



## Achieve Twin Cities Youth Programs Impact Report 2023-2024

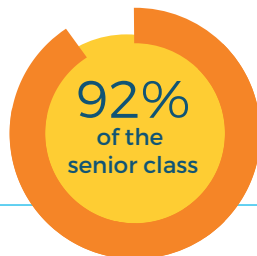
Achieve Twin Cities provides career and college readiness (CCR) services and support for over 17,000 Minneapolis and Saint Paul students each year through our school-based CCR program and Step Up summer internships. In partnership with public institutions, employers and the broader community, Achieve works to ensure that youth who face the greatest barriers can create pathways to purposeful, life-sustaining careers and financial independence.

This report outlines the scope and impact of our programs for the 2023-2024 school year and summer 2024.

### SCHOOL-BASED CAREER AND COLLEGE READINESS PROGRAM

Achieve Twin Cities partnered with Minneapolis Public Schools and Saint Paul Public Schools to provide universal career and college readiness support and services that were accessible to over 17,000 students in 28 district high schools. Our expert school-based team provided one-on-one advising on career interest exploration and postsecondary plan advising, and coordinated career and postsecondary experiences and resources such as career fairs and college tours.

#### Engaging with students:

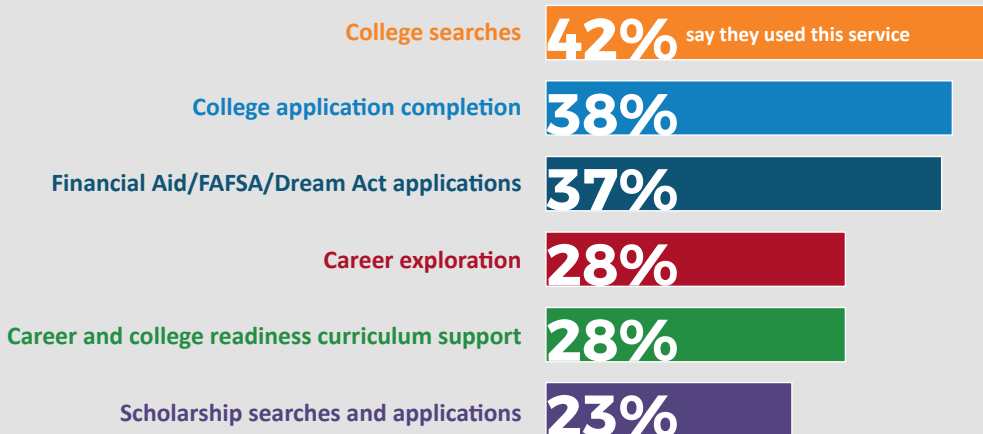


**3 out of 4 seniors**

across all of our schools participated in 1:1 advising sessions with our team

We had our highest-ever engagement with students in 2023-2024. Over 10,000 students participated in our targeted advising or activities. That's 64% of all high school students and 92% of the senior class.

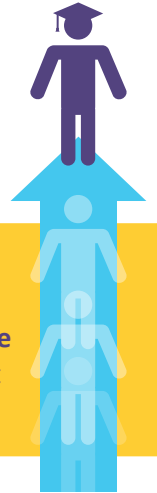
According to high school seniors, these are the Achieve services they used the most:



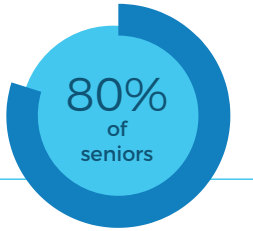
## Exploring postsecondary pathways:

Through participation in Achieve school-based CCR services, students gain knowledge and understanding about postsecondary and career options:

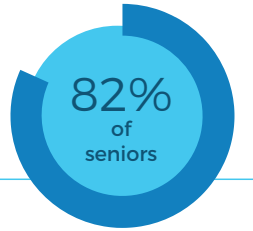
82%



59%



80% of seniors felt they received the support they needed to match their interests with career options

