

**REPORTING DATA FOR:**

**BACCALAUREATE**

OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARS  
COHORTS 1-13

**CAREER & TECHNICAL**

OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARS  
COHORTS 1-5

**RURAL JOBS**

OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARS  
COHORTS 1-4

**GRADUATE**

OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARS  
COHORTS 1-4

**2024**  
LEGISLATIVE REPORT

WASHINGTON STATE  
**OPPORTUNITY**  
SCHOLARSHIP





**PREPARED BY:**

WASHINGTON STATE  
**OPPORTUNITY**  
SCHOLARSHIP

**PREPARED FOR:**

Washington State Legislature

**PHOTOGRAPHY BY:**

Kristian Marson

**COVER PHOTO:**

**FREDY**, Opportunity Scholar

*December 1, 2024*

# INNOVATION CONTINUES AS WE BUILD A WORKFORCE FOR WASHINGTON

A LETTER FROM WSOS BOARD CHAIR BRAD SMITH

**The Washington State Opportunity Scholarship (WSOS) was born out of innovation: public and private leaders came together to find a solution to a chronic problem to better meet the needs of our students and workforce. We've stayed agile as we built the nation's first public-private scholarship partnership, ensuring students remained our North Star while delivering a strong return on the investments made by donors and the state.**

This year brings another chapter in our continuing growth as we push this program to work smarter for Washington students, employers, and taxpayers.

We've expanded from our initial mission of providing scholarships to those pursuing baccalaureate degrees to supporting a broader range of educational pathways. Today, you'll find apprentices, graduate degree holders, and hundreds of certificated workers who launched careers in the trades, STEM, or health care workforce thanks to WSOS support. We launched a program to meet the unique needs of rural students, and we expanded our support beyond financial resources to ensure Opportunity Scholars can access a peer and industry mentor to help open doors.

**In just the last four years, the number of Scholars we select annually has more than doubled, from just over 1,000 in 2020 to approximately 2,500 today.**

Our program has a decades-worth of success that demonstrates the model works:

- Nearly 10,000 scholarship recipients have received degrees in high-demand fields.
- Five years into their careers, graduates from the Baccalaureate Scholarship program typically earn about double what their family made when they applied.
- After a single year in the workforce, recipients of the Career & Technical Scholarship typically earn two to three times what their families made when they applied.

The growing complexity of our programming also demanded changes administratively. That's why WSOS asked the Legislature for permission to create a new WSOS Foundation to serve as our program administrator and vital back-office support. The new Foundation launched in September and holds responsibility for finance, technology, and HR services.

A dedicated program administrator focused solely on executing the WSOS mission will allow us to continue our unprecedented success. The Foundation hired the former Executive Director of the WSOS program, Kimber Connors, to lead its work. Kimber has served WSOS for almost a decade. Her leadership was vital in growing the program to what it is today. Retaining her expertise is critical in easing the transition for both staff and Scholars. Kimber's move to the Foundation leaves an opportunity for the Board to find another visionary leader to maintain and build on the WSOS programs' momentum.

While college enrollment is trending lower, WSOS continues to grow. Each year, we receive more scholarship applications, distribute more awards, and provide more support services, helping more students maximize their potential and realize their ambitions. We couldn't do any of that without you, so on behalf of all of us at WSOS, thank you for your continued support.

With gratitude,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Brad Smith**

Board Chair, Washington State Opportunity Scholarship  
Vice Chair and President, Microsoft Corporation

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# INTRODUCTION

## The mission of (WSOS) is to build pathways into high-demand Washington careers for Washington students.

Businesses in Washington state are eager to fill trade, STEM, and health care jobs. In the next decade, most jobs in our state will require postsecondary education, especially those paying a living wage.

Barriers exist in Washington state that limit access to training and education needed to fill the jobs that power our economy. Yet tens of thousands of talented students from all over Washington are motivated and capable of pursuing higher education in fields that lead to family-wage jobs.

WSOS is the solution. We are on a mission to transform our state by building pathways to high-demand jobs that strengthen our communities and economy.

Eligible WSOS recipients are Washington state residents who have obtained a high school diploma or equivalent credential and low- or middle-income. Recipients of our Baccalaureate Scholarship (BaS) program must have obtained their high school diploma or equivalent credential in Washington. They all intend to pursue high-demand credentials at a Washington state institution. As of 2024, WSOS supports three pathways to higher education; community college credentials, bachelor's degrees and advanced health care degrees.

Scholars in the BaS program receive up to \$22,500 over a maximum of five years. The Career & Technical Scholarship (CTS) provides up to \$1,500 per quarter for the duration of a certificate, apprenticeship or associate degree program.

WSOS also offers a unique program for students who live far from our community, and technical colleges called the Rural Jobs Initiative (RJI). These RJI recipients can receive up to \$3,500 in their first quarter, \$2,500 in their second quarter and \$2,000 per quarter for the remaining program duration.

WSOS offers one advanced degree program for students studying to become nurse practitioners. The Graduate Scholarship (GRD) provides up to \$25,000.

Launched in 2021, our GRD program increases the number of professionals who provide physical and behavioral health care, particularly in communities designated as rural or medically underserved in Washington state. GRD recipients are eligible to receive up to \$25,000 over three years.

**In addition to financial aid, Opportunity Scholars receive a continuum of support services throughout their academic journey to help them persist through graduation, improve their job readiness skills and launch their career in Washington state.**

This report is published annually to the Legislature. This year's report provides an overview of the most recently awarded cohort of BaS (Cohort 13), CTS (Cohort 5), RJI (Cohort 4), and GRD (Cohort 4) recipients as well as updated data on previously awarded cohorts. The report also includes data on the fall applicants and recipients of CTS Cohort 6 and RJI Cohort 5.

This Legislative Report responds to the guidelines in Section 8 of House Bill 2088, Opportunity Scholarship Act, filed on June 7, 2011, and provides overview information about WSOS applicants, participants, and outcomes. Additionally, recommendations from the Joint Legislative Review Committee have been incorporated.

The report begins with a review of the eligible programs of study and then provides an overview of the demographic, gender, socioeconomic, age, and regional characteristics of all scholarship recipients to date for the BaS, CTS, RJI, and GRD.

# IMPACT OVERVIEW

By the end of the 2024-25 academic year, WSOS will have disbursed more than **\$167.3 million** to Scholars across our scholarship programs.

## BACCALAUREATE SCHOLARSHIP / BaS



**3,525**  
Current Scholars



**9,393**  
Graduates to Date

### DEGREES EARNED PER INDUSTRY



**1,569**

Biology



**1,697**

Health Care



**1,269**

Computer Science



**1,727**

Engineering

### FROM A RECENT SURVEY:

**91%**

Of BaS respondents who graduated more than five years ago reported they were either working full-time or enrolled full-time in graduate school.

**77%**

Remain in STEM or health care fields

**Nearly 70%**

Still live in Washington

## GRADUATE DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP / GRD



**41**  
Current Scholars



**24**  
Graduates to Date

### SCHOLARS PER FIELD OF STUDY

**31**

Doctor of Nursing

**10**

Master of Science in Nursing

**24**

Family Nurse Practitioner



**5**

Adult Gerontology

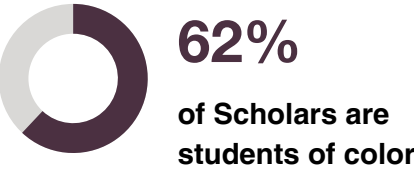
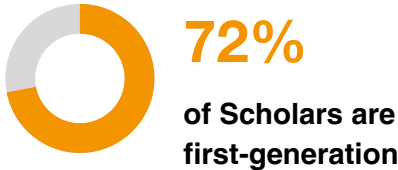
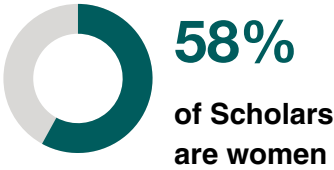
**12**

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

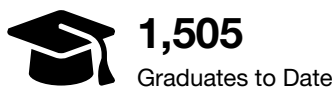
Eligible programs include either a Master of Science (MSN) or Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP).



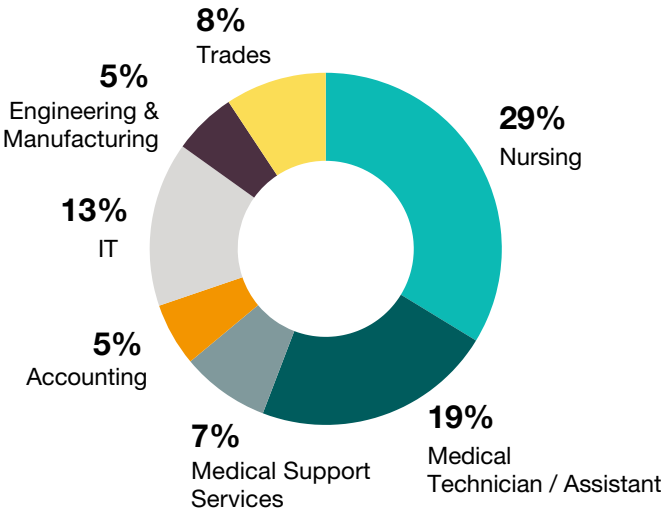
ACROSS ALL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS:



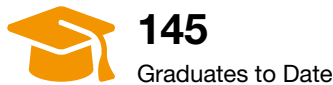
CAREER & TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP / CTS



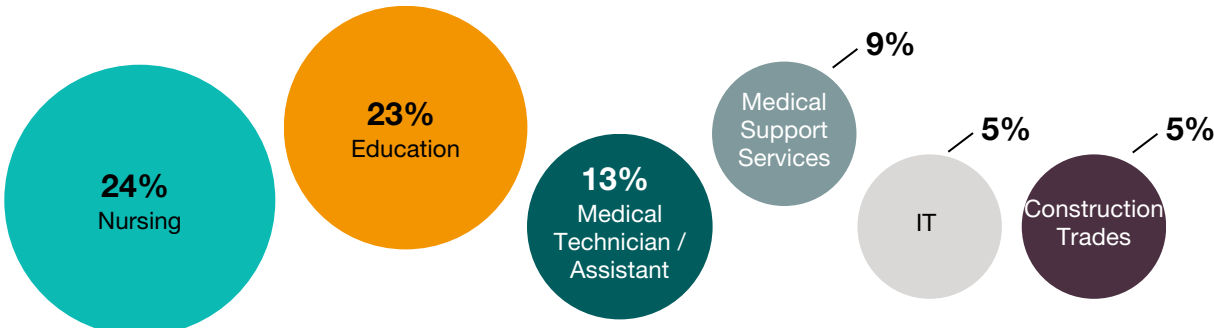
SCHOLARS PER INDUSTRY



RURAL JOBS INITIATIVE / RJi



SCHOLARS PER INDUSTRY



**EMMANUEL**  
Opportunity  
Scholar

**WS  
OS** | **BACCALAUREATE  
SCHOLARSHIP (BaS)**



# ELIGIBLE BACCALAUREATE SCHOLARSHIP EDUCATION PROGRAMS

**SEC. 8.1 (a) Education programs the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship Board determined eligible for purposes of the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship.**

At the outset of WSOS, applicants could choose from 364 eligible majors. In 2015, the WSOS Board approved a list of eligible majors using updated information about which STEM and health care majors are in high demand in Washington state. This reduced the list of eligible majors from 367 to 182. From 2016 to the present, WSOS staff have continued to refine the list of eligible majors in keeping with the criteria established by the Board.

The most recent eligible major analysis was done in December 2023 by WSOS staff. Currently, there are 169 eligible majors. Scholars must pursue or intend to pursue a bachelor’s degree in one of these majors to be eligible to receive WSOS funds.

To date, 82% of selected Scholars have indicated a desire to pursue a bachelor’s degree in the top four major categories of study: health care (27%), engineering (22%), biological or biomedical sciences (18%), or computer and information science (16%).

**See TABLE 1 below and Appendix B for details.**

**TABLE 1: SELECTED SCHOLARS BY MAJOR CATEGORY OF INTEREST<sup>1</sup>**

| MAJOR CATEGORY   | COHORTS 1-12  |             | COHORT 13    |             | TOTAL         |             |
|--|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
|  | #             | %           | #            | %           | #             | %           |
| Health Professions and Related Programs <sup>2</sup>                               | 4,451         | 27%         | 352          | 28%         | 4,803         | 27%         |
| Engineering, Engineering Technologies, and Engineering-Related Fields <sup>3</sup> | 4,004         | 24%         | 213          | 17%         | 4,217         | 22%         |
| Biological and Biomedical Sciences   | 3,045         | 18%         | 203          | 16%         | 3,248         | 20%         |
| Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services                             | 2,579         | 15%         | 256          | 20%         | 2,835         | 16%         |
| Multi / Interdisciplinary Studies  | 542           | 3%          | 53           | 4%          | 595           | 3%          |
| Physical Sciences  | 533           | 3%          | 19           | 1%          | 552           | 3%          |
| Mathematics and Statistics   | 417           | 2%          | 35           | 3%          | 452           | 3%          |
| Education <sup>4</sup>   | 283           | 2%          | 22           | 2%          | 305           | 2%          |
| Natural Resources and Conservation   | 279           | 2%          | 23           | 2%          | 302           | 2%          |
| Agriculture, Animal, Plant, Veterinary Science, and Related Fields                 | 221           | 1%          | 5            | 0.4%        | 226           | 1%          |
| Architecture and Related Services  | 135           | 1%          | 18           | 1%          | 153           | 1%          |
| Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support Services                      | 97            | 1%          | 43           | 3%          | 140           | 1%          |
| Other  | 101           | 1%          | 24           | 2%          | 125           | 1%          |
| Transportation and Materials Moving  | 27            | 0.2%        | 9            | 1%          | 36            | 0.2%        |
| Science Technologies / Technicians   | 9             | 0.1%        | -            | 0%          | 9             | 0.1%        |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>   | <b>16,723</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>1,275</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>17,998</b> | <b>100%</b> |

# BACCALAUREATE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT CHARACTERISTICS

**SEC. 8.1 (b) The number of applicants for the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship disaggregated to the extent possible, by race, ethnicity, gender, county of origin, age, and median family income.**

In total, 2,453 students submitted applications to join Cohort 13. Of those, 1,682 (69%) applicants met the eligibility requirements for the scholarship. Over half of eligible applicants

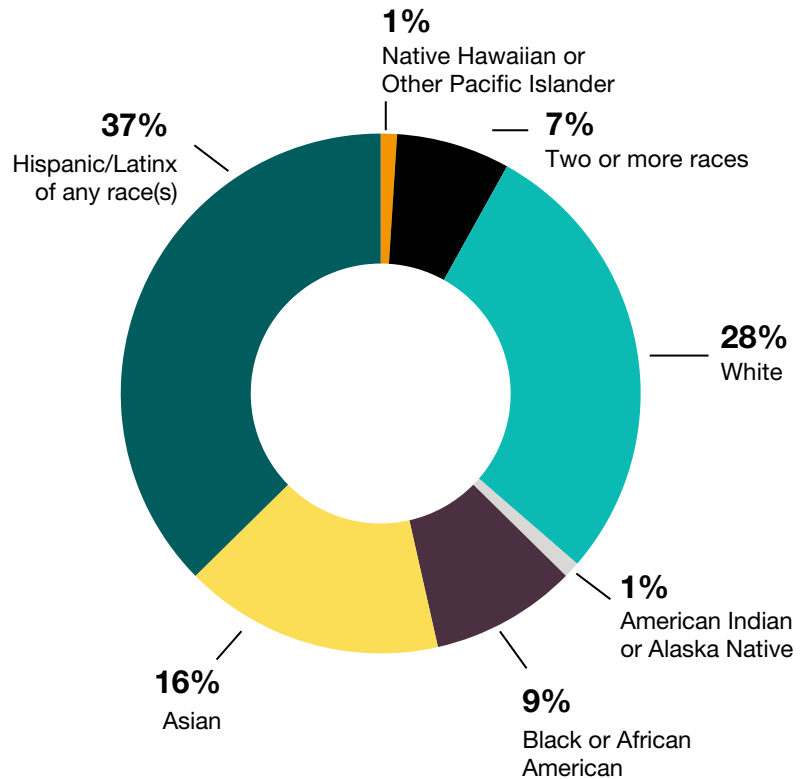
identify as women (53%)<sup>5</sup> and 72% identified as students of color.<sup>6</sup> Fifty-five percent identified as first-generation college students.<sup>7</sup>

See **GRAPHIC 1**.

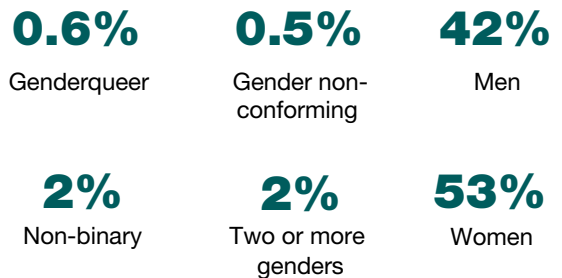
**The majority of Cohort 13 eligible applicants self-identified as women and/or students of color. Eligible applicants for Cohort 13 came from 37 of Washington's 39 counties.**



**GRAPHIC 1: RACE OR ETHNICITY OF ELIGIBLE BACCALAUREATE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS<sup>8</sup>**



**Gender of eligible applicants:**





**Counties with the most eligible applicants per capita:**

- **Okanogan County:** 7 for every 10,000 residents
- **Yakima County:** 6 for every 10,000 residents
- **Grant County:** 5 for every 10,000 residents
- **Franklin County:** 5 for every 10,000 residents
- **Chelan County:** 5 for every 10,000 residents

**Most eligible applicants are 18 years old or younger.**

At the scholarship application deadline, eligible applicants indicated they were the following ages:<sup>9</sup>

**82%**

Were 18 years old or younger

**14%**

Were 19 to 22 years old

**3%**

Were 23 years old or older

**42% of our applicants are from the lower end of the eligible income range.**

The median household income for all eligible applicants (regardless of household size) was \$64,632, while the mean family income for all eligible applicants was \$67,636. The maximum household income was divided into 10 equal categories for each household size to create income deciles (with one as the lowest and 10 as the highest). Individuals in the lowest income decile reported a family income in the bottom 10% of the eligible income range for their family size. Conversely, individuals in the highest income decile reported a family income equal to 90% or more of the maximum eligible income for their family size.

