



SAMMAMISH FINANCIAL AID AWARENESS DAY

How to pay for college and technical training?



TODAY WE WILL COVER:

- What is Financial Aid

- Types of Financial Aid

- When You Should Apply for Financial Aid

- How to Apply for Financial Aid

- Scholarships

- Help and Resources



THINK – PAIR – SHARE

WITH 1-2 PEOPLE SITTING NEAR YOU

* Why should students apply for Financial Aid?

* Why do you think someone might not apply for aid?

KAHOOT
TIME...
**LOG IN TO
KAHOOT.IT**

Thanks for doing the
Think-Pair-Share
Activity.



Prizes for the most
correct answers on the
Kahoot!



WHY APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?

1. Many families who don't think they qualify for aid, but they **actually do qualify!**
2. Last year, Washington State students who didn't complete the FAFSA left **\$60 million** of PELL grant money on the table.
3. Some **scholarships** require students to submit a FAFSA.
4. Financial Aid is available for both **4-year, 2-year programs, and Apprenticeships!**



FINANCIAL AID IS AN UMBRELLA TERM



Grants

- Income-based, federal, state and institutional.

Scholarships

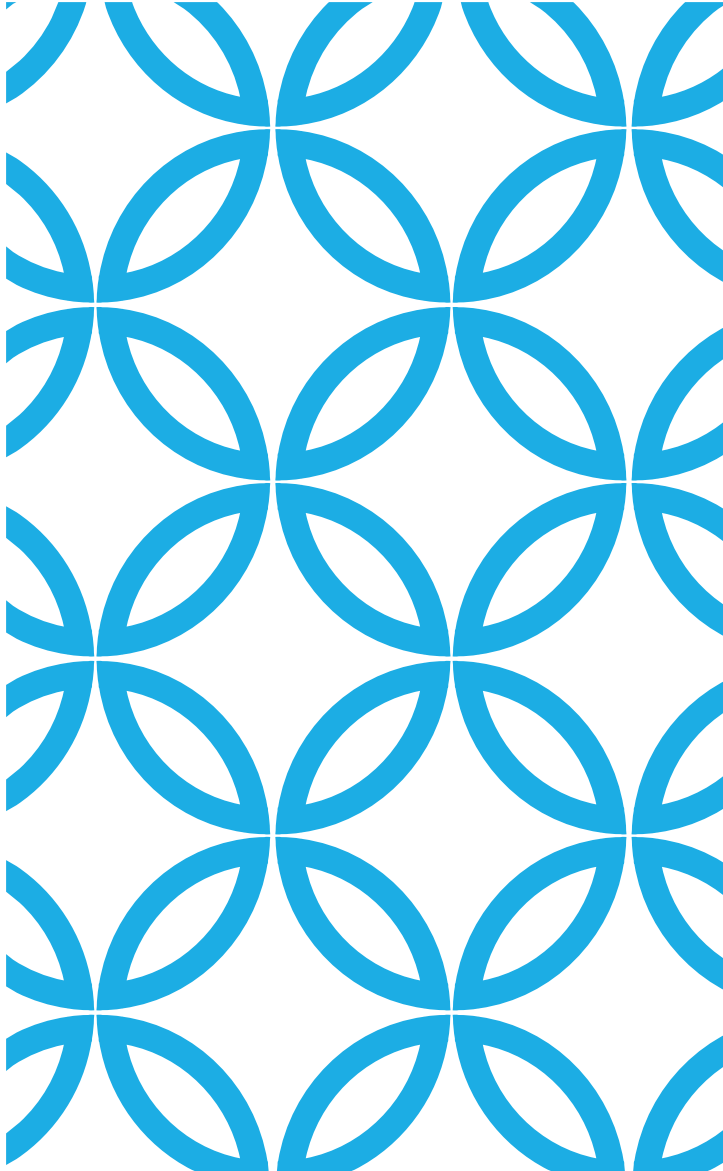
- Merit and income-based, from public, private, and nonprofit sources.

Loans

- Income-based, federal and private.

Work Study

- Income-based, federal, state and institutional.



CHAPTER 1:

GRANTS

GRANTS

A grant is **gift aid** that 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

Pell Grant

WASHINGTON COLLEGE GRANT (WA GRANT) - [HTTPS://WSAC.WA.GOV/WCG](https://wsac.wa.gov/wcg)



- Our 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).
- This grant gives eligible people more money for more types of education like certificate programs, job training, apprenticeships, or college.

