

TRANSITIONAL SKILLS

LESSON 7-12 ▲ COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP

LEARNING GOALS/OUTCOMES

- ▶ Students will describe the College Bound Scholarship's purpose.
- ▶ Students will determine whether they are eligible to apply for the College Bound Scholarship.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- ▶ **Helper** to sort guesses for Classroom Activity #2
- ▶ **Student Handouts:**
 - College Bound Scholarship FAQ Worksheet
- ▶ **Family Handouts:**
 - Information about the College Bound Scholarship
- ▶ **PowerPoint Presentation: “College Bound Scholarship”**
<http://www.readysetgrad.org/sites/default/files/2017-18.ms.student.family.pdf>
- ▶ **Computer, projector, screen** for teacher to show PowerPoint presentation
- ▶ **College Bound Scholarship brochure** for students (materials order link:
<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2184117/CBS-Order-Form>)

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

1. **Discuss students' college aspirations.** Ask for a show of hands: how many students think they will go to college (four-year, two-year, technical or community college) after they graduate from high school? Ask a few volunteers to explain why they think they WILL or WILL NOT attend college. Make a list of reasons on the board. Did anyone give lack of money as a reason? Write “money” on the board and explain that many students have trouble attending college because they cannot pay for their tuition.
2. **Help students put the benefits of college into context.** Ask students to name some jobs that require a college degree (either 2 or 4 year). Gather only their correct guesses and list 3-5 on the board. Ask students to guess how much money they think they can make in one year at any of the jobs listed on the board. Instruct students to write down guesses on a piece of paper, along with their name. Ask students to pass guesses to your Helper who has the answers and can sort through to find the closest guesses while you continue with the activity.

- a) Hand out, or write/project on the board, figures for Average Income by Education Level. Use the figures below or download and print this “Benefits of Going to College” handout: <https://www.wcan.org/file/college-knowledge/Benefits-of-Going-to-College.pdf>

Average Income by Education Level (Bureau of Labor Statistics 2017)

Less than High school: **\$26,780**

High school graduate: **\$37,336**

Some college or associate’s degree: **\$41,548**

Bachelor’s degree: **\$61,828**

Advanced degree (master’s, professional and doctoral degrees): **\$75,452**

- b) Using these figures, ask students to calculate how much more money you can make in a year if you graduate with a High School diploma than if you *don’t* graduate (\$10,556/year). How much more can you make in a year if you have a 2 year Associate’s degree or some college than if you *only* have your High School Diploma? (\$4,212/year) How much more can you make a year if you have a Bachelor’s degree than if you *only* have your High School Diploma (\$24,492/year). Ask the class how much that money is actually worth. In other words, what kinds of things could they buy with \$4,000 or \$10,000 or \$25,000 if they had it in their pocket today? Here are some good real world items and their approximate costs:

- \$4,000= Cost of a 70”- 80” flat screen HD television
- \$5,500= Cost of a one-week vacation for 2 in Hawaii including plane ticket, lodging, food, and fun, or a pretty cheap used car, approximately 10 years old.
- \$8,000= Cost of a modest, but very sparkly, 1 carat diamond engagement ring
- \$11,000= Average cost of a Jet Ski, or a nice used car, approximately 5 years old.
- \$25,000= Cost of a new car as of 2017 (feel free to research cars you think your students are interested in. Ex. 2017 Honda Civic starts at \$18,740 and 2017 Chevrolet Colorado Extended Cab starts at \$20,000).

Ask students to raise their hands if they feel like that is a fair exchange for maintaining a 2.0 GPA and graduating from high school with no felonies (College Bound Scholarship Pledge Requirements).

