

Counselor's Corner

Centennial Middle School



January 2023

College Bound Scholarship

Your child may be eligible to sign up for the College Bound Scholarship! This early promise of financial aid is funded by Washington state to encourage students to continue their education after high school.

What does the scholarship pay for?

College Bound combines with other state financial aid to cover the average tuition (at comparable public colleges), some fees, and a small book allowance. It is not a “full-ride” scholarship. Other college costs--such as room and board, transportation, and personal expenses--will be the student and family's responsibility. These could be covered by a combination of the family's funds and federal grants, loans, scholarships, and work-study.

Who is eligible to apply?

Any 7th or 8th grade student who meets one or more of the following requirements is eligible to apply:

- Their family meets the income requirements as listed in the brochure or on www.collegebound.wa.gov.
- They are a foster youth or a dependent of the state.
- Their family receives basic food or TANF benefits.

How can my child sign up?

- Since 2020, eligible students are automatically enrolled in the College Bound program based on income information that you provide to Snohomish School District during enrollment updates.
- Auto-enrollment begins during 7th grade, and families will receive information by mail and email directly from the “Washington Student Achievement Council.”

To learn more, visit www.collegebound.wa.gov, call 888-535-0747 (Option 1), or email collegebound@wsac.wa.gov.



School Contact Information:

Counselors:

Loren Childers (A-K)
Loren.Childers@sno.wednet.edu
(360)563-4532

Erica Fortune (L-Z)
Erica.Fortune@sno.wednet.edu
(360)563-4533

Student Support:

Chynna Loeffler
chynna.Loeffler@sno.wednet.edu
(360)563-4575

Registrar:

Wendy Floyd
Wendy.Floyd@sno.wednet.edu
(360)563-4528

Did You Know?

The high school graduation rate for College Bound students in the Class of 2018 was 75%. The rate for eligible students who did *not* apply for the College Bound Scholarship program was 62%. Yikes! All of those scholarships were left unclaimed.

Myth Buster

MYTH: You can't apply for scholarships until senior year.

REALITY: Wrong! If you wait until senior year to start searching and applying for scholarships, you're already three years behind the curve.

Many scholarships are actually open to students 13 years and older (and some even younger!). For example, students need to apply for the College Bound Scholarship before the end of 8th grade.

When it comes to scholarships, there's only one thing you really need to remember – the more often you apply, the more chances you have to win.

Check out theWashBoard.org. It matches Washington students with scholarships!

Upcoming Events & Announcements

- **8th grade High School & Beyond Plan Career Search:**
 - Your School Counselors, Mr. Childers and Mrs. Fortune will be helping you update your HSBP during 1st and 2nd semester Health Classes
 - You will complete a “Career Search” based on your interests to add to your online portfolio.
 - You will also receive a second presentation on “Financial Aid & Scholarships.”
 - These lessons are scheduled for January 10th-12th, and then January 17th-19th.
- **7th grade High School & Beyond Plan Career Search:**
 - Mr. Cowan's terms 1 & 2 Tech classes completed the HSBP portfolio in November.
 - Mr. Cowan's Term 3 and 4 Tech classes will do the HSBP lessons in March.

Student Checklist

- Think about college as an important part of your future.** Discuss your thoughts and ideas with your family and with people at school.
- Start saving** for college, if you haven't already.
- Take challenging and interesting classes** to prepare for high school.

Family Checklist

- Continue saving** for your child's college education.
- Stay in contact with your child's teachers and counselor** so that they can let you know about any changes in your child's behavior or schoolwork.
- Keep an eye on your child's grades** and help find tutoring if necessary.



Visit readyssetgrad.org to learn more and access resources to help your child make a plan.