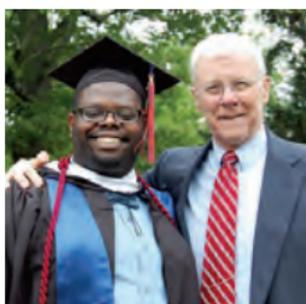




# EVERY ONE HAS A DREAM

THROUGH  
PHILADELPHIA FUTURES'  
SPONSOR-A-SCHOLAR  
PROGRAM,  
YOU CAN HELP ONE  
PROMISING STUDENT  
PURSUE THAT DREAM.





# EVERYONE

deserves the chance to be great.

Philadelphia Futures' Sponsor-A-Scholar Program provides students attending Philadelphia's public high schools with the tools, resources and opportunities they need to make successful journeys to — and through — college. Sponsor-A-Scholar students have big dreams for their lives and their futures, and they succeed in record numbers despite statistics that would predict otherwise.

Our volunteer mentors are a critical part of the success equation.

**PHILADELPHIA FUTURES** is dedicated to helping promising students reach their full potential by obtaining a college education. Sponsor-A-Scholar (SAS) is the organization's cornerstone college access and success program serving low-income, first-generation-to-college students. Since 1990, SAS has served more than 1,100 students attending Philadelphia's public high schools through an intensive, comprehensive and multi-pronged program of services that provides:

- Long-term, one-on-one mentoring;
- Year-round academic enrichment activities and college guidance;
- Financial resources, including \$6,000 for college-related expenses; and
- Individualized staff support through high school and college — a minimum of eight years.

Sponsor-A-Scholar prepares students to become both college bound and college ready. SAS activities address the needs of students head-on by providing them with the targeted, high-quality and personalized college prep services and resources unavailable in their schools and communities.



SAS STUDENTS HAVE AN EXTRAORDINARY RECORD OF SUCCESS.

**98%** OF STUDENTS GO ON TO COLLEGE IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIGH SCHOOL.

## WHAT IT MEANS TO BE AN SAS MENTOR

### AT PHILADELPHIA FUTURES, WE MENTOR WITH A MISSION.

Philadelphia Futures' SAS Program is grounded in the belief that a caring and committed adult can make a significant difference in the life of a student. We recognize the profound impact that a mentor can have on a student's chance of graduating from high school and completing college.

SAS mentors are supportive adults who serve as role models, advocates and cheerleaders for their students. They open doors to new social, cultural and educational experiences and provide the professional networks our students often lack. These relationships significantly improve students' ability to obtain their degrees, start careers and become economically self-sufficient.

Philadelphia Futures has created a nationally known model for helping low-income, first-generation-to-college students enter and succeed in college, but we cannot accomplish this without your help. **We need you to be on our team.**



## WHAT IT TAKES TO BE AN SAS MENTOR

Being a mentor in the SAS Program requires a profound belief in the power of education. Our mentors are all college graduates. Effective mentors need to be willing to take on the ups and downs, joys and challenges of a teenager's life. To their relationships, mentors bring:

### COMMITMENT

Mentors make a long-term commitment to their students. Mentors are matched with students in 10th grade and work with them through, at least, the first year of college. Many relationships last a lifetime.

### CONSISTENCY

Mentors communicate with their students once a week and see their students at least monthly. They go on outings with their students to baseball games, cultural events, restaurants and museums. They visit colleges, study for the SAT together or simply sit and talk.

### A GENEROUS SPIRIT

Mentors provide opportunities. They help students create a vision for their future. Mentors are willing to make a place in their lives for their students. They listen, guide and inspire.

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## WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU

Each SAS mentor and student is carefully and thoughtfully matched. Once you are matched with a student, the Philadelphia Futures staff is with you every step of the way.

Our mentors receive training and are provided with guidance and encouragement from the Philadelphia Futures staff throughout their relationship with their student.

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## OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS

In addition to mentoring, there are many other ways that you can get involved and support Philadelphia Futures' students:

### SPONSOR A STUDENT

Contribute \$7,500 to support a student's college goals. Of those funds, \$6,000 is disbursed directly to the student once the student enrolls in college to help with college-related expenses. Philadelphia Futures utilizes \$1,500 to help cover the cost of the student's high school program activities.

### MAKE AN IN-KIND DONATION

Donate a range of critically-needed resources, such as laptops, books and school supplies, to help SAS students on their educational journeys.

### PROVIDE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS SUPPORT

Work with Philadelphia Futures' staff in providing one-on-one support to students as they navigate the college admissions process. Help students draft their college essays, complete their applications and apply for financial aid.

### TUTOR

Provide weekly, one-on-one or group academic tutoring to students in an array of subject areas, including writing, reading, math and science.

### PROVIDE CAREER EXPOSURE

Host a group of our students in your office for a career awareness day, provide internship opportunities for qualified college students or help students prepare for the workforce by conducting mock interviews and assisting with resumes.



# MENTOR ONE STUDENT. CHANGE TWO LIVES.

**JOIN US IN HELPING OUR STUDENTS ACHIEVE  
THEIR DREAM OF A COLLEGE EDUCATION.**

Visit [www.philadelphiafutures.org/mentors](http://www.philadelphiafutures.org/mentors)  
to learn more about Philadelphia Futures' mentoring  
opportunities and to download the mentor application.

Questions about becoming a mentor may be sent  
to [mentoring@philadelphiafutures.org](mailto:mentoring@philadelphiafutures.org). Or call  
us at **215-790-1666 ext. 420** to learn more about  
mentoring and other ways you can make a difference  
in a student's life.



PHILADELPHIA  
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