

WASHINGTON'S INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES



A Report to the Governor and the Legislature



Independent Colleges of Washington



“Whitman has taught me that college is not just about learning, it’s about opportunity. College opened my eyes to how much I can actually do in the world.”

-Sahalie Hashim,
Whitman College '07

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ICW Member Colleges

- GONZAGA UNIVERSITY
- SEATTLE UNIVERSITY
- HERITAGE UNIVERSITY
- UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND
- PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY
- WALLA WALLA COLLEGE
- SAINT MARTIN’S UNIVERSITY
- WHITMAN COLLEGE
- SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
- WHITWORTH COLLEGE



Independent colleges and universities are not only vehicles of tradition, but centers of learning that reflect the diversity and needs of American life. Their wide variety of sizes, locations, academic programs, and institutional missions provides not only affordable access to higher education, but a high-quality choice in how students can successfully achieve their dreams.

Independent colleges and universities in Washington are critical to the future of our state. They:

- Prepare a diverse body of students to be productive citizens through mastery of broad-based knowledge that is the hallmark of an academically rigorous independent higher education.
- Develop leaders by equipping students with the communication, problem-solving, ethical, and critical-thinking skills Washington needs.
- Provide outstanding options for students in a vibrant independent higher education sector that requires minimal investment from Washington taxpayers.
- Ensure high-quality independent higher education is affordable to all students regardless of economic status, because of governmental and institutional financial aid support.

Inextricably woven into the fabric of American life, independent colleges and universities have always been accountable to a host of audiences—government, boards of trustees, and perhaps most importantly, to students and their families.¹ The Independent Colleges of Washington (ICW) members provide thousands of talented students a quality education and are a bargain to state taxpayers.

¹ “Twelve facts that may surprise you about America’s private colleges and universities,” A Report of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, 2006



“College is making it possible for me to turn my interests into career possibilities. I eventually want to be a Washington state senator. At Walla Walla College, I’m receiving an education based in both academic inquiry and service to others, it’s the perfect fit for achieving my goals.”

-Reynolds Engelhart, Walla Walla College ‘08



“I’ve really come a long way from the shy, Spanish-speaking, eight-year old, and know that I’m setting a good example for my brothers and sisters.”

-Laura Martinez,
Heritage University '07

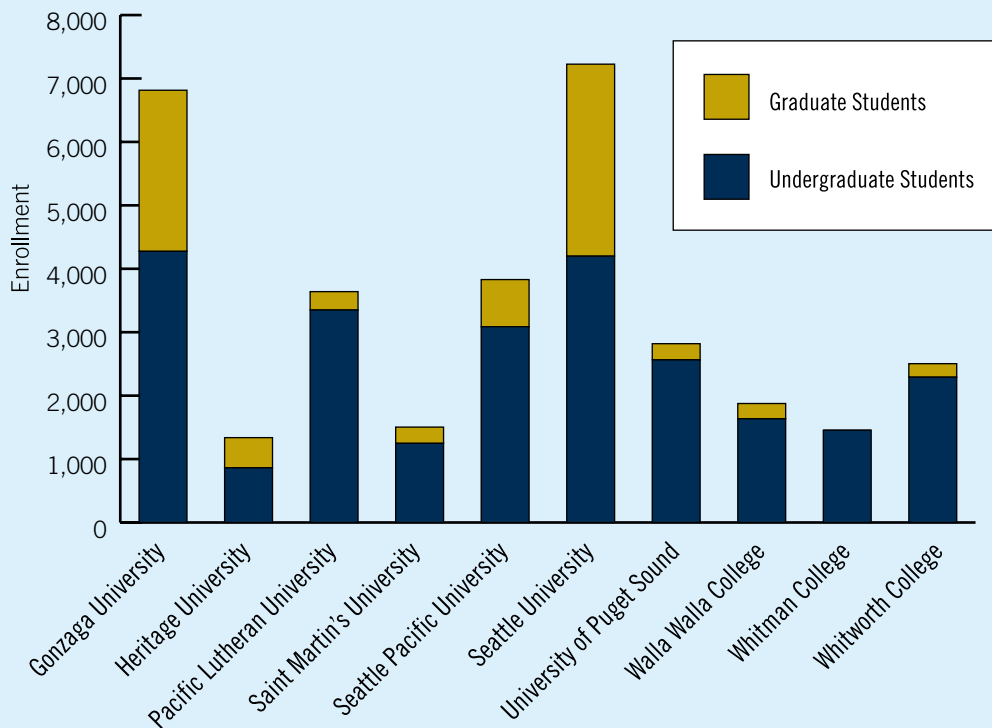
ICW Colleges:

- **Enroll over 33,000 students**, together making up the second largest higher education entity in the state, after the University of Washington.
- **Serve minority students at the same rate as state-funded institutions** (about 20%), yet enroll larger proportions of historically underrepresented populations.
- **Award 8,500 degrees annually**, 25% of the total baccalaureate and higher degrees conferred in the state.
- **Provide access for low-income students through comprehensive financial aid packages**, one in four students receive the State Need Grant.
- **Save the state \$350 million a year in student subsidies**, while receiving less than 2% of the higher education budget in the form of student aid.
- **Pump \$1.7 billion annually into Washington’s economy** (including institutional expenditures, out-of-state student expenditures, and visitor spending).

ICW Colleges:

• **Enroll over 33,000 students**

ICW Colleges Together Constitute the 2nd Largest High Education Entity in Washington (after the University of Washington)



Source: ICW

- Serve students from every county in Washington and all 50 states
- Have the capacity to serve 9,000 additional students by 2012 if adequate financial aid is available

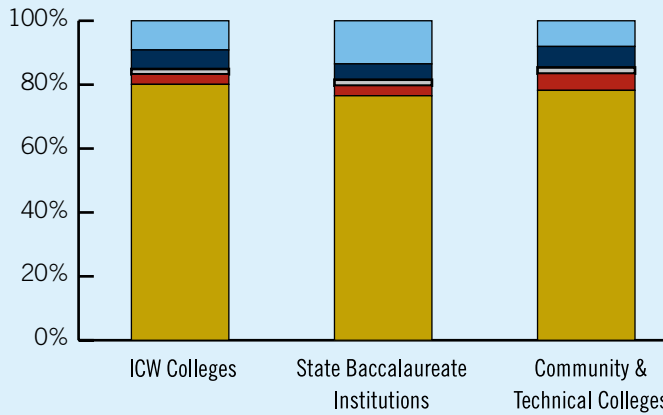
“The state’s long-range strategy should continue to be student-focused and include creative ways to use existing capacity at independent colleges and universities.”

-Prosperity Partnership: Educating Washington’s Citizens for High Demand Jobs

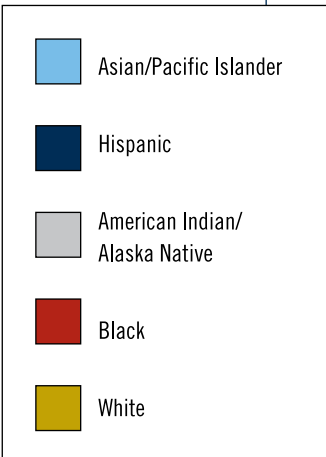
ICW Colleges:

• **Serve minority students at the same rate as state-funded institutions**

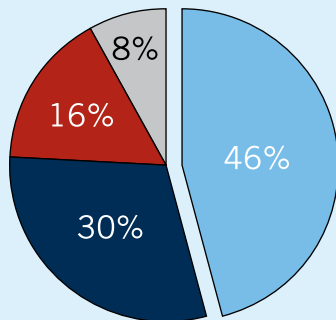
Washington’s Higher Education Sectors Each Enroll About 20% Minority Students



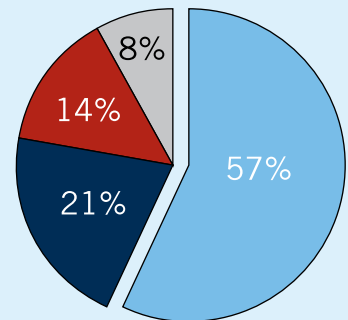
Source: IPEDS



Underrepresented Minorities Account for 54% of Minority Students at ICW Colleges



Underrepresented Minorities Account for 43% of Minority Students at State Baccalaureate Institutions



