

**COLLEGE
POSSIBLE™**

2014-2015 Appropriation Impact Report

+ COLLEGE POSSIBLE AND THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

College Possible is a Minnesota nonprofit making college admission and success possible for low-income students through an intensive curriculum of coaching and support. In 2014, College Possible received a \$750,000 appropriation from the State of Minnesota to add 150 high school juniors to its program and support them through college graduation. This report describes College Possible's impact as a result of your support.

+ COMMUNITY NEED

Only 8% of low-income students earn a college degree by age 24, compared to 73% of their upper-income peers¹. And yet a college degree is the surest pathway out of poverty. **College graduates earn \$1 million more over a lifetime** than high school graduates and they're more likely to vote, wear seat belts, refrain from smoking, stay out of jail and engage in healthy, productive behavior².

+ PROVEN RESULTS

College Possible has demonstrated success in closing the opportunity gap for low-income students: **98% of our students earn admission to college**, and they go on to graduate at the same rate as students from all income levels nationwide. Overall our students are 10x more likely to earn a college degree than their low-income peers nationwide. When a student joins our program we make an 8-year commitment to serve them through college graduation.

+ ECONOMIC BENEFITS

By 2020, 74% of jobs in Minnesota will require postsecondary education³, and the only growing populations are those who have been least likely to earn degrees: low-income students and students of color.

+ RIGOROUS EVALUATION

We're the only college access organization in the nation to confirm our results with a randomized controlled trial, the gold standard of evaluation. Conducted by Harvard in 2013, the evaluation showed that **College Possible more than doubles a student's chances of enrolling in college and has a significant positive impact on four-year college enrollment rates**. A social return on investment analysis found an investment in a College Possible student yields a **333% return to society**⁴.

+ ABILITY TO SCALE

We've grown more than 250-fold since our founding in 2000, replicating our program across the country while maintaining the same strong results. There are still 20 Minnesota high schools on our waiting list eager for College Possible to expand to serve more students. Our program is highly scalable because it's cost-effective: **College Possible is just 1/7th the cost of similar government-funded programs**.

Sources:

1. Postsecondary Education Opportunity, 2013
2. The College Payoff, 2011; U.S. Census, 2012; Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2013
3. Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, 2013
4. Social Return on Investment; Peter Heegaard, 2011

IMPACT IN 2014-2015

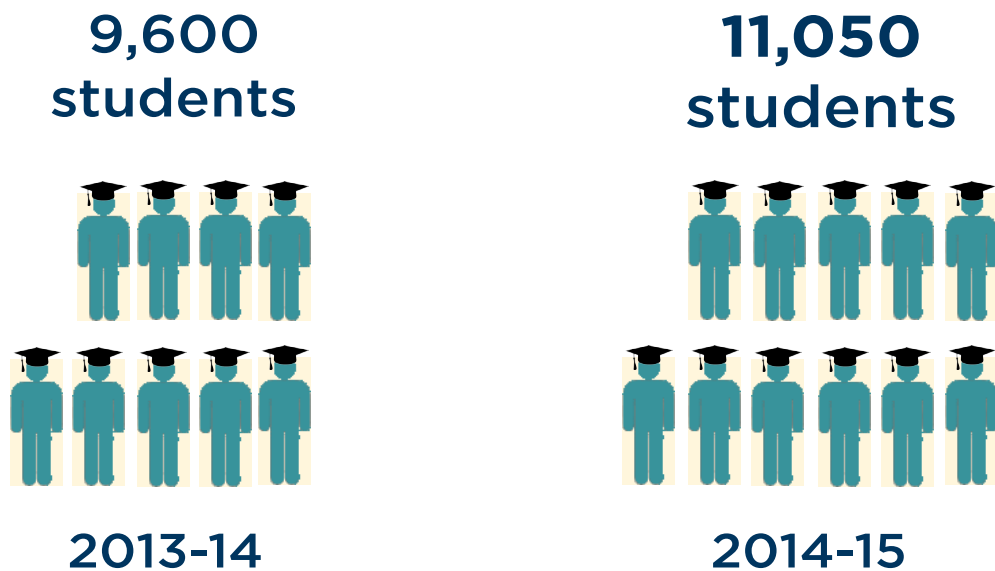
- + **72** College Possible high school and college coaches
- + **194** Additional students served at current partner high schools
- + **11,050** high school and college students served
- + **3** New partner high schools in 2014-15
- + **23** High school partners
- + **14,880** Hours of community service performed by students
- + **30** Communities/organizations benefitting from students' service



Talya celebrates her graduation from Augsburg College with her College Possible coaches, Muna and Yasmin.

LOOKING AHEAD

In 2014-15 College Possible has grown to serve more than 11,000 students annually by building more partnerships with high schools and colleges.



+ Reaching more high school students

College Possible is working with three new partners this year: North Community High School in Minneapolis, Roseville Area High School and Burnsville High School. Programming also expanded at Ubah Medical Academy, Roosevelt High School and Champlin Park High School.

+ Providing more campus-based support

For the first time ever College Possible students attending Saint Paul College, College of Saint Benedict & Saint John's University, St. Cloud State University and Minnesota State University, Mankato will have in-person support from campus-based College Possible coaches. Campus-based coaching has increased the persistence and graduation of College Possible students more than 20 percent on our current partner campuses.