In total, eligible applicants for Cohort 13 came from the following income deciles:

**42%**

From the lowest three income deciles  
(below the 30th percentile)

**32%**

From the middle four income deciles  
(30th to 69th percentile)

**26%**

From the top three income deciles  
(70th percentile and above)

# BACCALAUREATE SCHOLAR CHARACTERISTICS

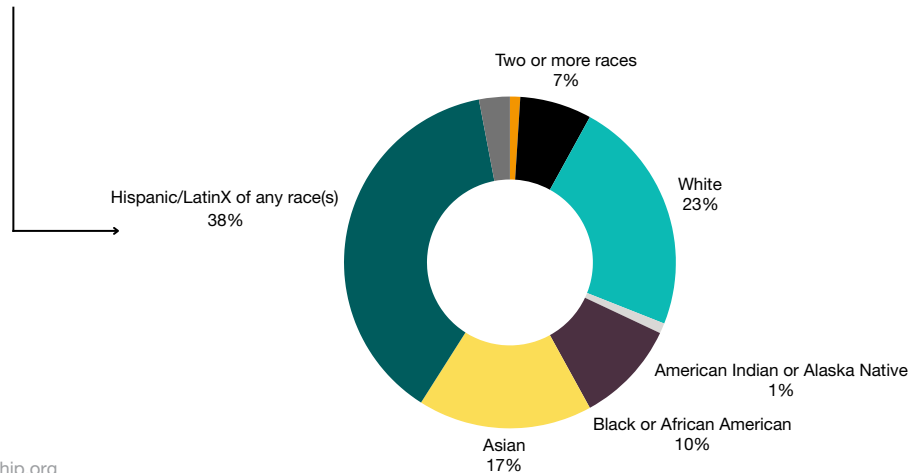
**SEC. 8.1 (c) The number of Scholars in the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship program, disaggregated to the extent possible, by race, ethnicity, gender, county of origin, age, and median family income.**

1,275 of the 1,682 eligible applicants who applied to be a part of Cohort 13 were selected. As of November 1, 2024, 90 Cohort 13 Scholars had either declined the scholarship, enrolled less than half-time, were withdrawn or were already fully

funded for the fall term. This leaves 1,185 (93%) selected Cohort 13 Scholars enrolled for the 2024-25 academic year. In total, 54% of Cohort 13 Scholars are women (n=571), 41% are men (n=437), 2% identify as two or more genders (n=20), 1% are non-binary (n=12), 0.5% are genderqueer (n=5), 0.5% are gender non-conforming (n=5), and 1% preferred to self-describe their gender (n=12).<sup>10</sup> Most Scholars (67%) identified as first-generation college students.<sup>11</sup>

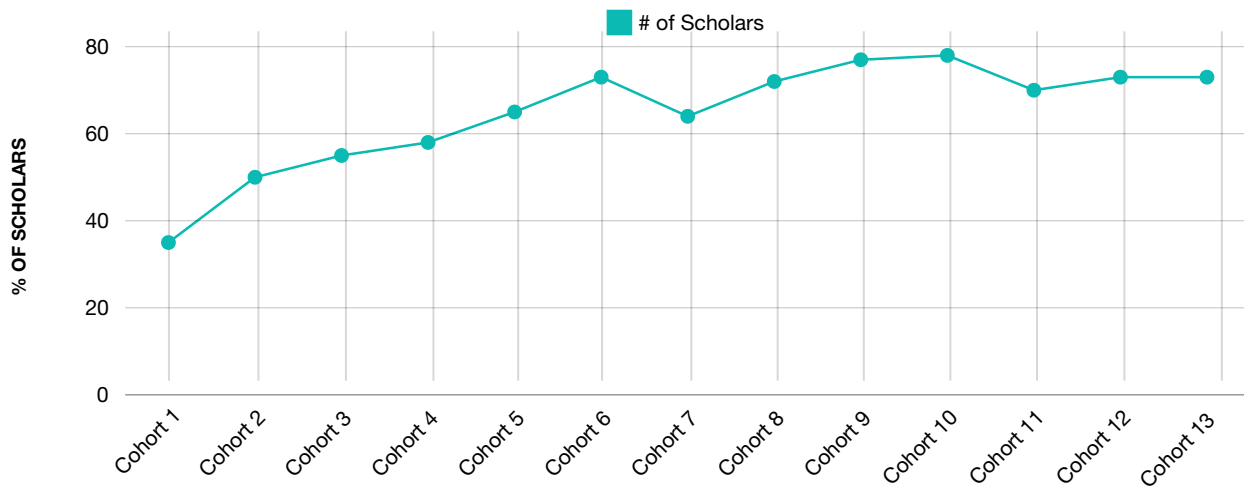
**GRAPHIC 2: RACE OR ETHNICITY OF SCHOLARS<sup>12</sup>**

|                  | American Indian or Alaska Native | Asian | Black or African American | Hispanic or LatinX of any race(s) | Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander | Two or more races | White | Not Reported |
|------------------|----------------------------------|-------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------|--------------|
| <b>Cohort 1</b>  | 1%                               | 20%   | 3%                        | 4%                                | 1%                                  | 7%                | 63%   | 2%           |
| <b>Cohort 2</b>  | 0%                               | 19%   | 5%                        | 18%                               | 0%                                  | 7%                | 49%   | 1%           |
| <b>Cohort 3</b>  | 2%                               | 24%   | 8%                        | 21%                               | 1%                                  | 1%                | 44%   | 1%           |
| <b>Cohort 4</b>  | 1%                               | 22%   | 7%                        | 20%                               | 1%                                  | 7%                | 42%   | 1%           |
| <b>Cohort 5</b>  | 1%                               | 26%   | 6%                        | 25%                               | 1%                                  | 6%                | 34%   | 1%           |
| <b>Cohort 6</b>  | 1%                               | 25%   | 9%                        | 31%                               | 1%                                  | 7%                | 27%   | 1%           |
| <b>Cohort 7</b>  | 1%                               | 22%   | 8%                        | 26%                               | 1%                                  | 6%                | 30%   | 6%           |
| <b>Cohort 8</b>  | 0.3%                             | 25%   | 8%                        | 28%                               | 0.7%                                | 6%                | 26%   | 6%           |
| <b>Cohort 9</b>  | 0.7%                             | 26%   | 11%                       | 29%                               | 0.4%                                | 7%                | 22%   | 4%           |
| <b>Cohort 10</b> | 0.3%                             | 26%   | 11%                       | 32%                               | 0.4%                                | 4%                | 20%   | 0%           |
| <b>Cohort 11</b> | 0.3%                             | 19%   | 10%                       | 36%                               | 0.5%                                | 5%                | 30%   | 0%           |
| <b>Cohort 12</b> | 1%                               | 19%   | 10%                       | 36%                               | 1%                                  | 1%                | 25%   | 6%           |
| <b>Cohort 13</b> | 1%                               | 17%   | 10%                       | 38%                               | 1%                                  | 7%                | 23%   | 4%           |

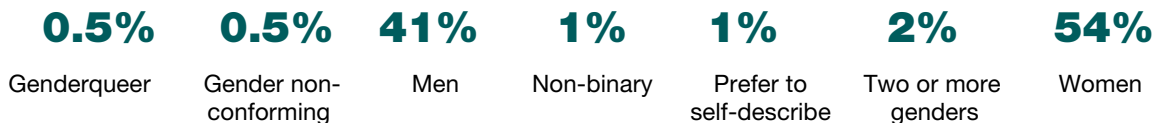


Of Cohort 13 participants, almost three-fourths of students (73%) identify as students of color. See **GRAPHIC 3**. For details on the race or ethnicity of Scholar Cohorts 1-13, see **APPENDIX C**.

**GRAPHIC 3: SCHOLARS WHO IDENTIFY AS STUDENTS OF COLOR**



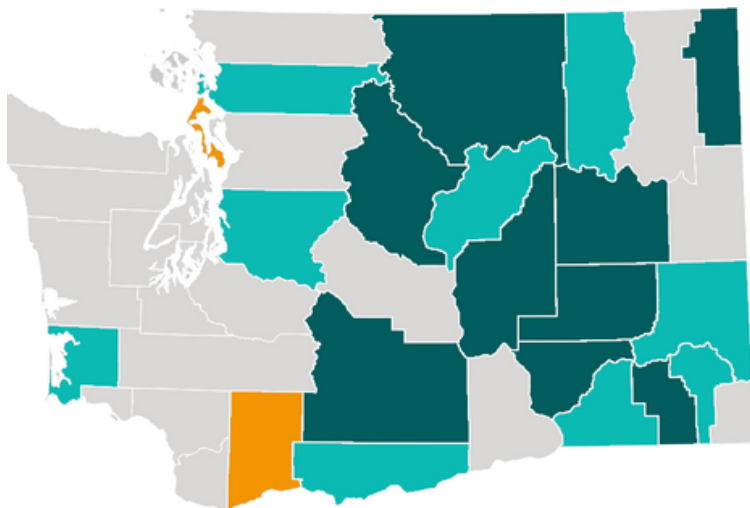
**Gender identity of Cohort 13 Scholars:**



Scholars in Cohorts 1-13 hail from every county in the state. The counties with the highest number of Cohort 1-13 participants per capita are: Okanogan, Yakima, Grant, Franklin, and Chelan.

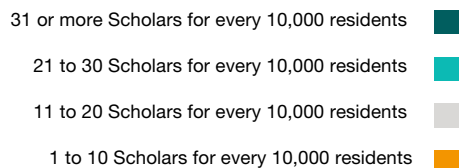
See **APPENDIX D** for more details. **GRAPHIC 4** below illustrates Scholar Home Counties for all cohorts.

**GRAPHIC 4: HOME COUNTY FOR COHORTS 1-13 SCHOLARS PER CAPITA**



For Cohort 13 Scholars specifically, the counties with the highest number of Scholars selected per capita are:

- Lincoln
- Yakima
- Chelan
- Okanogan
- Pend Oreille
- Columbia
- Franklin
- Adams
- Grant





Most Cohort 13 Scholars (83%) are 18 or younger. At the time of application, Cohort 13 Scholars indicated they were the following ages:<sup>13</sup>

**83%**

Were 18 years old or younger

**14%**

Were 19 to 22 years old

**4%**

Were 23 years old or older

Over time, more Scholars aged 18 and younger have applied to WSOS. The increase in younger applicants between Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 coincides with the WSOS Board's decision to allot a higher proportion of scholarships to incoming first-year college students and a change in scholarship eligibility criteria. The new criteria limited the eligible class standing beginning with Cohort 2 applicants entering their first, second, or third year in college. In contrast, Cohort 1 Scholars in their fourth or fifth year of college were also eligible to be selected for the scholarship.

Despite the greater number of applicants who apply who are 18 years old or younger, the number of participants who are 18 years old or younger between Cohort 8 and Cohort 9 dropped. This is because the cohort composition changed between these two years; for Cohort 8, WSOS selected 1,600 high school students, 150 first-year college students and 100 second-year college students.

This was the last year of a generous gift from the Rubens Family Foundation, which resulted in the selection of many additional high school seniors.

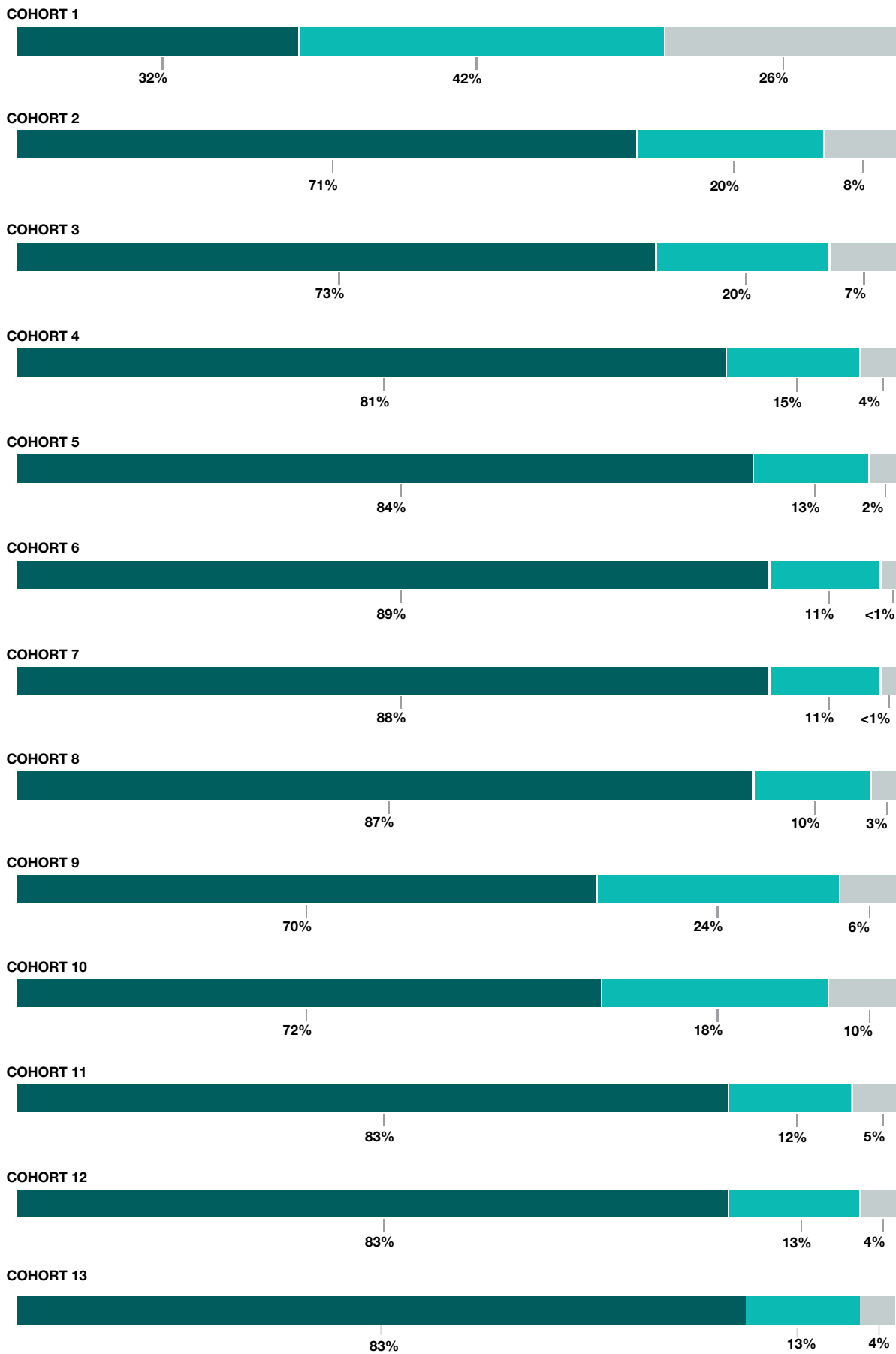
For Cohort 10, WSOS returned to its originally modeled cohort size by selecting 500 incoming college students, 150 first-year college students, and 100 second-year college students. As a result, a far smaller proportion of high-school-aged students are included in the participant numbers.

For Cohort 11 and beyond, WSOS expanded its cohort sizes to select approximately 1,000 incoming college students, 150 first-year college students, and 100 second-year college students. This increased the proportion of high-school-aged participants relative to Cohort 10 and other years when WSOS selected only 500 incoming college students.



**CATHRYN**  
Opportunity  
Scholar

GRAPHIC 5: AGE OF COHORT 1-13 SCHOLARS BY PERCENT



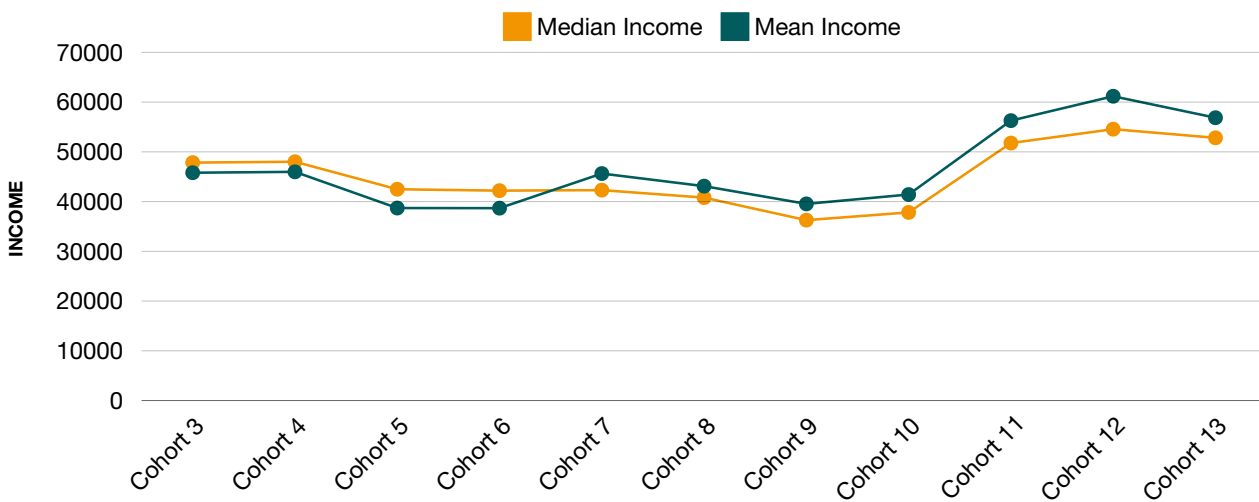
18 & younger 19-22 years old 23 & older



## Over 1,500 or 18% of all WSOS Baccalaureate graduates have earned a degree in health care related programs.

The median and mean family income for Cohort 13 Scholars was lower than the median and mean family income for Cohort 12. The median family income for Cohort 13 was \$52,819 (compared with \$54,557 for Cohort 12), while the mean family income for Cohort 13 is \$56,861 (compared with \$61,179 for Cohort 12).

**GRAPHIC 6: MEAN AND MEDIAN INCOME BY COHORT<sup>14</sup>**





In total, Cohort 13 Scholars come from the following income deciles:

**51%**

From the lowest three income deciles (*below the 30th percentile*)

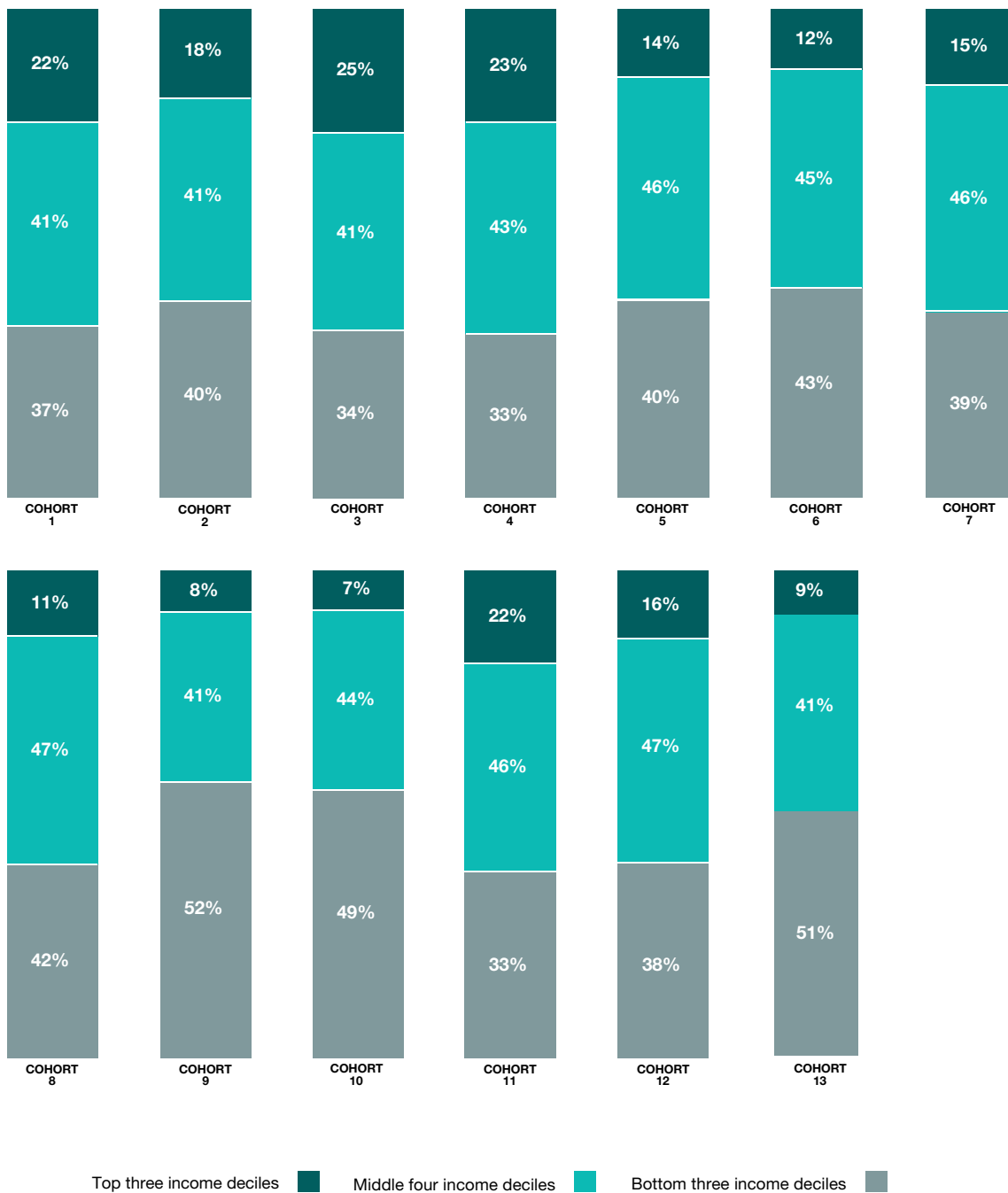
**41%**

From the middle four income deciles (*30th to 69th percentile*)

**9%**

From the top three income deciles (*70th percentile and above*)

**GRAPHIC 7: FAMILY INCOME OF COHORT 1-13 SCHOLARS**



# BACCALAUREATE SCHOLARSHIP DISBURSEMENT

**SEC. 8.1 (d) The number and amount of scholarships actually awarded and whether the scholarships were paid from the student support pathways, scholarship, or endowment account.**

WSOS funding is renewable for up to five years of college attendance, depending on class standing at the time of selection. In the program's initial year (2012-13), Scholars received only \$1,000. In 2013-14, the WSOS Board increased the scholarship amount to \$5,000 for Scholars who attained junior class standing and were accepted into an eligible, high-demand major.