3. **Introduce the College Bound Scholarship.** Tell students that the State of Washington thinks a college education is so important that it wants students, who may not consider college because of its cost, to dream big and continue their education beyond high school. Eligible students (those who meet the income requirements) must sign up for the College Bound Scholarship by June 30 of their 8th grade year, promise to do well in school (graduate with a GPA of 2.0 or higher) and be good citizens at school and in their community (not be convicted of a felony). If the student’s family meets the income requirement when the student graduates (and the student fulfills the pledge) then the State will cover tuition (at public rates), some fees, and a small book allowance at any of



the Eligible Institutions in Washington state, including 2-year, 4-year, technical, public, and private colleges. A printable list can be found here: <http://readyssetgrad.org/eligible-institutions>

4. **Show the College Bound Scholarship PowerPoint presentation** (there is a script on the PPT Notes pages). For more background information on the College Bound scholarship, take a look at the College Bound Resources for Counselors from the WA Student Achievement Council (WSAC) to download and print free materials from their readyssetgrad.org website: <http://www.readyssetgrad.org/college/CBS-Resources>

Tips for using this PowerPoint!

Use music and lights to set the mood. Do you want to calm the students down or pump them up? Check for understanding by asking students to repeat back the information they have learned on each slide. Reward correct answers with College Bound swag! Order free College Bound pens and bracelets here: <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2184117/CBS-Order-Form>. Cold Call on students who are disengaged. If a student answers incorrectly, allow them to Phone a Friend. If the friend also answers incorrectly, ask the whole group to help out with a Call and Response session of the correct answer 3 times (Ex. Call: What GPA do you need to maintain in high school? Response: 2.0., Call: I said, what high school GPA do you have to earn? Response: 2.0, Call: I can't hear you. A College Bound GPA is? Response: 2.0!) In the Notes section, write yourself a plan for the techniques you will use to engage students, and plot out where (which slide) you will use each technique. Your plan should help to keep things moving at an engaging pace. Connect with your local College Bound Regional Officer for more ideas. Find contact information here: <https://www.wcan.org/about/contact-us>

5. **Complete the College Bound Scholarship FAQ Worksheet.** Divide students into groups of three or four. Give each student a *College Bound Scholarship FAQ Worksheet*, and make sure each group has internet access or a copy of a College Bound Scholarship brochure (order brochures here: <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2184117/CBS-Order-Form>) or the “Middle School Flyer” (available to download and print in 11 languages here: <http://www.readyssetgrad.org/college/CBS-Resources>). Have the groups complete the worksheet. Then, call the class back together and review their answers. (The worksheet provides the correct answers – what is most important is that eligible students have the chance to understand this information and make a plan to share this information with their families. See Family Handouts).

STUDENT PRODUCTS

- **Completed College Bound FAQ Worksheet**



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND OTHER INFORMATION

► ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY

Sign students up for the College Bound Scholarship. If you wish, you can coordinate with your counseling department to download and print College Bound Scholarship “Missing Information Letters” (also called MILs or signature pages) and hand these out to eligible students. Give each student their prepopulated signature page with instructions to complete their application by filling in these 3 things:

- Parent or guardian signature (if parent or guardian is not available, connect the student with a counselor who can call WSAC for help at 1-888-535-0747 option 1).
- Student signature (You can do it now!)
- Checkmark to indicate income eligibility (the checkbox is located near the income eligibility chart).

Give students a deadline to return their completed signature page (MIL) to you or the counseling office. Offering students a small reward can motivate them to return their completed form. Try fun-size treats, or a pass to be head of the lunch line. Completed forms can be scanned and emailed to collegebound@wsac.wa.gov, faxed or mailed to the # or address on the form. Note that eligible students must apply for the College Bound Scholarship by June 30 of their 8th grade year.

Expand this lesson to talk about paying for college. Because not all students are eligible for the College Bound Scholarship (and you will want to be careful to respect FERPA privacy regulations) you may wish to introduce a mixed class of students to multiple financial resources as part of this lesson. Career Guidance Washington Lesson 7-22 has activities and information about the Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET) program. Career Guidance Washington Lesson 10-18 “Paying for College: TheWashBoard.org” has activities and information about Washington state’s scholarship matching site. Each student can leave the classroom with information about one way they can pay for college.

