



## ABOUT

The [Guaranteed Admissions Program](#) (GAP) is the most recent collaborative initiative by Washington's public, four-year institutions to increase the college-going culture and support admission efforts at [Central Washington University](#), [Eastern Washington University](#), [The Evergreen State College](#), [Washington State University](#) and [Western Washington University](#). In partnership with the communities we serve, we are committed to increasing access and credential completion for Washington students.

## CHALLENGES

Washington ranks **48th in the nation** in participation in four-year public higher education at the undergraduate level for individuals ages 20-34. Approximately **40 percent of Washington students do not attend college after high school**, while **nearly 70%** of family-wage jobs in Washington require a four-year degree. Earning a bachelor's degree is a critical predictor within a student's control for earning a good wage and narrowing the racial income gap.

GAP focuses on 11th and 12th grade students who have not considered attending college or who do not see themselves as college ready. Through data sharing agreements with districts and schools, participating institutions engage with high school juniors to familiarize them with college admissions and ready them for college, and with seniors to admit them through guaranteed admissions or, if not eligible, through the general admissions process.

## OUTCOMES

- The 2021-22 GAP pilot resulted in **over 200** unique student applications for fall 2022 admissions.
- Statewide, **66 school districts** ranging in size, student demographics, and geography, joined GAP to create a new community of K-12 and higher education partners for 2022-23 — an increase from 27 partners in 2021-22.
- In fall 2022, **over 11,000** 12<sup>th</sup> grade students received guaranteed admissions letters and **over 25,000** 11th grade students received welcome letters about college admissions awareness. Outreach continues throughout the 2022-23 academic year.
- GAP messaging is **mythbusting outdated ideas** about college admissions and increasing family understanding of current admission processes and opportunities.

*“We’re seeing hope and confidence increase in students who would otherwise not have pursued college after high school.”*

Feedback from district partner on students who received Guaranteed Admissions letters