Empowering the Next Generation of American Leaders

We believe that top colleges and universities—whose graduates comprise the majority of national leaders—have a responsibility to provide educational opportunity to students from the full American mosaic.

Franklin & Marshall College is responding to this national imperative with proactive outreach to the K-12 education community across the country, innovative programs to help first-generation college students thrive, and an aggressive growth strategy for student financial aid. F&M College Prep is an integral part of our efforts to help low- and moderate-income students across the country raise their sights to educational opportunities commensurate with their abilities and develop the tools and mindsets they need to thrive in and beyond college.

ABOUT F&M COLLEGE PREP
F&M College Prep is a three-week, pre-college immersion program for rising high-school seniors in underserved communities that offers the affective experience of college with substantive courses taught by F&M professors and communal life in our residence and dining halls. Students choose two seminar-style courses in subjects that range from environmental science to creative writing to architectural design, and share their final work in a project fair. We also provide workshops that help students navigate the college-admission process and promote their personal development. Students have near-peer mentors in the more than a dozen F&M students who serve as program facilitators, and we extend those mentoring relationships through the participants’ senior year in high school. Since its inception, F&M College Prep has received positive coverage in several publications, including Hispanic Outlook and Inside Higher Ed.

WHO WE SERVE
The program targets high-achieving, rising high-school seniors in underserved communities. Our 2011 pilot program served 23 students from the KIPP network, and by 2015 we had expanded the program to serve 71 students from leading schools, networks and partner organizations, including:

- The School District of Lancaster
- Pennsylvania College Advising Corps (PCAC)
- KIPP
- Achievement First Public Charter Schools
- Uncommon Schools
- The Noble Network of Charter Schools
- Mastery Charter Schools
- SEO Scholars
- College Track
- Cooperman College Scholarship Program

In 2015, participants hailed from rural Pennsylvania and 18 U.S. metropolitan regions, including:

- Atlanta
- Austin, Texas
- Chicago
- Denver
- Houston
- Los Angeles
- Memphis
- Nashville
- Newark, N.J.
- New Orleans
- New York
- Oakland, Calif.
- Philadelphia
- Washington, D.C.
CHARTING A COURSE TO COLLEGE

F&M College Prep draws on the expert resources of our admission staff and faculty to provide a range of workshops that guide students through the college-admission process, from deciding where to apply to developing a strong application essay, SAT preparation, and understanding financial aid applications and offers. By the end of the program, students return home with increased knowledge about the college application process and a compelling personal essay. They continue to receive support and guidance from F&M mentors throughout their senior year in high school, as their college admission journey unfolds.

EARLY OUTCOMES

In the first four years of the program, 97% of participants matriculated at four-year institutions including:

- Brown University
- Columbia University
- Franklin & Marshall College
- Georgetown University
- Harvard University
- Middlebury College
- MIT
- Northwestern University
- Pomona College
- Princeton University
- Stanford University
- University of California, Berkeley
- UCLA
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Texas, Austin

INVESTING IN AMERICA’S FUTURE

With support from The Doris & Donald Fisher Fund, our alumni and other investors, Franklin & Marshall College covers all program costs, including tuition, program materials, room, board, and transportation expenses. Upon completion of the program, each participating student also receives a $500 stipend in lieu of earnings he or she would have received from summer employment. We are proud to be investing in America’s future through F&M College Prep, and are eager to sustain and continue to expand this program.

ABOUT F&M

Franklin & Marshall College is a selective liberal arts college that has offered one of the most rigorous and empowering undergraduate educations in the country for more than 225 years. Our faculty—one for every nine students—are dedicated teacher-scholars who provide individual attention and abundant opportunities for hands-on learning and collaborative research. We educate the whole student as part of a supportive community that responds to and develops each student’s unique greatness. F&M prepares independent thinkers to become leaders, creators and problem-solvers in all walks of life—we are committed to affording that opportunity to high-achieving students everywhere.

“The organizations we work with have the same mentality that we do: that these students have the capacity to be successful, and all they require to become successful are resources and experiences. Our partners work extremely hard to prepare these students for college. Our program is the next step, empowering students through that final year of high school and the transition to college.”

—Shawn Jenkins, M.S.Ed., Founding Program Director, F&M Class of 2010

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