

Washington Financial Aid Association

October 24, 2019

Becky Thompson, Director of Student Financial Assistance





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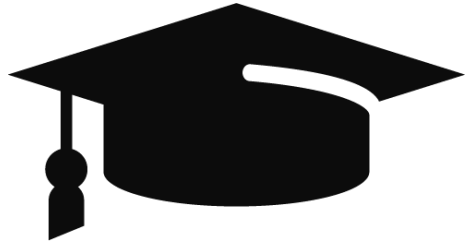
Payton Swinford
Student
Central Washington University



Jan Yoshiwara
Executive Director
State Board for Community and
Technical Colleges



Washington's Attainment Goals



100%

High school diploma
or equivalent



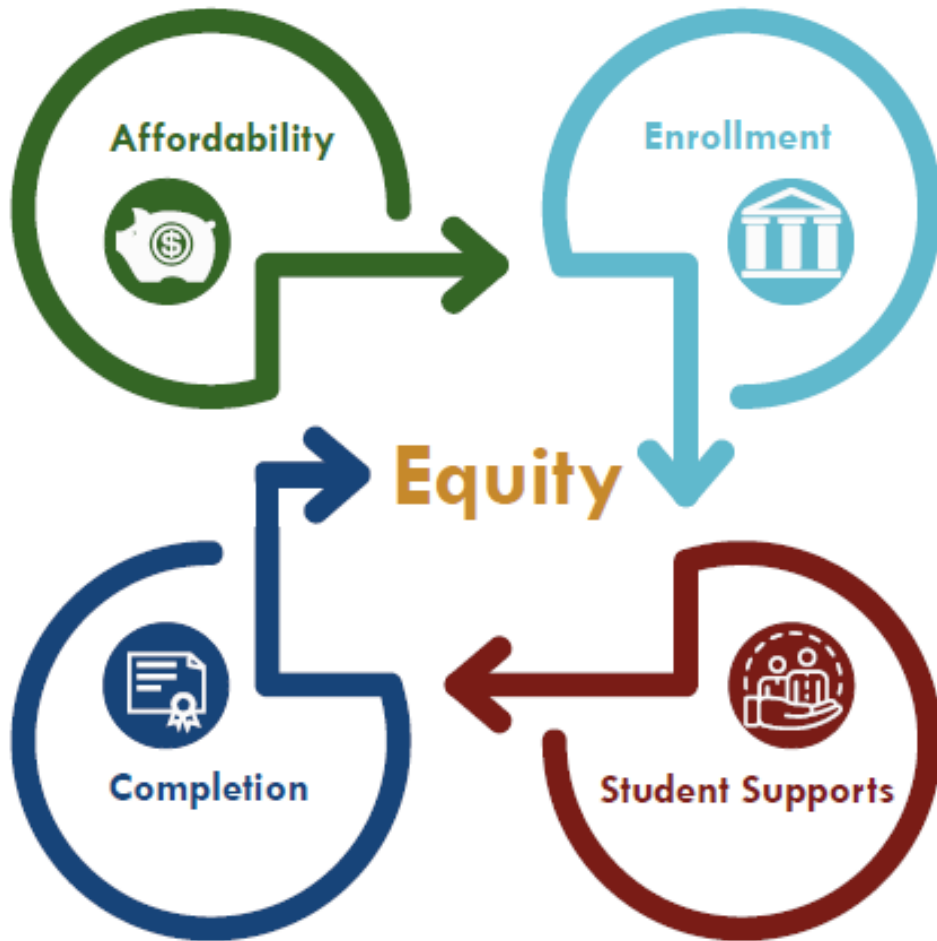
70%

Postsecondary
credential

Washington population ages 25-44



Four Strategic Clusters



If we build an **affordable** and **supportive** educational environment, more Washington residents will **enroll** in and **complete** a credential-bearing program.

Washington College Grant





Washington College Grant (WCG)

Replaces the State Need Grant. Major changes begin in fall 2020.

