



WSOS SCHOLAR LEAD

The Washington State Opportunity Scholarship (WSOS) is seeking current and former Scholar Leads for the 2023-2024 academic year to serve as leaders and peer mentors to fellow Scholars in a **Returning Scholar Lead** role. As a Returning Scholar Lead, you'll be responsible for engaging with first- and second-year Scholars to share WSOS and campus-related resources, help them navigate the college environment, and foster a sense of community. You will be a peer mentor to a small group of Scholars, typically 14-18, who are enrolled at your current or previous school, or who are enrolled in a nearby college/university.

If you are selected for and accept this opportunity but later decide not to continue in the Scholar Lead role, your status as a recipient of the scholarship **will NOT be impacted** as long as you fulfill [the requirements to maintain your scholarship eligibility](#).

Benefits

- A \$2,160 stipend, paid in three equal quarterly installments throughout the academic year.
- Development of leadership skills that are valuable and applicable across many sectors, such as professional communication, event planning, problem-solving, etc.
- Additional professional development and training through Lead-exclusive opportunities.
- Invitations to participate and/or speak at WSOS events or functions, such as OpportunityTalks (OTalks), WSOS's annual fundraising campaign event.
- Opportunities to provide feedback to WSOS staff about programming for Scholars.

Qualifications

- Be a current fourth- or fifth-year OR recently graduated (during or after Fall 2022) Opportunity Scholar
- Previously served as a Scholar Lead for at least one full prior academic year AND completed the entire year of service (did not take Leave of Absence or resign from the role).
- Submit/have submitted a WSOS Award Increase Request by June 30, 2023, which may be earlier or later than the deadline listed in your [Scholar Portal](#).
- Legally authorized to work in the United States.
- Reside in Washington state through the 2023-2024 academic year.
- Access to a computer, tablet, or smartphone to connect with Scholars via email, text, phone call, or virtual communication via Zoom, Skype, FaceTime, Google Hangout/Duo, Microsoft Teams, etc.
- Access to reliable Internet.
- Strong communication skills that include but are not limited to active listening and written and verbal communication.
- Strong organizational and time management skills that include but are not limited to scheduling meetings, prioritizing multiple tasks, and following through on assignments.
- Basic knowledge about campus resources and opportunities.

Key Competencies for Success

- Ability to thoughtfully consider, understand, and embrace diverse perspectives and backgrounds.
- Ability to develop and maintain positive relationships.
- Ability to proactively seek guidance or support when experiencing challenges or barriers.
- Ability to share information about WSOS resources and processes.
- Ability to share complex questions or unique circumstances with WSOS staff.
- Ability to serve as a leader to peers.
- Ability to serve as a positive role model for Scholar Leads.

Key Responsibilities

- Complete mandatory onboarding and training by June 30, 2023.
- Attend and participate in required Scholar Lead events.
- Complete several tasks and outreach via voice or video call, text, or email to Scholars by specific deadlines.
- Address questions or concerns from Scholars by answering them directly, sharing relevant resources, or referring to WSOS staff.
- Additional administrative tasks to support WSOS programs as needed.

Compensation information

The \$2,160 stipend for the academic year is not available for tax credit and is not a wage or salary since Scholar Leads are independent contractors and technically NOT employees of WSOS.

You will need to complete a W9 form and will be considered "self-employed," so tax owed will not be withheld from the stipend. You will receive a 1099-MISC form in January 2024 and January 2025 and will need to file a tax return and pay any taxes owed. While we cannot provide tax information or advice, we strongly encourage you to seek additional resources as needed.

The stipend will be paid in three equal parts in November 2023, February 2024, and May 2024, pending satisfactory completion of tasks.