In 2014-15, the WSOS Board increased the minimum scholarship amount from \$1,000 to \$2,500 for students in their first or second year in college. In addition, they increased the scholarship amount to as much as \$7,500 for Scholars who achieved senior-class standing and had been accepted into an eligible, high-demand major.

The annual award amounts section of the WSOS website explains our current model in detail.

As of November 1, 2024, 3,525 Scholars across Cohorts 7-13 were enrolled for the 2024-25 academic year.<sup>15</sup> Of these Scholars, 2,466 were eligible to receive up to \$2,500; 700 were eligible to receive up to \$5,000; and 359 were eligible to receive up to \$7,500 over the course of the academic year (TABLE 2). From 2012-13 to 2024-25, scholarships have been awarded to 16,614 unique Scholars.

See APPENDIX E for all scholarships awarded 2012-13 through 2024-25.

**TABLE 2: NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED IN 2024-25 BY COHORT AND MAXIMUM AMOUNT<sup>16</sup>**

| COHORT              | MAXIMUM ANNUAL AWARD AMOUNT <sup>17</sup> |            |            | TOTAL # ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED |
|---------------------|---|------------|------------|-------------------------------------|
|                     | \$2,500                                   | \$5,000    | \$7,500    |                                     |
| Cohort 7            | 1   | 2          | 2          | 5                                   |
| Cohort 8            | 2   | 23         | 4          | 29                                  |
| Cohort 9            | 12  | 48         | 27         | 87                                  |
| Cohort 10           | 99  | 112        | 113        | 324                                 |
| Cohort 11           | 412                                       | 278        | 156        | 846                                 |
| Cohort 12           | 818                                       | 195        | 57         | 1,070                               |
| Cohort 13           | 1,123                                     | 41         | -          | 1,164                               |
| <b>ANNUAL TOTAL</b> | <b>2,466</b>                              | <b>700</b> | <b>359</b> | <b>3,525</b>                        |



**SAM & SANDY**  
Opportunity Scholars



All scholarships are paid from the scholarship account. Between 2012-13 and 2023-24 academic years, \$128,687,307 has been disbursed to Scholars. Another \$12.4 million is expected to be disbursed in the 2024-25 academic year, for an estimated grand total of \$141 million to be awarded by year-end. See **TABLE 3**.

**TABLE 3: SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING DISBURSED TO DATE**

| ACADEMIC YEAR   | SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING DISBURSED |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 2012-13   | \$2,870,675                   |
| 2013-14   | \$5,702,621                   |
| 2014-15   | \$8,741,502                   |
| 2015-16   | \$9,266,392                   |
| 2016-17   | \$9,981,855                   |
| 2017-18   | \$12,438,704                  |
| 2018-19   | \$14,543,677                  |
| 2019-20   | \$15,691,493                  |
| 2020-21   | \$14,680,660                  |
| 2021-22   | \$12,932,378                  |
| 2022-23   | \$11,702,084                  |
| 2023-24   | \$10,135,266                  |
| <b>ANTICIPATED DISBURSEMENT FOR 2024-25: \$12,438,124</b> |                               |



**TABETHA, GRAY, & AUBREY**  
Opportunity Scholars (from left to right)



# BACCALAUREATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ENROLLMENT

**SEC. 8.1 (e) The institutions and eligible education programs in which Opportunity Scholarship Scholars enrolled, together with data regarding Scholars' completion and graduation.**

As of November 1, 2024, 9,393 Cohort 1-12 Scholars had graduated with a bachelor's degree.

See APPENDIX G for details of major categories of graduates by cohort.

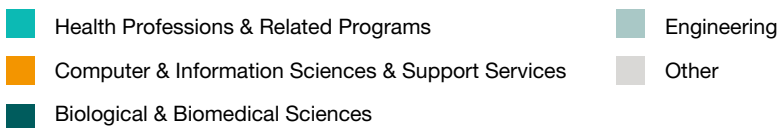
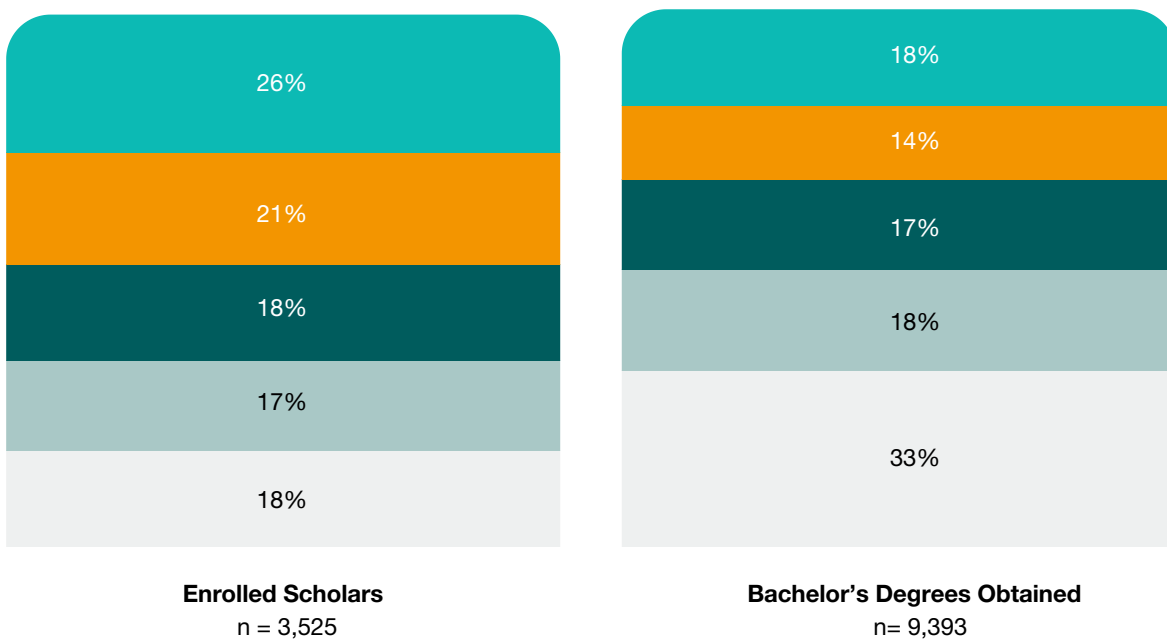
See APPENDIX H for details of graduation by institution.

In 2024-25, 2,361 Cohort 7-12 Scholars have re-enrolled to join the 1,164 Cohort 13 enrolled Scholars.

**TABLE 4: PARTICIPANT ENROLLMENT, RETENTION, AND GRADUATION BY COHORT<sup>18</sup>**

| COHORT (YEAR)                    | TOTAL PARTICIPANTS | GRADUATED    |            | RE-ENROLLED  |            | GRADUATED OR RE-ENROLLED |            |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|
|                                  | #                  | #            | %          | #            | %          | #                        | %          |
| Cohort 1 (2012)                  | 2,887              | 2,326        | 81%        | -            | -          | 2,326                    | 81%        |
| Cohort 2 (2013)                  | 713                | 590          | 83%        | -            | -          | 590                      | 83%        |
| Cohort 3 (2014)                  | 734                | 586          | 80%        | -            | -          | 586                      | 80%        |
| Cohort 4 (2015)                  | 982                | 750          | 76%        | -            | -          | 750                      | 76%        |
| Cohort 5 (2016)                  | 1,345              | 1,017        | 76%        | -            | -          | 1,017                    | 76%        |
| Cohort 6 (2017)                  | 1,704              | 1,112        | 65%        | -            | -          | 1,112                    | 65%        |
| Cohort 7 (2018)                  | 1,714              | 1,151        | 67%        | 5            | 0.3%       | 1,156                    | 67%        |
| Cohort 8 (2019)                  | 1,709              | 1,133        | 66%        | 29           | 2%         | 1,162                    | 68%        |
| Cohort 9 (2020)                  | 697                | 429          | 62%        | 87           | 12%        | 516                      | 74%        |
| Cohort 10 (2021)                 | 685                | 209          | 31%        | 324          | 47%        | 533                      | 78%        |
| Cohort 11 (2022)                 | 1,126              | 77           | 7%         | 846          | 75%        | 923                      | 82%        |
| Cohort 12 (2023)                 | 1,148              | 13           | 1%         | 1,070        | 93%        | 1,083                    | 94%        |
| <b>TOTAL C1-C12 PARTICIPANTS</b> | <b>15,444</b>      | <b>9,393</b> | <b>61%</b> | <b>2,361</b> | <b>15%</b> | <b>11,754</b>            | <b>76%</b> |

**GRAPHIC 8: BACHELOR'S DEGREES PURSUED AND ENROLLED IN 2024-2025<sup>19</sup>**



|  | ENROLLED SCHOLARS |             | BACHELORS DEGREES |             |
|--|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
|  | #                 | %           | #                 | %           |
| <b>Health Professions &amp; Related Programs</b>                   | 900               | 26%         | 1,697             | 18%         |
| <b>Computer &amp; Information Sciences &amp; Support Services</b>  | 747               | 21%         | 1,269             | 14%         |
| <b>Biological &amp; Biomedical Sciences</b>                        | 625               | 18%         | 1,569             | 17%         |
| <b>Engineering</b>   | 604               | 17%         | 1,727             | 19%         |
| <b>Other</b>   | 649               | 18%         | 3,131             | 33%         |
| • Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies                                  | 145               | 4%          | 335               | 4%          |
| • Business, Management, Marketing, & Related Support Services      | 80                | 2%          | 337               | 4%          |
| • Mathematics & Statistics   | 73                | 2%          | 290               | 3%          |
| • Natural Resources & Conservation                                 | 73                | 2%          | 246               | 3%          |
| • Physical Sciences  | 66                | 2%          | 301               | 3%          |
| • Education  | 61                | 2%          | 206               | 2%          |
| • Psychology   | 53                | 2%          | 91                | 1%          |
| • Agricultural, Animal, Plant, Veterinary Science & Related Fields | 30                | 1%          | 172               | 2%          |
| • Architecture & Related Services                                  | 25                | 1%          | 83                | 1%          |
| • Engineering & Engineering-Related Technologies/Technicians       | 13                | 0%          | 90                | 1%          |
| • All Other  | 30                | 1%          | 895               | 10%         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>3,525</b>      | <b>100%</b> | <b>9,393</b>      | <b>100%</b> |

**TABETHA, GRAY, & AUBREY**

Opportunity Scholars (from left to right)

**Most Scholars (85%) currently attend four-year colleges or universities.**

60% of Cohort 7 Scholars, 93% of Cohort 8 Scholars, 92% of Cohort 9 Scholars, 94% of Cohort 10 Scholars, 90% of Cohort 11 Scholars, 83% of Cohort 12 Scholars, and 81% of Cohort 13 Scholars are enrolled in four-year public or private institutions for the 2024-25 academic year. [See TABLE 5.](#)

While a larger proportion of Cohort 13 Scholars currently attend two-year community or technical colleges (19%), we anticipate many will transfer to a four-year college or university within two years, as evidenced by the behavior of Scholars in earlier cohorts. There are also now 33 community colleges that offer bachelor's degree programs, so we may see a growing number of Scholars graduate in an eligible major without transferring.

[See APPENDIX F for current Scholar enrollment by institution details.](#)

**The largest proportion of Cohort 13 Scholars attend the University of Washington Seattle.**

The proportions of Cohort 13 Scholars per school with the most attendees are ranked as follows:

- **University of Washington Seattle:** n=367, 32%
- **Washington State University Pullman:** n=124, 11%
- **Western Washington University:** n=98, 8%



**TABLE 5: 2024-25 ATTENDANCE BY INSTITUTION TYPE BY COHORT**

| INSTITUTION TYPE              | Cohort 7 (2018) | Cohort 8 (2019) | Cohort 9 (2020) | Cohort 10 (2021) | Cohort 11 (2022) | Cohort 12 (2023) | Cohort 13 (2024) | ALL ENROLLED SCHOLARS |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Four-Year Independent College | 0%              | 41%             | 20%             | 15%              | 17%              | 17%              | 14%              | <b>16%</b>            |
| Four-Year Public College      | 60%             | 52%             | 72%             | 79%              | 73%              | 67%              | 67%              | <b>69%</b>            |
| Two-Year College              | 40%             | 7%              | 8%              | 6%               | 10%              | 17%              | 19%              | <b>15%</b>            |

The proportion of Scholars in Cohorts in 7-13 per school with the most attendees are ranked as follows:

- **University of Washington Seattle:** n=1,233, 35%
- **Washington State University Pullman:** n=318, 9%
- **Western Washington University:** n=281, 8%

**GRAPHIC 9: INSTITUTIONS WITH THE HIGHEST SCHOLAR ENROLLMENT (2024-25)**



The top three schools from which the greatest number of Scholars have graduated include:

- **University of Washington Seattle:** n=3,758; 40%
- **Washington State University Pullman:** n=973; 10%
- **Western Washington University:** n=515; 5%

**WS** | **CAREER & TECHNICAL**  
**OS** | **SCHOLARSHIP (CTS)**

## ELIGIBLE CAREER & TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP EDUCATION PROGRAMS

### SEC. 8.1 (a) Education programs the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship Board determined eligible for purposes of the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship.

CTS supports trade, STEM, and health care programs at the state’s 34 community and technical colleges. The WSOS Board of Directors has approved 2,427 eligible programs.

WSOS staff use data from the Washington State Employment Security Department to determine high-demand jobs across the state.

The list of eligible programs for CTS continues to expand to include additional programs identified by stakeholders and partners from the state’s community and technical colleges, workforce development councils, and other workforce development organizations across the state. The Board will continue to refine the list of eligible programs best to meet the state’s economic and workforce needs.

To date, 79% of selected Scholars planned to pursue a credential in the following fields: nursing (22%), information technology (17%), medical technician/assistant (16%), medical support services (11%), construction trades (7%), and engineering/manufacturing (6%).

**TABLE 6: SELECTED SCHOLARS BY OCCUPATIONAL FIELD OF INTEREST<sup>20</sup>**

| FIELD OF STUDY                            | COHORT 1   |             | COHORT 2   |             | COHORT 3   |             | COHORT 4     |             | COHORT 5     |             | TOTAL        |             |
|---|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
|   | #          | %           | #          | %           | #          | %           | #            | %           | #            | %           | #            | %           |
| Nursing                                   | 82         | 15%         | 30         | 5%          | 180        | 28%         | 344          | 28.3%       | 329          | 25%         | 965          | 22%         |
| Information Technology                    | 138        | 25%         | 84         | 15%         | 138        | 21%         | 184          | 15%         | 193          | 15%         | 737          | 17%         |
| Medical Technician / Assistant            | 55         | 10%         | 108        | 19%         | 87         | 13%         | 201          | 17%         | 221          | 17%         | 672          | 16%         |
| Medical Support Services                  | 34         | 6%          | 89         | 16%         | 74         | 11%         | 139          | 11%         | 129          | 10%         | 465          | 11%         |
| Construction Trades                       | 38         | 7%          | 62         | 11%         | 29         | 4%          | 40           | 3%          | 121          | 9%          | 290          | 7%          |
| Engineering/Manufacturing                 | 60         | 11%         | 43         | 8%          | 18         | 3%          | 58           | 5%          | 67           | 5%          | 246          | 6%          |
| Automotive                                | 55         | 10%         | 28         | 5%          | 26         | 4%          | 55           | 5%          | 48           | 4%          | 212          | 5%          |
| Accounting                                | -          | 0%          | 40         | 7%          | 38         | 6%          | 69           | 6%          | 58           | 4%          | 205          | 5%          |
| Welding                                   | 50         | 9%          | 15         | 3%          | 20         | 3%          | 42           | 3%          | 45           | 3%          | 172          | 4%          |
| Dentist Assistant / Hygienist             | 14         | 3%          | 21         | 4%          | 19         | 3%          | 28           | 2%          | 30           | 2%          | 112          | 3%          |
| AV Technology                             | 8          | 1%          | 13         | 2%          | 3          | 0.5%        | 21           | 2%          | 23           | 2%          | 68           | 2%          |
| Architecture & Construction Engineering   | 10         | 2%          | 16         | 3%          | 6          | 1%          | 7            | 1%          | 20           | 2%          | 59           | 1%          |
| Agriculture                               | 2          | 0.4%        | 6          | 1%          | 4          | 1%          | 5            | 0.4%        | 9            | 1%          | 26           | 1%          |
| Other                                     | 1          | 0.2%        | 5          | 1%          | 2          | 0.3%        | 11           | 0.9%        | 4            | 0.3%        | 23           | 1%          |
| Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics | 5          | 1%          | 3          | 1%          | 4          | 1%          | 4            | 0.3%        | 3            | 0.2%        | 19           | 0.4%        |
| Natural Resources                         | -          | 0%          | 1          | 0.2%        | -          | 0%          | 6            | 0.5%        | 11           | 1%          | 18           | 0.4%        |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>                        | <b>552</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>564</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>648</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>1,214</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>1,311</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>4,289</b> | <b>100%</b> |



## CAREER & TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT CHARACTERISTICS

**SEC. 8.1 (b) The number of applicants for the Career & Technical Scholarship disaggregated to the extent possible, by race, ethnicity, gender, county of origin, age, and median family income.**

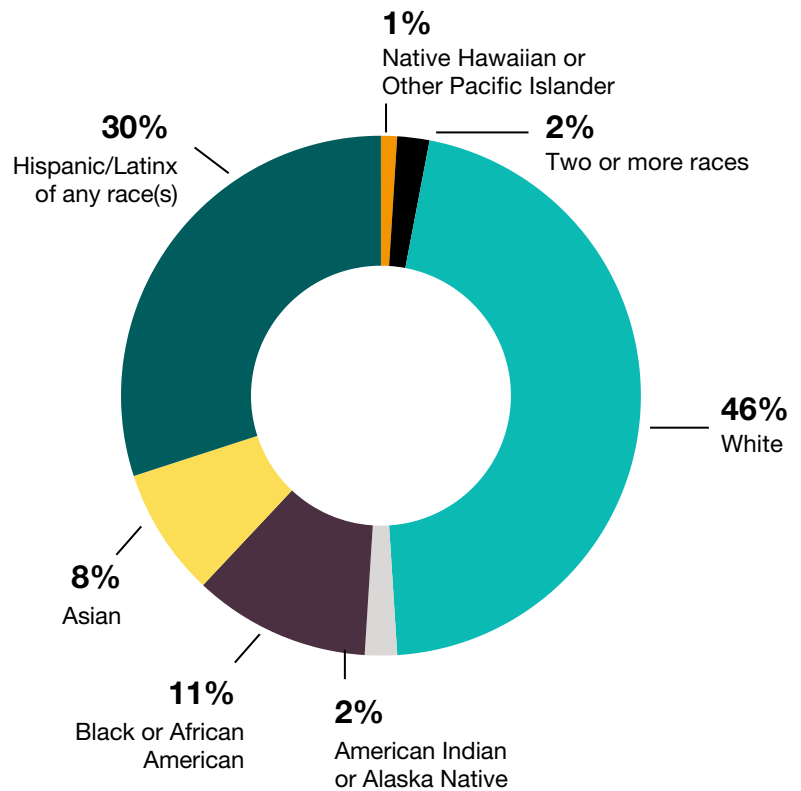
2,118 individuals submitted applications for Cohort 5. Of those, 1,725 (81%) students met the scholarship eligibility requirements.<sup>21</sup> Most eligible applicants were women (58%).

