



How to access the College Bound Scholarship

As you reach the end of high school, it is important to understand how to access the College Bound Scholarship. Now is the time to review the program requirements and prepare yourself for what comes next. The College Bound commitment ensures that eligible students will have their tuition at public college rates, some fees and a small book allowance covered by state financial aid. This document outlines the steps you will take to access the scholarship, as well as the responsibility of your college and the College Bound program.

TO ACCESS THE SCHOLARSHIP



You

- Meet the CBS pledge requirements.
- File the FAFSA or WASFA. You may file as early as October 1. Remember that each college has their own financial aid deadlines that you must follow.
- List every college that you plan on applying to on your financial aid application.
- Be admitted to and enroll in an eligible institution in Washington within one year of high school graduation.



Your College

- Determines if your income meets the eligibility guidelines.
- Calculates your financial aid award.
- Sends you an Award Letter (by mail or email) indicating how much financial aid you will receive.
- Disburses your financial aid, including your College Bound Scholarship, before classes begin.



College Bound

- Matches your financial aid application to your College Bound application.
- Identifies you as a College Bound student to the colleges you listed on the FAFSA or WASFA.

If you have questions about your financial aid award, eligibility, or the process, please contact the financial aid office at your college. To verify if you have met the pledge requirements, or check if your financial aid application matched to your College Bound application, contact the College Bound program at 888-535-0747, option 1 or collegebound@wsac.wa.gov.



College Bound Scholarship Myths and Facts



Myth

College Bound is a full ride.

Fact

The College Bound Scholarship is not a full ride but covers many college expenses: tuition at public college rates, some fees, and a small book allowance. It doesn't cover room and board, but that's ok because...

Myth

If I get College Bound, I won't be able to get any other form of financial aid.



Fact

You can receive other financial aid in addition to College Bound. When you file a financial aid application (the FAFSA or WASFA), you'll find out if you're eligible to receive additional money for college.

Myth

If I completed a College Bound application then I will automatically receive the scholarship.



Fact

Completing the application is just the first step. You also need to fulfil the College Bound Pledge and meet eligibility requirements in high school. Then you'll receive the scholarship!

Myth

If I don't qualify for federal financial aid, I can't get College Bound.



Fact

College Bound is a state financial aid program for Washington students. As long as you meet state residency and program requirements, you can receive College Bound—just file the WASFA instead of the FAFSA.

Myth

College Bound can only be used for one degree.



Fact

Students have flexibility in how they choose to use the scholarship, and in many cases can earn more than one degree—like earning an associates degree before completing a bachelors degree.