not be pursuing a degree in theology
  - not owe a refund or repayment, or be in default in another financial aid program
  - maintain satisfactory academic progress
  - be able to work legally in the United States

- **Allowable Educational Programs**
  - programs that lead to a degree of certificate awarded by the school participating in the state Work-Study program
• Allowable Expenditures - Students
  o postsecondary educational expenses
• Allowable Expenditures – Program
  o Costs associated with administering the state Work Study program: staff, goods and services, indirect
  o provides funding for part-time work opportunities for eligible students
Contact: Becky Thompson, WSAC, beckyt@wsac.wa.gov, 360.753.7840 or Jaclyn Molloy, Program Manager, sws@wsac.wa.gov, 360.753.7848

WorkFirst Work Study
WorkFirst Work Study is financial aid and placement in a work site that provides mentoring. Qualifying students get an approved job, on- or off-campus, to support their education. Work study builds students’ skills, increases their earnings, and reduces reliance on student loans. WorkFirst work study only reduces the student’s basic food assistance by $1 for every $3 earned, whereas other subsidized or unsubsidized employment reducing the students basic food assistance dollar for dollar. Many employers hire work study employees on a permanent basis after graduation.
Whenever possible, Work Study jobs should relate to the training and career plans of the students. When establishing Work Study positions, institutions must avoid displacement or supplanting of current employees. Placements can be either non-profit or for profit locations, on campus or off and must be non-secular. All WorkFirst Work Study must be awarded through the financial aid system. Work Study is subsidized paid employment not to exceed 19 hours per week, preferably in a job that enhances the student’s employability.
• Student Eligibility
  o Be receiving TANF
  o Be enrolled in courses at a community and technical college
  o Meet local WorkFirst college program requirements (sometimes based on capacity)
• Allowable Educational Programs
  o Professional-Technical, English Language Acquisition or Basic Education for Adults
• Allowable Expenditures - Students
  o 100% funding of student Salaries and Benefits including L&I and Paid Sick Leave
• Allowable Expenditures – Program
  o Costs associated with administering the WorkFirst Work Study program: staff, goods and services, indirect
Contact: LinhPhung Huynh, Program Administrator, Workforce Education, SBCTC, lhuyph@sbctc.edu
Workforce Transition Supports

Opportunity Grant

Recruit and retain underserved students for high-wage, high-demand career pathways

- Student Eligibility
  - family income at or below 200% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
- Allowable Educational Programs
  - only SBCTC approved high-wage, high-demand prof-tech programs
- Allowable Expenditures - Students
  - tuition and fees for 45 college-level credits
  - $1,000/yr. for books and supplies
  - some support services: tutoring, career advising, colleges success classes, emergency childcare/transportation support
- Allowable Expenditures - Program
  - no allowable program support funds

Contact: Ruben Flores, Policy Associate, Student Services, SBCTC rflores@sbctc.edu

Basic Food Employment & Training (BFET)

Also known nationally as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Serve recipients of state food assistance to move them towards self-sustaining employment

- Student Eligibility
  - 16 or older
  - not receiving TANF
  - receiving state basic food assistance
- Allowable Educational Programs
  - prof-tech certificates and degree programs
  - basic Education for Adults, High School Completion, English Language Acquisition
- Allowable Expenditures - Students
  - tuition, books, supplies
  - transportation, housing, medical needs, clothing, tools
- Allowable Expenditures - Program
  - costs associated with administering BFET: staff, goods and services, indirect
  - staffing for BFET student-facing activities

Contact: Jennifer Dellinger, Program Administrator, Workforce Education, SBCTC, jdellinger@sbctc.edu

Resources to Initiate Successful Employment (RISE)

- Student Eligibility
  - BFET eligibility applies and then students are randomized into the RISE pilot
- Allowable Educational Programs
  - prof-tech certificates and degree programs
  - basic Education for Adults, High School Completion, English Language Acquisition
- Allowable Expenditures - Students
  - tuition, books, supplies
- transportation, housing, medical needs, clothing, tools
- work study
- Allowable Expenditures - Program
  - costs associated with administering BFET: staff, goods and services, indirect
  - staffing for BFET student-facing activities including intensive case-management

Contact: Jennifer Dellinger, Program Administrator, Workforce Education, SBCTC, jdellinger@sbctc.edu

WorkFirst

Provide workforce education and wrap-around support to TANF recipients, to ensure equitable access, retention, completion at our colleges and employment in a family-wage job