► EXPLORATION OPPORTUNITIES

Organize a College Bound Scholarship Sign-up Event. Create an opportunity for eligible students and their families to learn about and sign up for the College Bound Scholarship at school, with teachers or counselors on-site to help. You may do this during student-led conferences or organize a scholarship fair, possibly with refreshments and other resources (summer programs, high school prep programs for middle school students). Remember, not all students are eligible for the College Bound Scholarship (and you will want to be careful to respect FERPA privacy regulations), so you may wish to incorporate other financial resources into your event, like the Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET) program or theWashBoard.org scholarship matching site. Contact your College Bound Regional Officer for help planning a sign-up event. *Tip:* Offering food and/or on-site childcare can help encourage College Bound families to attend.

The **Washington College Access Network (WCAN)** provides local outreach. WCAN’s College Bound Regional Officers assist school districts statewide to sign-up and support College Bound Scholarship students. Their website offers free downloadable College Knowledge materials developed by College Bound Scholars for College Bound Scholars: <https://www.wcan.org/college-knowledge-materials>. College Bound Regional Officers partner with school staff and leadership to



develop sign-up strategies and systems support for College Bound students in your building. Contact your College Bound Regional Officer today for ideas to help you strengthen the college-going culture in your building and community. <http://www.wcan.org/about/contact-us>.

- ▶ **College Bound Scholarship web site***
www.collegebound.wa.gov

- ▶ **Washington Student Achievement Council**
<http://www.wsac.wa.gov/>
Information on college preparation, financial aid, Washington State postsecondary programs

- ▶ **Washington College Access Network**
<https://www.wcan.org/>
Connect with your College Bound Regional Officer for outreach ideas and College Bound support.

- ▶ **TheWashBoard.org**
www.thewashboard.org
Scholarship match service for Washington students

- ▶ **Guaranteed Education Tuition**
www.get.wa.gov
Pre-paid tuition savings plan

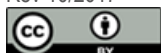
- ▶ **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**
www.fafsa.gov
Official site for information and FAFSA application.

- ▶ **Ready, Set, Grad's Washington Application for State Financial Aid**
<http://www.readysetgrad.org/wasfa>
WASFA – Financial Aid for undocumented students

- ▶ **FAFSA Information for Counselors and Mentors**
<https://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/tk/resources.jsp>
Searchable catalog of financial aid resources including infographics, videos and presentations.

- ▶ **National College Access Network**
www.collegeaccess.org/EarlyAwarenessMiddle
Early Awareness for Middle Grades
www.collegeaccess.org/Early_Awareness
Early Awareness for Grades 9-10

***Note that eligible students must apply for the College Bound Scholarship by June 30 of grade 8.**



TRANSITION SKILLS

LESSON 7-12 STUDENT HANDOUT

COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP FAQ WORKSHEET

Name: _____

WHAT IS THE COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP?

- A commitment of financial aid to low income students in Washington State.
- A promise to cover college tuition (at public rates), some fees, and a small book allowance.
- A scholarship that eligible students sign up for when they are in 7th or 8th grade.
- A pledge from the State of Washington that is matched by a pledge from the student.
- All of the above.

HOW DO YOU KNOW IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR THE COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP IN MIDDLE SCHOOL?

- You are eligible for the free and reduced-price lunch program.
- Your family receives basic food/TANF benefits.
- You are a foster youth.
- Your family is low income and meets certain income standards.
- Any of the above.

HOW DO YOU APPLY FOR THE COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP?

- Apply before June 30th of your 8th grade year.
- Apply online at www.collegebound.wa.gov
- Ask your school counselor for help applying.
- Return your signature page with a parent signature, a student signature, and a checkmark to show eligibility
- All of the above.

WHAT DO YOU PLEDGE WHEN YOU APPLY FOR THE COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP?

- I will do well in middle school and high school, and graduate with a cumulative high school grade point average of 2.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
- I will continue to be a good citizen and not commit a felony.
- I will apply for financial aid by submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA).
- All of the above.

ANSWER KEY: The last answer (d. All of the above) is correct for every question! Take this worksheet home and discuss it with your family. If you are eligible, don't miss your chance to apply!

LESSON 7-12 STUDENT & FAMILY HANDOUTS

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP

What is the College Bound Scholarship?