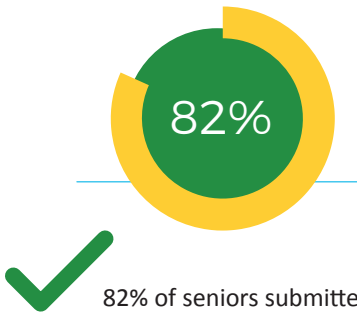


82% of seniors felt they received the support they needed to develop their postsecondary plan

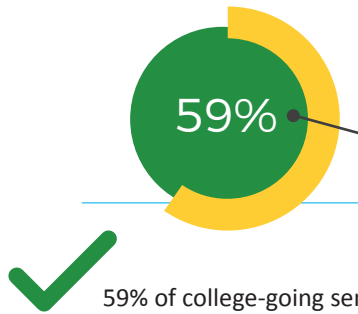
Student confidence in their postsecondary plans increased, with **82% reporting high confidence at graduation** compared to 59% at the start of the year

## Planning and taking action:

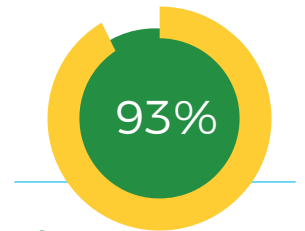
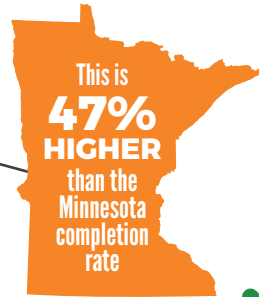
Through the support of our services, we saw students take the following actions by the time they graduated high school:



82% of seniors submitted a postsecondary application

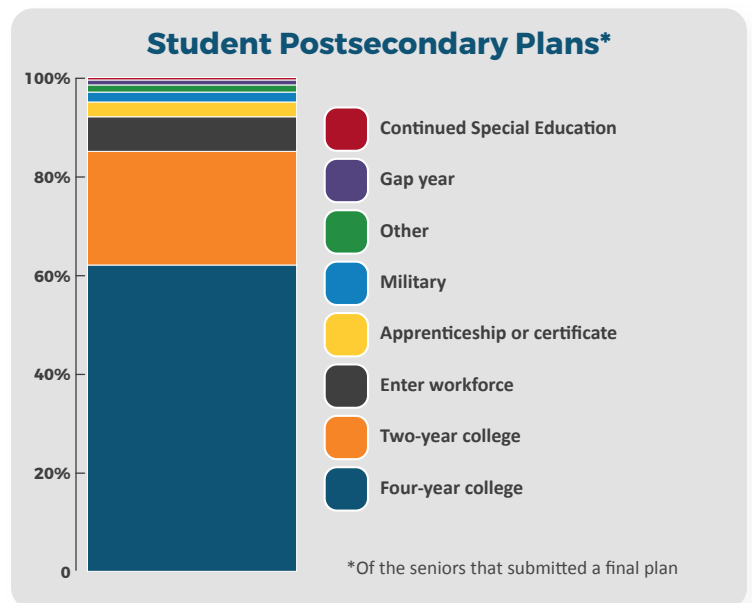


59% of college-going seniors completed a FAFSA



93% of all seniors graduated with a postsecondary plan

The Achieve Twin Cities team supports a wide variety of both college and non-college postsecondary pathways to meet individual student interests, skills and needs.

