



Letter for 12th Grade Student for General College Admissions

Congratulations you are part of the Graduating Class of 2023! Graduating from high school is a big accomplishment and something to be celebrated.

Washington's public, four-year universities and college are here to share with you that you can go to college and that we want you. Wherever you are and whatever you are considering, we want you to know that going to a Washington public, four-year university is an opportunity for you and it is not too late.

Senior year goes by quickly, so we have shared a suggested list of steps to guide you through this year and prepare you for what comes next.

Together, we encourage you, to:

- Continue to engage in activities, community service, interests, classes and work that you like.
- Continue to challenge yourself academically and do your best work.
- Talk with friends, family, teachers, counselors, community members and admissions counselors about what is next.
- Reach out to colleges with questions.
- Begin to look at resources and support to help pay for college.

And we are here to help you through all of this. You are not alone. And if you were wondering,

- **Our students look like you.** Our students identify with all races, ethnicities and genders. **We are committed to providing affordable college.** Costs to attend a Washington public, four-year college are some of the lowest in the United States. **College offers more than a degree.** Study in other countries, participate in clubs and activities, get involved in community service, take part in research, meet lifelong friends and explore potential careers through internships. **Earning a college degree is a lifetime of benefits.** In Washington, it is estimated employers will create 373,000 new jobs in Washington by 2026, and 70 percent of these jobs are expected to require or be filled by workers with a postsecondary credential.

We want Washington students to attend a Washington college. Together, Washington colleges and universities are here to help students become the next author, biologist, chef, influencer, YouTuber, nurse, or video game designer. Universities and colleges come in all shapes, sizes and locations. There is a place for you, and for every Washington student. For more information go [here](#).

12th Grade College Planning Checklist

Fall 2022

- Meet with High School Counselor: Check-in to make sure on pace for high school graduation and to meet college admissions. Determine what courses you may need to complete this year to meet both high school graduation and college coursework requirements.
- Continue to work hard and maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0. or higher.
- Learn about colleges and explore majors and careers. Talk with friends, family, teachers, community members and high school counselors about college. Attend a college fair or college visit session at your high school or in your community.
- Apply for college admissions. All Washington public, four-year colleges and universities are part of the [Common App](#). This allows students to complete a single application for multiple colleges and universities.
- Gather documents and sign up for the FAFSA (federal financial aid form). The FAFSA application opens on October 1, but there are pre-steps to take to be ready when the application opens. Apply for your FSA ID (username and password) ahead of time and gather documents you may need. Here is more [information](#).
- Attend a financial aid event at your high school or in your community to learn more about both federal and state financial aid and scholarship opportunities.
- Apply for federal and state financial aid. Complete the FAFSA application.
- Apply for scholarships. Explore college and universities scholarship applications and opportunities. Each college or university has dedicated information to scholarships through the financial aid webpage. Explore and apply for opportunities to finance your education.
- Keep involved. Continue to participate or try out extracurricular, sports, clubs, or community service activities.

Winter 2023

- Apply for college admissions if you have not already. All Washington public, four-year colleges and universities are part of the [Common App](#). This allows students to complete a single application for multiple colleges and universities.
- Apply for federal and state financial aid. Complete the FAFSA application if you have not already.
- Continue to apply for scholarships. Explore college and universities scholarship applications and opportunities. Each college or university has dedicated information to scholarships through the financial aid webpage. Explore and apply for opportunities to finance your education.
- Meet with High School Counselor: Check-in to make sure on pace for high school graduation and to meet college admissions. Determine what courses you may need to complete this year to meet both high school graduation and college coursework requirements.
- Continue to work hard and maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0. or higher.

Spring 2023

- Hear back from colleges and universities. Receive your admissions decision and decide where you plan to enroll.
- Meet with High School Counselor: Check-in to make sure on pace for high school graduation and to meet college admissions. Determine what courses you may need to complete this year to meet both high school graduation and college coursework requirements.
- Continue to work hard and maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0. or higher.