

# Partnerships with Higher Education to Increase Student Success

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# Themes of Partnerships



## Access

The ways in which educational institutions and policies ensure—or at least strive to ensure—that students have equal and equitable opportunities to take full advantage of their education.



## Academics

Preparation to meet the academic expectations of college coursework



## Financial

Increase financial aid for students with demonstrated need and reduce student loan debt

# Why Partnerships Matter - Access

- College-going rates
  - Nationally, **66%** of high school completers enroll in college
  - Since fall 2019, the TN college going rate has **dropped 9 percentage points**.
  - Over the past 10 years, the rate declined 5 percentage points overall.
  - Only **52.8%** of TN high school graduates from the class of 2021 enrolled in college or technical college after they graduated—the lowest rate in the past 10 years.
  - Equity disparities are amplified for Black and Latinx graduates experiencing an **11%** drop in enrollment since 2019

*TN...we have a problem*

# Why Partnerships Matter - Academics

- Nationally, **40%-60%** of students are required to take remedial courses before engaging in courses for graduation credit
- **46%** of TN high school graduates needed remedial courses in **Math**
- **33%** of TN high school graduates needed remedial courses in **Reading**
- Disproportionally affects students of color and low-income students
- Intersection of race and income results in correlation of lower performing high schools
  - Under performing feeder school system
  - Socio-economic depressed community
  - Lower college going rate
  - Less preparation for college



# Why Partnerships Matter - Financial

- Under preparation is often a significant barrier to completion, because students tend to spend their first semesters in college completing remedial courses, many of which do not count towards graduation credit requirements; this is called remedial spiraling.
- Negative impact of remedial spiraling
  - Financial costs
    - Overspending on tuition
    - Early expiration of financial aid, due to attempted hour maximum
    - Poor grades diminish eligibility, due to GPA yet do not count towards graduation
  - Weakening academic confidence

# Themes of Partnerships

## **Access**

- College Advising
  - ADVISE TN
  - PEER Power

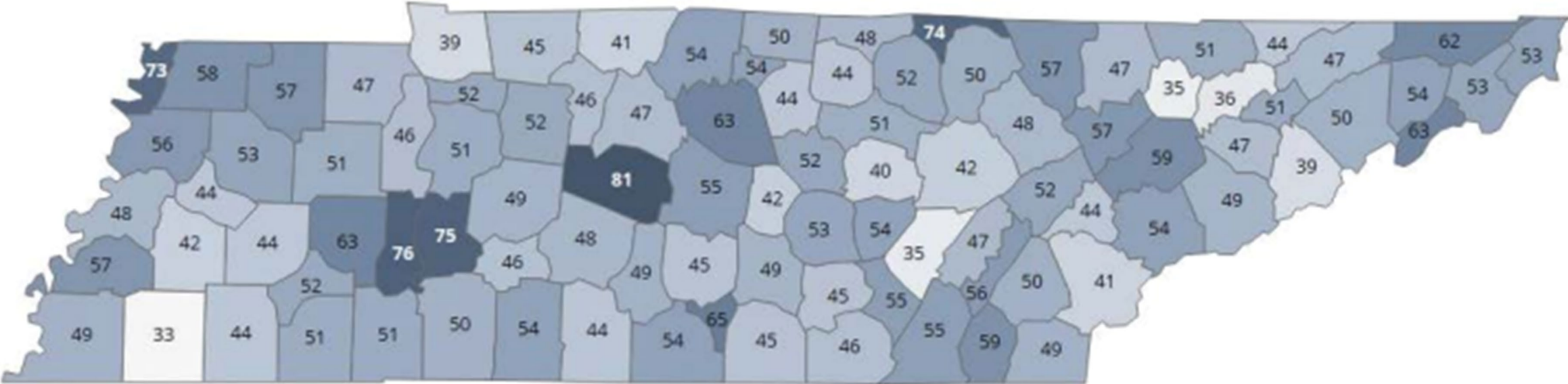
## **Academics**

- Early/Middle College High Schools
- Community Based Organizations (CBOs)
- Dual Enrollment Programs
- Summer Bridge Programs

## **Financial**

- University Direct Partnerships – UT Flagship Schools

Figure 3: Class of 2021 College-Going Rate



Note: Numbers shown in reach county represent county college-going rate (in %) for the class of 2021.