2019-20

- Additional funding to serve about 6,000 more students
- A few awarding adjustments:
 - Elimination of DCA
 - Elimination of 2nd AA degree
 - CBS priority in WCG, 66-70% MFI

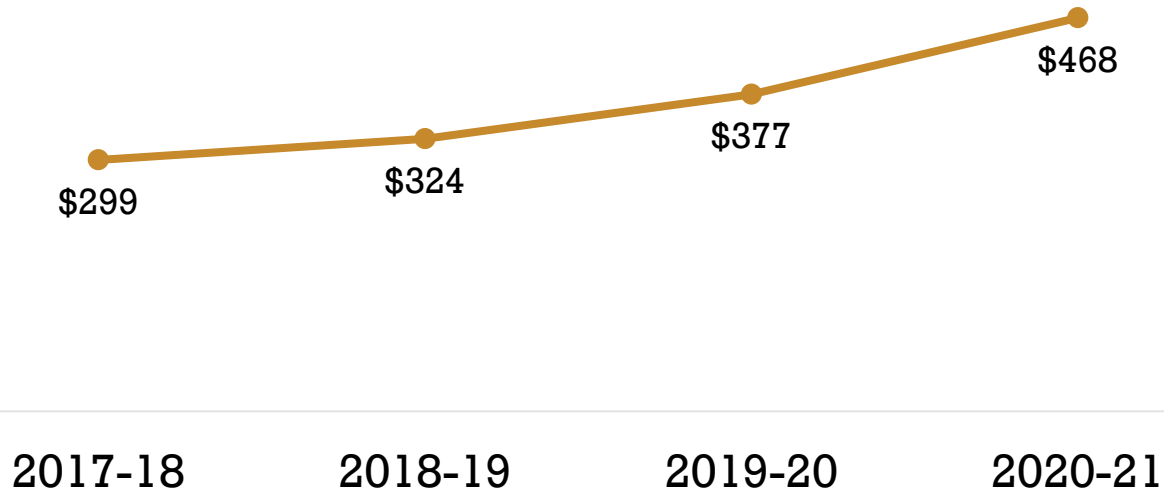
2020-21

- Guaranteed funding for eligible students
- Expanded eligibility to 100% Median Family Income
- Registered apprenticeships added



Washington College Grant: Increased Funding

WCG funding
(in millions)



Funding of other need-based programs

Program	2019-20	2020-21
College Bound	\$19.5 M	\$17 M
State Work Study	\$7.8 M	\$7.8 M
Passport to College	\$2.2 M	\$2.2 M
Passport to Careers	\$0.5 M	\$0.5 M



Washington College Grant (WCG) – Key Messages

The new **Washington College Grant** gives **more money** to **more students** for **more kinds** of education after high school.

Washington State has made a groundbreaking commitment to financial aid for low- and middle-income people of all ages with the new **Washington College Grant (WCG)**.

Welding
or
Nursing?

English
or
Computer Science?

18-month apprenticeship
or
4-year college degree?

Whatever the goal, Washington College Grant can help.



Opportunity Pathways (wsac.wa.gov/pathways)

It's never too early to plan ahead. It's never too late to change your future.

Washington
College Grant

The new Washington College Grant gives more money to more students for more kinds of education after high school.

Class of 2020
Action Plan

Any education after high school—college, apprenticeship, or other training—expands career options and increases earning potential.

Learn More and
Apply for Financial Aid

There are affordable college and career training opportunities for everyone. The first, best step is to apply for financial aid.



What about College Bound?

CBS is a college access and support program.

- Promotes college-going culture by starting the conversation in middle school.
- Provides six years of support and motivation.
- Counselors and advocates receive resources and help engage families.



CBS has additional financial benefits.

- Provides additional funding for a small book allowance.
- Awards are not prorated based on income level for eligible students.



Washington College Grant: Award Amounts

- Maximum award amounts for public institutions increase to cover full tuition and fees.

2019-20 Maximum Award Amount

for full-time students
attending 3 quarters or 2 semesters

\$4,108 at CTCs

\$6,587 for Applied Bachelor's at CTCs

- Can be used to cover other educational costs, as determined by financial aid administrator.
- Award amount is prorated based on income eligibility (MFI level) and enrollment level.



