

Washington has many programs that prepare students for apprenticeship programs, provide job training while students are still in high school, and help students get into college. Your school counselor is the best person to answer questions. Here is a sample of what is available:

Early outreach programs offer tutoring, mentors, and visits to college campuses for many students. These programs often start in middle school. Some serve specific kinds of students – students who are interested in science, or students from a specific ethnic group, culture or income level. Students who participate in them are often awarded scholarships.

Federal financial aid and state financial aid is available to students from middle- and low-income families. High school counselors can help you apply for this aid.

Skills Centers offer job skills training to high school students. A Skills Center serves many school districts, and offers programs that would be too expensive for one school district to support by itself. Usually, students can go part of the school day to their high school, and part of the day to a Skills Center. They can learn skills such as cooking, auto repair, computer programming, or carpentry. Some Skills Center programs are directly connected to apprenticeship programs or other job preparation programs in community and technical colleges.

Running Start/Tech Prep: Students in

Washington high schools can also earn college credits for free during their junior and senior years. They can enroll in community and technical college classes, and get both high school and college credit. High school counselors can help you learn more about these programs.

The College Bound Scholarship is available to all students who come from families that have moderate or low incomes. Families must sign up for this program when students are in the 7th and 8th grades. The scholarship covers the full cost of tuition and books at a two- or four-year public college. Students must promise to stay in school, demonstrate good citizenship, and graduate from high school.



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