ACCESS  
Improving College-Going Rates

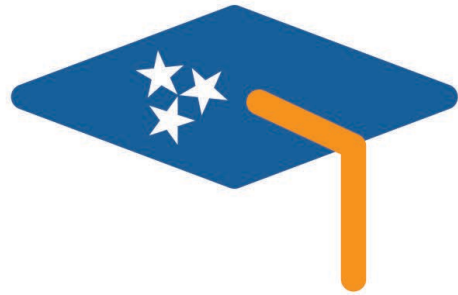
# Office of P-16 Initiatives

## Purpose

Every Tennessean should have the opportunity to pursue higher education. We create the resources and programs that transform college aspirations into reality.







**ADVISE** **ETN**

*Advise. Assist. Achieve.*

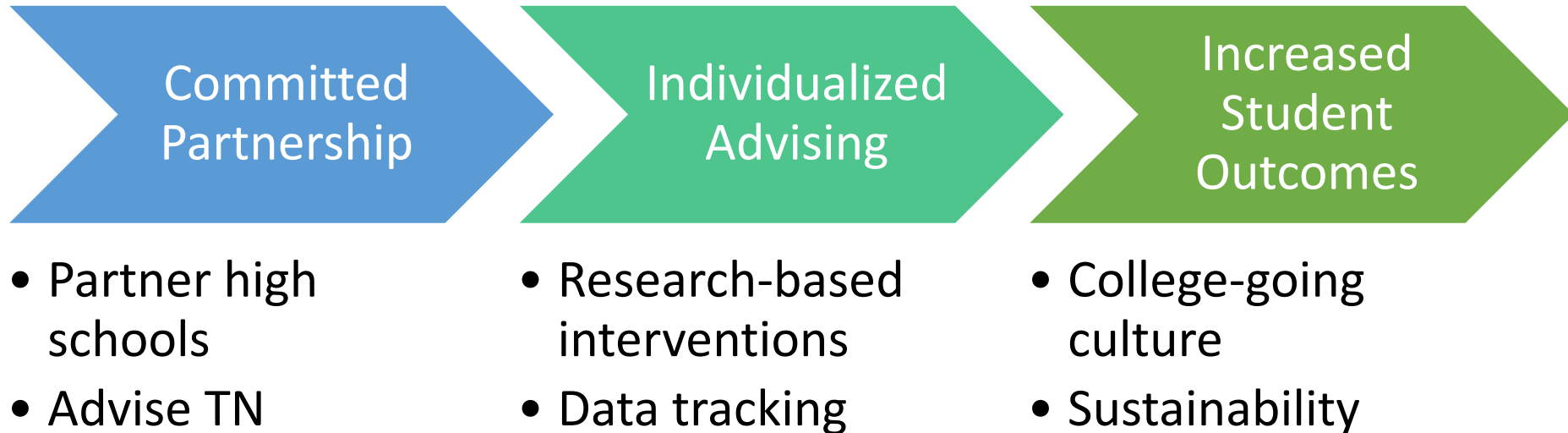


## Program Overview

- Advise TN will serve 10,000+ junior and senior students across Tennessee
- **30 college advisors**
  - Trained college access professionals focused on one thing: helping students enter and succeed in higher education
  - **1 advisor to approximately every 350 students**
- School partnership is key
  - Advise TN college advisors will be placed in partner high schools that have articulated their strong commitment to building a college-going culture
  - Schools will be selected through a competitive bid process
  - **Three-year commitment**, pending availability of funding
- Advisor services will be rooted in research and best practices sourced from Tennessee and around the nation



## Theory of Change





## Proof Point



- 2005 – 2011 GEAR UP TN Grant
  - **10.7 percentage point increase** in college-going rate
  - Some high schools increased college-going rates **over 20 percentage points**
- 2012 – 2019 GEAR UP TN Grant
  - Serves nearly 13,500 students per year
  - **FAFSA completion increase of nearly 20 percentage points**, one high school had more than 90% of seniors complete a FAFSA this year.
  - **5% increase** in college-going rates



# ADVISE TN

## Opportunities for Impact

1. **Expand to more schools**

2. **Reduce Advisor-to-Student ratio**

- Consider employing current college students

3. **Consider adding virtual advising model**  
*(College Advising Corps)*

- Advisers provide remote support to low- and moderate-income students.
- Virtual Advisers use video chat, email, telephone calls, and text messages to help students prepare for college.