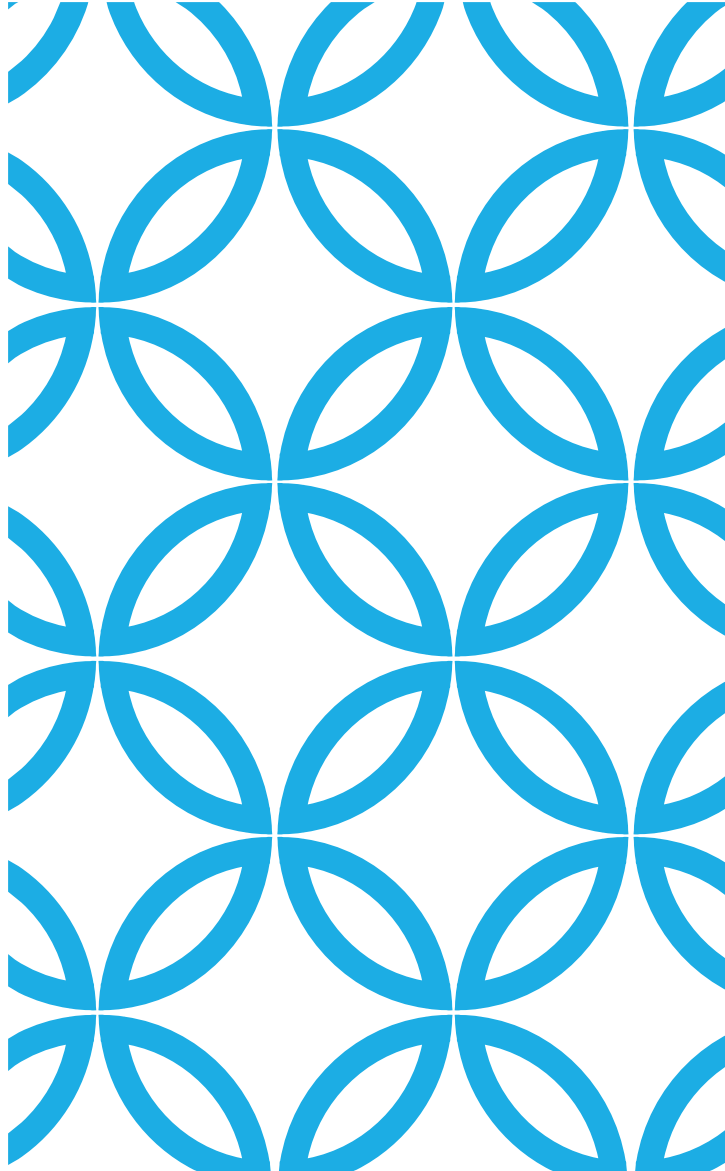
WASHINGTON COLLEGE GRANT PROVIDES A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

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 \$41,000 or less	Income Up to \$68,000
 Eligible Student Family of 4	\$78,500 or less	Up to \$131,000

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



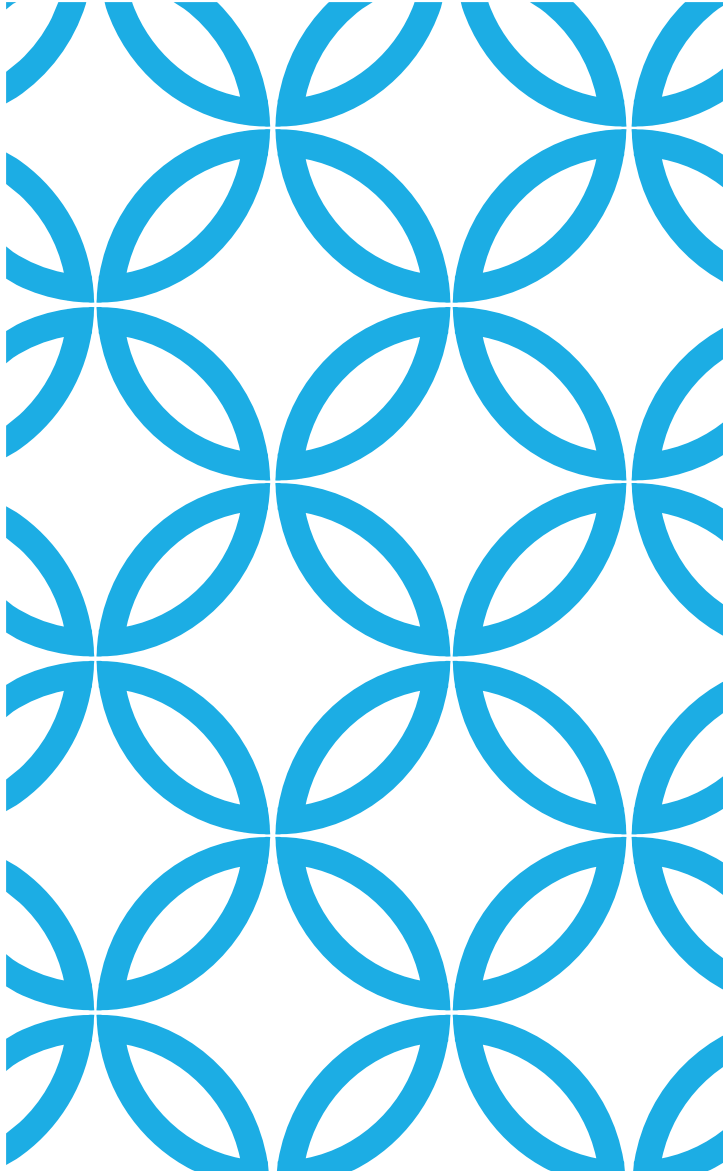


CHAPTER 2:

SCHOLARSHIPS

- www.thewashboard.org



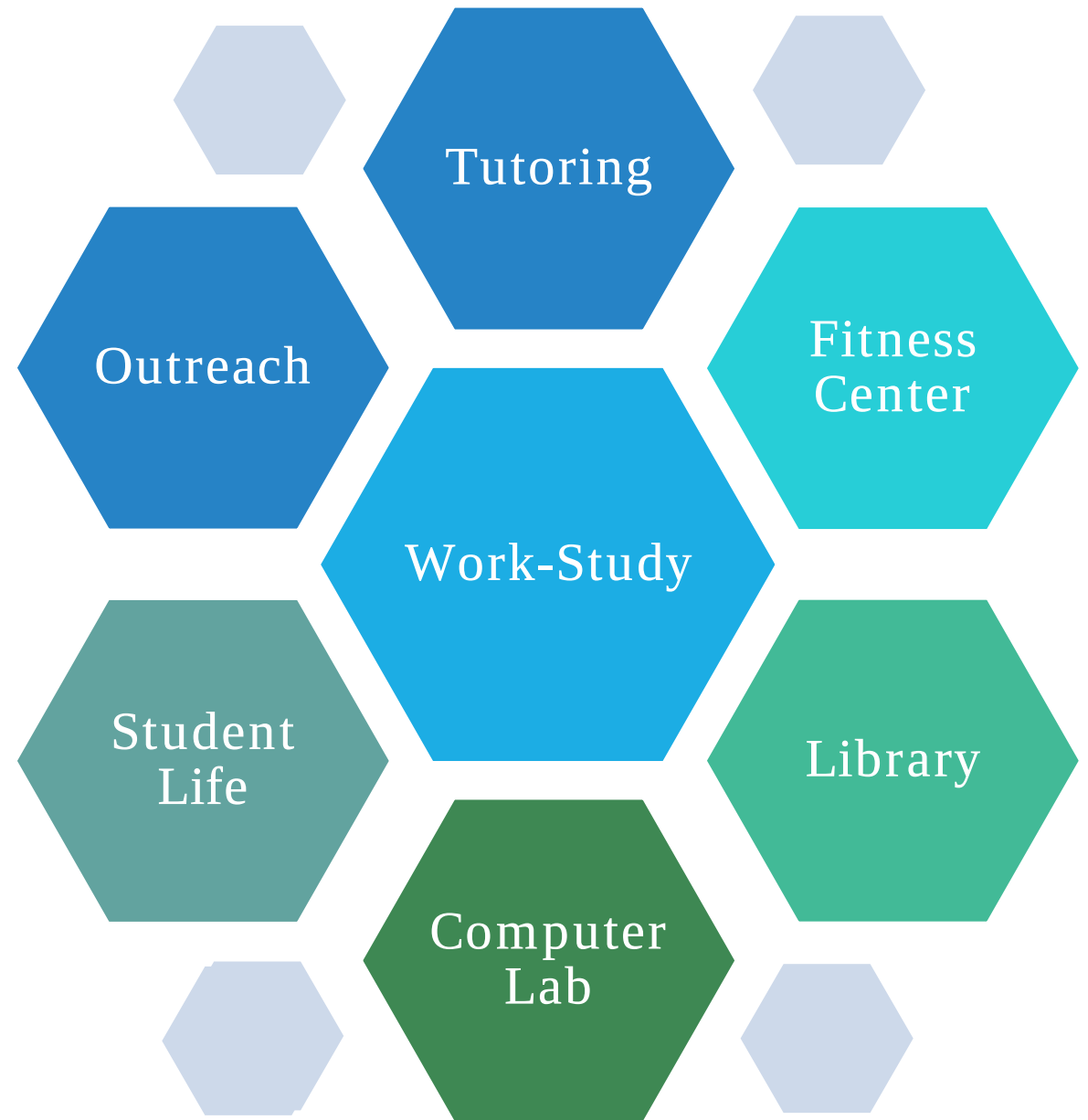


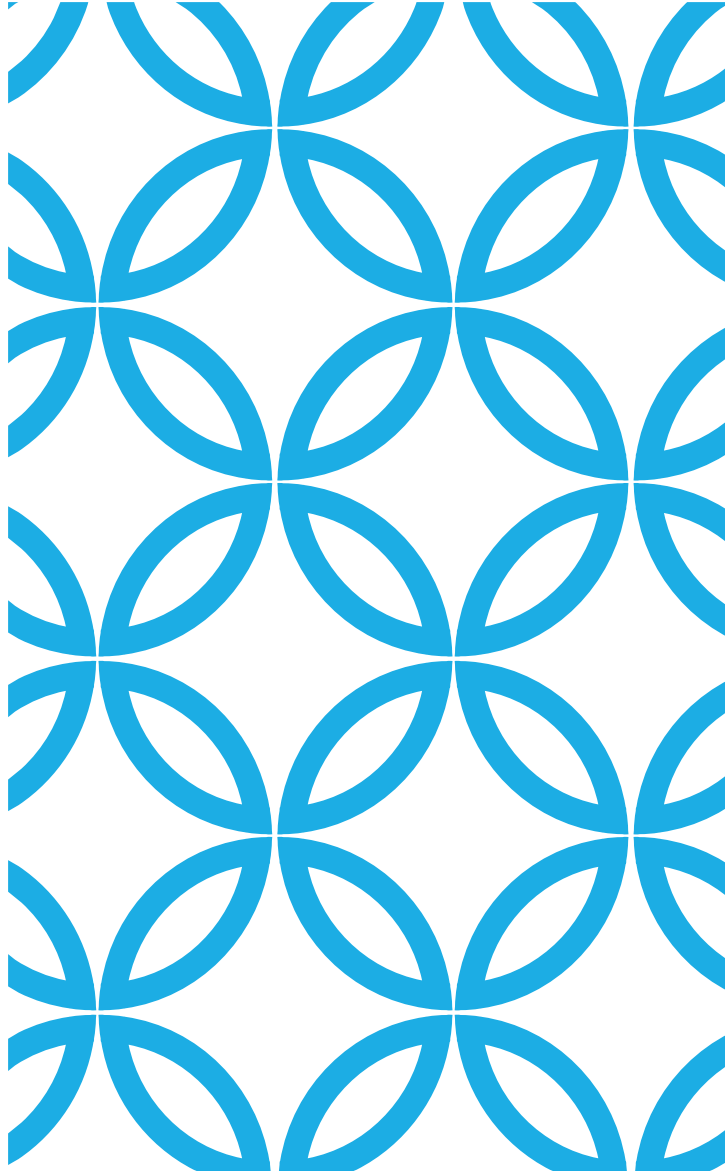
CHAPTER 3:

WORK STUDY JOB

WORK-STUDY

- Work-Study provides part-time jobs for students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay education expenses.
- These jobs are typically on campus.
- Gain practical experience and skills to put on your resume.





