



WAVE Scholarship Update

Applications under review and winners to be announced in June.

The Workforce Board received 334 applications for the Washington Award for Vocational Excellence this year. This is a record for the program since its reactivation in 2022. Thank you to our CTE professionals and WA-ACTE for helping us to get the word out.

The application period for this year's scholarship is now closed. Applications were accepted from February 1-March 19, 2024. The Workforce Board administers this annual, merit-based scholarship. This year, it will pay as much as \$5,500 per year, over two years, (\$11,000 total). Learn more: <https://wtb.wa.gov/wave/>

The Washington Award for Vocational Excellence (WAVE) honors Washington's outstanding career and technical education students. Each of the state's 49 legislative districts can have up to three winners per year—for as many as 147 total annual scholarship awardees. Graduating high school seniors who completed or are in the process of completing a second year in a single CTE pathway are eligible. Community and technical college students who have completed or are in the process of completing a year of professional-technical training are also eligible.

Help us reach more CTE teachers and students

We are looking for insight on how to more effectively reach CTE teachers to inform them about the scholarship in the future. CTE teachers play a critical role in providing students with information about the scholarship and also to fill out a CTE certification and recommendation forms that verify a student's eligibility and provide support for their application. Are there things we can do differently to help this process? Would you like a video? A direct email to your school in box? What works best? Please provide feedback to wave.award@wtb.wa.gov.

Coming soon—a new WAVE application tool!

The Legislature has provided funding for a new WAVE application tool and the Workforce Board will be creating this targeted, easier, and more equitable online portal over the next year. We realize that the current tool, which includes many other state scholarships, has been difficult for some students to use. If you have thoughts about what to include in this new tool, we'd like to hear from you about that, too. Thanks for being such great partners!

WA-ACTE Conference in Spokane—WAVE presentation planned!

We will be at the WA-ACTE summer conference in August. Please swing by our booth and say hi. Also, we have submitted a presentation proposal to talk about the WAVE scholarship, including providing more information about the new application tool we hope to launch in late December or early January. Attend our breakout session to get all the details—and provide feedback on what we can do to make it an easy-to-use tool for your top CTE students to apply for scholarship funding.