The Foundation’s College and Career Success grantees work with Chicago’s low-income and minority students to ensure they enroll and succeed in post-secondary education and transition to strong first jobs. The foundation also supports research and policy organizations whose work advances post-secondary and career success.

Our investment this school year

$1,000,000 invested in 16 grantees

- Building school leaders’ capacity: $25K
- College persistence and career readiness: $75K
- Building the progressive pathways field: $75K
- College readiness and enrollment: $125K
- Policy, advocacy, and research: $175K
- Scholarships and college financing: $525K

Our grantees impact

- 8,176 students impacted
  - Hispanic/Latino: 41%
  - Asian: 8%
  - White: 4%
  - Other/Unknown: 5%
  - Black/African American: 42%
  - Female: 62%
  - Male: 38%

Student and school outcomes

- Of the students our grantees impacted this year:
  - 82% enrolled in college (3,982 high school students)
  - 89% persisted in college (2,096 college students)

- 546 college students graduated on time

Policy advocacy and research progress

- Advance Illinois demonstrated that transitional math courses increase college readiness for high school seniors and reduce the likelihood of remediation in college. As a result, the Illinois’ State Board of Education and Community College Board adopted a statewide plan for all school districts to implement transitional math courses by the 2021–2022 school year.

- Empower Illinois commissioned a study on the state’s workforce education pathways, which informed the Future of Illinois bill that ensures students’ income does not limit their education and career paths. Empower Illinois partnered with a coalition of nonpublic schools, trade labor unions, businesses, and community organizations to make the bill visible to reporters, advocates, and candidates. Though COVID response bills currently take precedence, these efforts have built a strong foundation and constituency for reintroducing the bill in the future.

- In October 2018, the Partnership for College Completion launched the Illinois Equity in Attainment Initiative. It supports education partners via equity summits, in-depth training for leaders, and ongoing coaching.

- In 2020, the CME Group Foundation’s 16 College and Career success grantees invested $1,000,000 in 16 grantees, impacting 8,176 students. Of the students our grantees impacted this year:
  - 82% enrolled in college (3,982 high school students)
  - 89% persisted in college (2,096 college students)
  - 546 college students graduated on time

Data sources: Arabella Advisors compiled this dashboard using data provided by the CME Group Foundation’s 16 College and Career success grantees in August 2020. For questions, contact alexandra.bass@arabellaadvisors.com.