Education Opens Doors was founded with the belief that all students deserve the opportunity to pursue their limitless potential.
OUR MISSION

To activate all students to determine and pursue an informed future
We believe all students deserve the opportunity to pursue their limitless potential. They have the right to understand the value of an education and the options available to them after high school. We provide a solution to give students access to information and guidance for their future.

Our approach to transforming education is rooted in our core values. We aim to build a culture of lifelong learning by serving communities with empathy and purpose.

OUR SOLUTION

Only 13% of high school graduates in Dallas County are deemed “college ready.”

Our program is specifically designed to serve students from underserved communities.

At an average United States school, each student receives only 38 minutes of college guidance during their entire academic career.

We increase that amount to 900 minutes during just one year.

Our Education Opens Doors Program (formerly the Roadmap to Success program) provides students, especially those from communities of color, low-income communities, and future first-generation college students, with college guidance rarely addressed in the classroom.

Our two-year program engages students in a comprehensive college and career program that builds confidence, motivation, and agency for students to achieve their goals.

We partner with school districts to train teachers to implement our curriculum in middle school classrooms.

We provide a comprehensive, ready-made curriculum and training resources to teach college and career preparedness skills.

Teachers receive 20 complete lessons to facilitate discussions with students about college and career options.

Students learn about a variety of higher education paths, financial aid, academic benchmarks, professionalism, and more.
As a sixth grader in the Education Opens Doors Program, Bianca learned applying to college was about more than just grades, so she auditioned for her school’s production of Annie and was cast as Mollie. Now, Bianca attends a top performing arts high school.

At just 12 years old, Bianca gained the skills and knowledge to set a long-term goal for her education and take action in her daily behaviors to make it possible. Bianca, now a freshman, continues to take tangible steps toward her goals.

Imagine what our world could look like if more students like Bianca were supported earlier in their educational journey. That’s the difference Education Opens Doors can make.
“Education Opens Doors provides critical information to our students through their program. The program helps students connect the choices they make in middle and high school with their future college and career goals, which can ultimately help students reach their potential.”

—Director of College & Career Readiness, Cedar Hill ISD

Since Education Opens Doors was founded, we’ve transformed the lives of more than 45,000 students.

Program students were more likely to take college readiness exams.*

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Overall, students who participated in the Education Opens Doors Program showed more markers of college readiness than students who didn’t participate in the program.*

- 53% growth in students’ knowledge about pursuing financial aid
- 91% of students report a plan to pursue a postsecondary credential or join the military
- 92% of teachers would recommend the Program to other educators

Students who participate in the Program are less likely to receive behavioral referrals than their peers.*

Participation in the Program is correlated with higher state standardized test scores in key subject areas.*

- +89 pts in social studies
- +12 pts in reading

*Data from a rigorous evaluation research study conducted by the SMU Simmons School of Education and Human Development PhD Program using 7,294 total students
During the 2019-2020 school year we are introducing a newly revised curriculum informed by years of research and our commitment to equity. Developed during the past school year, our program now takes our equity work even further.

By removing or highlighting systemic barriers and stereotypes for students of color, first-generation college students, and students from low-income communities, we more effectively equip students to overcome barriers and purposefully navigate toward the career or college degree of their dreams.

Updates to the program include:

- Significant use of images and lessons reflecting the students and communities where Education Opens Doors works
- 1/3 reduction of text in curriculum resources and a shift from passive to active learning exercises
- Dedicated resources for students with unique life experiences, such as LGBTQ+ students and students experiencing homelessness

Through continued assessment, we’re using data-driven decision making to refine our curriculum and grow our reach. **These are our goals for the year ahead:**

- Expand to reach more students in Dallas County and beyond
- Recruit additional capital and brainpower to meet future challenges
- Invest in technology to enable strategic growth

**OUR PARTNERS**

Bridge Lacrosse • Catholic Diocese of Dallas • Cedar Hill Independent School District • Dallas CASA • Dallas Independent School District • KIPP New Orleans Schools • Leadership Forward • Texas Can Academies • Fort Worth Independent School District • Harris County Department of Education • Mesquite Independent School District • Cornerstone Crossroads Academy • Uplift Grand Preparatory • The Michael Finley Foundation • San Antonio Spurs • Row New York • Southern Methodist University - Talent Search
OUR FINANCES
A network of generous donors, dedicated teachers, and partner schools make our work possible.

2018-19 Revenue: $1.66 million*
- 48% Foundation
- 36% Program
- 13% Individual
- 3% Corporate

2018-19 Expenses: $1.2 million
- 86% Program
- 6% Development
- 8% Operating

*$430K raised in FY ‘19 is restricted for expansion and program support in FY ‘20

OUR DONORS BY LIFETIME GIVING

$300,000+
- Wright Family Office
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educationopensdoors.org/get-involved