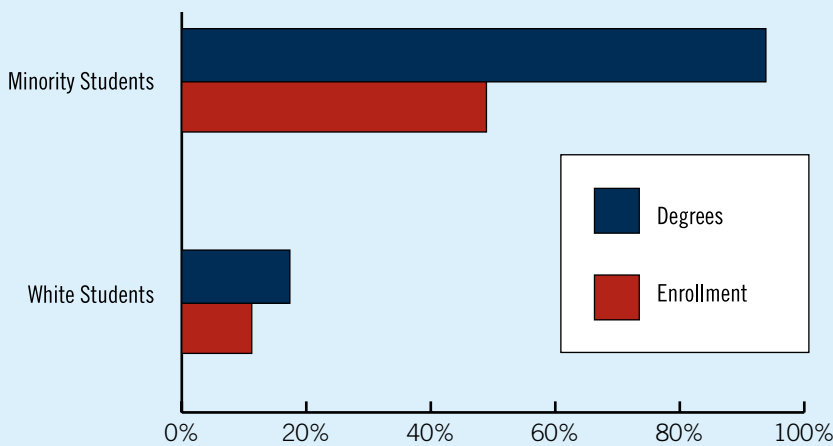
Source: IPEDS

- Enroll first-generation college students at a high rate—nearly 15% of undergraduate students
- Provide access to transfer students—30% of new students are transfer students each year
- Award degrees that span the educational spectrum all with a liberal arts base—art, biology, international political economy, business, engineering, nursing, etc.
- Broaden the educational experience through programs and initiatives that recruit and serve nontraditional students

ICW Colleges:

- **Award 8,500 degrees annually** (5,500 baccalaureate graduates and 3,000 masters and doctoral graduates), that's 25% of the total baccalaureate and higher degrees conferred in the state
- Contribute to Washington's high demand work force—37% of education degrees and 37% of baccalaureate and higher nursing degrees awarded are from ICW colleges
- Facilitate student success, as an impressive 75% of students who graduate do so in four years (saving students additional tuition costs and enabling them to begin their careers earlier)
- Increase minority enrollment and degrees earned by minorities at a faster rate than white students

Minority Students are Increasingly Successful at ICW Member Colleges
(% increase over the last 10 years)



Source: IPEDS

“The lessons I learned at Gonzaga have served me well. Hard work, teamwork, citizenship, and ethics are all important values that have influenced my career and my life. In addition, the personal relationships I built with staff and faculty while at Gonzaga continue to nurture and support me in my life’s endeavors.”

-John Stockton,
Gonzaga University

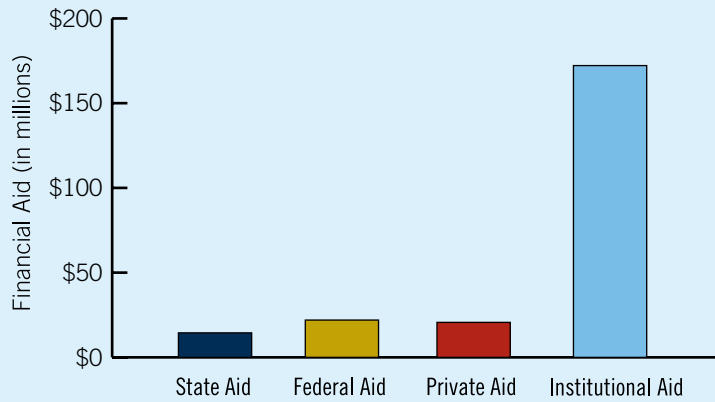
“...state grant assistance plays a powerful role in social and economic mobility, bringing students from modest means to an economic standing comparable to that of wealthier students upon graduation.”