Just over half (54%) identified as students of color. Two thirds (68%) identified as first-generation college students.<sup>22</sup>

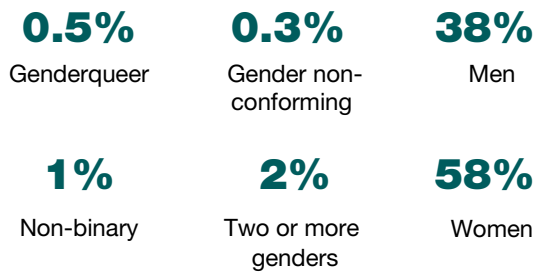
**See GRAPHIC 10. Eligible applicants for Cohort 5 came from 35 out of Washington’s 39 counties.<sup>23</sup>**



**GRAPHIC 10: RACE OR ETHNICITY OF ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**



**Gender of eligible applicants:<sup>24</sup>**

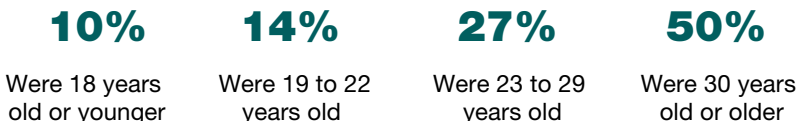


**Counties with the most eligible applicants per capita:**

- **Lewis County:** 10 for every 10,000 residents
- **Grays Harbor County:** 9 for every 10,000 residents
- **Clallam County:** 6 for every 10,000 residents
- **Whatcom County:** 5 for every 10,000 residents
- **Chelan County:** 4 for every 10,000 residents

**Half of eligible applicants are 30 years old or older.**

At the scholarship application deadline, eligible applicants indicated they were the following ages:<sup>25</sup>

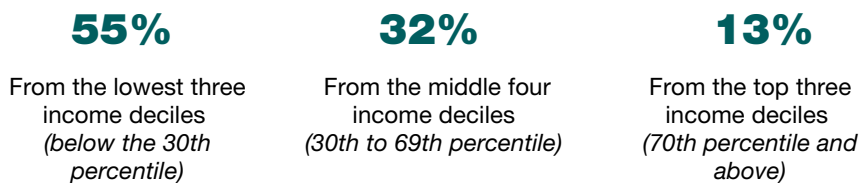


**Most applicants are from lower-income deciles.**

The median household income for all eligible applicants (regardless of household size) was \$28,298, while the mean family income for all eligible applicants was \$34,615. The maximum household income was divided into 10 equal categories for each household size to create income deciles (with 1 as the lowest and 10 as the highest).

An individual in the lowest income decile reported a family income in the bottom 10% of the eligible income range for family size. Conversely, an individual in the highest income decile reported a family income equal to 90% or more of the maximum eligible income for family size.

In total, eligible applicants for Cohort 5 came from the following income deciles:



## CAREER & TECHNICAL SCHOLAR CHARACTERISTICS

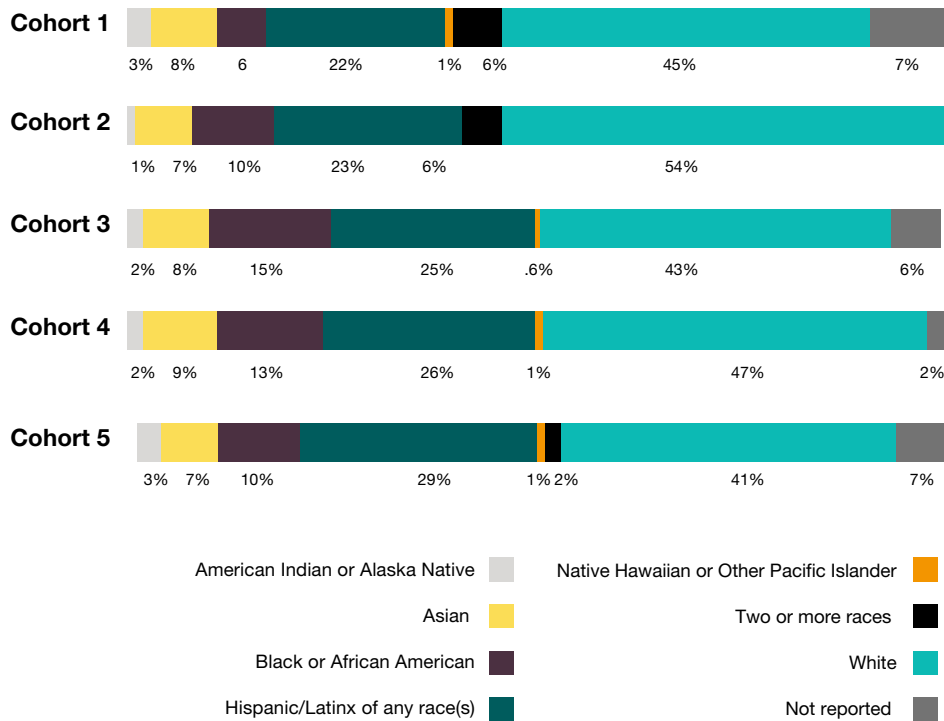
**SEC. 8.1 (c) The number of Scholars in the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship program, disaggregated to the extent possible, by race, ethnicity, gender, county of origin, age, and median family income.**

Of the 1,725 eligible applicants who applied to participate in Cohort 5, 1,308 were selected. 1,114 (85%) of the 1,308 selected enrolled in the 2023-24 academic year. 806 of these Scholars have re-enrolled for the 2024-25 academic year.

In total, 62% of Cohort 5 are women (n=624), 34% are men (n=343), 2% identified as two or more genders (n=16), 1% are non-binary (n=12), 0.5% prefer to self-describe (n=5), 0.4% are gender non-conforming (n=4), and 0.5% are genderqueer (n=5).

Of Cohort 5 participants, 52% identified as students of color. Seventy-two percent of Scholars identified as first-generation college students.<sup>26</sup> See GRAPHICS 11 and 12.

**GRAPHIC 11: RACE OR ETHNICITY OF SCHOLARS**



**GRAPHIC 12: FIRST-GENERATION STATUS**



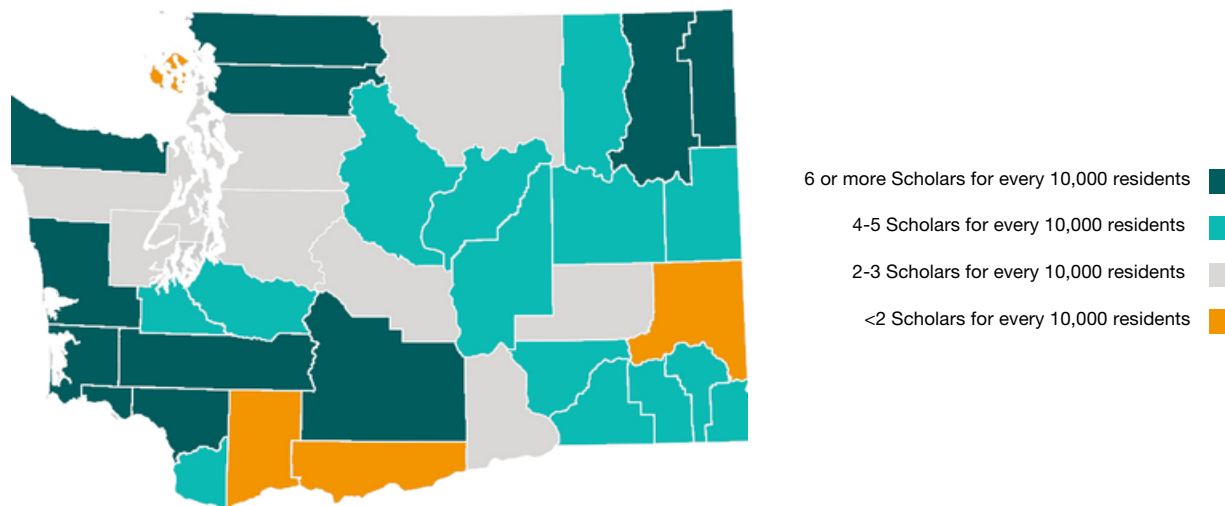
**Gender identity of Cohort 4 Scholars:<sup>27</sup>**





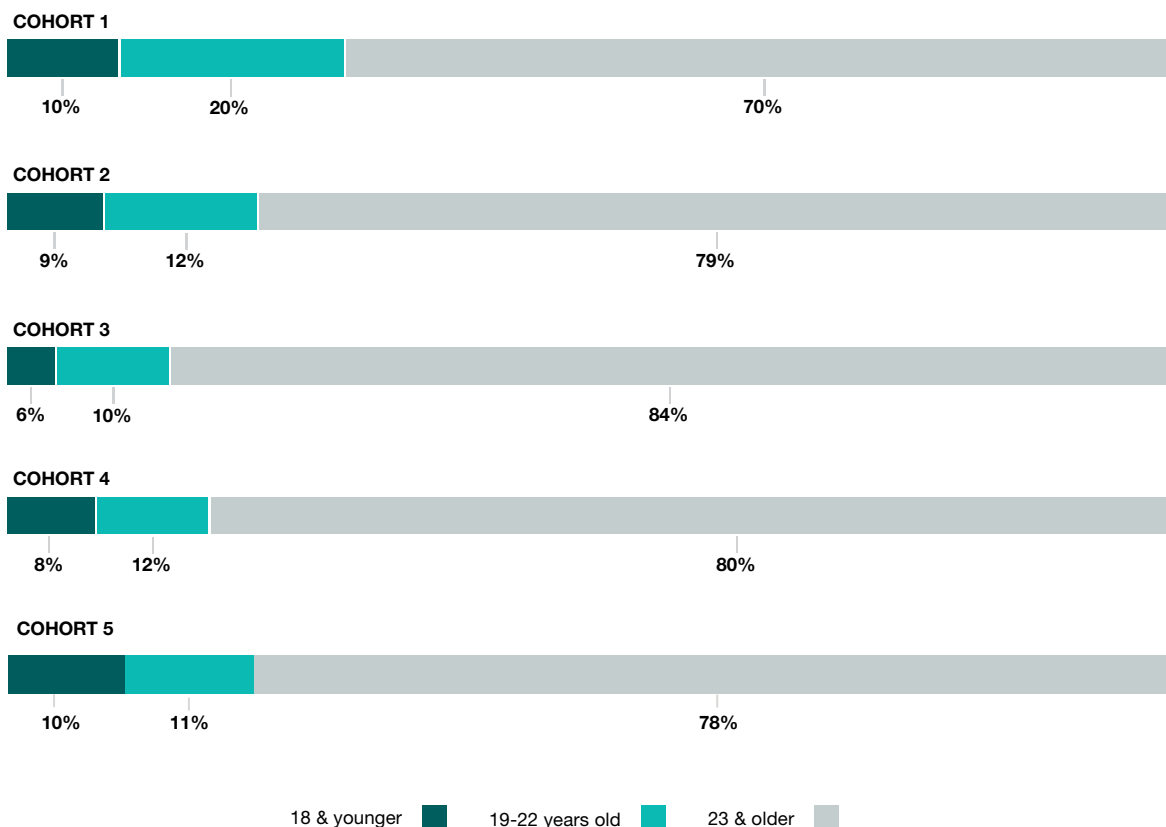
Scholars in Cohorts 1 through 5 hail from 38 out of 39 counties in the state. The counties with the highest number of participants per capita are Grays Harbor, Whatcom, Clallam, Cowlitz, and Pend Oreille. See APPENDIX L for more detail.

**GRAPHIC 13: HOME COUNTY FOR COHORT 3 SCHOLARS PER CAPITA**



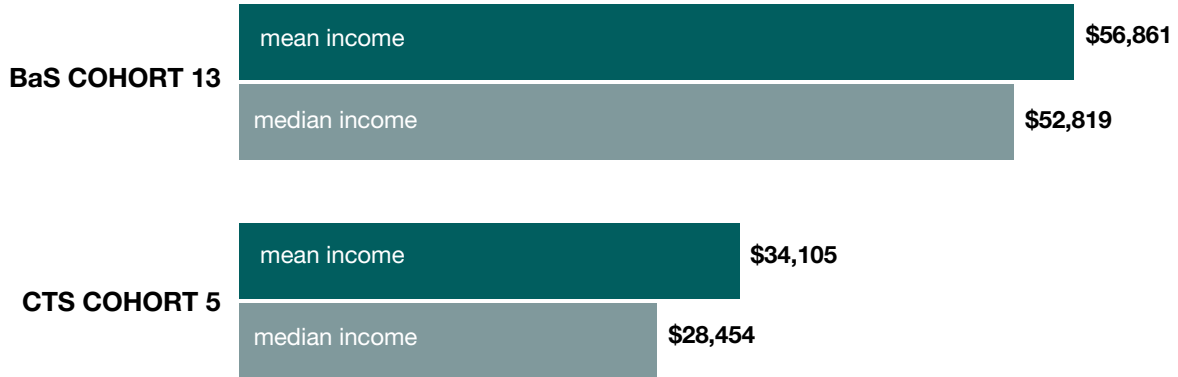
Just over half of Cohort 5 Scholars (52%) are 30 years old or older. At the time of application, Cohort 5 Scholars indicated they were the following ages:

**GRAPHIC 14: AGE OF SCHOLARS BY PERCENT<sup>28</sup>**



The median and mean family income (regardless of household size) for Cohort 5 Scholars is significantly lower than that of Baccalaureate Scholars. The median family income (regardless of household size) for Cohort 5 is \$28,454. The mean family income for Cohort 5 is \$34,105.

**GRAPHIC 15: MEAN AND MEDIAN INCOME FOR BACCALAUREATE COHORT 13 AND CAREER & TECHNICAL COHORT 5<sup>29</sup>**



In total, Cohort 5 Scholars come from the following income deciles, where each decile is an income band representing one-tenth of the eligible maximum family income based on household size:

**56%**

From the lowest three income deciles (below the 30th percentile)

**38%**

From the middle four income deciles (30th to 69th percentile)

**6%**

From the top three income deciles (70th percentile and above)



**FREDDY**  
Opportunity Scholar



**Nearly one-fifth (17%) of all CTS recipients graduated with a health care credential.**

## CAREER & TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP DISBURSEMENT

**SEC. 8.1 (d) The number and amount of scholarships actually awarded and whether the scholarships were paid from the student support pathways, scholarship, or endowment account.**

CTS recipients can receive up to \$1,500 each quarter for the duration of their associate degree, certificate, or apprenticeship program. Recipients of the Rural Jobs Initiative can receive up to \$3,500 in their first quarter, \$2,500 in their second quarter, and \$2,000 per quarter thereafter for the remainder of their program.

Starting with the 2020-21 academic year, CTS applicants could be selected for CTS, RJI, or both. If selected for both, the first \$1,500 per quarter of their scholarship comes from funding designated for CTS, and the remainder comes from funding designated for RJI. All scholarship funds for CTS and RJI are paid from the Student Support Pathways Account.

As of November 1, 2024, 1,481 Career & Technical Scholars were enrolled for the 2024-25 academic year.<sup>30</sup> This includes nine Cohort 2 Scholars, 20 Cohort 3 Scholars, 188 Cohort 4 Scholars, 801 Cohort 5 fall Scholars, and 463 Cohort 6 Scholars.

128 Scholars were enrolled in the Rural Jobs Initiative as of November 1, 2024. 120 of these Scholars were also enrolled in the Career & Technical Scholarship, while eight were exclusively enrolled in the RJI.

Between the 2019-20 academic year and the 2023-24 academic year, \$16,880,647 in scholarship funding was disbursed from the student support pathways account. Of those funds, \$15,409,147 were for the CTS, and \$1,471,500 were for the RJI.

In the 2024-25 academic year, another \$7.8 million in scholarship funding is anticipated to be disbursed from the student support pathways account, of which \$297,000 is anticipated to be disbursed to RJI recipients.

By the end of 2024-25, we anticipate disbursing \$24.7 million from the student support pathways account in scholarship funds since inception.