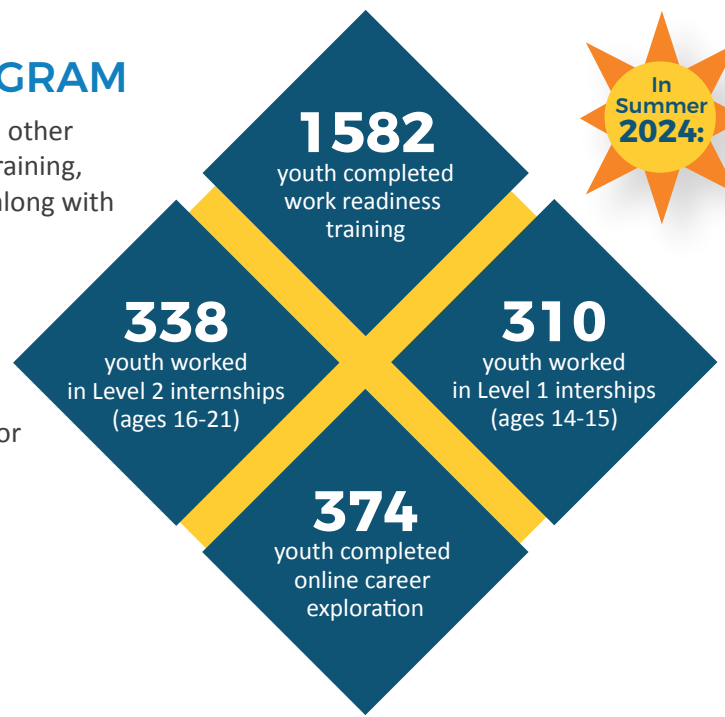


## We know our School-based CCR Program works:

Students of color and low-income students who meet most frequently with our school-based team **apply to college at nearly identical rates** as their white and affluent peers.

# STEP UP YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Achieve Twin Cities collaborates with the City of Minneapolis and other partners to implement Step Up, which provides work readiness training, mentoring and paid summer internships for Minneapolis youth, along with an online career exploration program.

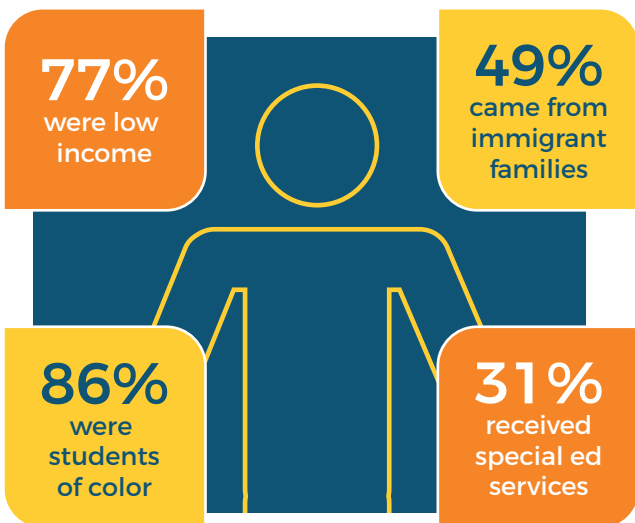


## Step Up Level 2 Internships

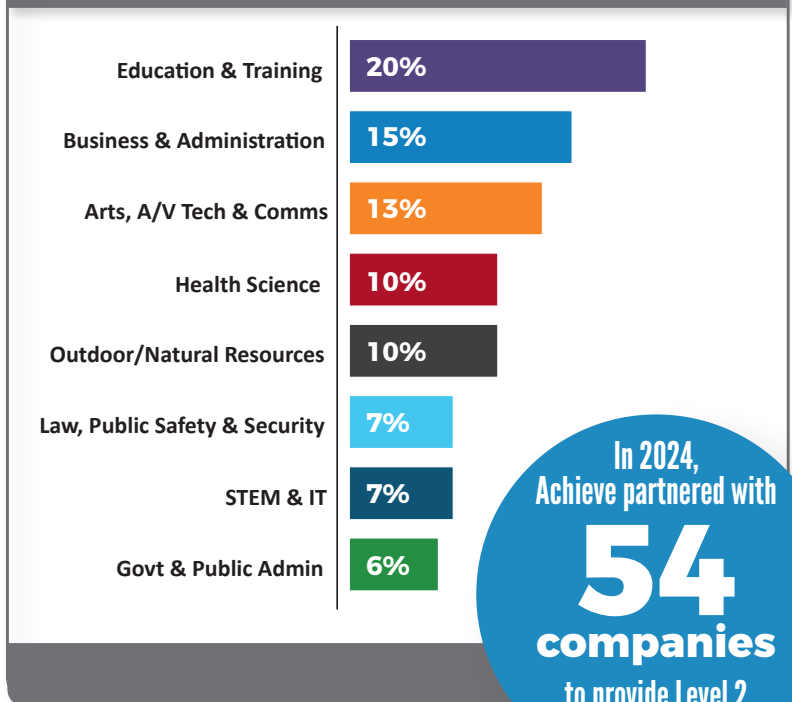
Achieve manages the Step Up Level 2 program for older interns (ages 16-21), which places youth in internships that offer a professional experience and exposure to careers in private sector businesses, public agencies and nonprofits across 15 industries.