CHAPTER 4:

LOANS

LOANS

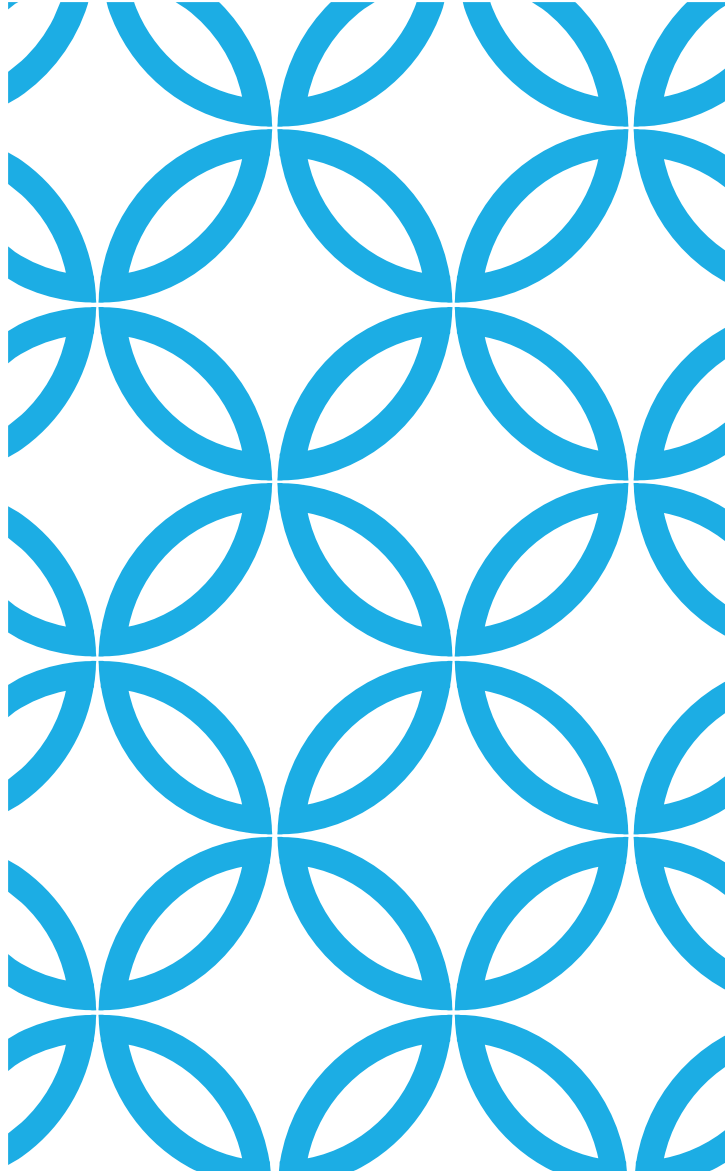
- A student loan is money you borrow for your education - and pay back over time.
- Unlike grants or work-study, you do have to pay back your loans.
- You do not have to accept all the loans offered to you.

Unsubsidized Student Loans

- Interest begins accruing as soon as the loan is disbursed to you, including while you are enrolled in school.

Subsidized Student Loans

- Interest is paid for you while you are enrolled at least half time in college.



CHAPTER 5:

WHERE DOES FINANCIAL AID COME FROM?

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 AID: 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



Can be used at about 60 two and four-year public and private colleges and universities.



collegebound@wsac.wa.gov

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

[Show language options](#)

Financial Aid Calculator

The calculator is currently providing financial aid estimates for the **2025-2026 academic year**.

Many undergraduate students can cover some or all their college or training costs with the **Washington College Grant (WA Grant)** and/or **Federal Pell Grant (Pell Grant)**. This calculator also estimates how much WA Grant you can receive toward a [non-college-based apprenticeship program](#).

WSAC does not collect any data you enter.