Washington College Grant: Income Eligibility

Income level (% of WA Median Family Income)	Income at MFI cap for a family of 4 (2020-21 levels)	Award proration (% of max award)	
		Current through 2019-20	Starting in 2020-21
0 – 50	<see 2019-20>	100%	100%
51 – 55	\$53,000	70%	100%
56 – 60	\$58,000	65%	70%
61 – 65	\$63,000	60%	60%
66 – 70	\$68,000	50%	50%
71 – 75	\$72,500	<i>Not eligible</i>	24.5%
76 – 100	\$97,000	<i>Not eligible</i>	10%

Source: [WSAC Published MFI Chart for 2019-20 WCG](#) and [2020-21 WCG](#)



Washington College Grant: Award Examples

Example	Income level (% of WA Median Family Income)	Income at MFI cap for a family of 4 (2020-21 levels)	Current through 2019-20		Starting in 2020-21	
			Award proration	Award amount	Award proration	Award amount
Ex.1	51 – 55	\$53,000	70% of max award	\$2,875	100%	\$4,108
Ex.2	76 – 100	\$97,000	<i>Not eligible</i>	<i>Not eligible</i>	10%	\$410

Note: Examples for illustration purposes only. Based on full-time CTC student and 2019-20 award amounts.



Washington Administrative Code (WAC) for WCG

- Revised Code of Washington (RCW) establishes authority for WSAC to develop rules.
 - Rules = Washington Administrative Code (WAC).
 - State aid workgroup/stakeholder representation.
 - Public hearing process.



WAC Timeline

Must be in place no later than July 1, 2020.

- SFA workgroup convenes November 7; workgroup follow-up call in December.
- Input sought from stakeholders.
- WSAC files proposed text with Code Reviser's office late February/early March.
- Proposal published in Register early/mid March.
- Agency hearing late March/early April.
- File with the Code Reviser's Office no later than mid-April.
- Rule normally in effect 31 days after filed with the Code Reviser's office.



WCG – Operational Considerations

- Reporting will continue quarterly.
 - Need ongoing updates for forecasting costs.
- 2020-21 funding and reporting will flow similar to College Bound Scholarship.
- Timely, reconciled data from colleges is critical.



Washington Initiatives





Financial Aid Application Initiative

The combination of the Washington College Grant and the investment to increase financial aid applications provides a unique opportunity to engage statewide.

