Washington State Opportunity Scholarship

**WHAT IT DOES:** The Washington State Opportunity Scholarship (WSOS) supports low- and middle-income students pursuing eligible, high-demand majors in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and health care, and encourages recipients to work in Washington State once they complete their degrees. The WSOS Board aims to support 3,000 total scholars annually.

**WHY IT MATTERS:** WSOS will ensure that our state remains a cutting edge leader in new technologies and industries by investing in low- and middle-income students who will become the next generation of professionals in high-demand fields. A globally competitive state depends upon the investment we make now in the future of our young people.

**WSOS CULTIVATES HOMEGROWN TALENT:**
WSOS is Washington-focused so recipients must:

» Be a resident of Washington State.
» Have a Washington State high school diploma or GED.
» Intend to complete a bachelor’s degree from an eligible Washington State college or university.

**WHO FUNDS IT:** Businesses and the Washington State Legislature have joined forces to fulfill the promise of better education and career opportunities for Washington students. Together they have created a unique public-private partnership including major employers like Boeing and Microsoft.

**WHO ADMINISTERS IT:** The College Success Foundation (CSF) has a respected track record of scholarship and mentorship coordination, and provides administrative leadership to the program. The WSOS Board, made up of dedicated partners, provides the long-term vision and governance of the program. Under the Board’s leadership and CSF’s administration, the scholarship program is poised to make a real difference in the futures of thousands of talented, low- and middle-income students across the state.

**TO APPLY:** The application window is open annually from December to February. Applicants must:

» Pursue a first bachelor’s degree in an eligible science, technology, engineering, mathematics, or health care field.
» Be high school seniors, college freshmen, or college sophomores.
» Plan to attend college full-time during the upcoming academic year.
» Have a high school or college cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher at the time of application.
» Have a total annual family income less than or equal to 125 percent of median Washington State family income.
» Have completed the most recent Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March.

"To know that there are people out there that say ‘Yes, I realize the worth of what you’re doing,’ it means the world to me. I wouldn’t be able to do this without the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship."

**Thomas Lee, Mechanical Engineering Major, Central Washington University**

For more information, visit waoportunityscholarship.org.