

Thinking Ahead to College: You Can Sign Up for Scholarships Now

It's not too early to be thinking about college. While we can work to motivate our children to work hard and earn good grades, everybody knows that the cost of college can be a big obstacle. Here's some great news.

There is a new scholarship program from the State of Washington. This four-year scholarship covers the cost of college tuition, fees and books for low-income students who sign a pledge in 7th or 8th grade promising to graduate from high school and to demonstrate good citizenship. This program provides hope and incentive for students and families who otherwise might not consider college as an option because of its cost.

Eligibility

Seventh and eighth grade students from families eligible for free or reduced-priced lunches who sign the pledge may participate. Their family income must remain at 65 percent or less of the state's median income by the time of high school graduation to permit a scholarship award.

Reason for the Program

To motivate and prepare these students to participate and succeed in postsecondary education. Washington ranks 32nd nationally in the percentage of low-income students who participate in postsecondary education. These students will represent 33 percent of the high school graduating class within 10 years.

For more information, visit this website

<http://www.hecb.wa.gov/paying/waaidprgm/collegeboundsscholarship.asp> or contact our counseling office here at school. This is a great opportunity!