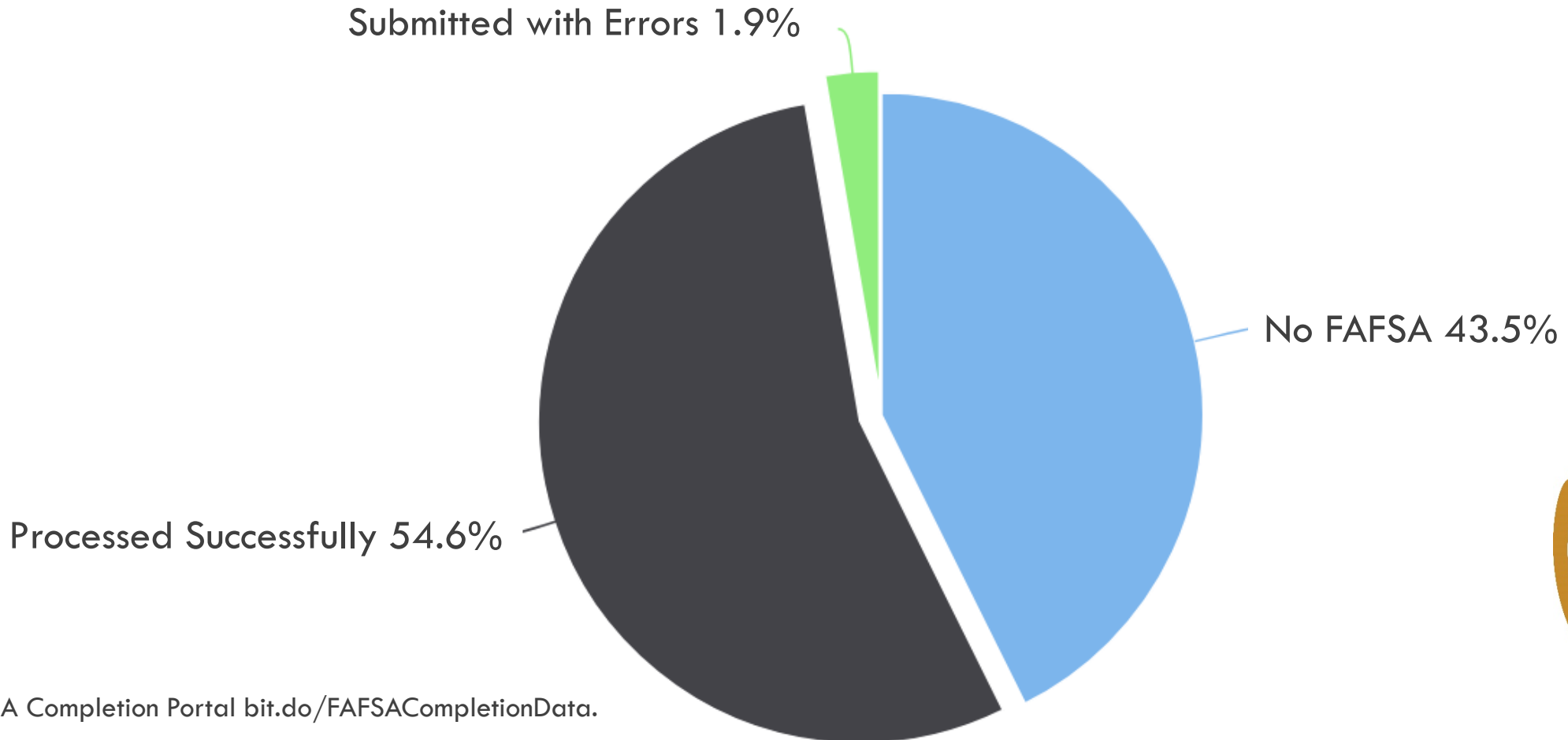
WSAC's affordability initiative focused on increasing financial aid applications (FAFSA/WASFA) for the High School Graduating Class of 2020.

- 12th Year Campaign
- Outreach to students, parents, and local educators
- Partnerships with education and government leaders
- Digital Tools, including texting to CBS seniors



Nearly Half of WA Seniors Didn't Complete a FAFSA

Washington Public HS Seniors FAFSA Completion 2018-19





Adult Reengagement Framework – Vision



Empower adults so they can return to school, earn their credential, and advance their careers.

Statewide framework supports adults to return and complete their education, so they can compete to meet the needs of Washington employers.



Coming Soon: College & Career Compass



Objectives for the tool:

- **Care:** Encourage and inspire adult learners
- **Coach:** Guide with relevant, timely action steps
- **Connect:** Provide pathway and campus support

Content modules:

- Finding programs and campuses
- Preparing for college
- Paying for college
- Resources for veterans, immigrants, and others