## CAREER & TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP ENROLLMENT

**SEC. 8.1 (e) The institutions and eligible education programs in which Washington State Opportunity Scholarship Scholars enrolled, together with data regarding Scholars' completion and graduation.**

As of November 1, 2024, 1,505 Cohort 1-5 Scholars graduated with a credential. **See APPENDIX J for a breakdown of graduates by cohort and field.** In 2024-25, 1,018 Cohort 2-5 Scholars have re-enrolled to join the 463 Cohort 6 enrolled Scholars. Fifty-five percent of Scholars are pursuing education and training in the health care industry, 13% in the trades, 13% in information technology, and 6% in engineering/manufacturing. **See APPENDIX J for details.**

**Scholars are enrolled at 32 of Washington's 34 public community and technical colleges. The proportion of Scholars per school with the most attendees is as follows:**

- **Tacoma Community College:** n=147, 10%
- **Clark College:** n=105, 7%
- **South Seattle College:** n=97, 7%

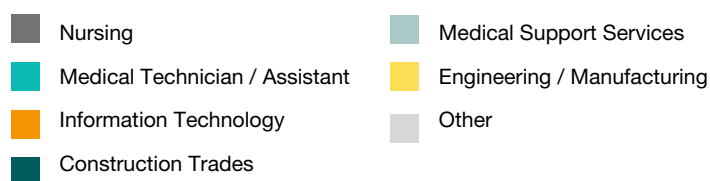
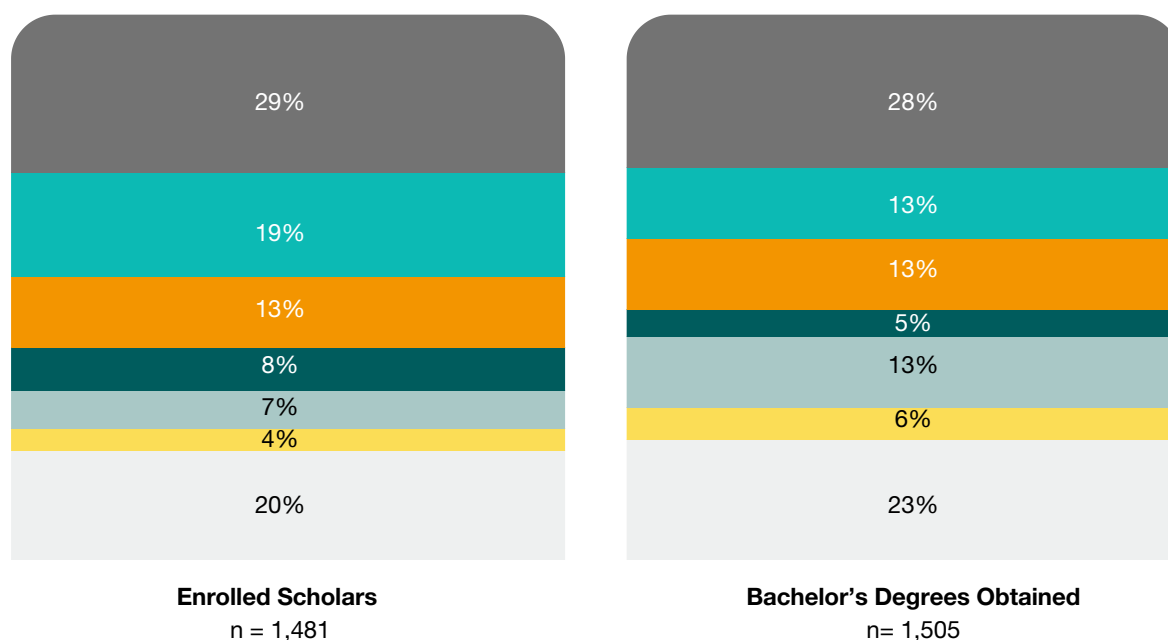
**GRAPHIC 16: INSTITUTIONS WITH THE HIGHEST SCHOLAR ENROLLMENT (2024-25)**



**TABLE 7: PARTICIPANT ENROLLMENT, RETENTION AND GRADUATION BY COHORT**

| COHORT (YEAR)                   | TOTAL PARTICIPANTS | GRADUATED    |            | RE-ENROLLED  |            | GRADUATED OR RE-ENROLLED |            |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|
|                                 | #                  | #            | %          | #            | %          | #                        | %          |
| Cohort 1 (2019-20)              | 481                | 292          | 61%        | -            | 0%         | 292                      | 61%        |
| Cohort 2 (2020-21)              | 456                | 238          | 52%        | 9            | 2%         | 247                      | 54%        |
| Cohort 3 (2021-22)              | 561                | 314          | 56%        | 20           | 4%         | 334                      | 60%        |
| Cohort 4 (2022-23)              | 1,017              | 503          | 49%        | 188          | 18%        | 691                      | 68%        |
| Cohort 5 (2023-24)              | 1,108              | 158          | 14%        | 801          | 72%        | 959                      | 87%        |
| <b>TOTAL C1-C5 PARTICIPANTS</b> | <b>3,623</b>       | <b>1,505</b> | <b>42%</b> | <b>1,018</b> | <b>28%</b> | <b>2,523</b>             | <b>70%</b> |

**GRAPHIC 17: DEGREES EARNED TO DATE BY ENROLLED SCHOLARS IN 2023-24<sup>31</sup>**



|   | ENROLLED SCHOLARS |             | BACHELORS DEGREES |             |
|---|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
|   | #                 | %           | #                 | %           |
| <b>Nursing</b>                            | 426               | 29%         | 423               | 28%         |
| <b>Medical Technician / Assistant</b>     | 275               | 19%         | 189               | 13%         |
| <b>Information Technology</b>             | 188               | 13%         | 194               | 13%         |
| <b>Construction Trades</b>                | 114               | 8%          | 69                | 5%          |
| <b>Medical Support Services</b>           | 111               | 7%          | 190               | 13%         |
| <b>Engineering / Manufacturing</b>        | 65                | 4%          | 92                | 6%          |
| <b>Other</b>                              | 302               | 20%         | 348               | 22%         |
| • Accounting                              | 59                | 4%          | 48                | 3%          |
| • Education                               | 51                | 3%          | -                 | 0%          |
| • Automotive                              | 48                | 3%          | 81                | 5%          |
| • Welding                                 | 35                | 2%          | 55                | 4%          |
| • Dentist Assistant / Hygienist           | 27                | 2%          | 37                | 2%          |
| • A/V Technology                          | 22                | 1%          | 21                | 1%          |
| • Architecture & Construction Engineering | 16                | 1%          | 18                | 1%          |
| • All Other                               | 44                | 3%          | 88                | 6%          |
| <b>TOTAL<sup>32</sup></b>                 | <b>1,481</b>      | <b>100%</b> | <b>1,505</b>      | <b>100%</b> |

## CAREER & TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP FALL COHORT 6 AT A GLANCE

CTS recipients are selected three times yearly for fall, winter, and spring enrollment. Due to the December 1 deadline of the legislative report, we can only report on a portion of our Cohort 6 recipients. The following information is an at-a-glance look at our newest cohort for fall enrollment only. Complete data on all Cohort 6 applicants and recipients will be available in the 2025 legislative report.

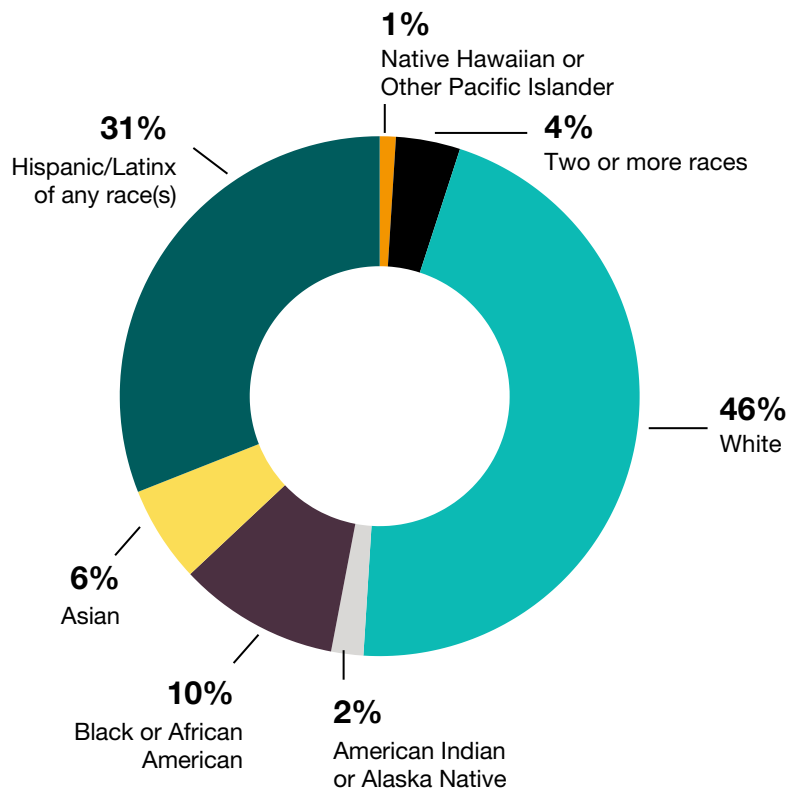
### ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS

The following occupational fields comprise 74% of the programs that Cohort 6 fall scholarship recipients planned to pursue in the 2024-25 academic year: medical technician/assistant (22%), nursing (21%), information technology (9%), education (8%), automotive (7%), and medical support services (7%).

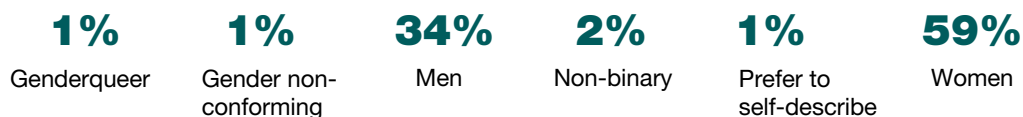
### APPLICANT CHARACTERISTICS

871 individuals submitted applications for Cohort 6 fall. Of those, 805 (92%) applicants met the eligibility requirements for the scholarship. Most eligible applicants were women (59%). The majority (64%) identified as first-generation college students.<sup>33</sup> See GRAPHIC 18.

**GRAPHIC 18: RACE OR ETHNICITY OF ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS<sup>34</sup>**



**Gender identity of eligible applicants:<sup>35</sup>**

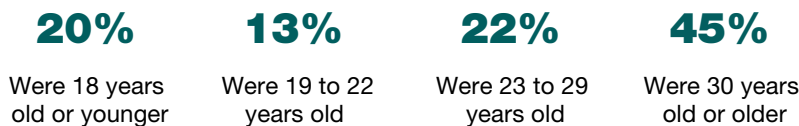




**Counties with the most eligible applicants per capita include:**

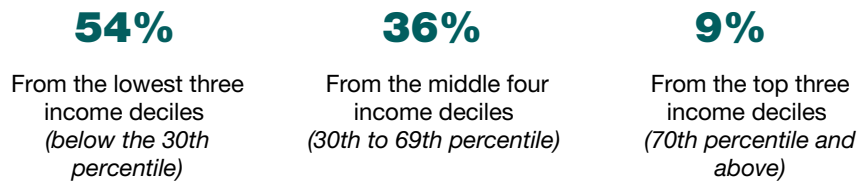
Grays Harbor County / 7 for every 10,000 residents  
 Pacific County / 7 for every 10,000 residents  
 Lewis County / 4 for every 10,000 residents  
 Chelan County / 3 for every 10,000 residents  
 Douglas County / 3 for every 10,000 residents

At the scholarship application deadline, eligible applicants indicated they were the following ages:<sup>36</sup>



**Most applicants are from lower-income deciles.**

The median household income for all eligible applicants (regardless of household size) was \$31,903, while the mean family income for all eligible applicants was \$37,998. The maximum household income was divided into 10 equal categories for each household size to create income deciles (with one as the lowest and 10 as the highest). An individual in the lowest income decile reported a family income in the bottom 10% of the eligible income range for family size. Conversely, an individual in the highest income decile reported a family income equal to 90% or more of the maximum eligible income for family size. In total, eligible applicants for Cohort 6 Fall came from the following income deciles:<sup>37</sup>

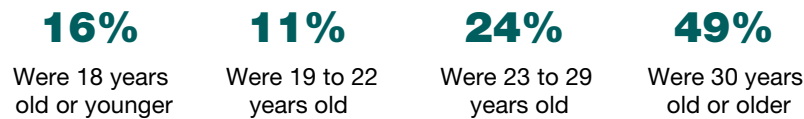


## SCHOLAR CHARACTERISTICS

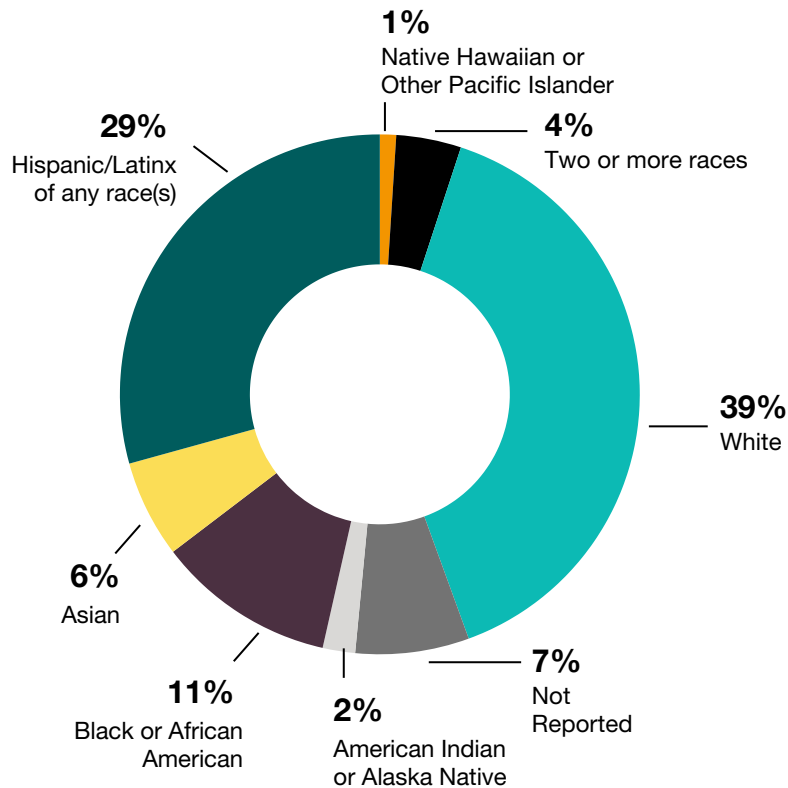
Of the 805 eligible applicants who applied for Cohort 6 fall, 638 were selected. As of November 1, 2024, 73 selected Scholars had either not enrolled in college, withdrawn, or graduated. This leaves 565 (89%) selected Cohort 6 fall Scholars enrolled for the 2024-25 academic year. In total, 62% of Cohort 6 fall Scholars are women (n=317), 31% are men (n=158), 3% identified as two or more genders (n=17), 2% are non-binary (n=10), 1% preferred to self-describe (n=4), 1% are genderqueer (n=5), and 1% are gender non-conforming (n=3).<sup>38</sup>

Seventy-one percent identified as first-generation college students.<sup>39</sup> The median family income for Cohort 6 fall was \$27,092, while the mean family income was \$31,625.<sup>40</sup> The top five counties with the most Cohort 6 fall Scholars per capita are Lewis, Grays Harbor, Pacific, Columbia, and Chelan. A significant percentage of Scholars are 30 years or older (49%).

**At the time they applied, Cohort 6 fall Scholars indicated they were the following ages.**



**GRAPHIC 19: RACE OR ETHNICITY OF COHORT 6 FALL SCHOLARS**



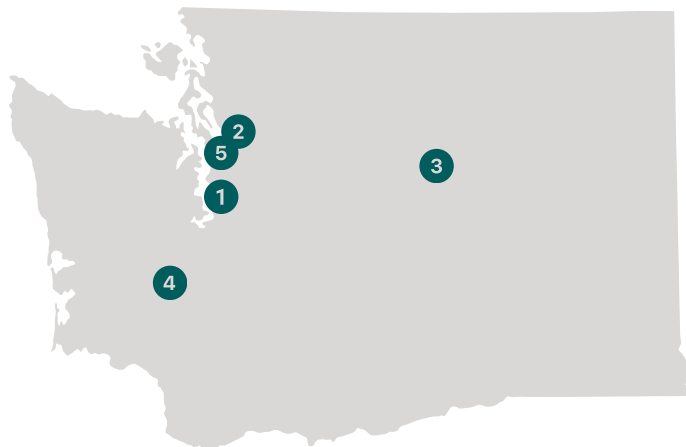


## PROGRAM ENROLLMENT

565 Cohort 6 fall Scholars are enrolled as of November 1, 2024. Fifty-one percent of Scholars are pursuing education and training in the health care industry, 14% in trades, 11% in information technology, and 4% in engineering/manufacturing.

Scholars are enrolled at 32 of Washington's 34 community and technical colleges. The proportions of Scholars per school with the most attendees are as follows:

**GRAPHIC 20: INSTITUTIONS WITH THE HIGHEST SCHOLAR ENROLLMENT (2024-25 FALL)**



- 1 Tacoma Community College: n = 85 | 15%
- 2 Lake Washington Institute of Technology: n = 41 | 7%
- 3 Wenatchee Valley College: n = 31 | 5%
- 4 Centralia College: n = 29 | 5%
- 5 Seattle Central College: n = 27 | 5%



**WS  
OS** | **RURAL JOBS  
INITIATIVE (RJI)**



## ELIGIBLE RURAL JOBS INITIATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

**SEC. 8.1 (a) Education programs the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship Board determined eligible for purposes of the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship.**

RJI supports trade, STEM, and health care programs that lead to high-demand jobs in rural Washington.

Currently, the WSOS Board has approved 461 eligible programs, including certificates, apprenticeships, and associate degrees.

The list of eligible programs is a subset of programs eligible for CTS. Eligible programs are selected for each rural region in collaboration with workforce development experts from that region.

**TABLE 8: OCCUPATIONAL FIELD CATEGORIES OF SCHOLARS<sup>41</sup>**

| FIELD OF STUDY                            | COHORT 1  |             | COHORT 2  |             | COHORT 3   |             | COHORT 4   |             | TOTAL      |             |
|---|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
|   | #         | %           | #         | %           | #          | %           | #          | %           | #          | %           |
| Nursing                                   | 7         | 14%         | 24        | 28%         | 39         | 36%         | 34         | 31%         | 104        | 29%         |
| Medical Technician / Assistant            | 19        | 38%         | 10        | 12%         | 17         | 16%         | 16         | 15%         | 62         | 18%         |
| Medical Support Services                  | 4         | 8%          | 12        | 14%         | 12         | 11%         | 14         | 13%         | 42         | 12%         |
| Welding                                   | 3         | 6%          | 11        | 13%         | 7          | 6%          | 11         | 10%         | 32         | 9%          |
| Information Technology                    | 3         | 6%          | 3         | 4%          | 10         | 9%          | 7          | 6%          | 23         | 7%          |
| Construction Trades                       | 2         | 4%          | 9         | 11%         | 3          | 3%          | 9          | 8%          | 23         | 7%          |
| Automotive                                | 3         | 6%          | 5         | 6%          | 6          | 6%          | 4          | 4%          | 18         | 5%          |
| Accounting                                | 3         | 6%          | 4         | 5%          | 7          | 6%          | 4          | 4%          | 18         | 5%          |
| Engineering / Manufacturing               | 1         | 2%          | 3         | 4%          | 5          | 5%          | 7          | 6%          | 16         | 5%          |
| Dentist Assistant / Hygienist             | 2         | 4%          | 1         | 1%          | 2          | 2%          | 2          | 2%          | 7          | 2%          |
| Agriculture                               | 3         | 6%          | 2         | 2%          | 0          | 0%          | 1          | 1%          | 6          | 2%          |
| Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics | -         | 0%          | -         | 0%          | 1          | 1%          | -          | 0%          | 1          | 0.3%        |
| Architecture & Construction Engineering   | -         | 0%          | 1         | 1%          | 0          | 0%          | -          | 0%          | 1          | 0.3%        |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>                        | <b>50</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>85</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>109</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>109</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>353</b> | <b>100%</b> |

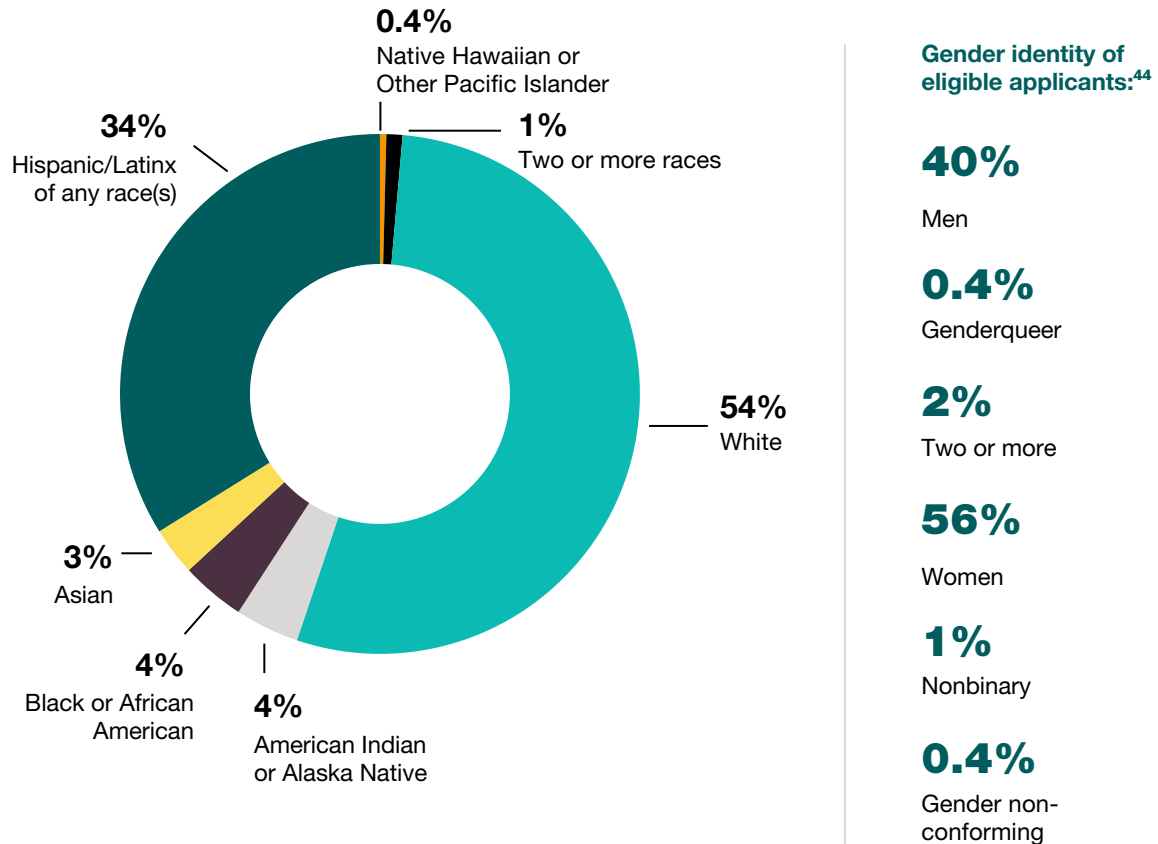
**PALOUSE**  
Whitman County

# RURAL JOBS INITIATIVE APPLICANT CHARACTERISTICS

**SEC. 8.1 (b) The number of applicants for the Rural Jobs Initiative disaggregated to the extent possible, by race, ethnicity, gender, county of origin, age, and median family income.**

2,118 individuals submitted CTS applications for the 2023-24 academic year. Of those, 257 students met the eligibility requirements for the RJI.<sup>42</sup> Most eligible applicants were women (56%). The majority (74%) identified as first-generation college students.<sup>43</sup> Eligible applicants for RJI Cohort 4 came from 22 of 31 eligible rural Washington counties.

