



Welcome
to
**COLLEGE
PREP 101**

For Quincy High School Seniors and Parents

First...You've got
to finish high
school!!

Credits

Make sure you are on track to graduate!

- Talk to your counselor to get a credit check.
- Seniors not on track to graduate should have received a letter explaining what to do.

Entry

Know your entrance requirements!

- Every college, university and vocational/trade school will have entrance requirements (gpa, courses, entrance exams, etc.). Explore the schools you are considering and make sure that you meet their requirements-if you need to add a class to your schedule, talk to your counselor!

Grades

Keep those grades up!

- GPA is an important factor in your college acceptance-and colleges do look at your senior year grades!

Keep up

Keep up the rigor!

- Many colleges ask for a list of your senior year courses to make sure you are prepared for college. No senior slacking!!

Engage

Stay involved (or get involved)!

- Colleges and scholarship applications often ask for a list of your activities. They want to see your involvement in school, community, or work, and any leadership experience you may have.

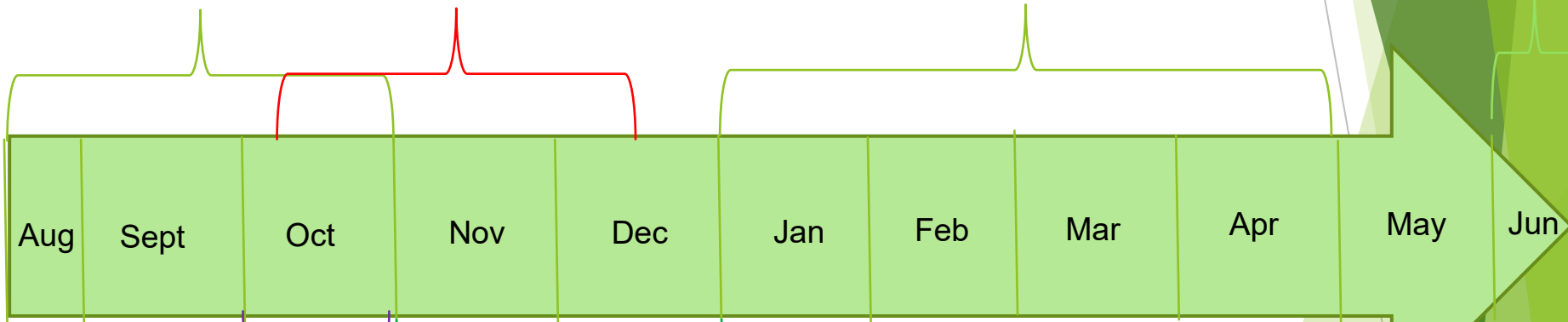
SUGGESTED SENIOR TIMELINE

Work with your counselor and family to research schools, compile a list and gather applications

Request letters of recommendation, write essays, complete activities lists, etc.

Spend your spring (and the whole year) focusing on scholarships. Most local scholarships are due at the end of February

Make your summer count by getting an internship or attending an enrichment program!



Complete your FAFSA or WASFA as soon as possible after October 1st

Complete and submit all college applications by school deadline

Receive financial aid award letters and compare!

Make your final college decision by May 1st and complete housing applications, course registration, etc.

Finding the right fit for you



What type of credential do you need?

AA, AS, AAB, or AAS
(2-year)

AA, AS, AAB, or AAS
(2-year then transfer)

Bachelor's Degree (4-
year)

Master's Degree (4+2
years)

Doctorate (4+4 or more
years)os)



How close to home do you want to study?



What is the right size school/community for you?



Look at the “Important Factors in Choosing a College” and talk it over with your family! **Come up with a list of your priorities- then head to the computer...**

Let the internet
help you find a
college that
matches your
needs...

College Board's Big Future
Head to the "find
colleges" section

Safety, Match & Reach

Safety

A *safety* school is one where your academic credentials fall above the school's range for the average freshman. You can be reasonably certain that you will be admitted to your safety schools.

Match

A *match* school is one where your academic credentials fall well within (or even exceed) the school's range for the average freshman. There are no guarantees, but it's not unreasonable to be accepted to several of your match schools.

Reach

A *reach* school is one where your academic credentials fall below the school's range for the average freshman. Reach schools are long-shots, but they should still be possible. If you have a 2.0 GPA, Stanford is not a reach school—it's a dream.