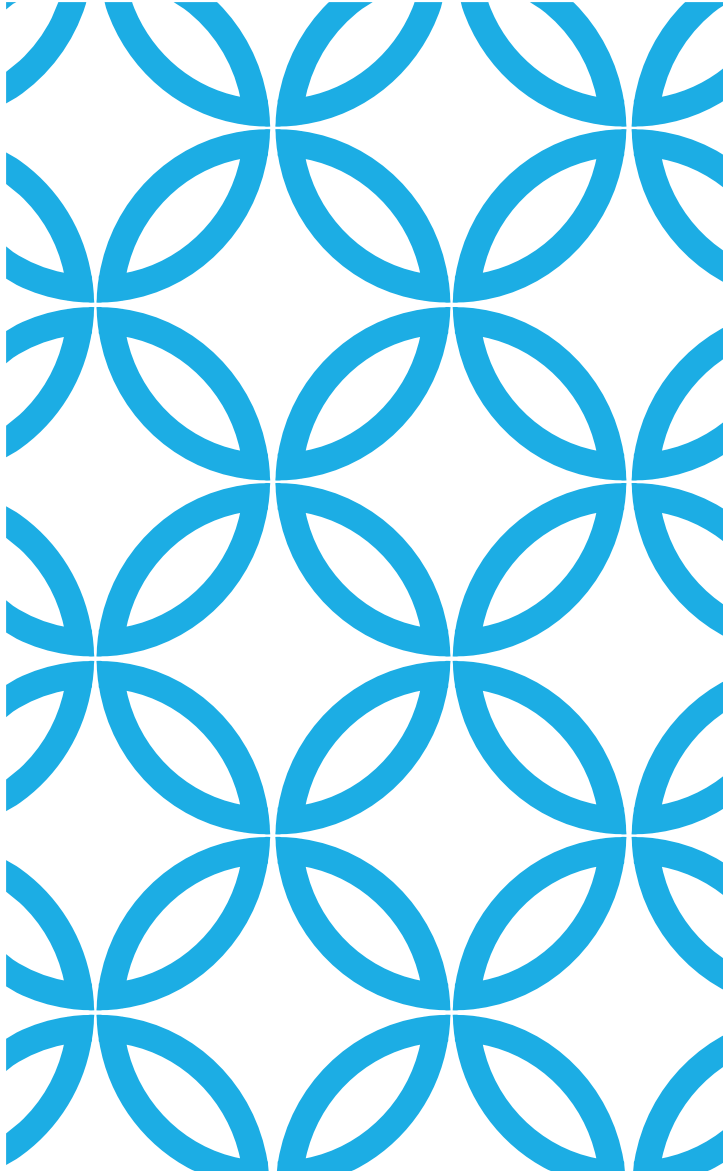
Estimate your award →

This tool calculates potential awards from the WA Grant and Pell Grant programs. There may be more aid available to you from other state and federal programs, from [private scholarships](#), or directly from the college you attend.

The only way to know for sure how much financial aid you can receive for college is to [complete a FAFSA or WASFA financial aid application](#). For more information, contact the college financial aid office or apprenticeship program you plan to attend.

Maintained by the [Washington Student Achievement Council](#).

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



CHAPTER 6:

WHICH FORM SHOULD I USE?

BOTH THE FAFSA AND WASFA FORMS ARE...

Ways to get financial aid for:

- 4-year college or university
- 2-year College
- Technical School
- Graduate School
- Many other programs

Required for grants, federal student loans, work study opportunities, state grants, scholarships and work study. Some scholarships also require a FAFSA or WASFA.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid



HOW TO
GET
STARTED

Washington Application for State Financial Aid



ONLY FILE ONE APPLICATION

WHO CAN COMPLETE THE FAFSA?

- ✓ Have graduated from high school, obtained a GED or completed homeschooling to receive funding
- ✓ Must be a US citizen or eligible non-citizen (have a green card, refugee)
- ✓ The student must have a valid Social Security Number or Alien Registration number – parent/guardian does not need to have one (when asked for parent/guardian's SSN put all 0's)

<https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/eligibility/requirements/non-us-citizens>

WHO CAN FILE A WASFA?

- Have graduated from a Washington state high school or obtained a GED to receive funding
- Have lived in Washington for 12 months prior to enrolling in college
- File an affidavit (written promise) to file an application to become a permanent resident of the United States when eligible to apply
- A Social Security number is **NOT** required to complete the WASFA

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

STEP 1

FAFSA - CREATE AN FSA ID #
WASFA - CREATE AN ACCOUNT

FAFSA: Both student and parent/guardian need a FSA ID. This is how you “sign” your FAFSA

<https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>

WASFA: Create an account, unlike FAFSA your parents do not also need an ID.

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

**DO NOT SIGN UP WITH
YOUR SCHOOL EMAIL USE
YOUR PERSONAL EMAIL**



FOR BOTH **FAFSA AND **WASFA**
VERY IMPORTANT**

**You are completing your application for the
2026-2027
school year!**

STEP 2 >

RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID PACKAGES FROM COLLEGES

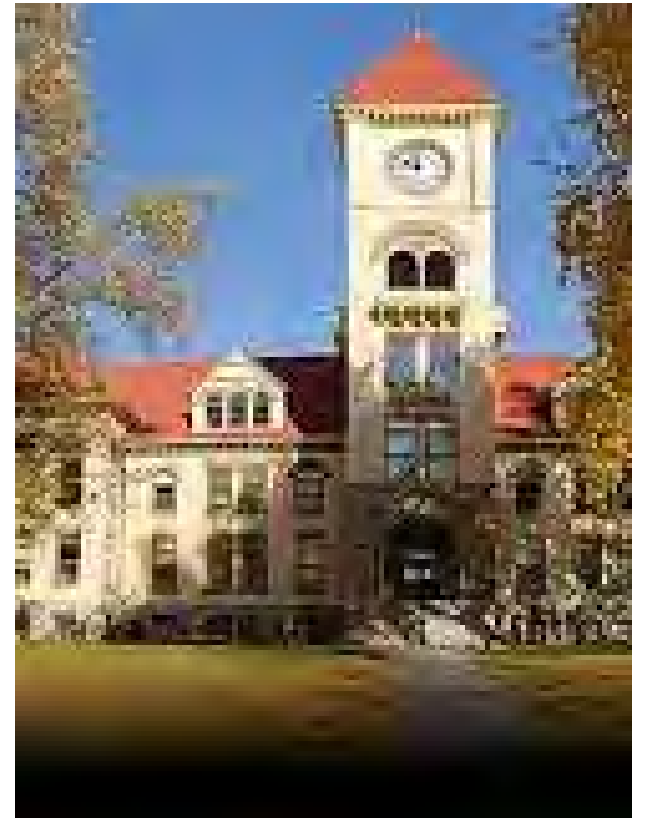
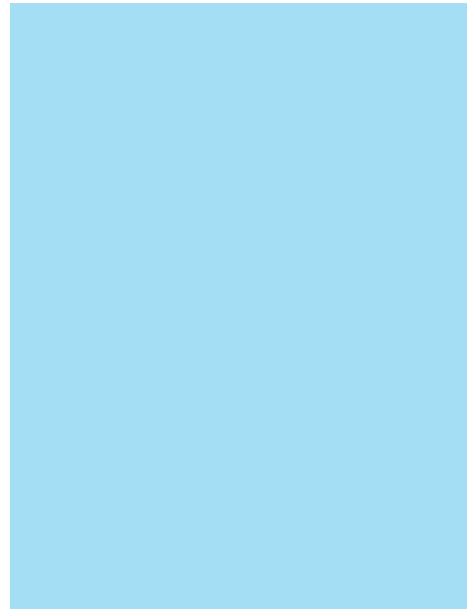
You will receive your financial aid packages directly from your colleges (you will list the schools you are applying to in the FAFSA/WASFA)