- Student Eligibility
  - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipient referred by DSHS
- Allowable Educational Programs
  - prof-tech certificates and degree programs (up to 24 months)
  - Basic Education for Adult, High School Completion, English Language Acquisition
  - Life Skills
- Allowable Expenditures - Students
  - Tuition, fees, books (No support services)
  - Work Study
- Allowable Expenditures - Program
  - costs for administering WorkFirst: staff, goods and services, indirect
  - staffing for WorkFirst student-facing activities

Contact: LinhPhung Huynh, Program Administrator, Workforce Education, SBCTC, lhuyhn@sbctc.edu, 360.70.4341

Worker Retraining

Provides financial supports to dislocated workers and other un- or underemployed students in workforce education programs or exclusively basic skills. The goal is to help these workers reconnect to the economy in wage-gain employment.

- Student Eligibility
  - one of several dislocated, unemployed, or vulnerable worker categories.
  - Information on these categories are described in detail in the program guidelines, available at www.sbctc.edu.
- Allowable Educational Programs
  - professional-Technical certificates and degrees
  - exclusively enrolled in basic skills
- Allowable Expenditures - Students
  - tuition, books, fees
  - transportation, childcare, other support services
  - training Completion Aid - direct grants, internship/workplace learning
- Allowable Expenditures - Program
  - support administration of the WRT program, WRT student services, or the provision of high-wage, high-demand educational programming
Labor & Industries (L&I) Workers’ Compensation

- Student Eligibility:
  - Injured workers with an open, compensable claim (on wage replacement or time-loss compensation) who are unable to use previous work skills due to the effects of their injury or occupational disease, and have been determined likely to benefit from retraining.
  - About one hundred workers are determined to be eligible each month. (Not all injured workers are entitled to vocational benefits under a claim. Most injured workers do not miss work or quickly return to work without utilizing vocational retraining benefits).

- Allowable Educational Programs
L&I is required by law (RCW 51.32.096)(3)(b)) to use only training providers (schools) that are licensed, accredited, or exempt from licensure and approved by L&I for worker retraining. This includes programs offered by:
  - Public schools
  - Private schools

- Allowable Expenditures – Students
An eligible worker may receive up to two years of retraining and up to $17,885 to spend on tuition, books, tools, equipment, etc. associated with the program. The maximum monetary benefit is adjusted July 1 each year.

- Allowable Expenditures – Program
Labor and Industries has staff dedicated to assisting workers in returning to work, including those workers that need retraining. Private vocational counselors are also utilized in providing these services.

Contact: Karen Ahrens, L&I Vocational Schools and Workforce Training Board Liaison; RTW Partnerships, Ahrens, Karen M (LNI) AHRE235@LNI.WA.GOV, P: (360) 902-4529
Undocumented Student/DREAMers

Real Hope Act & WASFA

Allows undocumented non-citizens, who are unable to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) due to his/her immigration status, to apply for State Financial Aid through the Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) application.

- Student Eligibility
  - Must have graduated from a Washington high school or obtained a GED® (or will do so before beginning college)
  - Must have lived in Washington for three years prior to, and continuously since, earning a high school diploma or equivalent
  - Sign an affidavit (written promise) to file an application to become a permanent resident of the United States when eligible to apply
  - Must meet Washington State Need Grant Program requirements

- Allowable Educational Programs
  - a program of organized instruction or study of a certain length that leads to an academic, professional, or vocational degree or certificate, or other recognized education credential.

- Allowable Expenditures - Students
  - educational-related purposes (e.g., tuition, fees, textbooks, materials, living expenses, etc.)

- Allowable Expenditures – Program
  - no allowable program support funds

Contact: Ruben Flores, Policy Associate, Student Services, SBCTC rflores@sbctc.edu

HB1079 Affidavit

HB 1079 allows eligible undocumented students to pay in-state tuition at Washington state colleges and universities.

- Student Eligibility
  - must meet State Need Grant eligibility requirements
  - have graduated from a Washington state high school or obtained the equivalent equivalency certificate (e.g., GED, Washington State High School Diploma issued by a community or technical college, etc.)
  - continuously lived in the state of Washington after receiving the diploma or its equivalent and until such time as the student is admitted to an institution of higher education

- Allowable Educational Programs
  - a program of organized instruction or study of a certain length that leads to an academic, professional, or vocational degree or certificate, or other recognized education credential.

- Allowable Expenditures - Students
  - educational-related purposes (e.g., tuition, fees, textbooks, materials, living expenses, etc.)