**GRAPHIC 21: RACE OR ETHNICITY OF ELIGIBLE RURAL JOB INITIATIVE APPLICANTS<sup>56</sup>**

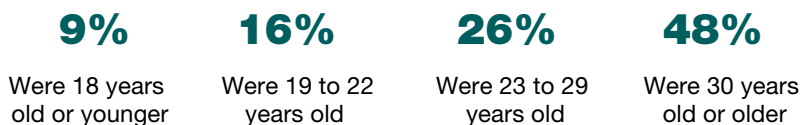


**Counties with the most eligible applicants per capita include:**

- **Grays Harbor County:** 6 for every 10,000 residents
- **Pend Oreille County:** 4 for every 10,000 residents
- **Stevens County:** 2 for every 10,000 residents
- **Whatcom County:** 1 for every 10,000 residents
- **Yakima County:** 1 for every 10,000 residents

**Almost half of eligible applicants are 30 years old or older.**

At the scholarship application deadline, eligible applicants indicated they were the following ages:<sup>45</sup>





The median household income for all eligible applicants (regardless of household size) was \$20,000, while the mean family income for all eligible applicants was \$24,634.<sup>46</sup>

**70%**

From the lowest three income deciles (below the 30th percentile)

**30%**

From the middle four income deciles (below the 30th to 69th percentile)

## RURAL JOBS INITIATIVE SCHOLAR CHARACTERISTICS

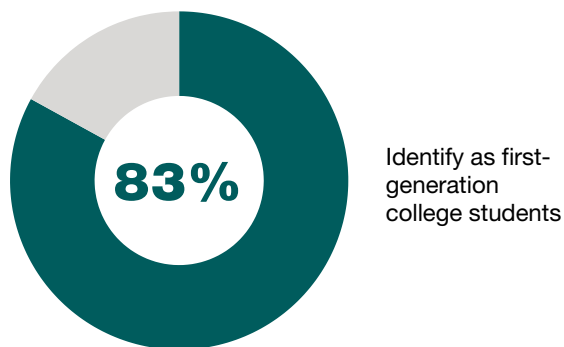
**SEC. 8.1 (c) The number of Scholars in the Rural Jobs program disaggregated to the extent possible, by race, ethnicity, gender, county of origin, age, and median family income.**

Of the 257 individuals who applied to participate in Cohort 4, 109 were selected. 93 (85%) of the 109 selected enrolled in the 2023-24 academic year.

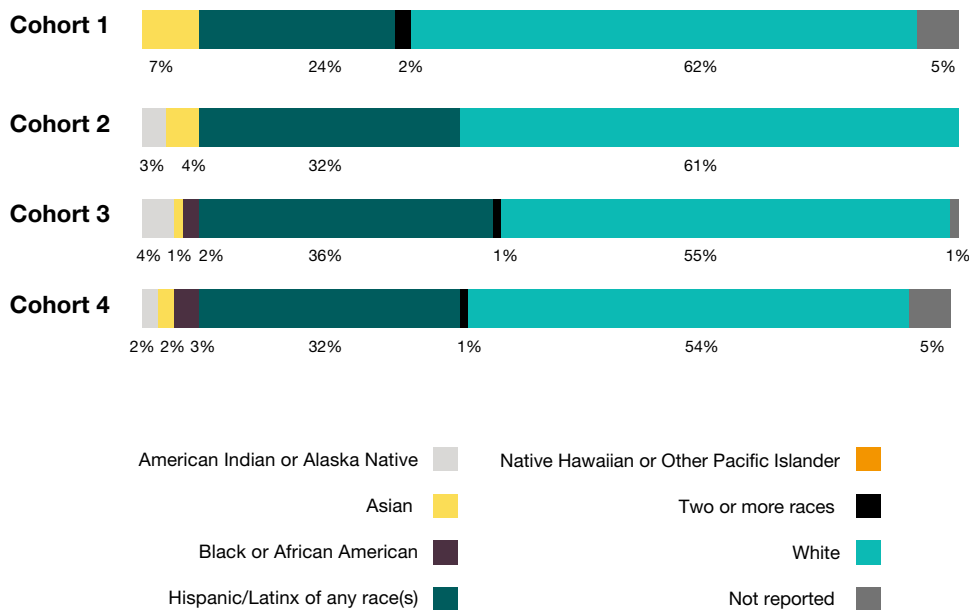
Sixty-five of these Scholars have re-enrolled for the 2024-25 academic year. In total, 72% of Cohort 4 are women (n=63), 25% are men (n=22).<sup>47</sup>

Of Cohort 4 participants, 41% identify as students of color. Eighty-three percent of Scholars identified as first-generation college students.<sup>48</sup>  
See **GRAPHICS 22 and 23**.

**GRAPHIC 22: FIRST-GENERATION STATUS**

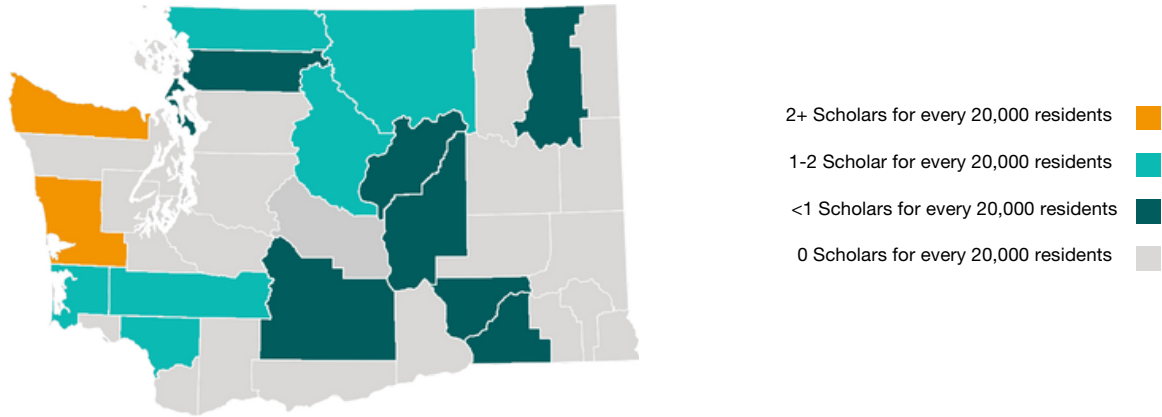


**GRAPHIC 22: RACE OR ETHNICITY OF SCHOLARS**



Scholars in Cohort 4 hail from 16 out of 31 rural counties. The counties with the highest number of Cohort 4 participants per capita are Grays Harbor, Clallam, Cowlitz, Pacific, and Whatcom.

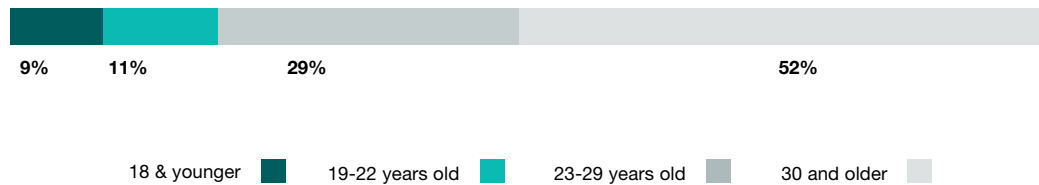
**GRAPHIC 24: HOME COUNTIES OF COHORT 4 SCHOLARS**



Most Cohort 4 Scholars (52%) are 30 years old or older. Cohort 4 Scholars indicated they were the following ages at the time of application:<sup>49</sup>



**GRAPHIC 25: AGE OF COHORT 4 SCHOLARS BY PERCENT**



The median family income (regardless of household size) for Cohort 4 is \$20,000. The mean family income for Cohort 4 is \$25,752.<sup>50</sup>



## RURAL JOBS INITIATIVE DISBURSEMENT

**SEC. 8.1 (d) The number and amount of scholarships actually awarded and whether the scholarships were paid from the scholarship account or endowment account.**

RJI recipients can receive up to \$3,500 in their first quarter, \$2,500 in their second quarter, and \$2,000 per quarter for the remaining duration of their associate degree, certificate, or apprenticeship program.

As of November 1, 2024, 128 recipients were enrolled in RJI, 120 were also enrolled in the CTS program, and eight were exclusively supported with RJI funds.

When Scholars are enrolled in CTS and RJI, the first \$1,500 in quarterly disbursements comes from CTS funding, and the remainder comes from RJI. When Scholars are supported exclusively through RJI, their entire disbursement comes from RJI funding.

All RJI scholarships are paid from the student support pathways account. Between the 2020-21 and the 2023-24 academic years, WSOS disbursed \$1,471,500 in RJI funding to Scholars. In the 2024-25 academic year, an estimated \$297,000 in RJI funding will be disbursed to Scholars.

## RURAL JOBS INITIATIVE ENROLLMENT

**SEC. 8.1 (e) The institutions and eligible education programs in which Washington State Opportunity Scholarship Scholars enrolled, together with data regarding Scholars’ completion and graduation.**

As of November 1, 2024, 145 RJI Scholars have graduated. 128 Scholars have re-enrolled in 2024-25. Forty-six percent of enrolled Scholars are pursuing education and training in the health care industry, 13% in the trades, five percent in information technology, four percent in engineering/manufacturing, and 8% in other industries.

RJI recipients represent 100% of Washington’s rural regions. The institutions with the most enrolled Scholars are ranked as follows:

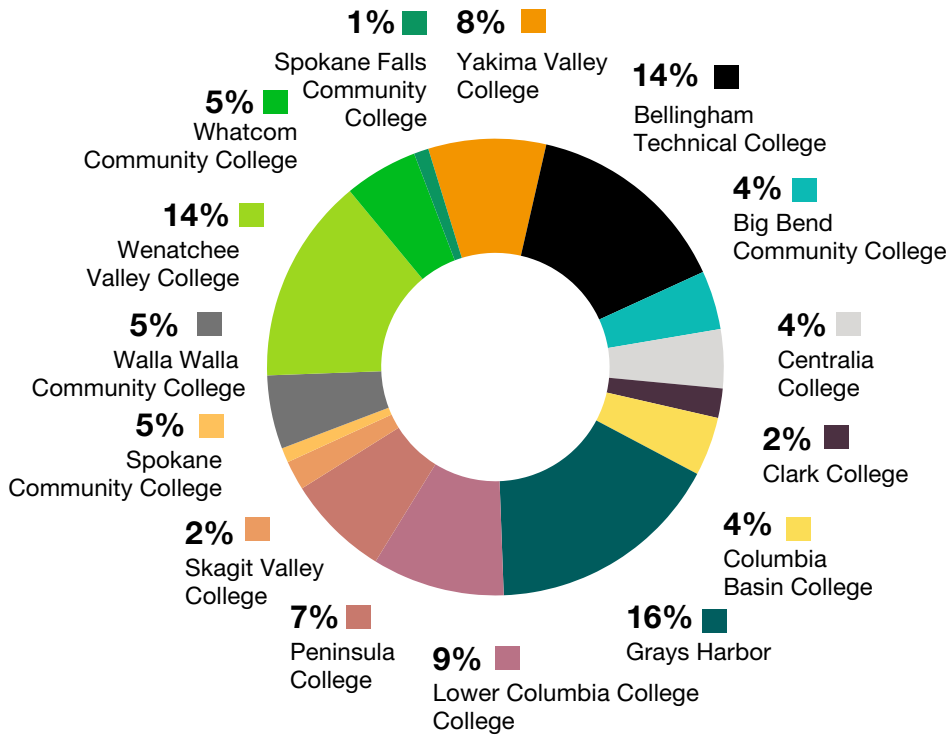
- Grays Harbor College: n = 20, 16%
- Bellingham Technical College: n = 18, 14%
- Wenatchee Valley College: n=18, 14%

**TABLE 9: PARTICIPANT ENROLLMENT, RETENTION AND GRADUATION BY COHORT**

| COHORT (YEAR)                   | TOTAL PARTICIPANTS | GRADUATED |     | RE-ENROLLED |     | GRADUATED OR RE-ENROLLED |     |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----|-------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|
|                                 | #                  | #         | %   | #           | %   | #                        | %   |
| Cohort 1 (2020-21)              | 40                 | 23        | 58% | 1           | 3%  | 24                       | 60% |
| Cohort 2 (2021-22)              | 70                 | 50        | 71% | 1           | 1%  | 51                       | 73% |
| Cohort 3 (2022-23)              | 98                 | 52        | 53% | 22          | 22% | 74                       | 76% |
| Cohort 4 (2023-24)              | 93                 | 20        | 22% | 64          | 69% | 84                       | 90% |
| <b>TOTAL C1-C4 PARTICIPANTS</b> | 301                | 145       | 48% | 88          | 29% | 233                      | 77% |



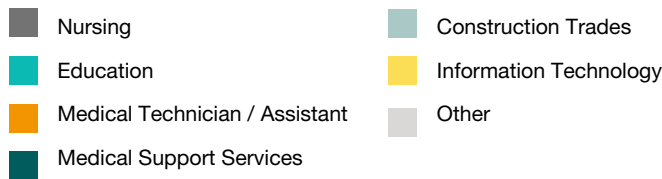
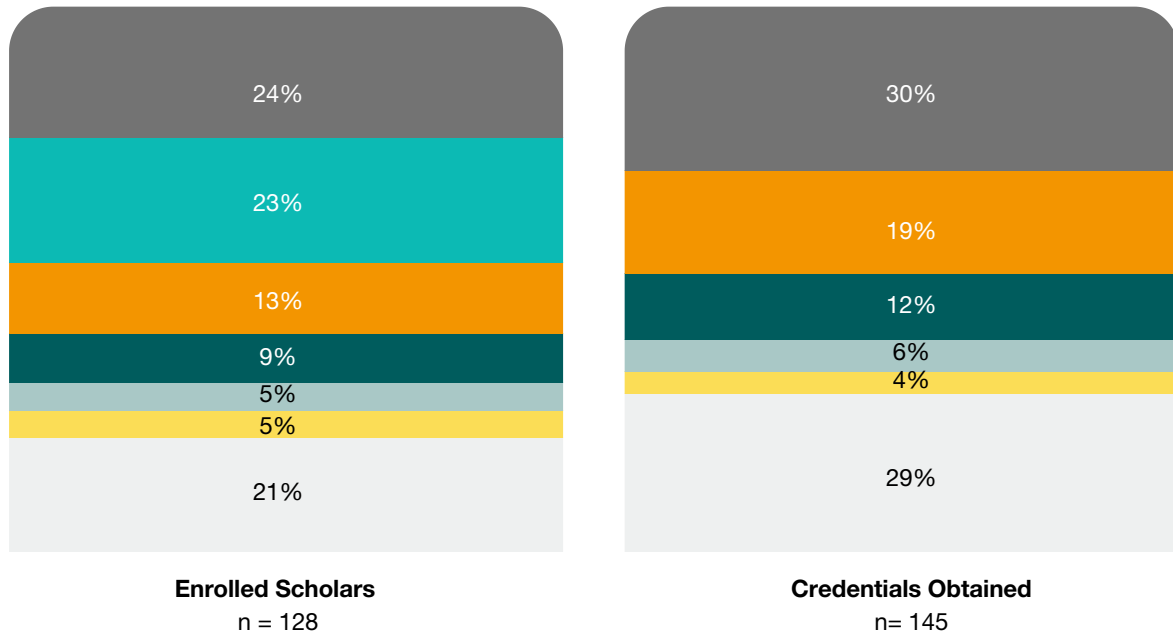
**GRAPHIC 26: RJI SCHOLAR ENROLLMENT 2023-24 BY INSTITUTION**



**TABLE 10: RJI GRADUATES BY INSTITUTION**

| INSTITUTION                   | GRADUATES  |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Bellingham Technical College  | 27         |
| Big Bend Community College    | 1          |
| Centralia College             | 2          |
| Columbia Basin College        | 7          |
| Grays Harbor College          | 18         |
| Lower Columbia College        | 10         |
| Peninsula College             | 18         |
| Skagit Valley College         | 8          |
| Spokane Community College     | 14         |
| Walla Walla Community College | 4          |
| Wenatchee Valley College      | 10         |
| Whatcom Community College     | 5          |
| Yakima Valley College         | 21         |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>            | <b>145</b> |

**GRAPHIC 27: OCCUPATIONAL FIELD CATEGORIES OF ENROLLED SCHOLARS AND GRADUATES IN 2023-24<sup>51</sup>**



|                                       | ENROLLED SCHOLARS |             | BACHELORS DEGREES |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
|                                       | #                 | %           | #                 | %           |
| <b>Nursing</b>                        | 31                | 24%         | 44                | 30%         |
| <b>Education</b>                      | 30                | 23%         | -                 | 0%          |
| <b>Medical Technician / Assistant</b> | 16                | 13%         | 27                | 19%         |
| <b>Medical Support Services</b>       | 12                | 9%          | 18                | 12%         |
| <b>Construction Trades</b>            | 7                 | 5%          | 8                 | 6%          |
| <b>Information Technology</b>         | 7                 | 5%          | 6                 | 4%          |
| <b>Other</b>                          | 25                | 21%         | 42                | 29%         |
| • Welding                             | 5                 | 4%          | 16                | 11%         |
| • Engineering / Manufacturing         | 5                 | 4%          | 8                 | 6%          |
| • Accounting                          | 5                 | 4%          | 5                 | 3%          |
| • Automotive                          | 4                 | 3%          | 7                 | 5%          |
| • Agriculture                         | 4                 | 3%          | 2                 | 1%          |
| • Dental Assistant / Hygienist        | 2                 | 2%          | -                 | 0%          |
| • All Other                           | -                 | 0%          | 4                 | 3%          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                          | <b>128</b>        | <b>100%</b> | <b>145</b>        | <b>100%</b> |

## RJI FALL COHORT 5 AT A GLANCE

RJI recipients are selected three times a year for fall, winter and spring enrollment. Due to the December 1 deadline of the legislative report, we can only report on a portion of our Cohort 5 recipients. The following information is an at-a-glance look at our newest cohort for fall enrollment only. Complete data on all Cohort 5 applicants and recipients will be available in the 2025 legislative report.