Check to make sure you don't have errors! If you do:

- ✓ Ask your counselor
- ✓ Ask Ms. Lopez Kopp
- ✓ Call college financial aid office

CSS PROFILE: COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP SERVICE PROFILE

- Approximately 240 Institutions & Scholarship programs use the CSS Profile to help determine institutional aid eligibility (including Whitman and Whitworth)
- Complete in addition to the FAFSA; check directly with the college if you are not eligible to complete the FAFSA!



A large, hand-drawn red oval containing the word "Step" in a cursive script and the number "3" in a bold, sans-serif font below it.

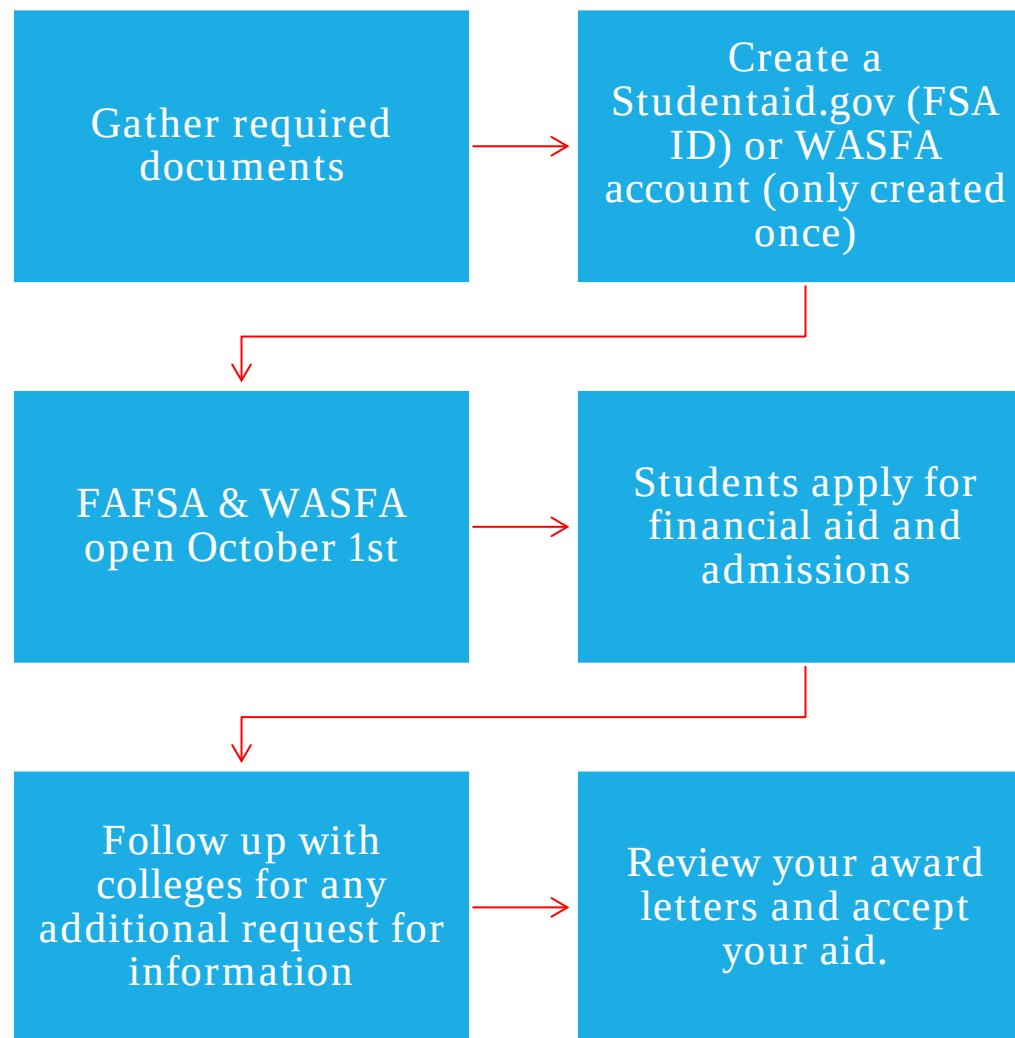
Step 3

ACCEPT ALL OR
PART OF YOUR
FINANCIAL AID
PACKAGE

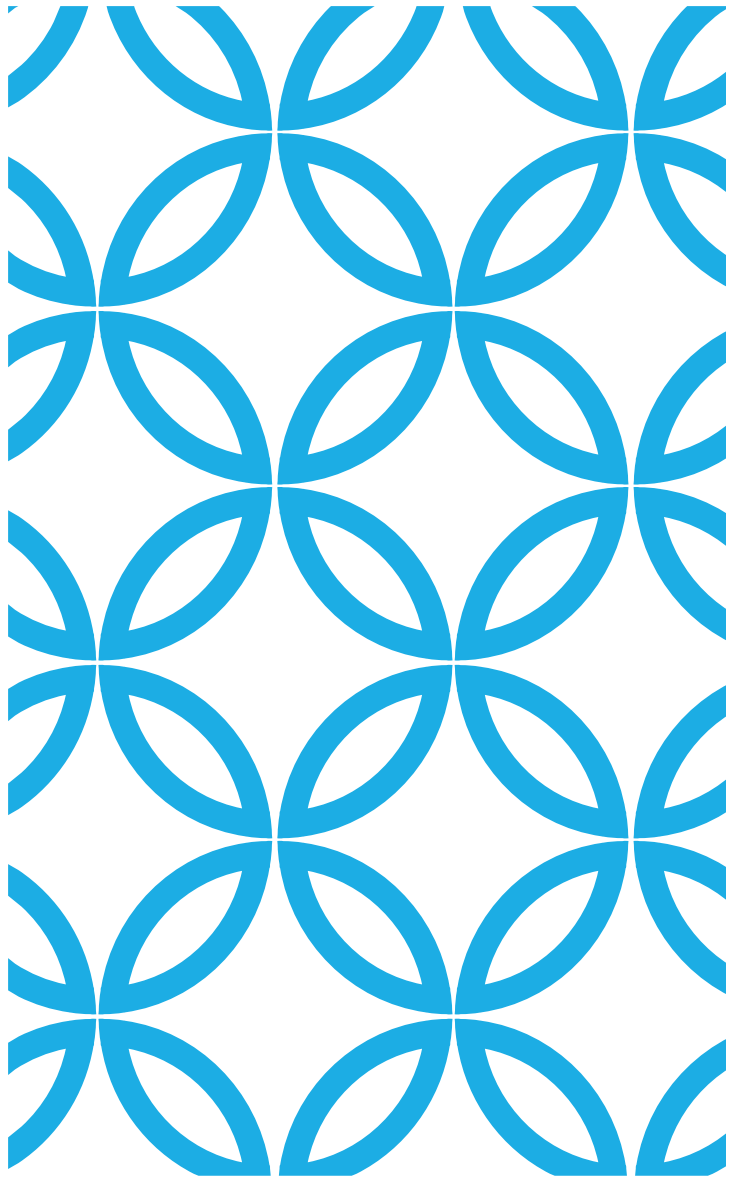
Each college will give you a financial aid award letter.

You don't need to accept your entire package or the full amount for loans offered.

Make sure you understand repayment plans and your total cost of attendance.



FINANCIAL AID TIMELINE



CHAPTER 7:

WHO CAN HELP ME & MY FAMILY GET AID?

OTTERBOT FOR STUDENTS



A free texting service to support all Washington high school students and their parents/guardians. A great source of info about financial aid, college planning, and reminders.

Available 24/7. Get started TODAY!



COLLEGE & CAREER RESOURCES



Ms. Lopez-Kopp

College & Career
Counselor

- Available Mon-Fri 7:30-3:30 PM