- Allowable Expenditures – Program
  - no allowable program support funds
Contact: Ruben Flores, Policy Associate, Student Services, SBCTC rflores@sbctc.edu or Gail Wooten, WSAC
Other Funding Sources

Passport to College for Foster Youth

Assists students from foster care attend and succeed in college. Passport is a comprehensive program providing support to students from high school through higher education completion. Provides former foster youth with financial assistance beyond other state, federal, private, and institutional financial aid for which they are eligible.

- Student Eligibility
  - spend at least one year in foster care in Washington state after your 16th birthday.
  - be a resident of Washington State
  - enroll at least half-time in an eligible college by the age of twenty-two
  - not already have a bachelor's degree
  - not pursue a degree in theology.

- Allowable Educational Programs
  - a program of organized instruction or study of a certain length that leads to an academic, professional, or vocational degree or certificate, or other recognized education credential.

- Allowable Expenditures - Students
  - educational-related purposes (e.g., tuition, fees, textbooks, materials, living expenses, etc.)

- Allowable Expenditures – Program
  - provides campus incentive funding to postsecondary institutions that designate campus support staff and take other steps to recruit and retain former foster youth

Contact: Dawn Cypriano-McAverty, Program Manager, passporttocollege@wsac.wa.gov, 888.535.0747, option 3

Washington State Opportunity Scholarship (WSOS)

Supports low- and middle-income Washington students pursuing eligible high-demand majors in science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) or health care. The recipients are encouraged to work in Washington once they complete their degrees. New legislation expands to include students pursuing:

1) Sub-baccalaureate professional and technical degree and certification programs offered at our state’s 34 community and technical colleges;
2) High-demand graduate medical education programs who complete a service obligation in rural or underserved communities.

- Student Eligibility
  - a Washington state resident
  - a recipient of a high school diploma or GED from a Washington state high school or institution
  - pursuing an eligible high-demand major in STEM or health care
  - working toward a first bachelor’s degree (including applied baccalaureate degrees)
  - enrolling in an eligible Washington state college or university. For community and technical colleges that do not offer a four-year degree in an eligible major,
the student must intend to transfer by the time she/he has earned 90 quarter credits.
  o at least half-time college student.
  o a high school senior or college student who will have completed six or fewer quarters when applying, have a GPA of at least a 2.75 (on 4.0 scale), and filed a FAFSA.

- Allowable Educational Programs
  o high demand majors in science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) or healthcare with the student intent of working toward a first bachelor’s degree

- Allowable Expenditures – Students
  o educational-related purposes (e.g., tuition, fees, textbooks, materials, living expenses, etc.)

- Allowable Expenditures - Program
  o no allowable program support funds

Contact: 1414 31st Ave S., Ste. 302 | Seattle, WA 98144, 206.800.8025/877.899.5002 (toll free), info@waopportunityscholarship.org

Veterans Education Benefits (GI Bill®)
CH 33 GI Bill® tuition benefits are paid directly to the institution.

- Student Eligibility
  o Post 9/11 GI Bill® benefit are based on length of qualifying service. Veterans may receive benefits according to length of service at the 40 % to 100% level
  o once separated from the service, individuals discharging prior to August 1, 2013 have 10 years to use all of their benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill® and 15 years to use post-9/11 GI Bill® benefits. The Colmery Act (also called the Forever GI Bill®) removes the delimiting date for those that discharged on or after August 1, 2013. (This applies only to CH 33 – CH 30 still has a 10 year delimiting date).
  o you may receive a percentage of the following payments, based on qualifying service time.
    ▪ a Tuition and Fee payment that is paid to your school on your behalf.
    ▪ a Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA)** that is equal to: the basic allowance for housing (BAH) payable for the zip code of your school to a military E-5 with dependents for students pursuing resident training. As of August 1, 2018, the MHA for in-residence courses is based on the location where the student takes the majority of their classes. Student must be enrolled at more than ½ time pursuit to receive MHA. The MHA is also based on the students training time at the institution.
    ▪ one-half the MHA national average for students training solely by distance learning for student enrolled at more than ½ time (also tied to the student’s training time).
    ▪ the national average MHA for students pursuing training at foreign schools
    ▪ up to $1000 a year for books and supplies
    ▪ tuition and fees are paid directly to the school for all Chapter 33 benefit recipients (based on the individual’s benefit tier).
- for those attending private schools, tuition and fees are capped at the national maximum rate. The rate for 2017-2018 is $22,805.34. Again, payment is based on the individual’s benefit tier.
  - The Montgomery GI Bill® payment rates are based on several factors, the biggest being the individual’s credit load. For example a full-time student using the Montgomery GI Bill® will get up to $1,928, while a half-time student will only get half that amount.