Increasing Opportunity for  
America's Students







# PEER POWER FOUNDATION

- The “Memphis Model”, is a partnership between Peer Power, the University of Memphis and Shelby County Schools
- Recruit high-performing college students known as **Success Coaches** to tutor public high school students in the classroom.
- Encourage active learning, valuing education, and being personally accountable for their futures.
- Goal to reduce the student-to-adult ratio from 1:30 to about **1:10**.
- This lower student-to-adult ratio **improves the job satisfaction** and **performance** for full-time teachers, leading to **higher job satisfaction** and **retention** of valuable teachers.



# ACADEMICS

College  
Preparation &  
Success



# Early/Middle College High Schools

- Small high schools affiliated with a local institution of higher education
- Equip students with personal and educational skills to be successful in college
- Possibility to earn up to **60 credits** and an **Associates Degree**, great for TN Transfer Pathways
- Focus on **acceleration rather than remediation**, individualized support, and engaging instruction
- **90% graduation rate** according to Jobs for the Future (80% national avg. and 81% MNPS avg.)
- **Low-income** students are **25 times** more likely and **Multicultural** students are **29 times** more likely to earn a Bachelor's Degree
- Statistics suggest early integration of college work improves academic fortitude for rigorous courses and boosts self-efficacy



# Early College High Schools in TN



- Tennessee Valley Early College (Cleveland State Community College)
- Chattanooga State Collegiate HS
- Early College HS at Nashville State Community College
- Jackson Central-Merry Early College HS (Jackson State Community College)
- Middle College HS at Christian Brothers University
- Hollis F. Price Middle College HS (LeMoyne-Owen College)
- University High School (University of Memphis)

# Early College High Schools Best Practices

1. Be Strategic in Selecting Locations for ECHSs
  - ECHSs located on college campus report higher proficiency rates on state assessments, higher attendance rates, and greater persistence rates
2. Expand ECHSs Across the State and Districts
3. Increase Interaction Among HS and College Faculty
  - Alignment of coursework and opportunities for advanced learning
4. Intensive Academic and Summer Bridge Programs
  - Maintain academic momentum and student engagement



# Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

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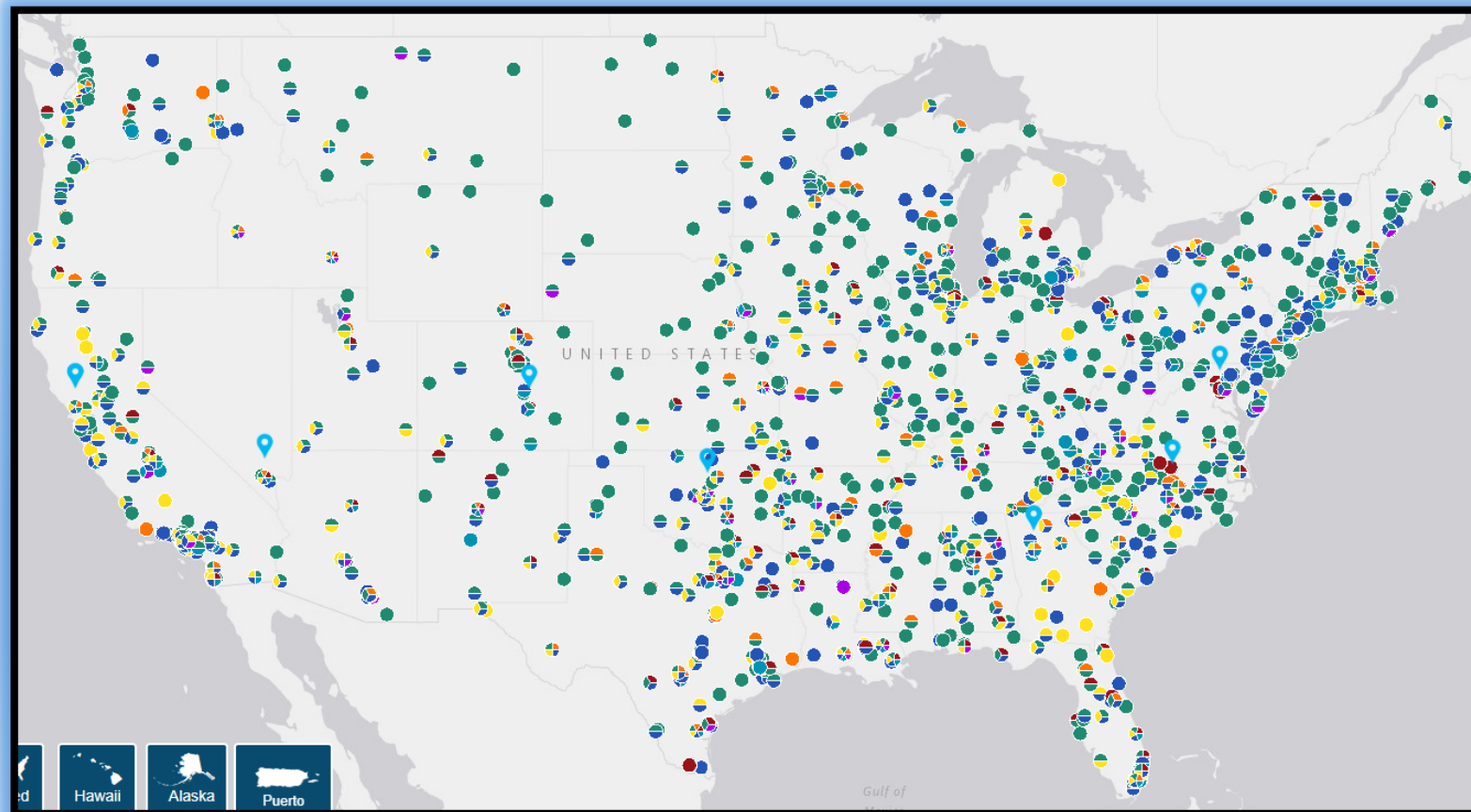
The goal of many CBOs is to provide high school students from disadvantaged backgrounds with the necessary resources to be college eligible and college ready.

# CBOs / Higher Ed Partnerships in TN

- Trio Programs
- Upward Bound
- Gear Up
- AVID
- Futuro (Middle TN)
- Centro Hispano De East TN
- RHiTA - Recruiting Hispanics to Achieve (Walters State CC)
- Latino Achievers Program (Middle TN)
- Project Grad Knoxville
- Peer Power (Memphis)
- Public Education Foundation (Chattanooga)
- Camp College (Chattanooga)
- Frayser Community Schools
- KIPP Nashville Collegiate HS
- KIPP Memphis Collegiate HS