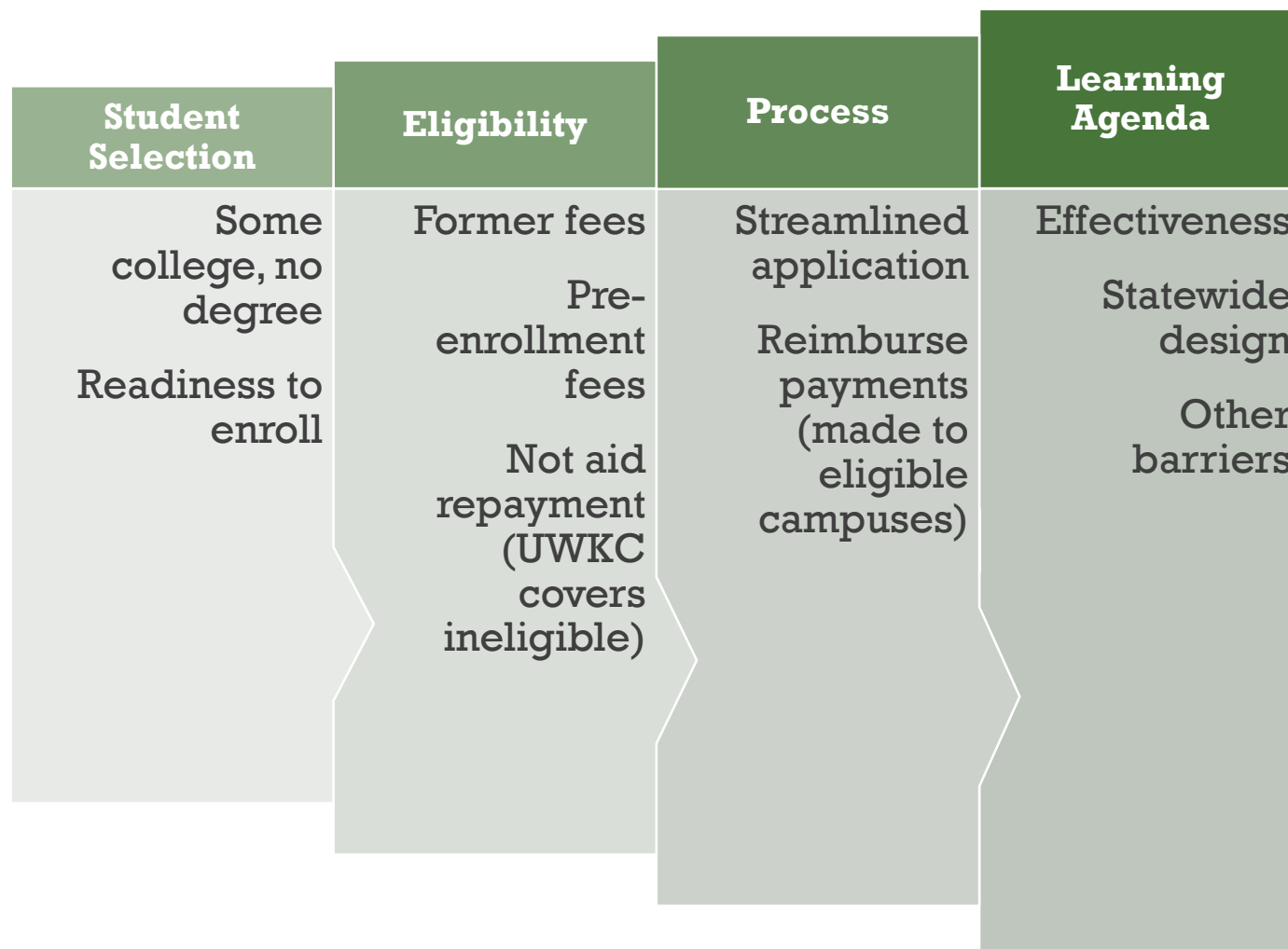


MicroGrant Community Partner Pilot

Small Dollar Pre-Enrollment Barriers

Testing concept with:

- **GSI** Working with Spokane Colleges, EWU, & Whitworth
- **Seattle Colleges District** Working with United Way of King County



2019 Legislative Implementation





2019 Legislative Session

- About 2,900 bills introduced
 - WSAC monitored 172 bills
 - 34 passed both chambers
 - 12 have direct implications for WSAC
- Funding of higher education investments
 - Biennial operating budget: HB 1109
 - Workforce Education Investment Act: HB 2158





Workforce Education Investment Act – HB 2158

- Historic investment creates dedicated revenue source for higher education.
 - Three-tiered increase to state's business-and-occupation tax paid by professions that depend on higher education
 - Oversight board
- Revenue for 2019-20 estimated at \$373.8 million.
- Used on higher education operations, compensation, programs, and student aid.





