

The era of readily available living wage jobs for high school graduates is over. Students need to enter post-secondary programs to gain the technical and work skills they need to thrive in today's workforce.



Our schools work to prepare students for academic success in college or another post-secondary education program. But students need help to transition into post-secondary education opportunities. By 2020, 68% of the jobs in Washington State will require a college degree or a career credential.

Our schools have increased academic rigor to better prepare students for higher education—but that's not enough. All students need greater access to information and guidance to explore college and career options. Students from low-income households need additional support—often being the first in their families to seek a college education—to navigate a complex college and financial aid application process.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

College & Career Next Steps supports our high school and middle school students by:

- Providing high school students and parents with *Naviance* cloud-based tools to explore career interests, search post-secondary options, prepare resumes and streamline college applications. *Naviance* helped the Class of 2017 submitted 14,825 college applications!
- Supporting students with completion of college applications, essay writing and resume creation with summer and after school college application workshops, and VIBES College Corps mentoring program at the four comprehensive high schools.
- Helping high school students interested in pursuing post-secondary education complete scholarship and financial aid applications, and track high school community service hours.
- Developing college counseling expertise in high school counselors, and expanding access to academic/college counseling through *Counselor in the Commons* program in secondary school.
- Nurturing a college-going culture in middle school through online *Naviance* career exploration module. *Naviance* is available to all middle school students and parents 24/7.
- Enrolling eligible middle school students in the College Bound Scholarship program.
- Supporting the annual College Conference and parent information nights for *Naviance*.

Total Support Sought: \$75,000

Timeline: September 2017—August 2018

MEASURABLE OUTCOMES

The number of students served will be tracked. In addition, student use of *Naviance* will be reported along with the total number of college applications submitted. Long-term post-secondary enrollment tracking of students will use National Student Clearing House data as available.