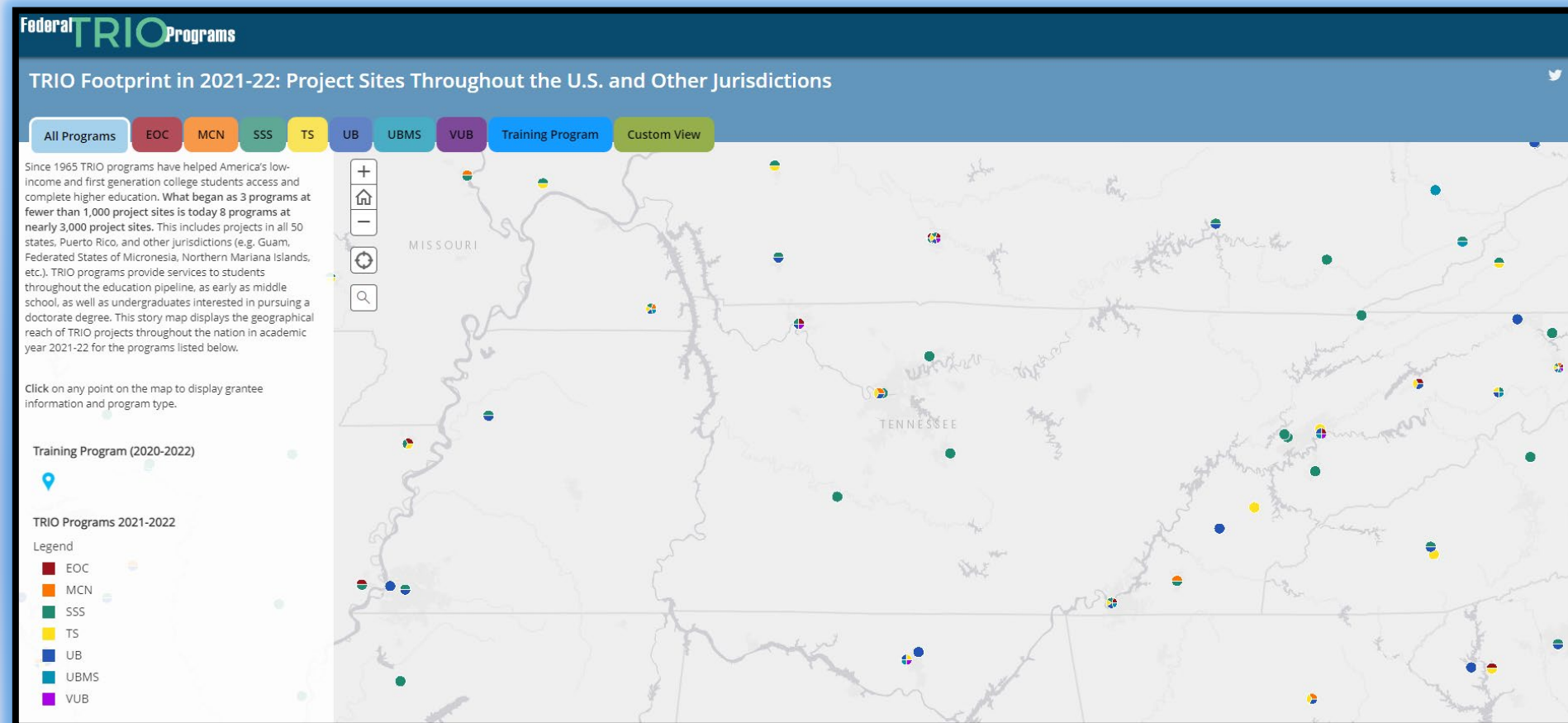
# Where to find TRIO Programs

- TRIO Footprint: <https://ope.ed.gov/programs/maped/storymaps/trio/>
- (search TS, UB, UBMS to see pre-college programs)



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# Where to find CBOs Programs

