



Washington: Parent PLUS Median Debt at Independent Colleges

College Scorecard Planning Screen | Debt Originated at the Reporting Institution

Prepared by Campus Access Partners | July 2026

This report uses College Scorecard Parent PLUS median-debt data to identify where parent borrowing has historically functioned as a multi-year financing tool at independent colleges in Washington. The principal planning marker is the new **\$65,000 Parent PLUS aggregate maximum**. Because these figures are medians, roughly half of measured completer borrower files are at or above the reported amount.

The primary measure is Parent PLUS debt originated at the reporting institution for students who completed. The figures reflect AY 2021-2023 public data and should be validated against current campus records before operational decisions.

Washington: Statewide Planning Information

Metric	Read	Metric	Read
New Parent PLUS aggregate maximum	\$65,000	Independent colleges represented	18
Reported completer medians	10	Median of reported medians	\$37,904
At or above \$65K	1	Near \$65K (\$55K-\$64,999)	2
Highest reported median	\$73,947	Highest institution	University of Puget Sound

Independent Colleges

Rows are sorted by median Parent PLUS debt at the institution for completers. The completer median is the primary planning signal; the all-borrower median is included as secondary context. N/A indicates that a field was suppressed or not reported.

Institution	All Borrowers at Institution	Completers at Institution	Completer Files	Parent PLUS Share	Planning Signal
University of Puget Sound	\$52,700	\$73,947	130	5-10%	Above \$65K
Gonzaga University	\$54,424	\$62,909	294	5-10%	Near \$65K
Seattle University	\$49,000	\$62,798	288	5-10%	Near \$65K
Seattle Pacific University	\$29,860	\$44,389	233	10-20%	Elevated
Whitworth University	\$28,163	\$39,425	170	5-15%	Elevated
Whitman College	\$33,820	\$36,384	36	0-5%	Elevated
Saint Martin's University	\$23,179	\$34,277	77	5-10%	Monitor
Walla Walla University	\$24,093	\$30,705	61	0-10%	Monitor
Pacific Lutheran University	\$23,300	\$29,274	261	10-15%	Monitor
Northwest University	\$16,050	\$18,600	97	0-10%	Lower signal
Bastyr University	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed
City University of Seattle	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed
Faith International University	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed
Great Northern University	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Suppressed
Heritage University	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed
Northwest School of Wooden Boat Building	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed
Pacific Northwest Christian College	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed

Institution	All Borrowers at Institution	Completers at Institution	Completer Files	Parent PLUS Share	Planning Signal
Perry Technical Institute	\$17,650	N/A	67	0-5%	Suppressed

Public Comparison Schools

The three largest public bachelor's-or-higher institutions in Washington by undergraduate enrollment are included for reference and are not part of the independent-college distribution.

Institution	All Borrowers at Institution	Completers at Institution	Completer Files	Parent PLUS Share	Planning Signal
University of Washington-Seattle Campus	\$24,802	\$26,973	1,693	0-5%	Monitor
Washington State University	\$25,268	\$32,703	1,831	5-15%	Monitor
Western Washington University	\$20,020	\$24,202	979	5-10%	Monitor

Source and Method Note

Universe: Main-campus, private nonprofit colleges with reported undergraduate enrollment, plus the three largest main-campus public bachelor's-or-higher institutions by undergraduate enrollment. **Data:** U.S. Department of Education College Scorecard Most Recent Cohorts Institution file uploaded for this project. **Primary field:** Parent PLUS debt at the institution for completers. **Timing:** Figures reflect AY 2021-2023 public data. N/A indicates that a field was suppressed or not reported.