

DEAR PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

The University of Washington Educational Talent Search (ETS) is a **free** program funded by the United States Department of Education. Its purpose is to encourage students to succeed in school, graduate from high school, and attend a college of their choice after graduation.

ETS serves middle school, high school and adult participants in a variety of ways. We help improve study skills, assist with completion of Financial Aid forms and college applications, and take students on field trips to local college campuses. We know that parents and guardians have questions and concerns about how to pay for college. The Educational Talent Search staff can help answer those questions. Watch for upcoming Financial Aid nights hosted by ETS at your area high school or community center.

The Educational Talent Search program requires that a majority of participants meet Department of Education guidelines. For this reason, you are asked to provide information on the attached pink parent application regarding income and citizenship status. This information will be kept confidential; it will be used only for statistical documentation.

It is critical that we receive the pink parent application. Right now, in the state of Washington, the cost to apply to a public university is \$36; the cost to take the SAT and ACT is \$26. **If you meet income qualifications, we will make sure your child will not have to pay those fees.** The only way we can do this is if we receive your pink parent form.

The UW Educational Talent Search is working cooperatively with the public schools and your child's counselor. In order to better assist students, it is important that program staff have access to school records to determine participant needs and develop plans to meet those needs. Your signature on the "Release of Information" will allow ETS staff to access your student's school records. Once again, this information will remain strictly confidential.

Please allow us to continue to offer services by providing the information requested on the attached form. If you have questions about the program or would like assistance in completing the pink parent application, please call our office at the University of Washington. Our telephone number is toll free (877) 897-0136. Prompt return of the pink form will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Esteban Maldonado
Counselor
Educational Talent Search