

# INVESTING IN LIFELONG SUCCESS



**KIPP:FOR LIFE**  
Funding Our Future

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## Funding Our Future

# Investing in Lifelong Success

When it comes to charting a career path, young people from educationally-underserved communities face an uneven playing field. Even with a great education, students often face major gaps in opportunity, and where they come up against barriers, their peers from higher-income families enjoy an invisible system of supports and connections. When it comes to getting a strong first job in an upwardly mobile career, even for college graduates, Black and Latinx young adults experience higher rates of underemployment or unemployment. This reality has significant and wide-reaching impacts on representation across American industry.

At KIPP, we are committed to supporting all students and alumni towards career success, financial freedom, and fulfilling lives of impact. We know that KIPPsters set a high bar for their futures. For some, this means being the first in their family to graduate from college or buy a home. For others, it means serving our country or creating a business. No matter their path, KIPP schools support students to see their unique gifts, then ensure each student has the skills and confidence to pursue the path that leads to their highest aspirations.

Toward this aim, over the past 25+ years, 43% of all KIPP high school graduates have earned BA degrees, nearly 4x the rate of children from low-income families; another 6% have earned AA degrees. With our alumni population on track to grow to 80,000 by 2025, we are raising the bar by which we measure success, investing in new tools and strategies to increase the rates at which KIPPsters persist in and graduate from multiple postsecondary pathways and launch meaningful and fulfilling careers.

“No one gets anywhere alone. What inspires me most about this work is that it is anchored in students knowing themselves — their gifts, their talents, their passions; holding a vision for their one, unique life; all the while knowing that their KIPP family is at their back.”

**Kinnari Patel-Smyth**  
*President, KIPP Foundation*



# Supporting Alumni Through College, Career, and Beyond

As the number of our alumni rapidly grows, we are investing in several key initiatives to guide and counsel KIPPsters to think critically about their options and trajectory toward success, including:



## **KIPP COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE & CAREER SUCCESS CURRICULUM**

Through this curriculum, KIPP high school students develop key socio-emotional and critical-consciousness competencies, such as: gaining knowledge about the systems and structures that create and sustain inequity; developing a sense of power and agency in the face of inequities; a commitment to take action against oppressive conditions; taking measured response to microaggressions; proactive help-seeking and leveraging available supports and resources without fear of “imposter syndrome.” This curriculum, which is centered on racial equity and healing, will soon be implemented in all KIPP high schools.



## **YOUSCIENCE**

YouScience is an online interest and aptitude test that helps KIPPsters think about potential future career matches and understand the connection between college, postsecondary pathways, and career options. When students understand what they do well (aptitudes) and what they love to do (interests), building a career vision becomes an empowering experience.



## **BEST IN CLASS COUNSELING**

To complement the academic preparation KIPP high school students undertake in the classroom, our KIPP Forward counselors across the country provide day-to-day, on-the-ground counseling support to KIPPsters and their families. KIPP counselors support students as they prepare for and select the right education option after high school toward aspirational careers based on their interests and passions.



## **COLLEGE & CAREER MATCH STRATEGY**

College & Career Match is both a methodology and an approach to college and career counseling that is student-centered and data-driven. The big idea is to employ a rigorous, research-based approach to counseling that will ensure students have a diverse set of postsecondary options that reflects their interests, career ambitions and academic performance and needs, while giving them the best chance of graduating on time.

## Postsecondary Supports

Once on their way after high school, KIPP helps alumni keep moving forward, tackling academic, social, and financial challenges they might encounter while pursuing their dreams. Our postsecondary support model includes multiple levers, including:



### NATIONAL NUDGE PROJECT

Using new technology driven by artificial intelligence (AI) insights, nudge texting allows KIPP to send targeted messages, including reminders and encouragement, to alumni. An AI-assisted bot called “KIPPer” responds to commonly asked questions.



### NATIONAL MICROGRANT PROJECT

The KIPP Forward National Microgrant Fund was created to prevent unexpected or emergency financial gaps from deterring the postsecondary education and training plans of KIPP alumni.



### NEAR-PEER SUPPORT MODEL

This model mobilizes recent KIPP college graduates to serve as advisors to students persisting in college, and soon to be persisting in multiple postsecondary pathways.



### LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

We have partnered with donors committed to ensuring that our students have the necessary resources, mentorship, and support to attend and graduate from the college of their choice.

## Alumni Network

Through the KIPP Alumni Network, our KIPP family is creating powerful connections and ascending together with networking, mentorship, leadership training, and more.





## ● A critical moment

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As we look across the country today, we see KIPPsters making their mark. They are earning degrees, building businesses, reforming policy, serving their communities, and rising through the ranks of companies and organizations throughout the nation. Together, they're creating a future without limits. As we look ahead to 2025 and an alumni community that will reach 80,000 strong, we are at an important inflection point. We have a tremendous opportunity to support KIPPsters through college, career, and beyond. We hope you will join with us.