



college forward

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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◆ **100%** of College Forward's students have been **accepted into colleges and universities nationwide**

◆ College Forward students' **ACT scores increased** by an average of **22.22%**

◆ College Forward **high school graduates (Class of '06) were awarded** an average of over **\$16,000 each in scholarships and grants**, not including loans

College Forward Expands Services to AISD: Helping Low-Income Students Achieve a Higher Education

AUSTIN, Texas — College Forward, a non-profit organization that provides free college preparatory services to motivated, economically disadvantaged students, today announced the expansion of their program into AISD and Georgetown ISD. The program also serves students in Hays County and Del Valle, and has achieved a 100% college acceptance rate among students for the three years they have operated.

College Forward's students are eligible for the National School Lunch Program, will be first-generation college attendees, or both. "Let's take a student like Erica Bell at Lehman High School," says executive director Lisa Fielder. "Erica knew that when it came to college, the deck was stacked against her. Her parents struggled to support the family as it was; paying for tuition, books and a dorm room was out of the question. Helping her prepare for the ACT was daunting, and they would have struggled to offer help with college applications, personal essays, obtaining scholarships. The whole process. Luckily, Erica is highly motivated. She found College Forward and is now well on her way to achieving a higher education."

Beginning January 31st, Travis and Crockett High School will offer the College Forward program to 80 low-income students like Erica Bell. AmeriCorps members from College Forward will guide them through the college application process — helping them prepare for the SAT/ACT, gain admission to schools across the nation, and secure thousands of dollars in financial aid. College Forward will also take students on a week-long tour of Texas universities, help them through the social and academic trials of college itself, and teach parents how to support their young adults through the process.

College Forward's unprecedented success rate has impressed high school administrators throughout Central Texas. "As the high school redesign coordinator," says Lisa Goodnow of Travis High, "I believe that smaller learning communities and direct-service programs such as College Forward are crucial. In this case, they're providing intensive college prep that works."

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Call us at (512) 452-4800
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