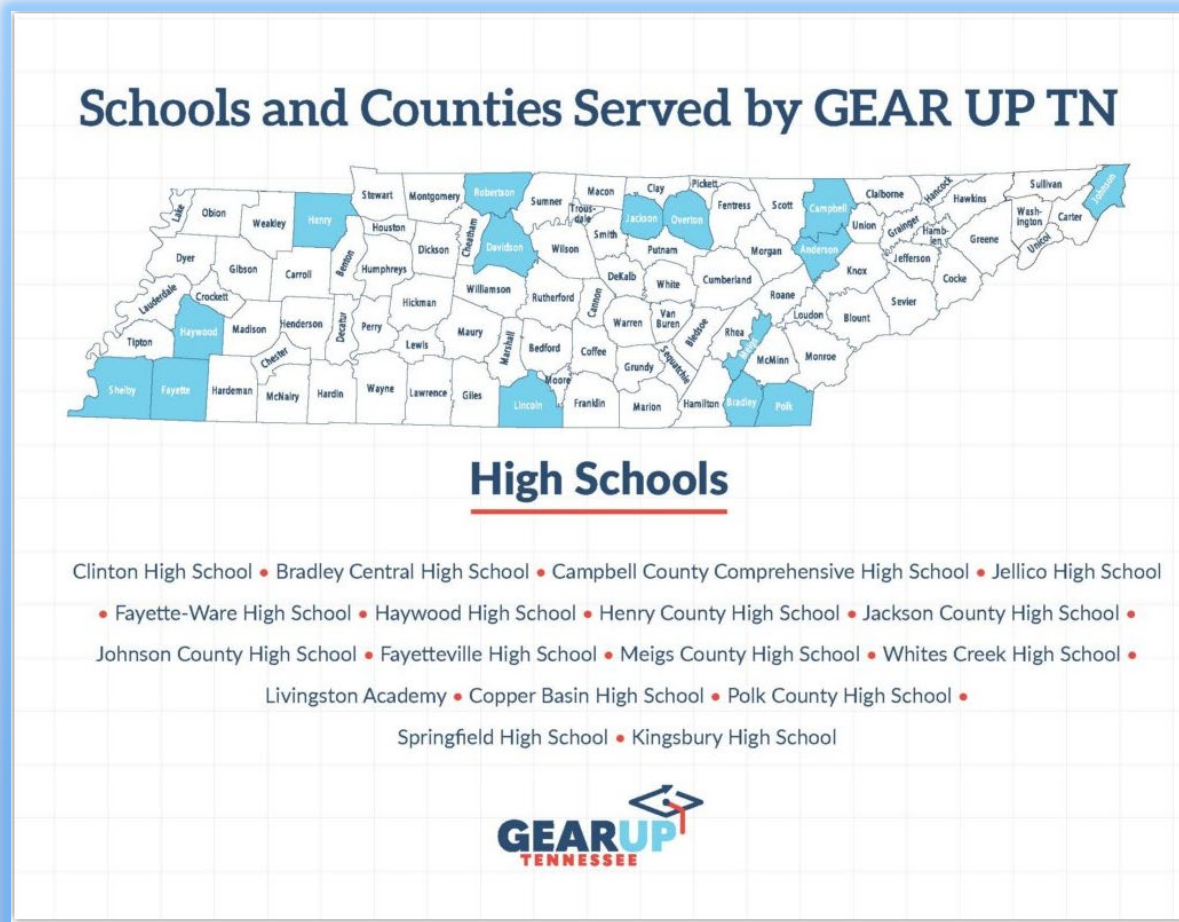
The screenshot shows the NACAC Directory of College Access & Success Programs website. The header includes the NACAC logo and the title "NACAC Directory of College Access & Success Programs". Below the header is a navigation bar with "DIRECTORY HOME", "ORGANIZATIONS", and "ADVANCED SEARCH" buttons. The main content area shows a search form with fields for Name, City, State, and Zip, along with "Search" and "Reset" buttons. Below the search form are dropdown menus for "Grade Levels" and "Service Provided". A table below the filters lists several programs with columns for Name, City, and State.

Name	City	State
100 Black Men of Bradley County	Cleveland	TN
100 Black Men of Knoxville	Knoxville	TN
100 Black Men of Middle Tennessee	Nashville	TN
KIPP Memphis Collegiate Schools	Memphis	TN
KIPP Nashville- KIPP Through College	Nashville	TN
METS	Murfreesboro	TN
Project GRAD Knoxville	Knoxville	TN
REDI College Access Program	Jackson	TN

National Association for College Admissions Counseling (NACAC)

Directory of College Access & Success Programs: <https://casp.nacacnet.org/>

# Where to find GEAR UP Programs



## MISSION

GEAR UP TN aims to expand the college-going culture in Tennessee.

## GOALS

1. Increase the academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education for GEAR UP students.
2. Increase the rates of high school graduation and enrollment in postsecondary education for GEAR UP students.
3. Increase GEAR UP students' and their families' knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparation, and financing.

## WHO DOES GEAR UP TN SERVE?

- Students living primarily in high-poverty, low resourced areas of TN.
- Participating schools serve a student population with over 50% of students eligible for free & reduced-price lunch.
- Participating schools have a college-going rate that is below the state average when the program begins.
- GEAR UP TN supports 6,000 students annually.

GEAR UP Tennessee: <https://www.collegefortn.org/gear-up-tn/>



# Dual Enrollment Programs



*Coordinator Guide*

DUAL ENROLLMENT FALL 2022

# University of Memphis Dual Enrollment

- **1,952** students enrolled for Fall 2021
- **8,458** credit hours = student cost savings of over **\$1.4 million**
- Dual Enrollment Student Retention Rates:
  - One-year retention rate: **88.6%**
  - Six-year graduation rate from the University of Memphis: **55.5%**
- Grant eligible students pay \$0 out of pocket for all 10 courses at the UofM

## DUAL ENROLLMENT COURSE FEES FOR THE DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

UofM Dual Enrollment Fees and Grants beginning Fall 2022.

