



## 2021 IMPACT REPORT

**College Possible is a nonprofit making college admission and success possible for students from low-income backgrounds through coaching and support.** Since 2014, College Possible Minnesota has received appropriations from the State of Minnesota to expand our work across the state to support more students as they pursue higher education. This report describes College Possible's impact as a result of that support.

### COMMUNITY NEED

Today, high-income students (71%) are more than twice as likely to graduate college as their low-income peers (32%). And yet, a college degree is the surest pathway out of poverty. **With a college degree, the probability a person is employed is 24% higher.** Annual earning for degree holders are 134% higher and lifetime earnings are approximately \$1.2 million (114%) greater. Moreover, there is no evidence that the college earning premium is declining. In fact, it has been increasing.

### COVID-19 IMPACT

We are seeing stark examples in the importance of a college degree during the current recession brought on by the pandemic. **The risk of unemployment during this time has been far less for those with Bachelor's degrees.** The April 2020 unemployment rate for those with a Bachelor's degree and higher was 8.4%, almost half of the rates for those with only a high school degree or those with some college, 17.3% and 15%, respectively. Aside from unemployment, it can also impact safety as **only 12% of adults with just a high school degree are able to work from home** compared to 52% of those with a college degree.

### 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 nearly the same rate as students from all income levels nationwide. **Overall, our students are 3x more likely to earn a college degree** than their low-income peers. When a student joins our program, we commit to serving them through college graduation.

### RIGOROUS EVALUATION

A Harvard evaluation confirmed that College Possible significantly improves low-income students' chances of enrolling in college. The evaluation showed 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.**

### COVID-19 RESPONSE

College Possible's award-winning experience helping students navigate the world of higher education, as well as our strong foundation in tech-connected coaching, have perfectly positioned us to meet students' needs right now. **All College Possible students have the opportunity to attend 1:1 sessions with their coach online or through phone calls, access new online resources and be able to participate in virtual training sessions in high school and in college.** We have also activated emergency funds to help students with expenses that affect their education.

### HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL INNOVATION

**Since 2014, we have expanded our reach to students and school partners across Minnesota through our Navigate program.** Dedicated AmeriCorps members collaborate with our high school partners to provide near-peer mentoring, research-based guidance, and differentiated support to college-bound students.

### COLLEGE LEVEL INNOVATION

**Catalyze is College Possible's initiative to impact student persistence and success directly on college campuses.** Our model serves students by embedding our near-peer coaching model and curriculum on a college campus. College Possible extends the reach of a campus' existing student support services, increases student retention rates and closes the opportunity gap for students from low-income backgrounds. Catalyze programming currently supports students at St. Cloud State University.

## COLLEGE POSSIBLE MINNESOTA REACH AND RESULTS

**72** AmeriCorps members served as high school and college coaches.

**109** active partner high schools and colleges/ universities across Minnesota.

**93%** enrolled in college with the 2021 cohort.

**96%** first to second year persistence in the 2021 cohort.

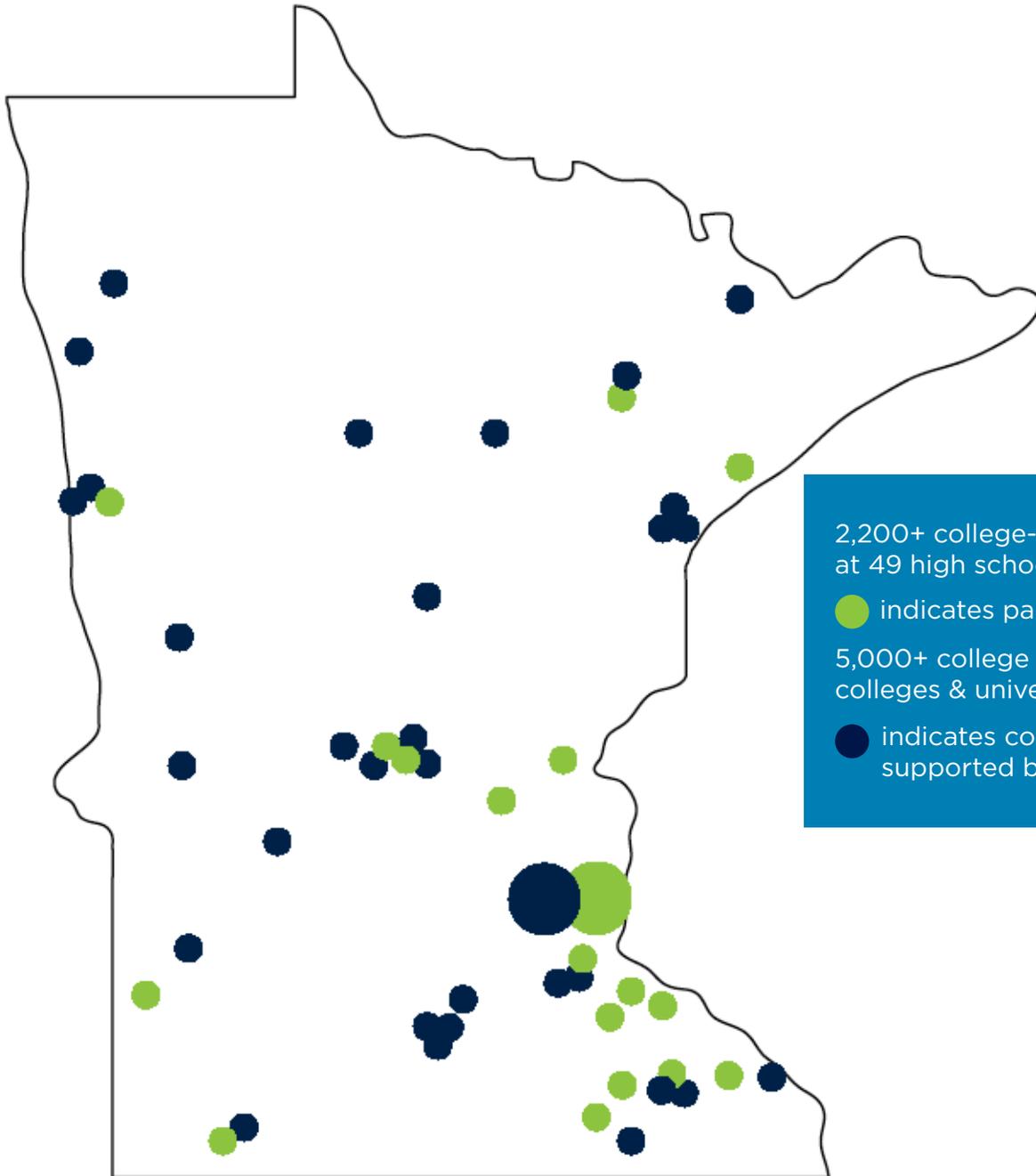
**4,000+** degrees earned by students since College Possible's founding in 2000.



