



## HOW WASHINGTON DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS WORKS

WASHINGTON DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS is the support and training office for the 140 Dollars for Scholars chapters in the state. In turn, we are supported by a national parent organization, Scholarship America, which has operated the Dollars for Scholars program nationwide since 1958.

### DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Dollars for Scholars is one of three college-focused programs created by Scholarship America. It allows community volunteers the ability to create their own non profit scholarship foundations so they can uniquely address the academic and financial needs of students in their own communities.

#### Dollars for Scholars Chapters

There are 140 Dollars for Scholars “chapters” across the state. These groups are often volunteer-run, community based raising dollars locally for student scholarships.

Some Dollars for Scholars groups are grassroots meaning WDS has helped them obtain their 501 (c)(3) status. Other Dollars for Scholars groups are existing foundations which may already be providing scholarships in addition to other educational or social services to their communities.

All Dollars for Scholars chapters raise and control their own funds and select recipients based on their own criteria and selection process.

#### Dollars for Scholars Collegiate Partners

There are 26 colleges in Washington that participate as Collegiate Partners.

There are three types of Collegiate Partners: Basic, Partner’s Plus and Matching.

There are four matching Collegiate Partners: Gonzaga University, Pacific Lutheran University, St. Martin’s and Heritage University.

All Collegiate Partners promise not to replace any free aid to a student in their financial aid package, by the amount of your Dollars for Scholars scholarship.

Students receive scholarships directly from the local Dollars for Scholars chapter and if going to a matching Collegiate Partner, are eligible to receive matching dollars from the participating matching schools.

Washington Dollars for Scholars has been instrumental in providing scholarship dollars directly to Dollars for Scholars chapters in terms of matching grants, joint fundraising opportunities and member only student scholarships which chapters then pass onto the students they serve.