

BECU POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION SUPPORT FACT SHEET

Data shows that postsecondary education correlates with greater lifelong earning potential. Inspired by these studies, BECU partners with local nonprofits, colleges and universities, and lending services to help provide access to education and support degree completion. By offering financial assistance and hands-on educational opportunities that stem beyond the classroom, BECU hopes to foster skills that will lead to long-term success.

Financial Assistance through Scholarships

- **BECU Foundation Scholarships:** Each year, the [BECU Foundation](#) recognizes and awards scholarships to qualified graduating high school seniors or undergraduate student members. Students must be currently enrolled in a two-year, four-year, or technical college or university. Since 1995, the BECU Foundation has awarded more than \$4 million in scholarships to more than 1,350 students.
- **Degree Completion Scholarships:** To improve an individual’s earning potential over time, BECU financially supports students across Washington who are most at risk of not completing their degree due to financial hardships. In 2022, BECU gave more than \$1,065,000 to over 19 organizations to support postsecondary degree completion, including Eastern Washington University, Tacoma Community College and Bellevue College.
- **University Scholarships:** Currently, BECU funds academic scholarships for students attending:
 - Washington State University (WSU): an annual \$5,000 BECU Health Sciences scholarship to a student at the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine; two \$2,500 scholarships to students of the College of Nursing and the College of Pharmacy; a \$20,000 scholarship to the Community Engagement Faculty Fellows Program at WSU Health Sciences Spokane; and a minimum of 20 \$2,000 scholarships each to sophomores, juniors and seniors at risk of non-degree completion.
 - University of Washington (UW): support of the [UW’s Certificate Scholarship program](#), which helps local adults continue their education in select fields, and nine [Friends of the Educational Opportunity Program \(EOP\)](#) scholarships, recognizing the UW’s commitment to diversity and the development of skills that will result in academic and personal successes. BECU also allocated \$15,000 over three years to provide scholarships to aspiring female entrepreneurs through UW’s [Women’s Entrepreneurial Leadership program](#).
 - Western Washington University (WWU): Through its Scholarship for Inclusiveness in Education, BECU provides five \$2,000 scholarships with priority going to Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) students and students that demonstrate a financial need. BECU also financially supports WWU’s Western Welcomes Scholarship, which helps improve access for underrepresented students who may not apply or accept college admittance due to the funding gap between a financial aid package and the yearly tuition.
- **Seattle Promise:** To help provide additional higher education opportunities for Seattle public school graduates, BECU has committed to helping fund the [Seattle Promise](#) program over seven years. The funds will provide financial support to students for the first two years of school (or up to 90 credits of tuition), as well as ongoing college and career guidance for students to attend one of the three Seattle Colleges: North, Central and South.

College Readiness Prep

- **High School to College Transition:** To help students in their final year of high school successfully transition to college BECU partners with College Success Foundation and College Possible Washington (formerly College Access Now) by providing admissions navigation, financial aid support and one-on-one coaching.

Career and Skill Development

- **BECU Internship Program:** The annual [internship program at BECU](#) hires students based on academic excellence, proven leadership skills, community involvement and participation in extracurricular activities. In 2022, 14 students from local and out-of-state universities participated in the virtual internship program, learning about credit union leadership, the organization and BECU’s service to members.
- **Financial Curriculum:** To promote financial literacy within the classroom, BECU:
 - Partnered with WSU’s [Carson College of Business](#) on the development of a three-phase finance curriculum. Upon completion, students will learn how to make the best decisions possible when it comes to funding their education, money management and establishing sound financial habits for the future.
 - Partnered with UW’s [Foster School of Business](#) to create a “Business Minor” and digital life badge for students looking to learn more about business. The Business Minor offers undergraduates the opportunity to build a

diverse set of career and life skills while learning from faculty members in courses including financial literacy, accounting, entrepreneurship, marketing and information systems.

- **WWU Financial Literacy Program:** Funds support the ongoing development and operation of a financial literacy program created by WWU's College of Business and Economics. Some activities related to the program include financial literacy curriculum development, implementation, workshops, lectures and online training materials.
- **WSU Community Engagement Faculty Fellows Program:** WSU's [Community Engagement Faculty Fellows Program](#) encourages students at the Health Sciences Spokane campus to participate in ongoing training and engage in critically reflective practice throughout the program's duration. Fellows partake in interactive workshops that go beyond the classroom walls.
- **WSU Cougar Money Matters:** To help students build smart money management skills, BECU extends support to WSU's [Cougar Money Matters](#). The financial literacy and wellness program offers a comprehensive financial awareness education platform for students along with a matched savings and emergency grant aid program for those in need.
- **Student Athlete Education:** Through its partnership with UW, WSU, Eastern Washington University (EWU), University of Oregon (UO) and Oregon State University (OSU) Athletics, BECU offers financial education to student athletes by providing them with the tools, resources and skills needed to successfully manage their finances both during school and upon graduation.

Student Lending Offerings

- **BECU Student Loan Program:** In partnership with LendKey, BECU offers in-school [Private Student Loans](#) for incoming or current students needing to fill the gap between the cost of tuition and other financial aid they may receive. In addition, [Refinance Student Loans](#) are available for college graduates or guardians of a graduate looking to refinance or consolidate current, existing federal and private loans.

Entrepreneurial Spirit and Innovation

- **UW Dempsey Startup Competition:** BECU is a proud sponsor of the [UW Dempsey Startup Competition](#), providing a real-world experience for student entrepreneurs as they develop an idea, put together a founding team, write a business plan and present it to investors. The competition is open to undergraduates and graduate students at colleges and universities across Washington state.
- **WSU Business Plan Competition:** BECU is also a sponsor of the [WSU Business Plan Competition](#), which is organized by the Center for Entrepreneurial Studies in the College of Business. Students learn how to plan for and launch a new venture, how to collaborate with others and work directly with expert judges in various fields.
- **UW CoMotion:** In partnership with [CoMotion](#), UW's collaborative innovation hub, BECU is working to benefit the community at large by focusing on financial services innovation. BECU's Fintech Incubator renders startups access to training, mentoring and services benefits in the field of financial technology. BECU also partnered with CoMotion to support the Change Makers Corner for UW's Brotherhood Initiative, a cohort-based program that provides opportunities for academic growth and leadership, exploration of intersecting identities and support to underrepresented men of color.
- **BECU Black Entrepreneur Opportunity Fellows Program:** In partnership with Eastern Washington University, the Black Entrepreneur Opportunity Fellows Program provides \$60,000 over four years to help talented students from the Black community realize their entrepreneurial ambitions. The program aims to remove barriers, increase access to opportunities and inspiration, and increase mentoring support.