Step Up provides high quality, paid on-the-job experience for diverse young talent. Of Step Up's 338 Level 2 interns in 2024:



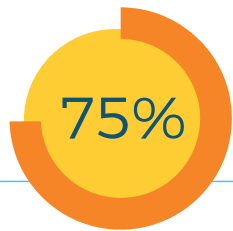
Our Level 2 internships introduced young people to a wide variety of careers across many different sectors:



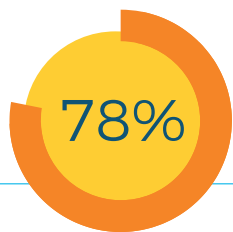
## STEM Careers Support

Achieve's career and college readiness programs help students explore a wide variety of STEM careers. Last year, our school-based program hosted 95 career exposure events with STEM professionals, and 22% of Step Up Level 2 internships were in a STEM-related field.

## Step Up internships prepare students for the future:

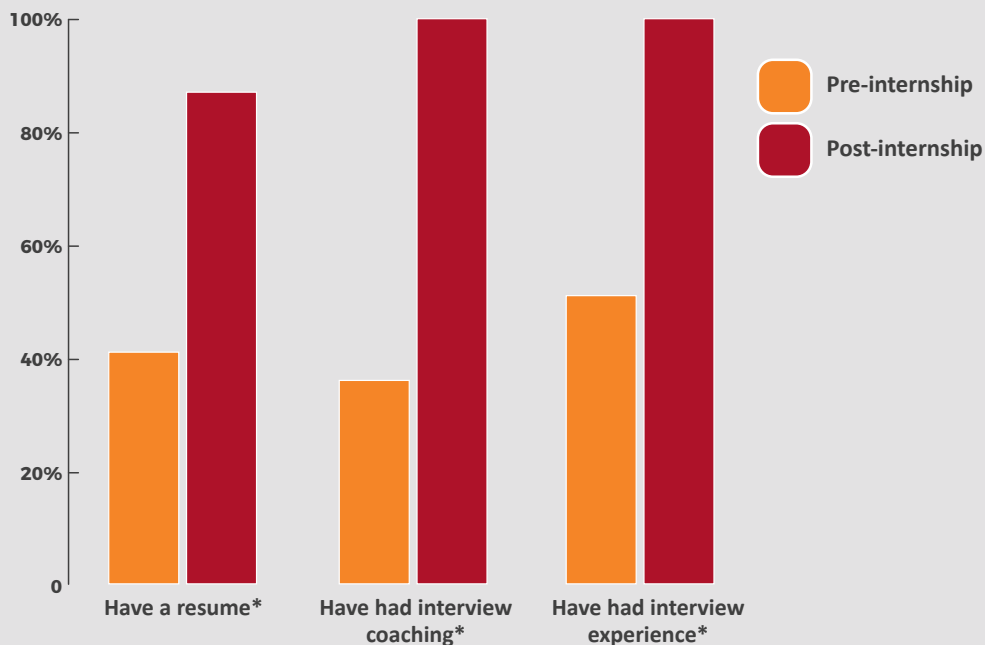


75% of Level 2 youth participants say their internship helped them learn more about their career interests



78% of Level 2 youth say their internship prepared them for success in the workforce

### Pre and Post Internship Work-Readiness Experience



Step Up prepares Minneapolis youth for internships with work readiness experience that is necessary for their future success in the workforce. Most interns do not have this experience prior to Step Up.

## Step Up internships have a positive impact on employers:



89% of Level 2 supervisors say interns made a valuable contribution to their workplace



**2/3rds of Level 2 supervisors**

say they are more prepared to work with our future workforce after providing Step Up internships



### We know Step Up works:

Low-income youth that participate in Step Up internships **enroll in college at rates that are 50% higher** than their peers who do not.



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