

“Our Mission Matters”

AAUW and the Wage Project Join Forces to Address Equal Pay

AAUW and the WAGE Project just recently announced the formation of a partnership to ensure that women graduating from college start their careers with the skills to negotiate for fair and equal pay. This union will offer \$tart \$mart Campus Negotiation Workshops to 500 college campuses over the next three years.

The gender wage gap begins as early as the first year after a woman graduates from college, according to AAUW’s research report, *Behind the Pay Gap*. A decade after graduation, it widens. This gap is clear even when women have the same major and occupation as their male counterparts. To aid in closing this gap, AAUW and WAGE urge all campuses in the nation to offer this valuable workshop, which can serve as a powerful influence in the lives of young women.

Over a forty year career college educated women will have an average lifetime loss of roughly one million dollars. Long term this can significantly impact retirement and Social Security income. Nationwide, working families lose \$200 billion of income annually to the gender wage gap.

AAUW has been well known for fighting to close the wage gap through our advocacy efforts. \$tart \$mart Campus Negotiation Workshops will advance pay equity for working women and mentor young women to be their own best advocates. Negotiating salaries is an essential tool for women at all stages of their careers. This project will empower college women to counteract the reality of the wage gap.

Let us be proud that AAUW continues to be a leading voice for promoting education and equity for all women and girls.

Mickey Edell, Initiative Director
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