Other WEIA investments

- Funding to public institutions**
- Guided Pathways at CTCs (\$32.1 million)**
- Career Connected Learning (\$24 million)**
- Washington Student Loan Refinancing Program (\$2.2 million)**
- Statewide campaign to increase financial aid application (\$1.2 million)**



K-12 Educator Career Pathway Supports – HB 1139

- **Streamlined administration of conditional scholarships**
 - Pipeline for Paraeducators
 - Alternative Route
 - Career & Technical Education
 - Teacher Shortage (+\$2M WEIA)
 - Educator Retooling
 - + Loan Repayment
- **Grants**
 - Student Teaching
 - Teacher Endorsement and Certification Help (testing fees)



HB 1973: Dual Enrollment Scholarship

Covered Costs

- College in the High School (CiHS):
 - Tuition fees
- Running Start (RS):
 - Mandatory fees
 - Textbook vouchers

Goals

- Increase the number of low-income students enrolling in CiHS/RS courses
- Address the financial barriers that exist within the current system for low-income students

Eligible Students

- FRPL eligible
- Enrolled in at least one CiHS or RS course @ participating pilot schools
- Have at least a 2.0 GPA



Dual Credit Legislative Updates

HB 1109: OSPI Dual Credit Funding Proviso

SB 5410: Systemwide Credit Policy for AP/IB/CI



HB 1311: College Bound Expansion



- Middle school students from low-income families sign pledge for early commitment of state funding
- Extends the sign-up opportunity to newly eligible 9th graders
- Prioritizes WCG funding to CBS pledge signers in the 66-70% MFI category who are not eligible for CBS



Student Assistance Legislation

Emergency Grant Program – HB 1893

- Grant program for CTCs to assist students experiencing emergencies or unforeseen situations. Initiates work exploring coordination of public benefits (e.g., SNAP and Work Study).

Addressing College Student Homelessness – SB 5800

- \$0.8 million for pilot programs to assist college students experiencing homelessness or formerly in foster care. Launching programs at four CTC districts and two public baccalaureates.
- Accommodations such as laundry, shower facilities, meals, technology, housing assistance, and case management.



Food and Housing Insecurity for College Students

Nationally:

- Postsecondary students experiencing food insecurity, housing insecurity or homelessness in the past year:
 - 7 in 10 community college students
 - 6 in 10 bachelor's degree students
- Impacts particularly negative for low-income, first-generation, and marginalized student populations.
- Basic needs insecurity more common among students ages 26 and older: 74% of students ages 26-30 experienced housing insecurity.



Food and Housing Insecurity for College Students

In Washington:

- Estimated 63,000 undergraduate students in Washington qualified for SNAP but only 13,000 were enrolled.
- UW: An estimated 4,800 to 5,600 students experienced housing instability. They spent nights in a vehicle, shelter, or tent, or doubled-up with friends.
- Seattle area community colleges: 67% experienced food insecurity, housing insecurity or homelessness.