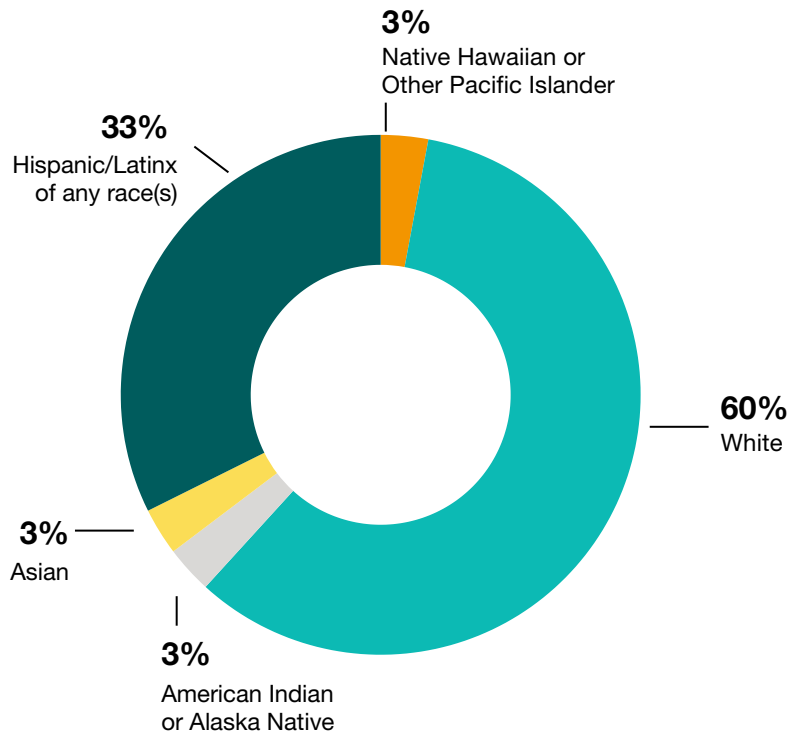
## ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS

The following occupational fields comprise 90% of the programs that Cohort 5 fall scholarship recipients planned to pursue in the 2024-25 academic year: education (76%), agriculture (10%), and medical support services (5%).

## APPLICANT CHARACTERISTICS

871 individuals submitted applications for the RJI Cohort 5 fall. Of those, 42 students met the eligibility requirements for the RJI scholarship. Most eligible applicants were women (85%).<sup>52</sup> The majority (71%) identified as first-generation college students.<sup>53</sup> See GRAPHIC 28.

**GRAPHIC 28: RACE OR ETHNICITY OF ELIGIBLE RJI COHORT 4 APPLICANTS<sup>54</sup>**



Gender identity of eligible applicants:

**5%**

Men

**85%**

Women

**3%**

Nonbinary

**3%**

Prefer to self describe

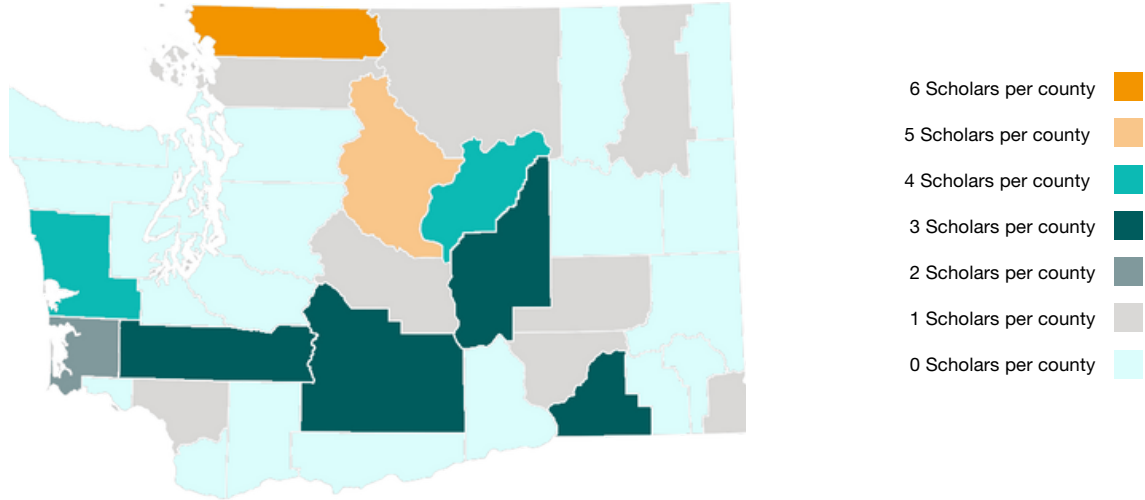
**5%**

Two or more

**Counties with the most eligible applicants per capita include:**

- **Douglas County:** 1.8 for every 10,000 residents
- **Pacific County:** 1.7 for every 10,000 residents
- **Chelan County:** 1.2 for every 10,000 residents
- **San Juan County:** 1.1 for every 10,000 residents
- **Grays Harbor County:** 1.0 for every 10,000 residents

**GRAPHIC 29: HOME COUNTIES OF COHORT 5 FALL APPLICANTS**



**Most eligible applicants are 30 years old or older.**

At the scholarship application deadline, eligible applicants indicated they were the following ages:<sup>55</sup>



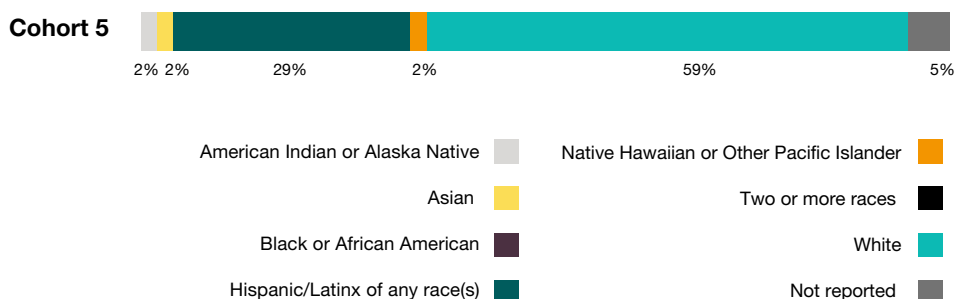


## SCHOLAR CHARACTERISTICS

Of the 838 applicants who applied for RJI Cohort 5 fall, 42 were eligible for the RJI. Of those, 42 were selected. As of November 1, 2024, 1 Scholars had either not enrolled in college, already been fully funded for the term, or withdrawn. This leaves 41 (98%) selected RJI Cohort 5 fall Scholars enrolled for the 2024-25 academic year.

In total, 85% of Cohort 5 Fall Scholars are women (n=33), 5% are men (n=2), 3% are non-binary (n=1), 3% prefer to self-describe (n=1), and 5% are two or more (n=2).<sup>56</sup> Seventy-eight percent identified as first-generation college students.<sup>57</sup> Most Scholars are 30 years or older (59%).

**GRAPHIC 30: RACE OR ETHNICITY OF COHORT 5 FALL SCHOLARS**



### Gender identity of Cohort 5 Fall Scholars:



At the time they applied, Cohort 5 fall Scholars indicated they were the following ages:



The median family income for Cohort 5 fall was \$23,000, while the mean family income was \$23,672<sup>58</sup>

WS | GRADUATE  
OS | SCHOLARSHIP



## ELIGIBLE GRADUATE (GRD) EDUCATION PROGRAMS

### **SEC. 8.1 (a) Education programs the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship Board determined eligible for purposes of the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship.**

The Graduate program supports students pursuing a graduate degree in advanced practice nursing. The WSOS Board of Directors has approved four eligible programs across five universities. Eligible programs include a Master of Science (MSN) or a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). The Board of Directors will continue to refine the list of eligible programs to best meet our state's health care workforce needs.

The legislation that created the Graduate program intended to increase the number of health care professionals providing physical and behavioral health care, particularly in communities designated as rural or medically underserved in Washington state. Clinical practice is required for board certification and state licensure. Systemic barriers make practicum placement in target (rural and medically underserved) areas challenging.

Since practicum location is influential in the ultimate placement of certified nurse practitioners, WSOS encourages practicum placement in target areas with a stipend for hosting Scholars. The practicum site stipend compensates clinical sites in Washington's Medically Underserved Areas (MUA) or Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA). In 2023-2024, the stipend went to 39 clinics and hospitals across the state for 68 practicum placements. Of those that received a stipend, 15 facilities supported psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner students, 21 hosted family nurse practitioners, and two hosted adult gerontology nurse practitioners.

Statewide representation grew significantly this year, most notably with the addition of seven rural counties. Moreover, 63% of eligible practicum sites utilized the preceptor stipend, representing 23% since the program's inception.

We hope the stipend will assist clinical coordinators in securing more practicum spots in underserved areas.

**EMMANUEL**  
Opportunity  
Scholar



## GRADUATE PROGRAM APPLICANT CHARACTERISTICS

**SEC. 8.1 (b) The number of applicants for the Graduate program disaggregated to the extent possible, by race, ethnicity, gender, county of origin, age, and median family income.**

Of the 51 individuals who applied for Cohort 4 of the Graduate Scholarship, 33 or 65% were eligible. Of those, 20 were selected. 100% of selected Cohort 4 Scholars enrolled for the 2024-25 academic year.

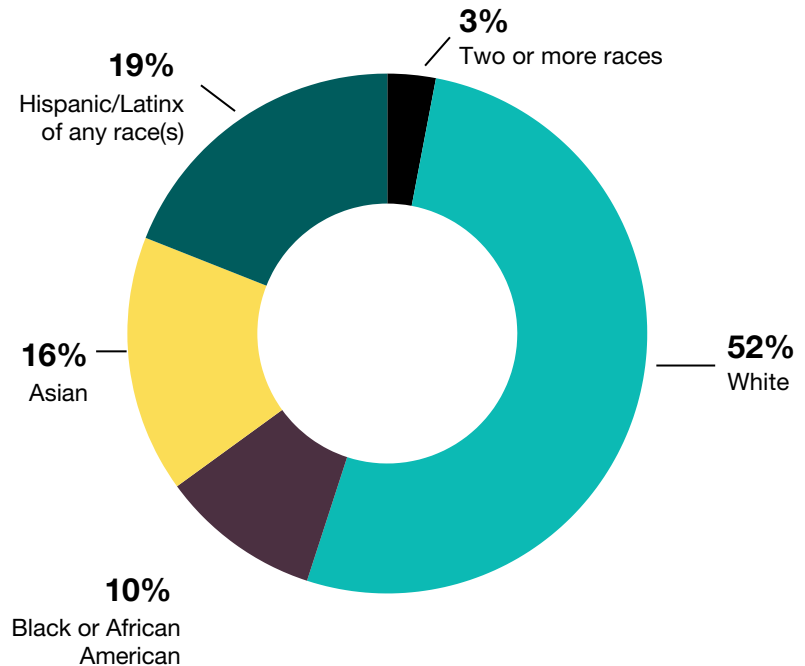
Forty-eight percent of the eligible graduate scholarship applicants identify as students of color, 79% identify as women, 14% identify as men, and 7% as non-binary.

Fifty-six percent of the eligible applicants identified as first-generation college students. The median family income is \$80,334. A majority of the eligible applicants were from multi-member households.



**ALISHA, LUIS, & IRIS**  
Opportunity Scholars (left to right)

**GRAPHIC 29: RACE OR ETHNICITY OF ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**



**Gender of eligible applicants:**

**79%**  
Women

**14%**  
Men

**7%**  
Non-binary



## GRADUATION PROGRAM SCHOLAR CHARACTERISTICS

**SEC. 8.1 (c) The number of Scholars in the Graduate program disaggregated to the extent possible, by race, ethnicity, gender, county of origin, age, and median family income.**

In total, 82% are women (n=15), and 18% are men (n=8). Sixty-eight percent identified as first-generation college students. A significant percentage of Scholars are 35 or older (75%). Over half (56%) are students of color.

Of the 51 applicants who applied for the Graduate Program in 2024, 33 were eligible, and 20 were selected.

Cohort 4 Scholars hail from a broader range of geographic locations than previous cohorts. Four Scholars are from Spokane County, and two are from Benton County. Four are from the rural counties of Douglas, Franklin, and Yakima counties. Ten of the 20 recipients reside in Pierce, King, or Snohomish counties.

All (100%) of the selected Graduate Cohort 4 Scholars enrolled for the 2024-25 academic year.

To date, 21 GRD Scholars have graduated with a DNP in the following specialties: Psychiatric Mental Health (11 graduates), Family Nurse Practitioner (7 graduates), and Adult Gerontology (3 graduates). Additionally, three scholars have received a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree—two in Psychiatric Mental Health and one in Family Nurse Practitioner.

### Doctorate Nurse Practitioner (DNP)



**21**  
Graduates

#### DNP SPECIALTIES



**11** Psychiatric  
Mental Health



**7** Family Nurse  
Practitioner



**3** Adult  
Gerontology

### Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)



**3**  
Graduates

#### MSN SPECIALTIES



**2** Psychiatric  
Mental Health



**1** Family Nurse  
Practitioner

## GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP DISBURSEMENT

**SEC. 8.1 (d) The number and amount of scholarships actually awarded and whether the scholarships were paid from the scholarship account or the endowment account.**

Graduate Scholars are eligible to receive up to \$25,000 over three years. As of November 1, 2024, 41 recipients are enrolled in the Graduate program.

Clinical practicum sites in Medically Underserved Areas (MUA) or Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) that host Graduate Scholars are eligible to receive \$3,600 in remuneration per 120 clinical hours. Clinical practicum sites can receive up to \$18,000 total per Scholar over three years.

In the 2023-2024 academic year, WSOS disbursed \$146,907 in preceptor stipends to 39 clinics or hospitals located in a MUA or HPSA. The average distribution was \$3,855 per term. Sites that received the stipends were spread across the state in the following counties: Okanogan, Stevens, Grant, Spokane, Lincoln, Yakima, Benton, Lewis, Pacific, Thurston, Grays Harbor, Clallam, Jefferson, Skagit, King, and Pierce.

All scholarships are paid from the student support pathways account. As of November 1, 2024, \$178,217 has been disbursed to Scholars for the fall quarter. We anticipate disbursing \$494,400 in scholarship funds to all Cohort 1-3 Scholars by the end of the 2024-25 academic year.

## GRADUATE PROGRAM ENROLLMENT

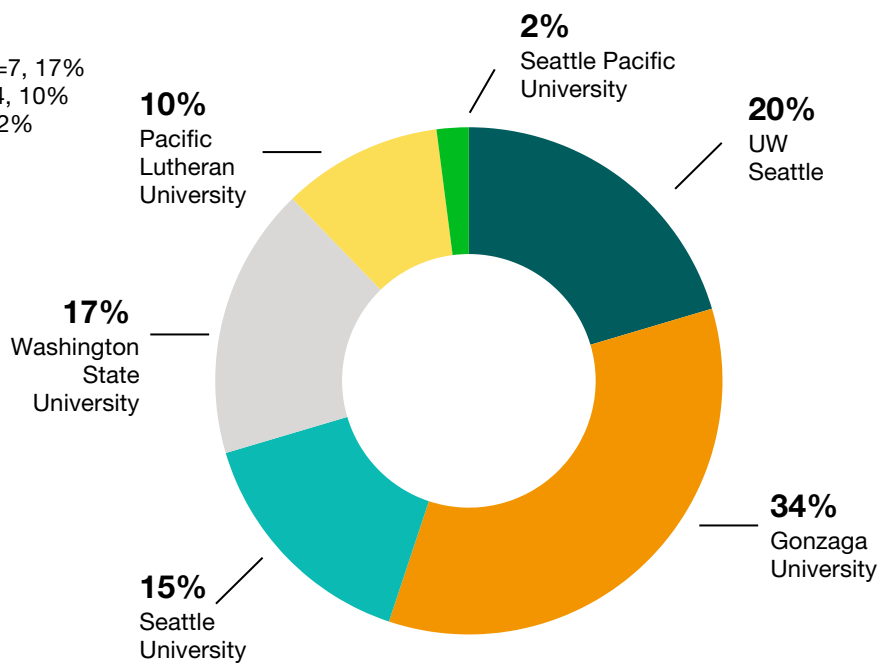
**SEC. 8.1 (e) The institutions and eligible education programs in which Opportunity Scholars enrolled, together with data regarding Scholars' completion and graduation.**

As of November 1, 2024 there are 41 Graduate program recipients are enrolled. In total, 31 are pursuing a DNP, and 10 are pursuing an MSN. There are 24 Scholars in the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) program track, 12 Scholars in the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) track, and five Scholars in the Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner Primary Care (AGNP-Primary Care) program track.

As of November 1, 2024 there are 24 GRD Scholarship graduates. Three graduated with an MSN, and 21 with a DNP. Of the graduates, 11 are Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners (PMHNP), three in Adult Gerontology and seven are Family Nurse Practitioners (FNP).

The proportions of Scholars per school with the most attendees are ranked as follows:

- **UW-Seattle:** n=8, 20%
- **Gonzaga University:** n=14, 34%
- **Seattle University:** n=6, 15%
- **Washington State University:** n=7, 17%
- **Pacific Lutheran University:** n=4, 10%
- **Seattle Pacific University:** n=1, 2%





**JONATHAN, DYLAN, & NANCY**  
Opportunity Scholars (left to right)

## CONTRIBUTIONS

**SEC. 8.1 (f) The total amount of private contributions and state-match funds received for the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship program, how the funds were distributed between the student support pathways, scholarship and endowment accounts, the interest or other earnings on the accounts, and the amount of any administrative fee paid to the program administrator.**

As of August 31, 2024:<sup>59</sup>

- Private contributions and state-match dollars for the Baccalaureate Scholarship program are \$100,618,237 and \$96,154,638, respectively, for a total of \$196,772,876.
- Private contributions and state-match dollars for the Career & Technical Scholarship program are \$29,009,794 and \$24,141,670, respectively, for a total of \$353,151,464.
- Private contributions and state-match dollars for the Rural Jobs Initiative are \$1,609,151 and \$1,398,759, respectively, for a total of \$3,007,910.
- Private contributions and state-match dollars for the Graduate Scholarship program are \$730,020 and \$500,020, respectively, for a total of \$1,230,040.

As of September 30, 2024, the total investment income for all WSOS accounts is \$47,997,363 since inception.

The balance of the endowment account as of September 30, 2024, includes \$7,897,765 related to private contributions and their earnings as well as \$648,519 in state match dollars. That balance is inclusive of a \$5,000,000 initial private investment and the associated equal state match.<sup>60</sup>

>>

**SEE GRAPHIC 30 ON THE NEXT PAGE.**

>> CONTRIBUTIONS CONTINUED

In total, administrative fees of \$9,497,385 have been paid to program administrators of WSOS:

- The total administrative fee paid to the first program administrator (from inception through January 2017), the College Success Foundation, was \$5,082,672.<sup>61</sup>
- The total administrative fee paid to the second program administrator (from February 2017 through August 2022), Washington STEM, was \$2,865,404.<sup>62</sup>
- The total administrative fee that will be paid to the third program administrator (from September 2022 through August 2024), 501 Commons, is \$1,180,769.<sup>63</sup>
- The total administrative fee paid to the current program administrator (from September 2024 through present), the WSOS Foundation, was \$368,990 as of October 31, 2024.