- Allowable Educational Programs
  - Post 9/11 GI Bill®:
    - college degrees; associate, bachelor, or higher
    - vocational/technical training including non-college programs
    - on-the-job/apprenticeship programs
    - Licensing & certification reimbursement
    - National Testing programs like CLEP, AP, etc.
    - flight training
    - correspondence training
    - work-study
    - tuition assistance Top-UP
    - tutorial assistance
  - Allowable Expenditures – Students
    - under the Post-9/11 GI Bill®, for programs offered at non-degree granting schools:
      - individuals receive the actual net costs for in-state tuition and fees or the national maximum, whichever is less. Tuition and fees are paid directly to the school
      - monthly housing allowance is paid based on the location where the student takes the majority of their classes (starting August 1, 2018)
      - up to $83 per month is available for books and supplies
      - a one-time rural benefit amount (see GI Bill®, website for details)
      - allows eligible service members to transfer their unused benefits to family members
  - The Montgomery GI Bill® provides a stipend directly to the qualified individual for:
    - tuition
    - books
    - fees
    - rent
  - Other GI Bill® programs, for programs offered at non-degree granting schools:
    - VA pays a monthly rate that varies depending on which GI Bill® program the individual is entitled to and how long their qualifying military service was.

- Allowable Expenditures - Program
  - no allowable program support funds

Contact: [www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill), 1-888-442-4551.

Program Approval: WSAC/SAA 360-753-7868/Workforce SAA 360-709-4627
Open Doors Youth Reengagement

A K-12 dropout reengagement system that provides education and services to older youth, ages 16-21, who have dropped out of school or are not expected to graduate from high school by the age of 21.

- **Student Eligibility**
  - older than 16 and younger than twenty one by September 1
  - has not met graduation requirements
  - left high school, and/or
  - severely credit deficient, and/or
  - determined to be best fit by designated school official
- **Allowable Educational Programs**
  - GED Preparation
  - high school completion
  - pre-apprenticeship
  - career and technical education
  - college-level courses, both professional/technical and academic transfer
- **Allowable Expenditures - Students**
  - educational-related purposes (e.g., tuition, fees, textbooks, materials, etc.)
  - student support emergency services (rent, transportation, food, etc.)
- **Allowable Expenditures – Program**
  - case management
  - instruction delivery
  - administration and support

Contact: Laurie Shannon, Program Supervisor Reengagement and Truancy, OSPI 360.725.4472, Laurie.Shannon@k12.wa.us

Running Start

Running Start is a statewide partnership between community and technical colleges and local high schools. The program allows high school juniors and seniors to attend the college tuition-free and have the credits count for both high school and college credit. College credits are paid for by the high school, saving families money as students begin their college careers.

- **Student Eligibility**
  - Under the age of 21 prior to September 1
  - Has not received a high school diploma
  - Resident of a Washington state school district
  - Eligible under district grade placement policies to be in the eleventh or twelfth grade
- **Allowable Educational Programs**
  - Any Associate Degree, including an associate of arts degree, associate of science degree, associate of technology degree, or associate in applied science degree.
- **Allowable Expenditures – Students**
  - Waives student tuition, student still required to pay for fees and books
  - Tuition and book waivers available for low income students, typically evidenced by eligibility for free or reduced-price lunch
- **Allowable Expenditures – Program**
- case management
- instruction delivery
- administration and support

Contact: Ruben Flores, Policy Associate, Student Services, SBCTC rflores@sbctc.edu
Resources

Federal Student Aid
Free application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) [https://fafsa.ed.gov/](https://fafsa.ed.gov/)

Washington State Student Aid
Washington Application for Student Financial Aid (WASFA) [www.readysetgrad.org/WASFA](http://www.readysetgrad.org/WASFA)

Start Next Quarter
The StartNextQuarter.org is a web-based tool that can help students understand if they might be eligible for Workforce Transitions funding at a community or technical college. Students answer a series of questions relating to the eligibility requirements of the funding programs, and the tool then identifies which, if any, of the funding programs they may be eligible for. Students then have the option to provide their name and basic contact information so they can sign-up directly with the college nearest them to take the next step towards enrolling and securing financial help. [StartNextQuarter.org](https://startnextquarter.org)

WIOA Title I Programs and Wagner-Peyser
WIOA Title I programs and Wagner-Peyser are mandated to provide the career services. There is a natural alignment of service delivery under Wagner-Peyser since all individuals legally entitled to work in the U.S. are eligible for these services.