- Ways to reach her:
 - Via email:
lopezk@bsd405.org
 - [Book an Appointment](#)
 - Swing by Room 201

Get Help with:

- Answering Questions
- College Lists
- Application Advice
- Essay Review
- Financial Aid
- HSBP
- Find jobs
- Mock interviews
- WANIC
- And so much more!





SHS



Counseling Team



**Alicia
Williams**

A-Cr



**Mary Beth
Smith**

Cu-Ji



**Gerardo
Martinez
Escobar**

Jo-Mok



**Steven
Ono**

Mol-Sa



**Melinda
Breeze**

Sc-Z



Jill Follett

**School
Counselor
Intern**

How to reach us:

Email, use Booking Link or Chat us any time! You can find our contact information on the Sammamish High School Website.

VIRTUAL FINANCIAL AID NIGHTS:

CLASS OF 2026

**Financial Aid
Nights**

Join the 12th Year Campaign to learn more about financial aid and take your first step creating your StudentAid.gov (FSA ID) or WASFA account.

Hosted on Zoom in English and Spanish

  **WASHINGTON STUDENT
ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL**
12th Year Campaign

TO REGISTER GO TO [HTTPS://WSAC.WA.GOV/FINANCIAL-AID-EVENTS](https://wsac.wa.gov/financial-aid-events)

For students:

Nov. 19th 5:30-6:30pm

For parents & caregivers:

Nov. 18th 5:30-6:30pm

***Both are in English & Spanish**



- ❑ It will be put on by Bellevue College Financial Aid staff members
- ❑ Dec. 3 from 1-3pm
- ❑ Hosted in the SHS Library
- ❑ Come to get help with FAFSA or WASFA



| SHS FINANCIAL
AID WORKSHOP ...