State Aid Programs

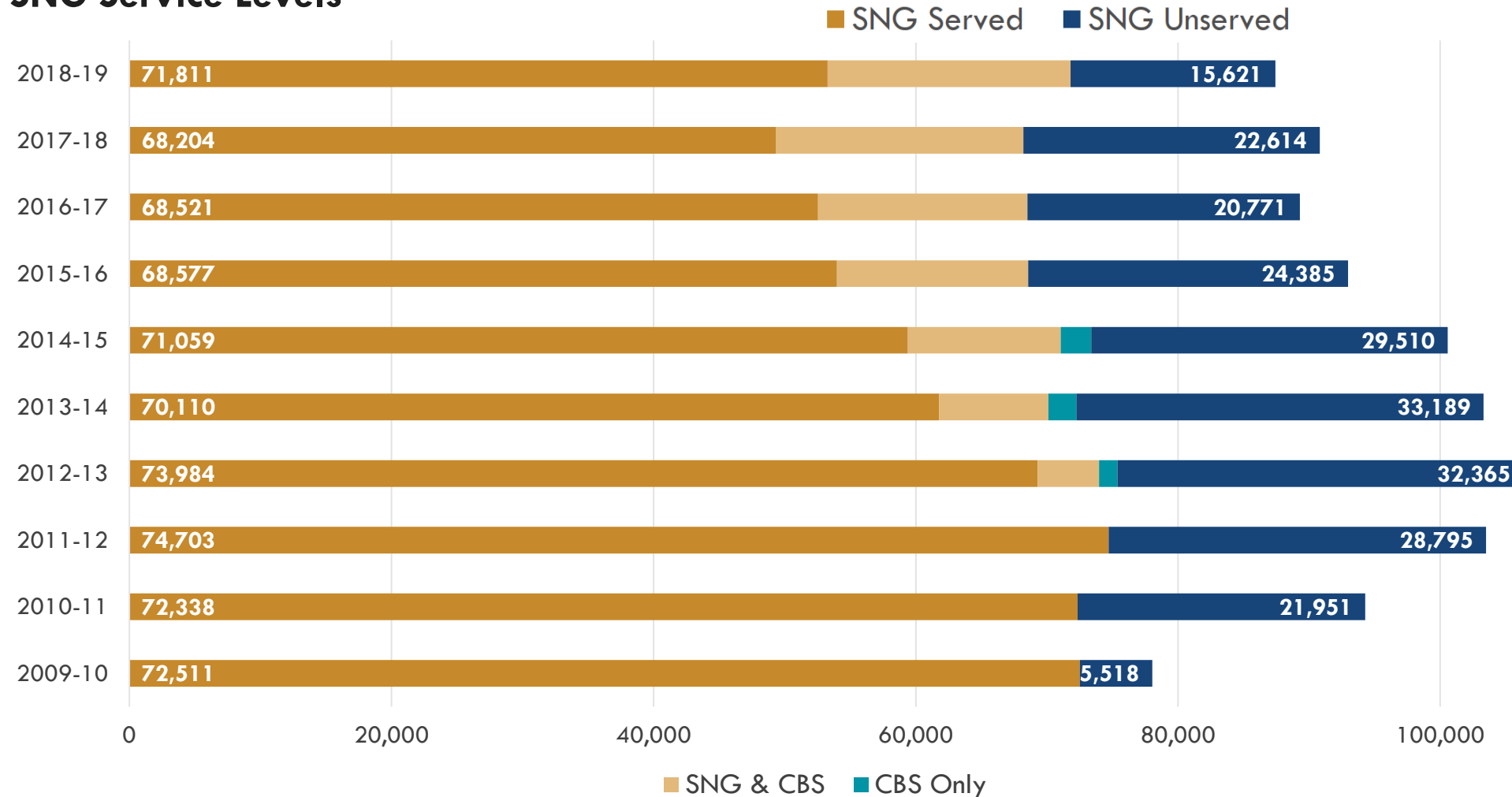




Large Numbers of Students Remain Unserved

Although enrollments have declined in the two-year sector, total eligible students remain high.

SNG Service Levels





2017-18 SWS Student Earnings

- Over \$12.5 million in gross earnings – nearly \$4.9 million in employer match
- 4,103 students received SWS funding
 - 3,755 undergraduate or other (92%), 342 graduate (8%)
- Average earnings: \$3,047
- 78% of gross earnings were on-campus – 22% off-campus

Sector	Headcount	Total Earnings	Average Earnings
Research	514	\$1,821,655	\$3,668
Comprehensive	676	\$2,511,181	\$3,795
Private Four-Year	1,010	\$2,962,115	\$2,822
CTC	1,910	\$5,208,437	\$2,594
TOTAL	4,103 (unduplicated)	\$12,503,388	\$3,047



2019-20 SWS Operational Updates

- Flat-funded at \$7.8 million annually over the FY 2019-21 biennium.
- No changes to employer matching requirements/SWS reimbursement rates.
- Increased program over-commitment level to better achieve 100% utilization.
- Institutions with additional capacity should request supplemental SWS funds in Survey Rounds (November, February, May).
- 40% savings requirement previously associated with full-time SWS employment has been eliminated.
- As of January 1, 2020:
 - State minimum wage will increase to \$13.50.
 - Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML) benefits possible for SWS employees if program qualifications are met.



2019-20 SWS Policy Updates: PFML

Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML) is a state insurance program administered by Employment Security (ESD):

- Eligible employees and larger employers have been paying quarterly premiums to ESD via payroll withholding since 1/1/19
- No exemptions for student employees
- Employees qualify for PFML benefits beginning 1/1/20 by working 820 hours in the preceding 12 month and experiencing a qualifying event
- More information on PFML can be found here: <https://esd.wa.gov/paid-family-medical-leave>.



