



The **Denver Education Attainment Network (DEAN)** is creating community-wide collaboration to increase college attainment and close the attainment gap for students in Denver.

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DenverEdNetwork.org

By 2020, 74 percent of jobs in Colorado will require a postsecondary education. Yet Colorado has one of the largest postsecondary degree attainment gaps in the country.

Low-income, minority and first-generation students are not attaining college credentials at the same rate as their peers. These students are especially at risk of being left out of the benefits of the state's growing economy.

Educational attainment for these students matters to the social, economic and civic health of our families, communities and state.

Our goal

Increase college attainment for students and graduates of Denver Public Schools through collective impact strategies that enable meaningful college and career opportunities for all.

COLLEGE refers to the attainment of postsecondary credentials beyond high school, including technical and non-technical certificates and 2-year and 4-year degrees.

**+14%
College
Enrollment**

Increase college enrollment of students from Denver Public Schools (DPS) to 60 percent compared to 46 percent baseline in 2014-2015 (by 2025)

**+9%
Auraria Campus
Completion
Rates**

15 percent of DPS graduates on the Auraria Campus will earn a certificate, associate's degree or baccalaureate degree within four years compared to 6 percent baseline in 2014-2015 (4-year goal)

**+6% Emily
Griffith
Technical
College
Completion
Rates**

50 percent of DPS students who enroll in an Emily Griffith Technical College certificate program will earn a certificate compared to 44 percent baseline in 2014-2015 (4-year goal)

**+5%
DPS
Persistence
at the Auraria
Campus**

69 percent of DPS graduates at the Auraria Campus will persist from year-one to year-two compared to 64 percent baseline in 2014-2015 (3-year goal)

“... we believe that there is no other way society will achieve large-scale progress against the urgent and complex problems of our time, unless a collective impact approach becomes the accepted way of doing business.”

JOHN KANIA & MARK KRAMER, FSG SOCIAL IMPACT ADVISORS

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Educated Students. College Graduates. Meaningful Careers. Thriving Communities. A world-class Denver.

Why

Denver Public Schools is the fastest-growing urban school district in the country with over 91,000 students, a largely low-income district with 68.5 percent of students qualifying for free and reduced price lunch and the largest school district in Colorado.

The district's largest minority demographic groups are the two most negatively impacted by Colorado's attainment gap – Latinos (56 percent) and African-American students (14 percent).

How

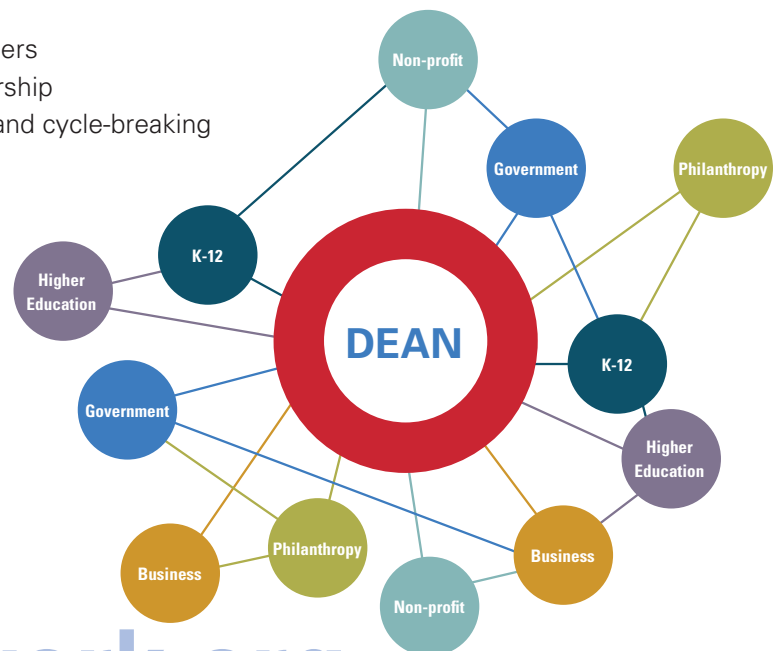
By collaboratively serving DPS, and more specifically, low-income, first-generation and minority students, DEAN is working to improve student outcomes.

DEAN partners with Denver Public Schools, the Auraria Campus (Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State University of Denver, University of Colorado Denver), Emily Griffith Technical College, the City and County of Denver as well as non-profit and corporate partners, to develop a persistence and completion strategy to serve our most vulnerable students.

Working with committed community partners, a common agenda, shared data and measurements, and a continuous improvement framework, DEAN convenes its partners to identify areas of overlap and develop and test strategies to increase college success. **To increase attainment for Denver students, DEAN works on:**

- ▶ **Grass roots strategies** with direct service providers
- ▶ **Policy and systems changes** with Denver leadership
- ▶ **Best practice frameworks** to deliver innovative and cycle-breaking change to close the attainment gap

College enrollment, persistence and attainment are steps along the path to career success. DEAN is creating a community-wide movement to close the achievement gap: helping Denver students access the skills, credentials and confidence to navigate future success as part of Colorado's growing economy.



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DEAN is a project of the Colorado Nonprofit Development Center