

College Bound Outreach

Budget Language

\$1,454,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and \$1,454,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 are provided solely for contracting with a college scholarship organization with expertise in conducting outreach to students concerning eligibility for the Washington college bound scholarship consistent with chapter 405, Laws of 2007. The office may require the recipient of these funds to report the impacts of the recipient's efforts in alignment with the measures of the Washington school improvement framework.

Proviso Purpose

The pass-through funding in this proviso is provided to a college scholarship organization with expertise in providing outreach to students regarding eligibility for the College Bound Scholarship program. College Success Foundation was the organization OSPI contracted with for this work.

Services Provided

College Success Foundation (CSF) utilized five key methods to implement its primary strategies of developing notification and awareness for middle school students receiving College Bound (CB) and enhancing college and career readiness support services to CB students in middle and high schools. The five key methods included the following:

- Counselor and practitioner training to raise awareness of auto-enrollment to eligible middle school students and their parents or guardians and the importance of filling out the FAFSA/WASFA;
- Practitioner and student-facing resources to introduce CB requirements, how to access CB funds, general financial aid terminology, financial aid process, types of financial aid, and steps to complete the FAFSA/WASFA;
- Integrated middle school and high school College Bound students into existing college and career planning;
- Technical assistance to identify and share resources and partnerships available to support CB students, including assisting schools and uploading addresses to the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) portal; and
- Campaigns to strengthen outreach to CB students.

CSF also provided direct student services through their College Bound Regional Officers (CBROs) to support 12th grade student/family-facing FAFSA/WASFA workshops and through their middle school programming to enhance College Bound awareness. College Bound Regional Officers (CBROs) and CSF Middle School Advisors (MSAs, formerly AmeriCorps College and Career Coaches) worked continuously during the program year to provide ongoing support to



school, district, and community partners to keep students and families engaged.

This year, CSF provided 126 training sessions for CBROs, Middle School Advisors (MSAs), and their supervisors. The trainings helped MSAs enhance a college-going culture at their middle schools; improved CBRO services to schools, districts, and community-based partners; and strengthened supervisor effectiveness to set up their team members for success.

CSF's program pathway continued to focus on 8th grade as the priority group. Middle School Advisors (MSAs) delivered standardized College and Career Readiness (CACR) curriculum that incorporated instruction, group discussion, and individual student activities to engage all learners at their school sites.

CBROs worked with school and district staff along with community-based organizations across Washington State to identify what support, training, and/or technical assistance was required and to determine and develop the best strategies to educate and support eligible students about College Bound and opportunities available in postsecondary education. Five CBROs served an area roughly corresponding to the state's nine Education Service Districts. Due to time and resource constraints, CBROs provided support to practitioners through virtual presentations, virtual meetings, and resource sharing when they could not attend an in-person event. This year, CBROs were able to reach large numbers of students and families to aid their FAFSA/WASFA completion, strengthen their understanding of College Bound, and provide general financial aid resources and knowledge. CBROs reached over 14,800 students and family members.

Criteria for Receiving Services/Grants

College Bound Regional Officers serve schools and districts throughout their respective regions. They focus their time based on objective need, primarily low CBS sign-up rates, and low FAFSA/WASFA completion rates. They also consider subjective criteria including a school's lack of, but desire to, build a college-going culture and lack of other school or community-based service providers or resources.

All middle and high schools and students eligible for the College Bound Scholarship (CBS) are served. Districts and schools can receive: 1) training on the College Bound Scholarship; 2) student workbooks and support to engage eligible and enrolled students in the College Bound Scholarship program; and 3) regional workshops to learn ways to support College Bound students in career and college readiness.

Beneficiaries in the 2024-25 School Year

Number of School Districts:	41
Number of Schools:	266
Number of Students:	11,880
Number of Educators:	2,730

Other : Club youth & teens

(to include youth & teens

from sub-contractors)

55 unique CBOs

Are Federal or Other Funds Contingent on State Funding?

No.

State Funding History

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2025	\$1,454,000	\$1,450,342
2024	\$1,454,000	\$1,434,103
2023	\$1,454,000	\$1,454,000
2022	\$1,454,000	\$1,441,254
2021	\$1,454,000	\$1,454,000

Number of Beneficiaries Per Fiscal Year (e.g. School Districts, Schools, Students, Educators, Other)

Fiscal Year	Number of Beneficiaries
2025	260
2024	180
2023	161
2022	226
2021	292

Programmatic Changes Since Inception (If Any)

This body of work has been discontinued by the legislature. Beginning July 1, 2025, OSPI is no longer implementing this grant/program/partnership/contract.

Program(s) Evaluation or Major Findings

CBROs worked closely with districts, community-based organizations, and schools to provide FAFSA/WASFA completion support to College Bound seniors in high school. CBROs supported many school and community events and worked to stay aware of updates to the Better FAFSA.

The FAFSA completion rate for students at schools directly served by CBROs is higher than the completion rate at schools not directly served by CBROs. Additionally, the FAFSA completion rate for College Bound students is higher among students at schools served by CBROs.

Completion rates are better this year than last year among all groups, and the gaps in FAFSA completion between CB and non-CB students are smaller this year than last year.

FAFSA completion rates as of 6/2/2025	Students from school with CBRO interactions	Students from schools without CBRO interactions	Students from all schools
CB Students	46%	39%	42%
Non-CB Students	50%	48%	49%
All Students	48%	44%	46%

FAFSA completion rates in 2024	Students from school with CBRO interactions	Students from schools without CBRO interactions	Students from all schools
CB Students	41%	31%	36%
Non-CB Students	49%	45%	47%
All Students	45%	38%	41%

Major Challenges Faced by Program(s)

In April 2025, CSF's AmeriCorps grant was terminated, and CSF hired eight full-time Middle School Advisors to continue conducting College Bound outreach and college-going activities in CSF partner middle schools for the remainder of the 2024-25 academic year.

Future Opportunities

This body of work has been discontinued by the legislature. Future opportunities will depend on future legislative direction and resources dedicated to the work.

Other Relevant Information

N/A

Schools/Districts Receiving Assistance

[Click here to see a list of all OSPI grant recipients in the 2025 Fiscal Year.](#)

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