Dual Enrollment Fees Beginning Fall 2022								
3 credit hour Courses					4 credit hour Courses			
Course #	Cost	TSAC Grant	UofM Match	Student Pays	Cost	TSAC Grant	UofM Match	Student Pays
1-5	\$537	\$537	\$-	\$0	\$716	\$538	\$178	\$0
6-10	\$537	\$300	\$237	\$0	\$716	\$400	\$316	\$0

Tuition = \$171 and \$8 Access Fee for a total of \$179 per credit hour

# Summer Bridge Programs



# Camp College

## PROGRAM DETAILS

- Camp College hosts 100 rising seniors from Chattanooga; eligibility criteria:
  - Be on track to graduate in 2023;
  - Have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher; and
  - Have financial need and/or be the first in your family to attend college.
- 3-day residential college planning retreat at Sewanee The University of the South
- Sessions include:
  - scholarship essay writing
  - college searches
  - mini-college fair
  - opportunities to meet other students and preview campus life
  - Parents/guardians will be invited to attend a financial aid workshop
- Transportation, rooms, meals, and materials are all paid by PEF, Sewanee, and other generous sponsors.
- Students only pay a \$25 non-refundable enrollment fee.





# Camp College Performance statistics

*THE GOAL IS TO GIVE RISING SENIORS INTENSIVE SUPPORT AS THEY AIM TO*

*BECOME THE FIRST IN THEIR FAMILY TO ATTEND COLLEGE*

100%

application rate among  
participants to college

95%

matriculate to a  
postsecondary school

98%

receive some form of  
scholarship or aid

98%

Return for a second year  
of college



## University of Tennessee Flagship Scholarship

- The Flagship Scholarship is offered to admitted freshmen who graduate from one of **38 designated Flagship high schools**.
- When combined with the HOPE Scholarship, this scholarship covers a student's **tuition and mandatory fees** for up to eight (8) semesters.

# UT LEAD & UT LEAD Summer Institute (UTLSI)

- UTLSI comprised of 40 students from Flagship high schools
- The UTLSI experience begins with a 5-week academic summer program prior to the students' first year at UT
- UTLSI students transition to UT LEAD program for first 2 years of college
- **81%** Retention Rate for UTLSI participants







The Education Trust

TENNESSEE COLLEGE  
**Access & Success**  
NETWORK



# References and Resources

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- (Attewell, Lavin, Domina, & Levey, 2006)
- (Gasman & Conrad, 2013)
- (Le, 2012)
- (Long & Boatman, 2013; Bettinger & Long, 2009)
- (Oliva, 2008; Santiago, 2010)
- Advise TN (Informational Webinar). Troy Grant, Assistant Executive Director for P-16 Initiatives, Tennessee Higher Education Commission, [Troy.Grant@tn.gov](mailto:Troy.Grant@tn.gov), [www.tn.gov/thec/topic/advisetn](http://www.tn.gov/thec/topic/advisetn)
- The Education Trust, Publications: <https://edtrust.org/our-resources/publications/>
- THEC Report: [College-Going Rate Decline Requires a Call to Action for Postsecondary Access and Completion Efforts in Tennessee](#)
- Tennessean article: <https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/education/2019/02/13/large-numbers-tennessee-students-not-ready-college-new-state-data-show/2858538002/>
- Knoxville.com article: <https://www.knoxnews.com/story/news/education/2022/05/24/half-tennessee-high-school-graduates-arent-going-college/9891786002/>
- TRIO Footprint: <https://ope.ed.gov/programs/maped/storymaps/trio/> (search TS, UB, UBMS to see pre-college programs)
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- College Advising Corps: <https://advisingcorps.org/>
- Advise TN: <https://www.tn.gov/thec/bureaus/access-and-outreach/college-access/redirect-college-access-and-success/advise-tn.html>
- GEAR UP Tennessee: <https://www.collegefortn.org/gear-up-tn/>
- PEER Power – The University of Memphis: <http://www.peerpowerfoundation.org/>
- Public Education Foundation of Chattanooga: <https://www.pefchattanooga.org/>
- Camp College: <https://www.pefchattanooga.org/college-and-career/camp-college>
- University of Tennessee Flagship Scholarship: <https://onestop.utk.edu/scholarships/tri-star-scholarship-program/>
- UT LEAD Summer Institute: <https://admissions.utk.edu/utlsi/>