2019-20 SWS Policy Updates: TANF

SWS and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF):

- Students with SWS awards that anticipate working now automatically qualify for TANF food assistance purposes (identical to FWS)
- SWS is exempt from DSHS 20 hour/week work requirement (identical to FWS)
- SWS earnings are not counted as income by DSHS for TANF cash assistance purposes (identical to FWS)
- SWS earnings are counted as income by DSHS for TANF food assistance purposes (opposite of FWS)



Passport Program Expansion

Passport to College Promise Scholarship

- Comprehensive supports from high school to higher education

Passport to Apprenticeship Opportunities

- Career-related training under state-approved pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs





Prior Session Legislation – Current Implementation

- Foster and Homeless Youth
 - [SB 6274](#) – Passport expansion - “Passport to Careers”
 - Unaccompanied homeless (2019-20 AY)
 - Phased in age eligibility - by 2020, age 13
 - Apprenticeships





Takeaway/Resource: Student Loan Advocate

Supports current & future student loan borrowers in Washington

- Understanding the different types of loans
- Income-driven repayment
- Public service loan forgiveness
- Loan discharges, deferment & forbearance, consolidation, private loans

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Dates and Resources





2019-20 Interim Reporting Dates

Report	Due Dates
Fall Interim Report	November 8, 2019
Winter Interim Report	February 7, 2020
Spring Interim Report	May 8, 2020
Final Interim Report*	July 6, 2020

*The interim report in CSAW opens three weeks before the interim report due date. Colleges can upload their interim report data any time within that three week window.



2018-19 Unit Record Reporting Timeline

Date	Action
August 2019	URR training webinars
August 12, 2019	URR application available for initial upload of data into WSAC Portal
October 17, 2019	Unit Record Report final submission date
October – Nov/Dec 2019	WSAC staff data editing and review
December 2019	URR data finalized
January 2020	URR Institutional Profile reports available for 2018-19 year

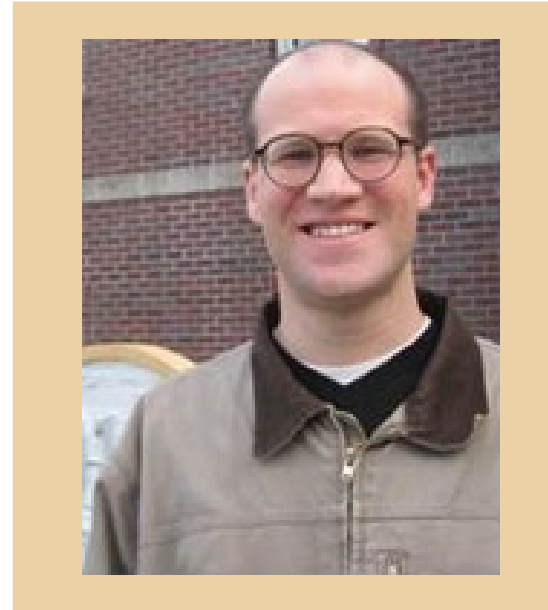


WSAC New SFA Staff



Rhiannon Kemp

Program
Coordinator
Need Based
Programs



Calvin Romaker

Program
Coordinator
Passport to
Careers



Advancing Equity, Opportunity, and Attainment

- Registration is open!
- Session proposals being accepted
- Sponsorships available



December 11 • University of Washington • Seattle

WSAC's **Pave the Way** conference aims to ensure historically marginalized students receive the support they need to succeed.



Contact Information

Questions/Subject	Email us at
Financial Aid Administrators – SNG Questions	sng@wsac.wa.gov
Repayments	repayment@wsac.wa.gov
Students – State Financial Aid Questions	finaid@wsac.wa.gov
Unit Record Report	unitrecord@wsac.wa.gov
WASFA Help	wasfa@wsac.wa.gov

Online

www.wsac.wa.gov

www.readysetgrad.org

www.theWashBoard.org

