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 as college graduates are 24 percent more likely to be employed.

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.
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.

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.

HIGH SCHOOLS

Juniors
- Finding best ‘fit’ colleges
- Campus visits
- ACT/SAT registration and test 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

Who We Serve

+ 6,000+ students reached across the state in 2018–19
  2,178 in campus-based high school programs
  322 in tech-connected high school programs
  3,502 in college programs
+ Our students are in the lowest income quartile for family income
+ 90 percent are first-generation college students
+ 94 percent are students of color
  34% Asian, 28% African American or African Immigrant,
  14% Hispanic/Latino, 14% Unspecified/Other, 6% White, 4% Multi-racial

Positive Results. Proven Impact.
We are making real progress toward closing the degree divide.
Our results from 2018-19:

99% EARN ADMISSION TO COLLEGE

81% PERSIST TO THEIR SECOND YEAR OF COLLEGE

19% AVERAGE ACT/SAT SCORE INCREASE

3x MORE LIKELY TO EARN A DEGREE

College Possible students prove every day that they are resilient self-advocates who are dedicated to creating opportunities for themselves. Among many outstanding qualities they are:

Dedicated
They opt in for a 6+ year program in order to pursue their educational goals.

Focused
They take practice exams, learn testing techniques, build resumes, fill out countless scholarship applications and apply to at least five colleges.

Invested
They connect with their peers, coach, family and community to achieve their goals.

Driven
There is no aspiration gap. Students identify their own goals and work to make those a reality.
"College Possible has provided me so much support; it is indescribable. I want College Possible to keep going for a long time.”

Ana Perez-Villagomez
Barnard College Class of 2021, Math Major

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.

Catalyze

Catalyze partners work with College Possible to develop and implement near-peer coaching programs on their campuses based upon the College Possible model.

Partners receive training and support from College Possible, access to our proprietary curriculum and coaching resources, and dedicated liaisons who provide implementation support.

Learn more about college partnerships at CollegePossible.org/Partner

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

When you give, you make college possible.
CollegePossible.org/DonateMN