Between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024, (academic year 2023-24) WSOS disbursed \$16,390,079 in scholarship dollars.<sup>64</sup> Over that same period, WSOS spent \$5,358,985 on non-scholarship expenses. \$2,035,760 of those non-scholarship expenses were programmatic costs, including the Scholar Lead peer mentorship program, the Skills that Shine industry mentorship program, and other student services.<sup>65</sup>

The Governor-appointed Board of Directors approves the WSOS budget annually. The budget includes an approval of revenue targets (inclusive of fundraising goals), as required by statute. For 2024, the Board approved budget included a revenue target of \$18,146,030 in revenue. As of October 31, 2024, WSOS had reported \$26,389,413 or 145% of the annual goal. The difference here is mostly in the timing of state match receipt, a significant amount of which had been budgeted in 2023 but received in 2024.

**GRAPHIC 30: PRIVATE AND STATE-MATCH CONTRIBUTIONS BY PROGRAM**

**BACCALAUREATE SCHOLARSHIP / BaS**

| PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS |   | STATE-MATCH DOLLARS |   | TOTAL         |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|---|---------------|
| \$100,618,237         | + | \$96,154,638        | = | \$196,772,876 |

**CAREER & TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP / CTS**

| PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS |   | STATE-MATCH DOLLARS |   | TOTAL        |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|---|--------------|
| \$29,009,794          | + | \$24,141,670        | = | \$53,151,464 |

**RURAL JOBS INITIATIVE / RJI**

| PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS |   | STATE-MATCH DOLLARS |   | TOTAL       |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|---|-------------|
| \$1,609,151           | + | \$1,398,759         | = | \$3,007,910 |

**GRADUATE SCHOLARS PROGRAM / GSP**

| PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS |   | STATE-MATCH DOLLARS |   | TOTAL       |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|---|-------------|
| \$730,020             | + | \$500,020           | = | \$1,230,040 |



# EXPANSION PROGRAM

## **SEC. 8.1 (g) Identification of the programs the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship Board selected to receive Opportunity Expansion awards and the amount of such awards.**

Per HB 2801, the WSOS Board of Directors has the authority to distribute donations to the Opportunity Expansion Fund (OEF) in addition to managing the scholarship portion of WSOS.

Under this 2011 legislation, Washington companies could donate high-tech, research, and development (R&D) tax credits to the Fund between June 2011 and January 2015. The total contributions would be used to increase the capacity of Washington colleges and universities to produce high-demand degrees. This tax credit no longer exists.

As of October 31, 2015, \$6,000,326.64 had been certified and transferred to the Opportunity Expansion Account to support opportunity expansion awards. Microsoft was the only company that contributed funds.

In late 2015, a working group of 14 community, business, and government leaders was convened to develop a Request for Information (ROI) process, review final applications, and identify three final proposals to award the opportunity expansion awards. In the initial round of applications, 20 colleges and universities responded with requests totaling nearly \$50 million.

The WSOS Board of Directors approved funding for the proposals below in June 2016. By August 2016, grants were awarded in full to winning institutions.

### **\$2.2M to University of Washington's STARS Program**

The University of Washington's STARS program provides intensive wraparound services to first-year, Pell-eligible engineering students from Washington high schools. The Opportunity Expansion Fund grant enabled the STARS program to accept a larger cohort of students for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 academic years, resulting in 20-35 engineering and computer science degrees awarded to Washington residents from low-income backgrounds. In addition to serving an extended cohort of intensive STARS participants, the WSOS Opportunity Expansion Funding enabled the Engineering Academic Center.

(EAC) to enroll 215 students in supplemental engineering workshops.

### **\$2.2M to Central Washington University for their Teach STEM Program**

The Teach STEM Program at Central Washington University (CWU) is a new teacher recruiting and retention program modeled after the University of Texas Austin's UTeach program. Teach STEM aims to develop and offer a new computer science teaching endorsement and math competency. Through the Opportunity Expansion Fund grant, the Teach STEM program has increased the number of students enrolled in STEM teaching courses. In 2017-2018, 116 students took Teach STEM courses. This is an approximately 25% increase in enrollment in science and math teaching programs versus the average of the three previous years.

This trajectory meets CWU's goal to double the number of STEM teaching graduates by spring 2022. The Opportunity Expansion Fund grant also enabled CWU to develop a new computer science teaching endorsement launched in the 2018-19 academic year.

### **\$1.6M to Western Washington University's computer science degree program and to develop a new computer science K-12 endorsement at WWU's Center for Science Math and Technology (SMATE).**

As of 2020, Western Washington University (WWU) will graduate 175 students with a Bachelor of Science in computer science and deliver professional development for 10 K-12 teachers (pre-service or in-service) each year.

Through the support of the Opportunity Expansion Fund grant in 2017-18, WWU was able to offer 15 more sections of computer science courses than the previous year, which contributed to 150 computer science graduates and 10 cybersecurity graduates in 2018.



# OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP OUTCOMES

**Rigorous examination confirms WSOS is producing strong outcomes. The intent of this section is to provide an overview of the impact of the Opportunity Scholarship.**

## BACCALAUREATE SCHOLARSHIP

WSOS has evaluated its BaS program outcomes in three ways: through a required audit by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC), through data received from the Office of Financial Management's Education Research and Data Center (ERDC), and through surveys of its alumni.

### College Affordability

According to the 2019 JLARC report, Baccalaureate Scholars have lower out-of-pocket costs, student loans, and unmet need than their peers. The report found that between the academic years 2012-13 and 2016-17, Opportunity Scholars' unmet need was half the unmet need of their peers. Further, just 45% of Opportunity Scholars took out student loans compared with 63% of their peers, and Opportunity Scholars who took out loans borrowed less.

### Graduation Rates

The JLARC report also showed that BaS recipients are twice as likely to graduate in four years relative to their peers. Specifically, 49% of recipients who started as freshmen in Cohorts 1 and 2 graduated within four years, compared to 19% of their peers. As of fall 2022, data from ERDC showed that 48% of BaS participants graduate in four years and 78% graduate within six years. Further, 74% of BaS participants earned a high-demand degree and were 68% more likely to earn a high-demand degree than eligible WSOS applicants who were not awarded the Scholarship but did earn a bachelor's degree.

### Labor Market Outcomes

In the fall of 2024, WSOS surveyed its alums to assess their success in finding high-paying jobs in STEM and health care industries in Washington. The survey collected data about graduates' employment and education status nine months and five years after graduation, as well as at the time of the survey. It received 685 responses, which reflected a wide range of WSOS graduates based on cohort, gender, race/ethnicity, first-generation status, income level, and home region.

### Labor Market Outcomes: Nine Months

Of the 685 survey respondents, 89% had graduated at least nine months prior to the survey and were able to provide information about their employment and education at the nine-month point after graduation.

Of those, 81% were working part- or full-time while 23% were enrolled in graduate school. Only 78% shared the type of work they did 9 months after graduating, but of those 86% found employment in STEM or health care. In that same subset of respondents 87% were still living in Washington, with 70% living in or near the city where they had graduated from high school. The average wage of those working full-time and not in school nine months after graduating was \$61,071.

### Labor Market Outcomes: Five Years

Among the 169 respondents who had graduated at least 5 years prior to taking the survey, 85% were working full-time, and 27% were enrolled in graduate school part- or full-time. Seventy-seven percent of those working full-time remained in the STEM or health care industries and 69% still lived in Washington state. The average wage of those working full-time 5 years after graduating was \$85,015.





## CAREER & TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP

WSOS evaluates its CTS program outcomes in two ways: through data received from the Office of Financial Management's Education Research and Data Center (ERDC) and through surveys of its alumni. Due to the timing of the JLARC audit, it did not include a CTS evaluation.

### Graduation Rates

In its 2022 analysis, ERDC compared the outcomes of Cohort 1 Career and Technical Scholars who were barely selected against Cohort 1 Career and Technical Scholarship applicants who were nearly selected. The small number of participants and comparison population make it inadvisable to draw strong conclusions from this analysis, however it did find that 57% of Cohort 1 participants have graduated with a credential, and that 47% obtained that credential within two years. Of those who have earned a credential, 88% earned a high demand credential.

### Labor Market Outcomes

In the fall of 2024, WSOS surveyed its alumni to assess their success in finding high paying jobs in STEM, health care and the trades in Washington. The survey received 169 responses, with 73% indicating that they were employed at the time of the survey, over 86% of whom were employed in STEM, health care and the trades. Fifty-three percent of respondents indicated that they had graduated at least nine months prior, and at 9 months post-graduation 82% were working part- or full-time. Seventy-two percent still live in Washington state nine months after graduation, with 83% working in the same region where they lived when attending college. Those working full-time and not enrolled in further education earned an average wage of \$59,716.



# FOOTNOTES

## BaS Sec. 8.1(a) Eligible Programs

1. Not all Scholars who are selected to receive the scholarship end up enrolling in college to become WSOS participants. Therefore, it is important to note that selected Scholars differ from actual cohort participants. The table above references the major of interest indicated on the application. Many college students change their major over time, and Scholars may not graduate in the same field they declared their initial interest. The totals in this table may not equal 100% due to rounding.

2. Prior to the 2022 legislative report, select agriculture majors were included under Health Professions and Related Programs. Beginning with the 2022 legislative report, all agriculture majors will be counted under Agricultural, Animal, Plant, Veterinary Science and Related Fields. This change will impact the figures for the current cohort and historical cohorts.

3. Engineering and engineering technologies & engineering-related fields, while separate Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) families, have been combined into one category in the table. The major category for education includes agricultural, biology, chemistry, earth science, health, mathematics, physics, science and technology teacher education.

4. The major category for education includes agricultural, biology, chemistry, earth science, health, mathematics, physics, science and technology teacher education.

## BaS Sec. 8.1(b) Applicants

5. n=187 or 11% chose not to report their gender and are therefore unknown. They are excluded from related calculations.

6. n=70 or 4% chose not to report their race/ethnicity and are therefore unknown. They are excluded from related calculations.

7. n=38 or 2% chose not to report their parental education status and are therefore unknown. n=20 or 1% reported having no parents and are also unknown. These applicants are excluded from related calculations.

8. The totals in this graph may not equal 100% due to rounding.

9. For analysis purposes, age calculations were as of the application deadline.

## BaS Sec. 8.1(c) Scholars

10. n= 123 (10) of Cohort 13 participants chose not to report their gender and are therefore unknown. They are excluded from the calculations.

11. n = 25 or 2% chose not to report their parental education status and are therefore unknown. n=18 or 2% reported having no parents and are also unknown. These Scholars are excluded from related calculations.

12. This is based on the number of Scholars at the time of publication of each cohort's initial legislative report. Population estimates come from the QFM population estimates published on April 1, 2024.

13. For analysis purposes, age calculations were as of the application deadline.

14. Family incomes used for analyses in this report are from self-reported family income on the scholarship application.

## BaS Sec. 8.1(d) Disbursement

15. The number of Scholars includes currently enrolled Scholars as well as those with an approved Deferment for the 2024-25 academic year.

16. The maximum annual award amounts are calculated using Scholars' projected award level. Scholars may receive more or less than the maximum award amount because their financial need has already been met elsewhere or other nuances of awarding.

17. This table has been updated to show the net disbursements for each academic year as of November 1, 2024. Anticipated disbursement data for 2024-25 is as of November 1, 2024.

## BaS Sec. 8.1(e) Enrollment

18. Previous graduation data has been updated to reflect revised scholarship disbursement and/or graduation information. Note that this has slightly reduced the number of participants in some cohorts from previously printed legislative reports due to timing.

19. Since many college students change their major over time, degrees pursued in 2024-25 represents the most recent major reported by Scholars who have received a net disbursement greater than zero at the time of this publication. This does not necessarily reflect the major in which Scholars will eventually graduate. Total proportions may exceed or fall below 100% due to rounding. Please note that many Cohort 1 Scholars originally entered the program under college majors in 2012-13 that became ineligible in 2013-14. Additionally, college students change their major over time; while Scholars only receive funding while studying in eligible fields, some Scholars receive funding while in an eligible field but later transfer and graduate in a non-STEM or health care field. Finally, some Scholars (n=810) earn more than one bachelor's degree. In these cases, oftentimes the Scholar earns one degree in a STEM or health care field and a second degree in a non-STEM or health care degree. Of the 9,393 Scholars who have earned degrees to date, 8,023 or 85% of earned degrees were in a STEM or health care field. n=1,369 (15% of degrees earned) are in non-STEM or health care fields.

## CTS Sec. 8.1(a) Eligible Programs

20. Not all Scholars who are selected to receive the scholarship end up enrolling in their intended program to become WSOS participants. Therefore, it is important to note that selected Scholars differ from actual cohort participants. The table above references the program field of interest indicated on the application. Scholarship recipients may change their program to another eligible program; therefore, Scholars may not graduate in the same field they declared their initial interest. The totals in this table may not equal 100% due to rounding.

## CTS Sec. 8.1(b) Applicants

21. Eligible applicants must be Washington state residents who intend to enroll at a Washington state community or technical college in an eligible program leading to a high-demand trade, STEM or health care field. Additionally, eligible applicants must have filed the Free Application for Student Financial Aid (FAFSA) or Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) and (if eligible) applied for federal education tax credits. Eligible applicants must have a family income equal to or less than 125% of the Washington state median income, controlling for family size. Eligible applicants must have not yet earned a bachelor's degree.

22. n=86 or 5% chose not to report their parental education status and are therefore unknown. n=104 or 6% reported having no parents and are also unknown. These applicants are excluded from related calculations.

23. n=126 or 7% chose not to report their race/ethnicity and are therefore unknown. They are excluded from related calculations.

24. n=167 or 10% chose not to report their gender and are therefore unknown. They are excluded from related calculations.

25. For analysis purposes, age calculations were as of the application deadline.

## CTS Sec. 8.1(c) Scholars

26. n=55 or 5% chose not to report their parental education status and are therefore unknown. n=68 or 6% reported having no parents and are also unknown. These applicants are excluded from related calculations.

27. n=105 or 9% chose not to report their gender and are therefore unknown. They are excluded from related calculations.

28. For analysis purposes, age calculations were as of the application deadline.

29. Family incomes used for analyses in this report are from self-reported family income on the scholarship application

## CTS Sec. 8.1(d) Disbursement

30. This number includes currently enrolled Career & Technical Scholars as well as those with an approved Deferment for the 2024-25 academic year.

# FOOTNOTES

## CTS Sec. 8.1(e) Program Enrollment

31. This table does not necessarily reflect the program field in which currently enrolled Scholars will eventually earn a degree. Career & Technical Scholars can earn multiple credentials. Oftentimes Scholars will earn multiple eligible certificates on the way to completing their final credential. While the unique number of Scholars that have earned a credential is 1,505, a total of 2,230 certificates or degrees have been earned. n=141 currently enrolled Scholars have already earned a degree. n=805 Scholars have earned multiple degrees. Total proportions may exceed or fall below 100% due to rounding.

32. The totals in this table may not equal 100% due to rounding.

## CTS Cohort 6 Fall at a Glance

33. n=54 or 7% chose not to report their parental education status and are therefore unknown. n=39 or 5% reported having no parents and are also unknown. These applicants are excluded from related calculations.

34. n=60 or 7% chose not to report their race/ethnicity and are therefore unknown. These applicants are excluded from related calculations.

35. n=86 or 11% chose not to report their gender and are therefore unknown. These applicants are excluded from related calculations.

36. For analysis purposes, age calculations were as of the application deadline.

37. Family incomes used for analyses in this report are from self-reported family income on the scholarship application.

38. n=51 or 9% chose not to report their gender and are therefore unknown. They are excluded from related calculations.

39. n=36 or 6% chose not to report their parental education status and are therefore unknown. n=33 or 6% reported having no parents and are also unknown. These applicants are excluded from related calculations.

40. Family incomes used for analyses in this report are from self-reported family income on the scholarship application.

## RJI Sec. 8.1(a) Eligible programs

41. Not all Scholars who are selected to receive the scholarship end up enrolling in college to become WSOS participants. Therefore, it is important to note that selected Scholars differ from actual cohort participants. The table above references the program of interest indicated on the application. Many students change their program over time, and Scholars may not graduate in the same field they declared their initial interest. The totals in this table may not equal 100% due to rounding.

## RJI Sec. 8.1(b) Applicants

42. Eligible applicants must residents of rural Washington who intend to enroll at a Washington state community or technical college in an eligible program leading to a trade, STEM or health care career in high-demand in their region. Additionally, eligible applicants must have filed the Free Application for Student Financial Aid (FAFSA) or Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) and (if eligible) applied for federal education tax credits. Eligible applicants must have a family income equal to or less than 125% of the Washington state median income, controlling for family. Eligible applicants must have not yet earned a bachelor's degree.

43. n=12 or 5% chose not to report their parental education status and are therefore unknown. n=14 or 5% reported having no parents and are also unknown. These applicants are excluded from related calculations.

## RJI Sec. 8.1(b) Applicants

44. N=20 or 8% chose not to report their gender and are therefore unknown. They are excluded from related calculations.

45. For analysis purposes, age calculations were as of the application deadline.

46. Family incomes used for analyses in this report are from self-reported family income on the scholarship application.

## RJI Sec. 8.1(c) Scholars

47. n=6 (6%) of participants did not indicate their gender. They are excluded from related calculations.

48. n=3 or 3% chose not to report their parental education status and are therefore unknown. n=7 or 8% reported having no parents and are also unknown. These applicants are excluded from related calculations.

49. For analysis purposes, age calculations were as of the application deadline.

50. Family incomes used for analyses in this report are from self-reported family income on the scholarship application.

## RJI Sec. 8.1(e) Enrollment

51. Several Scholars earned more than one credential. Oftentimes Scholars earn multiple eligible certificates on the path to their final credential.

## RJI Fall Cohort 5 At a Glance

52. n=2 or 5% chose not to report their gender and are therefore unknown. They are excluded from related calculations.

53. n=3 or 7% chose not to report their parental education status and are therefore unknown. n=1 or 2% reported having no parents and are also unknown. These applicants are excluded from related calculations.

54. n=2 or 5% chose not to report their race/ethnicity and are therefore unknown. They are excluded from related calculations.

55. For analysis purposes, age calculations were as of the application deadline.

56. n=2 or 5% of participants did not indicate their gender. They are excluded from related calculations.

57. n=3 or 7% chose not to report their parental education status and are therefore unknown. n=1 or 2% reported having no parents and are also unknown. These applicants are excluded from related calculations.

58. Family incomes used for analyses in this report are from self-reported family income on the scholarship application.

## Contributions

59. These numbers are as reported by previous program administrators in their state match invoicing to the Washington Student Achievement Council. The reporting period was adjusted to match the end of the contract period with the former administrator.

60. As reported by the Washington State Investment Board in their 9/30/2024 report.

61. As reported by previous program administrators.

62. As reported by previous program administrators.

63. This represents the total that will be paid at contract conclusion, including monthly fees outstanding and the transition fee.

64. Represents disbursements for the 2023-24 academic year net of refunds known as of October 31, 2024.

65. Note the period reported shifted to better align with academic years. This will also align with the new program administrator's fiscal year. The reported expenses in this period are according to the program administrator during that period, 501 Commons.

# APPENDICES

For appendices, view them online: [waopportunityscholarship.org/legislative-report](http://waopportunityscholarship.org/legislative-report)



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