“Because I have seen firsthand the power of education, I want to go back to school and earn my MBA at a top business school. Because both of my parents are immigrants, I want to use my education to not only support them but also students within my community.”

Stephanie  
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities '20

# COLLEGE POSSIBLE MINNESOTA STATEWIDE IMPACT IN 2021



# MINNESOTA HIGH SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES ATTENDED BY COLLEGE POSSIBLE STUDENTS

## FLAGSHIP PARTNER HIGH SCHOOLS

Armstrong High School  
Ubah Medical Academy  
Robbinsdale Cooper High School  
Richfield High School  
Patrick Henry High School  
Champlin Park High School  
Central High School  
Coon Rapids High School  
Columbia Heights High School  
Roosevelt High School  
St. Louis Park High School  
Bloomington Kennedy High School  
Community of Peace Academy  
Roseville High School  
Humboldt High School  
Johnson Senior High School  
North Community High School  
Highland Park Senior High School  
Edina High School  
Park Center High School  
North St. Paul High School  
Washington Technology Magnet  
School  
Edison High School  
Como High School  
Burnsville High School  
Harding High School

## NAVIGATE PARTNER HIGH SCHOOLS

Blaine High School  
Blooming Prairie High School  
Bloomington Jefferson  
Cambridge-Isanti High school  
Cristo Rey High School  
East Ridge High School  
Eden Prairie High School  
FAIR  
Fridley High School  
Hiawatha Collegiate High School  
Irondale High School  
LEAP  
Metro  
Moorhead High School  
Orono High School  
RTR High School  
Saint Paul Conservatory for  
the Performing Arts  
Sartell High School  
Spring Lake Park High School  
Technical High School  
Triton High School  
Wayzata High School  
Worthington High School

## NON PARTNER SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS SERVED BY NAVIGATE

SPPS Online  
Mounds View  
St. Francis High School  
Step Academy  
Lakeville North  
Eagan High School  
Osseo Senior High  
Shakopee High School  
Anoka-Hennepin Virtual Academy

## MINNESOTA COLLEGES WITH CURRENTLY ENROLLED COLLEGE POSSIBLE STUDENTS

Anoka-Ramsey Community College  
Anoka Technical College  
Augsburg University  
Aveda Institute-Minneapolis  
Bemidji State University  
Bethany Lutheran College  
Bethel University  
Capella University  
Carleton College  
Central Lakes College-Brainerd  
Century Community and  
Technical College  
College of Saint Benedict  
Concordia College at Moorhead  
Concordia University-Saint Paul  
Crown College  
Dakota County Technical College  
Dougherty Family College  
Dunwoody College of Technology  
Empire Beauty School-Bloomington  
Gustavus Adolphus College  
Hamline University  
Hennepin Technical College  
Herzing University-Minneapolis  
Hibbing Community College  
Inver Hills Community College  
Lake Superior College  
Macalester College  
Mesabi Range Community and  
Technical College  
Metropolitan State University  
Minneapolis College of Art and Design  
Minneapolis Community and  
Technical College  
Minnesota State Community and  
Technical College  
Minnesota State University Mankato  
Minnesota State University Moorhead  
Minnesota West Community and  
Technical College-Granite Falls  
Minnesota West Community and  
Technical College  
Normandale Community College  
North Central University

North Hennepin Community College  
Northwestern Health Sciences  
University  
Rasmussen University-Minnesota  
Riverland Community College  
Rochester Community and  
Technical College  
Saint Cloud State University  
Saint Cloud Technical and  
Community College  
Saint Johns University  
Saint Mary's University of Minnesota  
Saint Paul College-CTC  
Southwest Minnesota State University  
St Catherine University  
St Olaf College  
The College of Saint Scholastica  
University of Minnesota-Crookston  
University of Minnesota-Duluth  
University of Minnesota-Morris  
University of Minnesota-Rochester  
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities  
University of Northwestern  
University of St Thomas  
Winona State University

“I want to thank all of my College Possible coaches throughout my high school and college years. For preparing me for college, for keeping up with me to see how things are going and for always being there when I need help.”

Annabelle  
Minnesota State University,  
Mankato '20