College Possible is driven by the simple idea that America’s children should go as far as their talent and motivation can take them.

CollegePossible.org/Philadelphia

TOGETHER, WE CAN BREAK THE CYCLE OF POVERTY by empowering students from low-income backgrounds to become college graduates.

There is a great and unseen college degree divide in this country, dictated by race and income, not by talent or interest. Of the 17 million students enrolled in B.A.- or B.S.-granting colleges in 2015, just 32 percent of students from the lowest income bracket will graduate with a bachelor’s degree by age 24, compared to 71 percent for the top income bracket. Studies have shown that a four-year college degree is the surest path out of poverty: College graduates are 24 percent more likely to be employed and 3.5 times less likely to rely on public assistance.

At College Possible, we think college success should be determined by individual ability and effort. We earn top-of-field results by bringing together hard-working students and dedicated AmeriCorps coaches. With your help, we can close the degree divide, build a competitive workforce and interrupt the cycle of poverty.
OUR PROGRAM

The key to College Possible’s program is our near-peer coaching — leveraging the power of young, passionate and dedicated recent college graduates serving as AmeriCorps members to offer advice, mentoring and even friendship to a cadre of young people without the resources or background to navigate the often complex world of college preparation and persistence.

College Possible coaches offer students:

- Up to 320 hours of extensive guidance and support with coaches during junior and senior years.
- Summer Bridge programing designed to freeze the “summer melt” and ensure students successfully enroll for fall semester.
- Ongoing support through college to ensure student retention and graduation in collaboration with partner colleges.

Did you know?
A Harvard evaluation confirmed that College Possible significantly improves low-income students’ chances of enrolling in college.

College Possible was the first college success organization to show positive outcomes in a randomized controlled trial, the gold standard of evaluation.

HIGH SCHOOLS

Juniors
- Finding best ‘fit’ colleges
- Campus visits
- SAT registration and essay strategies
- Application coaching
- College costs and financial aid coaching
- Goal setting

Seniors
- Intensive college application assistance
- Scholarship application coaching
- Financial literacy and aid coaching
- Professional communication and essay skills
- Preparation for transition to college life

SUMMER BRIDGE

High School Grads
- Professional communications
- Continued financial aid coaching
- Academic interests and majors
- Social support systems
- Academic expectations and responsibilities

COLLEGES

College Students
- Support through graduation in collaboration with partner colleges
- Connection to campus resources and opportunities
- Ongoing financial aid coaching
- Developing study skills and self-advocacy

6+ YEARS OF SUPPORT
OUR STUDENTS IN PHILADELPHIA

Who We Serve

+ 1,000+ students reached during the 2017–18 academic year
  • 415 students in six schools in the high school program
  • 641 students in the college program
+ Our students report an average family income of less than $28,000
+ 82 percent are first-generation college students
+ 76 percent are students of color

Did you know?
College Possible Philadelphia students contribute to the increasing diversity of college campuses. In 2017-18:

43% African American or African Immigrant
16% Asian
9% Hispanic/Latinx
6% Multi-racial
2% American Indian/Alaskan Native

Positive Results. Proven Impact.
We are making real progress toward closing the degree divide. Our results from 2016-17:

93% OF SUMMER BRIDGE STUDENTS ENROLL IN COLLEGE

19% AVERAGE ACT/SAT SCORE INCREASE

97% EARN ADMISSION TO COLLEGE

4x MORE LIKELY TO EARN A DEGREE
COLLEGE PARTNERSHIPS

By collaborating with college admission and student service teams, College Possible can build upon the services these institutions offer and help raise graduation rates for students from low-income backgrounds.

Connects

+ **EXPLORE PARTNERS** generate early exposure to their campuses by hosting visits for interested students.
+ **BRIDGE PARTNERS** meet our students and coaches at exclusive events and work closely with College Possible staff to identify potential candidates for admission.
+ **COLLABORATE PARTNERS** work closely with College Possible staff to develop a pipeline for prospective students and engage current college students through graduation. A dedicated college coach works directly with students on campus.

**EXPLORE PARTNERS**

- Cairn University
- Haverford College
- Holy Family University
- Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts
- Penn State University
  - Penn State Altoona
  - Penn State Berks
  - Penn State Brandywine
  - Penn State Hazleton
  - Penn State Schuylkill
  - Penn State University Park
- Shippensburg University
- Temple University
- West Chester University

**BRIDGE PARTNERS**

- Cabrini University
- Millersville University
- Neumann University

Learn more about college partnerships at CollegePossible.org/Partner

“[College Possible Philadelphia] assists students with navigating the [college] process and creates well-rounded students who know what questions to ask and are prepared for the next part of their journey. That provides an easy and seamless transition from your program to ours.”

**Stephanie Allen**
Assistant Director of Multicultural Recruitment & Community Outreach, West Chester University

Our **SERVICE CORPS** is made up of more than 250 AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps VISTA members who dedicate a year of their lives to closing the degree divide across six locations.

When you give, you make college possible.

CollegePossible.org/Donate