There are three types of career services: basic, individualized, and follow-up. There is no sequence requirement for these services. They can be provided in any order to provide flexibility in targeting services to the needs of the job seeker or worker customer.

Basic Career Services are universally accessible and must be made available to all individuals seeking employment and training services in at least one comprehensive American Job Center per local area. Generally, these services involve less staff time and involvement and include services such as: eligibility determination, initial skill assessments, labor exchange services, information on program and services, and program referrals.

Individualized Career Services must be provided to participants after American Job Center staff determine that such services are required to retain or obtain employment. Generally, these services involve significant staff time and customization to each individual’s need. Individualized career services include services such as: specialized assessments, developing an individual employment plan, career counseling, work experiences, etc.

Follow Up Services are provided to WIOA enrolled participants who are placed in unsubsidized employment for up to 12 months after the first day of employment. Follow up services may include career counseling and barrier removal.

Staff-assisted Wagner-Peyser employment services fall under the category of basic career services and must be provided in coordination with other one-stop center partners. Wagner-Peyser staff can also provide individualized career services in coordination with other one-stop center partners. Although Wagner-Peyser employment services are available to all individuals, only those who are legally entitled to work in the U.S. can obtain employment.

Training services are funded and provided to jobseekers under the WIOA Title I programs. Individuals provided training services funded by WIOA Title I must be registered, determined eligible and in need of additional service beyond career services to obtain or retain
As part of the aforementioned eligibility process, individuals must receive, at a minimum, an interview, evaluation or assessment and career planning or other means by which eligibility for WIOA-funded training services can be determined.

For detailed Title I eligibility information, go to:

For additional Title I information, go to:
https://wpc.wa.gov/adm/policy/state/WIOA

employment.
Navigator Scenarios and Examples for Developing Braided Funding Plans to Meet Students’ Educational and Employment Goals

Scenario 1:

Situation 1: Hector is a 25 year-old HS 21+ student who is currently taking Adult Basic Education Courses at a community college. He is missing one English credit, one occupational credit, and a health credit to complete his high school diploma. He desires to begin working towards a college certificate and degree. He would like to begin in an ECE I-BEST program next quarter. Once he receives his AA degree, he wants to transfer to a university to complete an early education teaching degree. He has two school aged children and has recently been divorced. Hector is a Basic Food Recipient

Funding Plan 1:

Scenario 2:

Situation 2: Maria Joao is twenty years old and single. She graduated from Bothell High School and has lived in Washington State since she was five-years old. She is still working on improving her English and taking ELA courses at a community college. She now wants to pursue a welding certificate and has been accepted into an I-BEST program. She is undocumented and does not have the resources to attend college.

Funding Plan 2:

Scenario 3:

Situation 3: Joel is 19 years old and dropped out of high school in his senior year. He lives at home and his parents are both disabled and on disability. He now wants to get a GED® or high school diploma, but would also like to work on a certificate in manufacturing at the same time. He has no idea what possibilities are available to him in order to pay for college.

Funding Plan 3:

Scenario 4:

Situation 4: Ameer is 25 years old and has applied for asylum. He has lived in Washington for two years. His status is currently pending but he has a work permit and is interested in pursuing a degree in IT. He’d like to do a professional technical IT program that could lead to a Bachelor’s degree in the future.
Funding Plan 4:

Scenario 5:

**Situation 5:** Janet is a 22 year old single mother of 2 young children. She does not work, is on unemployment which will expire in 3 months, and lives with her parents. Janet dropped out of high school half way through her senior year, and has been attending ABE classes working on improving her ACCUPLACER scores in hopes of being college level ready in ENGL and MATH. Janet plans to apply for the nursing program at her college after she completes her prerequisite courses.

Funding Plan 5:

Scenario 6:

**Situation 6:** Olga is an immigrant to the US. She has a bachelor’s equivalent college degree in business from her home country. She wants to get a job as soon as possible, but realizes that she needs to improve her English skills. She has also been told that she needs to earn a new degree in the US. She currently lives with her mother and brother who are also immigrants. She receives food benefits.

Funding Plan 6: