

11th Grade Student Letter

You have a future with a Washington public, four-year university! The Washington Guaranteed Admissions Program proactively admits all eligible in-state high school seniors to Washington's participating public colleges and universities.

Together, Central Washington University, Eastern Washington University, The Evergreen State College, University of Washington Tacoma, Washington State University and Western Washington University, are here to share with you that you can go to college and that we want you. You might think college is not an option for 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.

Your junior year in high school is a great time to check in to make sure you are on pace to graduate from high school and go to college. We have shared a suggested list of steps to guide you through this year and prepare you for your senior year and the potential for **guaranteed admission** to college.

Together, we encourage you to prepare for the future with us:

- Experience and explore activities, community service, interests, classes and work that you like. Make sure you're working towards a cumulative GPA of 3.0.
- Talk with friends, family, teachers, counselors, community members and admissions counselors about what's next for you.
- Visit colleges and reach out with questions.
- Begin exploring 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 brings 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 you 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 to <https://bit.ly/WaGap>.

11th Grade College Planning Checklist

Fall 2023

- **Plan to graduate.** Meet with your high school counselor to make sure you are on pace to graduate from high school.
- **Prepare for college.** Meet with your high school counselor to check if you are on pace to meet the coursework for guaranteed admissions to a Washington, public, four-year college or university. If not on pace, identify what changes you can make now to be on pace by the end of high school.
- **Explore dual credit.** Meet with your high school counselor, or if applicable a college advisor, to determine if coursework you have completed in high school may count for college credit or what options for dual credit coursework you may enroll in. Dual credit is a good way to explore and experience college early on.
- **Keep involved.** Continue to participate or try out extracurricular, sports, clubs, or community service activities.
- Research **college athletics** (if applicable). If you want to play Division I or II sports in college, start the certification process. Work with your high school counselor to check if your courses meet the NCAA curriculum requirements.

Winter 2024

- **Stay on track.** Check-in with your high school counselor to make sure you're on pace for high school graduation and will meet college admissions standards.
- **Keep involved.** Continue to participate or try out extracurricular, sports, clubs, or community service activities.
- Discover **colleges and explore majors and careers.** Take time to visit college websites. Talk with friends, family, teachers, community members and high school counselors about college. Begin to get a sense of what matters to you in a college.

Spring 2024

- **Plan for the fall.** Check-in with your high school counselor to make sure you're on pace for high school graduation and will meet college admissions standards. Identify courses for your senior year.
- **Keep involved.** Continue to participate or try out extracurricular, sports, clubs, or community service activities.
- **Create a list of colleges.** The list should be a long list of colleges you can shorten as you learn more.
- **Monitor athletic recruiting** (if applicable).
- **Begin your scholarship research.** Look at scholarships in your community through service organizations and businesses. Work with your high school counselor to identify other scholarships. If applicable, begin applying for scholarships.

Summer 2024

- **Visit colleges and universities!**