

U.S. Department of Education



\$4.5 million

US Department of Education Funding at College Now for 2018-2019

Upward Bound

Utilizing two \$1.3 million, five-year Upward Bound grants, College Now serves 60 students at East Cleveland's Shaw High School and another 60 students at Warrensville Heights High School annually. College Now Advisors provide participating scholars with school-based activities that improve academics, promote executive functioning skills (like goal-setting) and encourage their post-high school aspirations. Students then spend six weeks during the summer attending an intensive academic program where they are taught, coached, and tutored on core subjects like math and reading. They are further exposed to college during the summer through campus visits and by residing on a campus for a week. Past college partners include Cleveland State University and Case Western Reserve University. College Now has been an Upward Bound grantee since 2012.

GEAR UP

In 2014, the State of Ohio was awarded a seven-year, \$4.2 million GEAR UP grant. College Now was an integral partner on the writing and implementation of the statewide grant, in partnership with Parma City Schools. In 2017, College Now, in partnership with Cleveland Heights High School was awarded a seven-year \$1.1 million GEAR UP grant. These grants work to transform schools by helping at-risk students prepare for and achieve success in college. GEAR UP staff work to create a college-going culture by providing exposure opportunities including college campus visits and afterschool activities, and by helping students through the college-going process. College Now has a history of successfully implementing GEAR UP grants. College Now's participation in the last State of Ohio GEAR UP grant, implemented in Elyria from 2006-2011, led to a 36% increase in the percentage of students testing at or above grade level in English and a 33% increase in the percentage of students testing at or above grade level in mathematics.

Talent Search

The City of Cleveland faces a major skills gap with only 51% of public high school graduates enrolling in college following high school graduation. To promote high school graduation and college matriculation, a \$1.3 million, five-year Talent Search grant awarded in 2016 helps 600 students at Cleveland Metropolitan School District's John F. Kennedy, Glenville and John Marshall high schools prepare for college. The Talent Search program includes one-on-one advising services, college and career visits, career talks, scholarship clubs and shadowing opportunities.

21st Century Community Learning Centers

After school education programs play an important role in the lives of youth. The time between the school bell ringing and when parents return from work can be one with limited supervision. In 2017, College Now received five 21st Century CLC's grants averaging two hundred thousand dollars per program per year to support the "impact!" program at the Cleveland Public Library, Warrensville Heights Library, Euclid Public Library, at Esperanza in Cleveland, and in Wellington. In 2018 College Now received an additional four grants to serve students at City Life, Clearview, Lorain (Longfellow Middle School) and Boys and Girls Club. impact! is an eight-week after school program that helps students improve math and reading skills, ACT scores, and increase students' college and career readiness. Upon completion of the program, students receive a \$200 stipend and have an opportunity for an internship.

AmeriCorps

College Now is the fiscal agent for a \$1.1 million statewide AmeriCorps program that deploys 85 members at nine host sites across Ohio. College Now also directly manages 31 AmeriCorps College Guides and 10 Coaches in Northeast Ohio. The Guides serve 6th-12th graders with college and career advising and financial aid counseling and serve high school graduates with support to achieve their higher education goals. Since its inception in 2009, 536 College Guides have served 911,200 hours and helped 250,737 Ohio students and adults (primarily first-generation college-goers and students from low-income backgrounds) through the college and career going process. The Coaches deliver curriculum on career and college pathways to all Cleveland Metropolitan middle school students and 5 career academy high schools. Since its inception in 2016, Coaches have served 903 9th graders with career exploration services and have supported over 2,000 middle school students in the True2U mentoring program.

For more information, please contact Kitty Warshawsky, Chief External Affairs Officer at College Now Greater Cleveland
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Students served by College Now must patch together federal, state, local and institutional grants and loans to pay for college. This graphic shows how these funds are (on average) awarded and the gap that remains toward that student's total cost of a degree.

Total Average College Cost
\$34,255