The scholarship is an early commitment of state financial aid to eligible students who sign up in middle school and fulfill the College Bound pledge. The program is administered by the Washington Student Achievement Council. Go to www.collegebound.wa.gov for more information on the College Bound Scholarship.

What is the pledge?

College Bound students promise to:

- Graduate from a Washington State high school or home school with a cumulative 2.0 GPA or higher.
- Not be convicted of a felony.
- Apply to an eligible college and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) as soon after October 1 as possible in your senior year of high school.

Am I eligible?

Apply if you are in 7th or 8th grade and meet one of the following requirements:

- Your family meets the income requirements in the chart below.
- You are in foster care or a dependent of the state.
- Your family receives basic food or TANF benefits.

Household Size	Annual Income Guidelines*	Monthly Income	Weekly Income
2	\$30,044	\$2,504	\$578
3	\$37,777	\$3,149	\$727
4	\$45,510	\$3,793	\$876
5	\$53,243	\$4,437	\$1,024
6	\$60,976	\$5,082	\$1,173
7	\$68,709	\$5,726	\$1,322
8	\$76,442	\$6,371	\$1,471
Each additional household member	Add \$7,733	Add \$645	Add \$149

*Household income must be less than or equal to this amount.

How do I apply?

Check with your counselor or go online at www.collegebound.wa.gov.

Is there a deadline?

Yes! You must apply by June 30 at the end of your 8th grade year.

What happens next?

Once you have submitted a complete application, you will receive a College Bound certificate in the mail. The program will send scholarship updates to the email address you list on your application.

The College Bound Scholarship is a state funded program administered by the Washington Student Achievement Council. For more information about the program and about other financial aid options in Washington, visit www.readysetgrad.org, or contact us by email at collegebound@wsac.wa.gov, or by phone at 888-535-0747, option 1.

How will I receive the scholarship?

- File the FAFSA or WASFA in your senior year and every year in college to determine income eligibility.
- Fulfill the scholarship pledge requirements. Be accepted to an eligible college.
- Be a US citizen or eligible non-citizen, or have DACA status.

3 COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP: ALL ABOUT IT

WHAT IS COLLEGE BOUND?

The College Bound Scholarship is a commitment of **state financial aid** to **eligible** students and is a four-year scholarship (12 quarters/8 semesters). Students would have applied in middle school before the end of their 8th grade year and commit to meeting the College Bound Pledge in high school to receive the scholarship. College Bound combines on your **award letter** with other state financial aid to cover tuition (at public college rates), some fees and a small book allowance.

Find other eligibility requirements at collegebound.wa.gov

The College Bound Scholarship

DOES COVER:

- Average cost of **tuition** (at public college rates)
- Some college **fees**
- Small book allowance

The College Bound Scholarship

DOES NOT COVER:

- Housing
- Meal plan
- Transportation
- Healthcare insurance
- Non-mandatory fees

Other financial aid may assist with these expenses. This list may vary by college.

WHERE CAN I USE IT?

The College Bound Scholarship can be used at **over 60 2 - and 4 - year public and private colleges, universities and technical programs** in Washington state.

In the 2017-2018 school year the maximum College Bound Scholarship award amounts look like this:

College Types & Potential College Bound Scholarship Dollars

Public 4-Year Research Colleges

(for example: University of Washington)
Up to \$10,802 per year

Community and Technical Colleges (CTCs)

(for example: Spokane Community College)
Up to \$4,438 per year

Private 2-year Colleges

(for example: Art Institute of Seattle)
Up to \$4,467 per year

FEB: GRADE 9 and 10

Public 4-Year Comprehensive Colleges

(for example: Central Washington University)
Up to \$7,379 per year

Private 4-Year Colleges

(for example: Pacific Lutheran University) Up to \$11,904 per year

If you have

questions about the College Bound Scholarship, please contact the Washington

Student Achievement Council at collegebound@wsac.wa.gov
888-535-0747 option 1 or visit collegebound.wa.gov

GOOD TO KNOW:

You must use the College Bound Scholarship within **1 year** of high school graduation.