Remember: There are no assurances or absolutes when it comes to college admissions. Shocking rejections and unexpected acceptances are all too common!

The Application Process



Online or Paper Application
Forms

Entrance Exams

ESSAYS

Fees

**Letters of
Recommendation**

Auditions/
Interviews

Counselor
Forms

Transcripts

Mid - Year Reports

Activities Lists

Deadlines



- **Avoid the List** – Tell a story, have a clear focus. Let your passions show through the writing.
- **A Touch of Humor** – A clever metaphor or well-placed witticism.
- **Tone** – Balance of pride in accomplishments with humility and achievements.
- **Reveal Your Character** – Colleges are looking for good citizens for their campus communities.
- **Mechanics Matter** – Proofread, then seek someone with strong editorial skills.

COLLEGE ESSAY TIPS

Activities List

LIST ACTIVITIES IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE OR CHRONOLOGICALLY

IN DESCRIPTIONS, WRITE 1-2 SENTENCES ABOUT THE CLUB OR ACTIVITY, THEN DESCRIBE YOUR ROLE

INCLUDE INTERESTING HOBBIES OR OTHER ACTIVITIES

DON'T LIE OR EXAGGERATE

HIGHLIGHT NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FOR MORE TIPS, READ THE ARTICLE: [ACING THE COLLEGE APPLICATION](#) BY MICHELLE A. HERNANDEZ EDD

The image features a dense, overlapping collage of US one hundred dollar bills. The bills are shown from various angles, creating a sense of depth and abundance. The green ink of the bills is prominent against the white paper. Overlaid on this collage is the text "MONEY MATTERS" in a large, bold, green, serif font. The text is centered horizontally and vertically, with "MONEY" on the top line and "MATTERS" on the bottom line. The background has a subtle green gradient on the right side.

MONEY MATTERS

The Cost of Attendance at Washington Colleges

Four Year Universities

School	Annual Cost
• EWU	\$24,751
• WSU	\$24,498
• CWU	\$26,053
• UW	\$47,730
• Seattle Pacific	\$53,837

Community Colleges (2 Years)

School	Annual Cost
Wenatchee Valley College	\$15,637
Big Bend College	\$15,729
Skagit Valley College	\$17,895

- These costs include all expenses, including books, housing, food, tuition and other fees

Breakdown of College Expenses EWU Example

Tuition, Fees, and Direct Costs at EWU

Student Status	In-State Resident	Non-Resident
Tuition	\$6,707	\$24,676
Fees	\$1,026	\$1,026
Housing and Meals	\$13,480	\$13,480
Books	\$930	\$930
Personal Expenses/ Transportation	\$3,075	\$3,075
Total	\$25,218	\$43,187

Maximum Federal Pell Grant: \$6,895

Maximum Washington College Grant: \$7,095

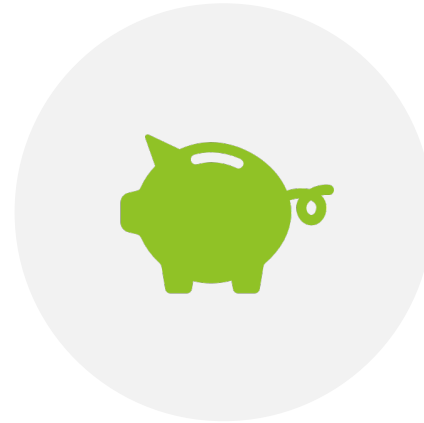
Maximum Total Grant Money: \$13,990

Total cost remaining per year: \$11,228

What is Financial Aid?



MONEY TO HELP YOU CONTINUE YOUR
EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL



3 BASIC FORMS OF FINANCIAL AID...

Grants/Scholarships

Money you don't have to pay back (as long as you stay in good standing).

Loans

Money you will have to pay back. Subsidized-interest frozen while in school; unsubsidized-interest begins accruing immediately.