RESOURCES

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

For US Citizens and eligible non-citizens. *Apply for the FAFSA even if you believe you may not financially qualify.*

Link to application: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA)

For non-citizen students unable to file a FAFSA due to immigration status

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

CSS/Financial Aid Profile

For students applying to universities that require

Link to Application: www.cssprofile.collegeboard.org/



Videos & Resources:

www.wsac.wa.gov

Links to Scholarship Search Sites

www.finaid.org

www.fastweb.com

www.collegeboard.com

Local/Washington scholarships

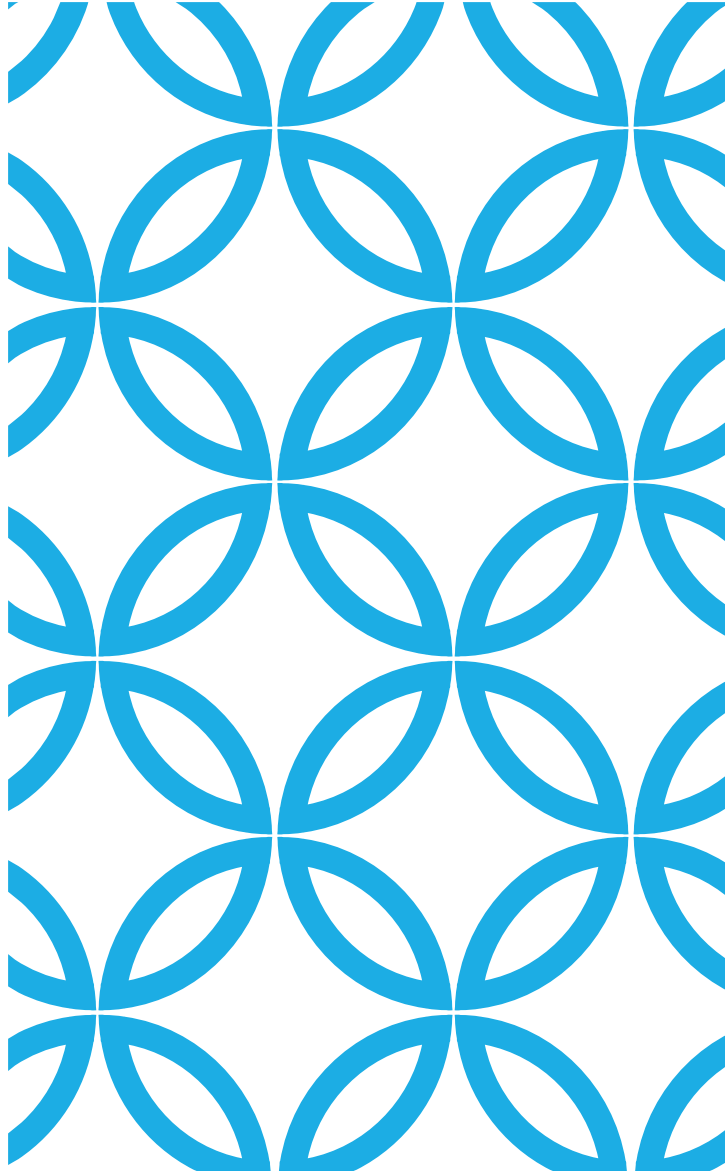
www.washboard.org

College Navigator:

<http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

College Scorecard:

<https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>



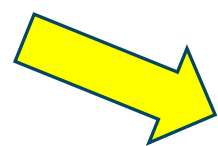
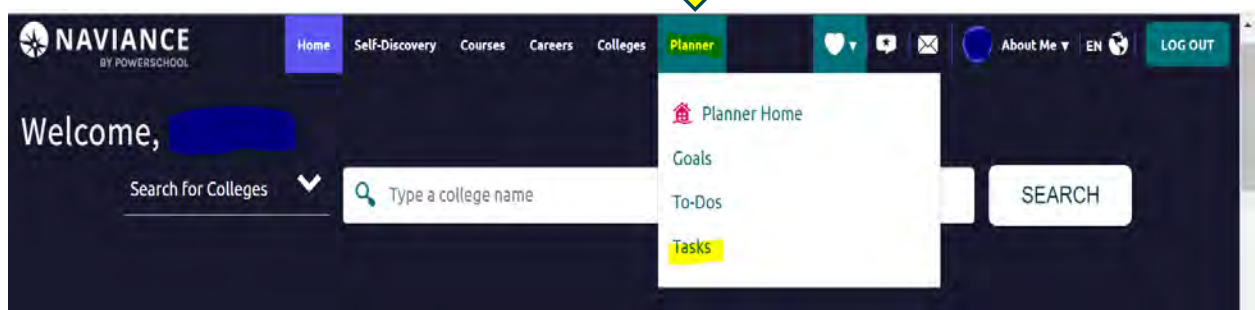
CHAPTER 8:

YOUR HOMEWORK



COMPLETE 'MY FINANCIAL AID OPTIONS' SURVEY

Required as part of your High School and Beyond Plan

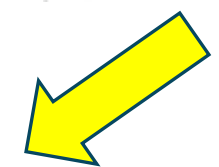


Complete My Financial Aid O...

DUE Sunday May 31, 2026

Assigned by Your Counselor

GRADUATION



Complete My Financial Aid Options

Status: Not started

 DUE Sunday May 31, 2026



To complete this task, you need to **take this survey**

Thank you for listening today!

- And a big round of applause for your English teacher for letting us come in to speak to you. They care about your future, too!
- Please share this info with your families.

Happy Friday!

