



High School & Beyond Planning — News & Information

January 2017 12th Grade

Searching For Scholarships

Scholarships for college are given to students for good grades, athletic ability, community service, or other qualities, traits, or abilities. Businesses, organizations, and universities award scholarships to a variety of students.

Scholarships range in both amounts and competitiveness. For example, a local scholarship may offer \$500 for one year, but will only be open to seniors at your high school, while a national scholarship may offer \$10,000 for four years of college, but will be open to students across the country. Here's how your student can get the most out of the scholarship application process:

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- Search (and apply) for scholarships on sites like <u>thewashboard.org</u>, <u>bigfuture.collegeboard.com</u>, scholarship 360, fastweb.com, and
 - After answering a few questions, the sites will automatically match you with scholarships you're eligible to apply for.
- Apply for local scholarships through Naviance Family Connection

scholarships.com



scholarship list

DON'T

- Pay money for information or assistance with scholarship searches. There are plenty of free options online, or ask the school counselor for help.
- Procrastinate! Deadlines are firm, and it's important to get paperwork and applications submitted on time.
- Waste time and energy. Make sure you meet eligibility requirements for scholarships before you apply. Also, many scholarship applications require essays on similar topics it's okay to reuse your work where applicable!

NAVIANCE

Have Naviance Questions?

naviance@everettsd.org

*January 27, 2017 ~ Last Day of 1st semester!!!!

Check out Naviance TestPrep!!

-Self-directed practice course for **SAT** & **AP** exams



Did You Know?

If your child applied for the College Bound Scholarship in middle school and completed the program pledge requirements, they should make sure their college knows they are a College Bound student.

The college's financial aid office will determine if your family's current income meets the requirements to receive the College Bound Scholarship.

Get more info at: www.collegebound.wa.gov

Myth Buster

MYTH: The school that my child wants to go to has an estimated cost of \$20,000. My child will never be able to pay that much money.

REALITY: While students may not be able to pay that cost out of pocket, there is financial aid available for them from multiple sources.

This means everyone (including your child) can afford to go to college.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) is a great opportunity for students to apply for financial aid in the form of scholarships, grants, work-study, and loans.

Students can also apply for scholarships to help cover the costs of attending college. Check out the Washboard.org to find scholarships.

Source: **UW Dream Project**



Things to Think About...

If you have been in foster care at any time after turning 13, your classes will likely be paid for at most Washington State colleges!!

Learn about the <u>College Bound Scholarship</u>, the <u>Passport to College Scholarship</u>, and/or the <u>Education and Training Voucher</u> (ETV) program to help pay for school.

Find details at:

www.readysetgrad.org/fostercare and www.independence.wa.gov

These are supportive adults who can help guide your teen through the financial aid process: Designated Support Staff (DSS), program staff, financial aid staff, Independent Living (IL) providers, SETuP staff.

Student Checklist

- ☐ Have your scores sent to the schools on your final list.
- Prepare and submit your applications on time.
- ☐ Complete college admission and financial aid applications. If you plan to attend a community or technical college, don't wait until the last minute to apply financial aid could be gone and the classes you want could be filled. Also, keep copies of all forms you mail or submit online.
- Need help completing the FAFSA? Go to https://studentaidhelp.ed.gov/app/home/site/fafsa to contact them directly! If you haven't filled out the FAFSA or WASFA, Do it this month!
- Review your Student Aid Report (SAR) online at www.fafsa.gov. Check that you listed all the colleges you are considering. If your SAR asks for additional information, or if you need to make a correction, do so ASAP.

Family Checklist

- □ **Learn about college loan options together.** Borrowing money for college can be a smart choice especially if your high schooler gets a low-interest federal loan. Be cautious; learn about loan options and a <u>parent's role in borrowing money</u>.
- ☐ **Encourage your child to take AP Exams**. Seniors, who take AP or other advanced classes, should talk with teachers now about taking these tests in May. Read more about the <u>AP Program</u>.