Employment or Benefit Aid

Federal or State Work Study allows you to get a flexible job on or off campus that works with your school schedule. You may also be eligible for Workforce Training Assistance, Military Benefits, or Veterans Benefits

APPLY FOR
FINANCIAL
AID TO
HELP PAY
FOR
COLLEGE

1. Gift Aid



Federal Aid

Federal Pell Grant
Need-Based



State Aid

10 Programs
(Listed on next
slide), WASFA



Scholarships

Schools
Organizations
Merit And Need-Based

The stuff you don't have to
pay back !

*Unless you withdraw or drop
to part-time in the middle of a
quarter

WASHINGTON STATE FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

Washington College Grant

People of all ages from low- and middle- income families may qualify to get money for college, career training, and participating apprenticeships. Funding is guaranteed to eligible students.

College Bound Scholarship

Provides an early promise of financial aid to students from income-eligible families who apply in middle school and meet the pledge requirements. This scholarship can be used at over 65 colleges and technical schools in Washington.

State Work Study

Qualifying students from low- and middle- income families can get approved for a job on- or off- campus to support their education.

Passport to Careers

Helps students from foster care and unaccompanied homeless youth attend and succeed in college, apprenticeships, and pre-apprenticeship programs.

Washington State Opportunity Scholarship

Helps low- and middle- income Washington students earn degrees, certificates, or apprenticeships in high- demand trade, health care, or STEM fields and launch careers in Washington State.

American Indian Endowed Scholarship

Benefits eligible students who have close social and cultural ties to an American Indian tribe or community in Washington State.

Teacher Programs

The Washington State Educator Workforce programs provide financial aid to attract and retain teachers. Participants work in subjects or locations of high need known as shortage areas.

Washington Health Corps

Supports licensed health professionals in providing primary care at approved sites in critical shortage areas.

WASHINGTON STATE FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS CONT'D

National Guard Grant

Helps members of the Washington National Guard get an undergraduate degree or certificate.

Aerospace Loan Program

Supports training for entry-level aerospace workers.

FOR MORE
INFORMATION, VISIT
WASHINGTON
STUDENT
ACHIEVEMENT
COUNCIL

2. LOANS



START HERE
GO FURTHER
FEDERAL STUDENT AID™

US Department of Education (FAFSA)

Subsidized (Interest is paid while in college) and Unsubsidized Loans (Interest accrues while in college)

Parent PLUS Loans

Benefits include:

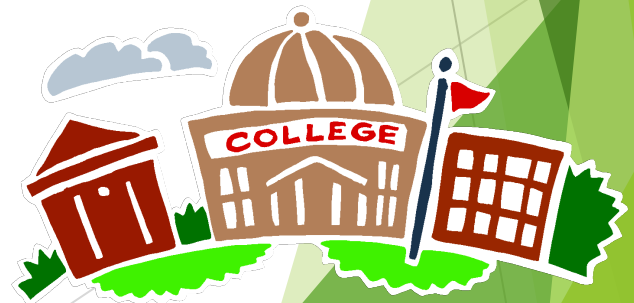
- Low Interest rates
- Favorable pay-back schedules

Check with your college or university to see if they offer loan programs



Banks and Other Financial Institutions

Shop around for the best interest rates, origination fees, and pay-back schedules



Rule of Thumb

Borrow no more than
your expected starting
salary!



3. EMPLOYMENT OR BENEFIT AID



Federal/State Work Study

Workforce Training Assistance

Military and Veteran's Benefits



Start Thinking About Scholarships

- ▶ 1. Create an account at FastWeb.com and WashBoard.org
- ▶ 2. If you are in a club or organization, check to see if they have any scholarships available!
- ▶ 3. Google “scholarships for___(you fill in the blank)_____” and see what you can find! There are scholarships for being tall, being short, having red hair, speaking Klingon, and even for making your prom dress out of duct tape!

Upcoming Events

- ▶ Financial Aid Nights
 - ▶ October 3
 - ▶ October 12
 - ▶ October 26

Work with the QHS Counseling and Career Center!

Counselors (by student last name):

(A-Ga) Amey Trujillo

- ◆ atrujillo@qsd.wednet.edu
- ◆ (509) 787-3501 ext. 3773

(Gb-P) Michael Lopez

- ◆ mlopez@qsd.wednet.edu
- ◆ (509) 787-3501 ext. 3719

(Q-Z) Chris Trevino

- ◆ ctrevino@qsd.wednet.edu
- ◆ (509) 787-3501 ext. 3772