-Financing Higher Education Today: How 2002 Graduate Paid for and Perceive the Benefits of Their Education, The Minnesota Private College Research Foundation and the Independent Colleges of Washington

ICW Colleges:

- **Provide access for low-income students through comprehensive financial aid packages**, one in four Washington students receive the State Need Grant (similar proportions receive the Federal Pell Grant)
- Invest more than \$170 million in financial aid each year

75% of Scholarships and Grants Award to ICW Students are Institutional



Source: CDS

ICW Colleges:

- Award 90% of students with financial aid

Average Financial Aid Package 2005-06
(for those receiving aid)

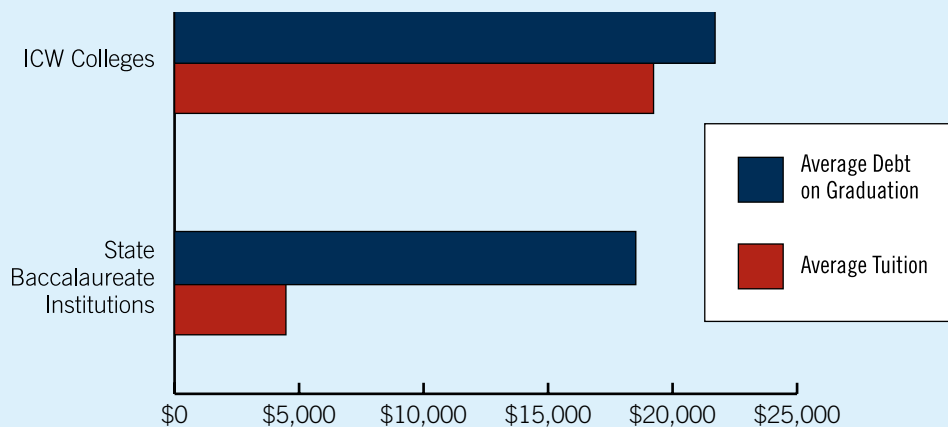
Tuition and fees	\$21,619
Room and board	\$6,037
Total	\$27,655

Scholarships and grants	
Federal grants	\$4,000
State grants	\$3,544
Institutional/Private grants	\$8,296
Student loans	\$4,854
State/Federal work study	\$3,739
Total	\$24,433

Average amount a family pays \$3,222

Source: ICW, IPEDS, HECB

Tuition Doesn't Predict Debt at Washington's Colleges and Universities



Source: Report on Student Debt



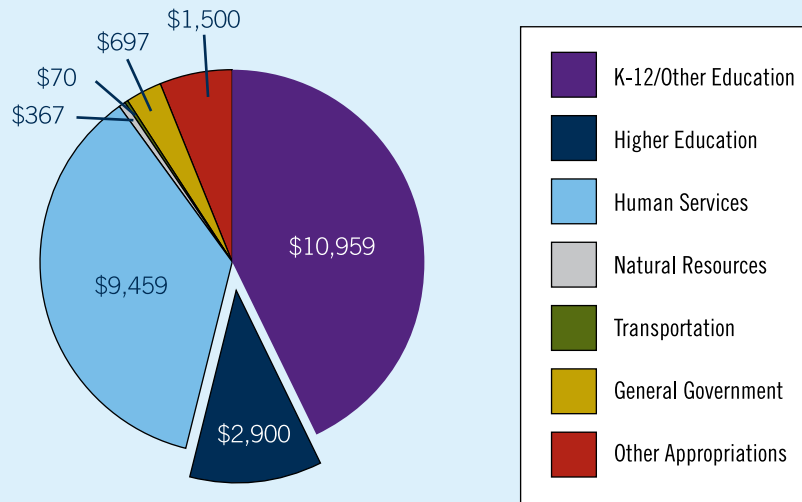
“The University of Puget Sound was not only my first choice, but the financial aid office was the most helpful in creating a financial aid package tailored to me. I’m an independent student paying for college on my own. Working with them was critical.”

-Tyesha Green, University of Puget Sound '07

ICW Colleges:

