

Keep College Bound strong.

Invest to maintain core functions of a thriving program that works.

FY 2017

\$531,000
to support
14-fold increase
in students
served.

Invest in the infrastructure of the growing College Bound Scholarship program, which supports our state's low-income students in reaching higher levels of educational attainment. The program's success and growth necessitate additional resources to meet the demands of program enrollees, to improve eligibility monitoring, to communicate through multiple formats to students and families throughout middle and high school, to improve data requests and tools, to meet additional legislative requirements, and to steward program funds.

College Bound works. It promotes educational advancement and supports student success. College Bound students are graduating from high school at rates over 15 percentage points higher than their peers from low-income families who did not sign up. The program has proven to be pivotal in increasing awareness of the importance of pursuing postsecondary opportunities among low-income students. For the 8th grade class of 2015, 91 percent of eligible students applied for the scholarship, making college part of their educational plan.

The total number of students in College Bound has increased 14-fold, from 15,000 in 2008 to almost 215,000 today. WSAC cannot sustain redirection of existing resources to cope with the dramatic increase of College Bound students and to respond to continued demands for more services and accurate, timely data.

The College Bound Scholarship is a proven success—and it's growing.

This \$531,000 will provide resources to expand communications, streamline the application system, enhance data transfer, improve eligibility monitoring, and fulfill legislative requirements. WSAC requests funding to hire 2.0 FTEs for program administration, 1.0 FTE for research and data compilation, and 1.0 FTE for communication development and implementation. These positions will help manage the growing workload; ensure that program requirements are met; and distribute information to students, families, school districts, college access partners, and others.

Strengthening the College Bound Scholarship program aligns with statewide goals to increase high school completion and postsecondary attainment.



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