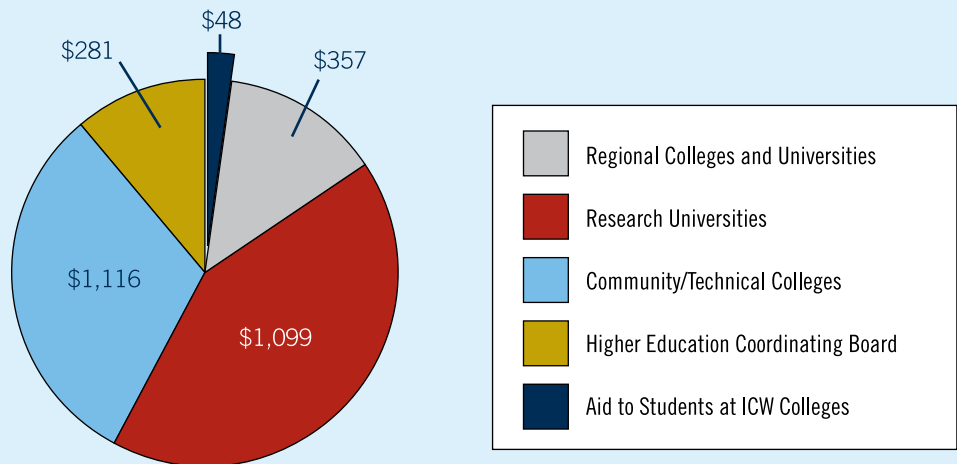
- **Save the state over \$350 million a year in student subsidies**
- Produce 25% of baccalaureate and higher degrees conferred in Washington, while receiving less than 2% of the higher education budget

2005-07 Washington State Operating Budget (in millions)



Source: Legislative Note

2005-07 Washington State Higher Education Budget (in millions)



Source: Legislative Note

“Lowering financial barriers through increased need-based aid will increase tomorrow’s pool of college-qualified high school graduates.”

-Mortgaging Our Future: How Financial Barriers to College Undercut America’s Global Competitiveness, Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance

- The state invests \$912 per FTE at independent colleges compared to \$10,657 at state-subsidized baccalaureate institutions

ICW Colleges:

- **Pump \$1.7 billion annually into Washington's economy** (includes institutional expenditures, out-of-state student expenditures, and visitor spending)
- \$380 million each year comes from direct educational expenses from out-of-state students
- Employ 6,000 Washington residents

"America's global competitiveness depends not only on investment in research, science, and technology but also on investment in human capital – higher education."

-Mortgaging Our Future:
How Financial Barriers
to College Undercut
America's Global
Competitiveness, Advisory
Committee on Student
Financial Assistance

List of Sources:

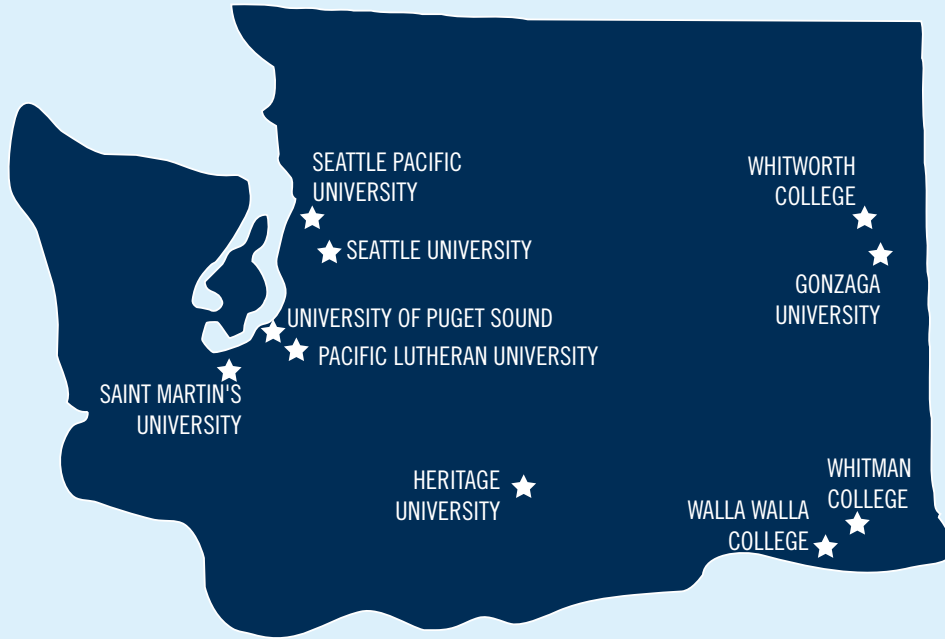
CDS, Common Data Set, 2006-07

IPEDS, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, 2005-06

HECB, Higher Education Coordinating Board

Report of Student Debt, Washington State, 2005

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Independent Colleges of Washington

Invest in Washington... One student at a time.

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