



## **Foundation for Ensuring Access and Equity**

College Planning Cohort™ Program

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### **I. Welcome to Our Program**

We appreciate the trust that you have placed in our College Planning Cohort™ Program through your registration. To maximize the return on your investment in time and money, we have created an overview of the primary focus of our program and the first actions that we need for your student to take.

### **II. What We Are**

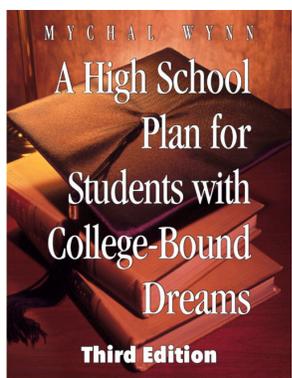
College Planning Cohorts (TM) is our national model and the recipient of the National School Boards Association's 2020 Magna Award, recognized for removing barriers and expanding college access. The online program and print materials are developed by author, parent, and educational consultant, Mychal Wynn, for assisting students and families in 'Owning' the college planning process. Mr. Wynn draws from the latest student achievement and college access research, experiences of cohort students who are attending an array of colleges and universities, and ongoing conversations with college admissions and financial aid officers, including COVID-19 changes to college admissions.

### **III Who We Are**

Mr. and Mrs. Wynn are the Program Developers/College Advisors of the College Planning Cohort Program. Mrs. Wynn, a California native from a military-connected family, has had a professional career in Human Resource Management in the Aerospace Industry, has unique insight into the social/emotional profiles of students, and typically engages in regular communication with students from the time they enter our program, through college, and into their professional careers. Mr. Wynn, a Chicago native, is a no nonsense 30-year educator who has taught students in K - 12 schools, juvenile court schools, and community college. Mr. Wynn is an accomplished and highly sought after expert in his field who has received international acclaim for his work in assisting schools in becoming "Conversational Communities" for conceptualizing strategies to close achievement gaps, expand postsecondary pathways, build relationships, and foster collaboration

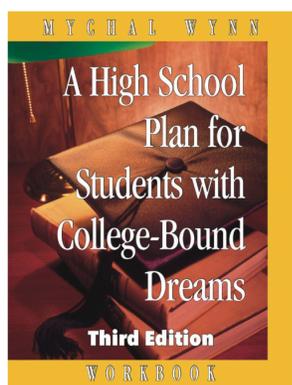
between schools and communities. He consults with school districts throughout the United States, Canada, the Caribbean and Bermuda, and is the author of 28 books.

Mr. and Mrs. Wynn have been recognized as, "Transformational Leaders," in their roles as Education Ministry Leaders of the Turner Chapel AME Church in Marietta, Georgia, where, in 2013, they developed their first college planning cohort of students, many of whom have gone on to enter graduate school, medical school, and careers. (AJC Article)



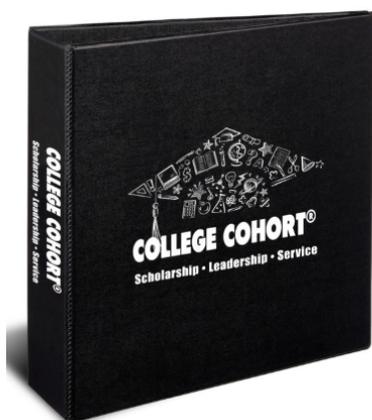
Together, Mr. and Mrs. Wynn work to guide students into, and through college, in the manner in which they guided their older son into Amherst College, and their younger son, a 2012 Gates Millennium Scholar, into Morehouse College. Mr. and Mrs. Wynn are supported by their sons, who serve as college advisors; parents, who have had students come through the program; college interns, who have come through the program; and high school and middle school interns, currently enrolled in the program.

#### **IV. How Our Program Works**



The online curriculum provides interdisciplinary lessons, utilizing reading, narrative and expository writing, videos, and guided research (college, careers, college majors, and student loan debt), which expands on the 370-page text, *"A High School Plan for Students with College-Bound Dreams: Third Edition."*

In response to COVID-19 related changes to P-16 social distancing guidelines, our program provides live monthly virtual presentations, through which high school students are guided through grade-level specific college planning activities and small group conversations—all designed to guide students in building college readiness skills while developing comprehensive college-bound plans.



All students receive access to digital copies of our materials. First-time students (grades 9 - 11) receive the 128-page *"A High School Plan for Students with College-Bound Dreams: Workbook"* and College Planning Cohort 3-ring Binder. High school seniors who complete our program receive a Kente Cloth.

While Mr. Wynn has written a comprehensive curriculum, the focus of our program is to guide student learning and provide a context for conversations between students, parents, counselors, and mentors. We believe that authentic conversations can inspire intentional actions as students pursue academic, leadership, and community service goals aligned with their college/career aspirations.

## **V. Document Sharing**

We are a Google Partner in Education and use the secure Google Documents cloud-based platform to share and exchange documents. We encourage students to share the initial documents (profile, résumé, and narratives) with our staff, parents, and mentors. Our staff will ensure that documents are properly setup and shared. Thereafter, students should share their documents with their parents and mentors to serve as a focal point of their college planning conversations. The Google Document allows students to share and develop documents throughout the course of their high school experience as students develop each component of their college plan. These, and other such questions provide the basis for continuing college planning conversations between parents, students, and mentors.

## **VI. Guiding Questions and Quizzes**

Our curriculum is not simply designed to guide students in their college planning, but to guide students in developing such college readiness skills as research, narrative and expository writing, self-reflection, synthesis, analysis, goal-setting, and critical thinking. Consequently, while parents are encouraged to support and work alongside students in completing lessons, students must do the work if they are to develop the intended skills. Narratives should reflect students' skills, both in technical (i.e., grammar and punctuation) and artistic (i.e., vocabulary and imagery) writing, as well as reflect students' voices. Most lessons contain one or more 'Guiding Questions.' The process of completing lessons is designed to guide students in answering the guiding questions. Some lessons also contain quizzes. Students should score a 100% on quizzes as the questions are straight forward and taken directly from the unit. Quizzes are used to monitor and assess student engagement, and serve as an ongoing reminder that students must, "Own the Process."

## **VII. Year-to-Year Growth**

While students in our program may engage in similar lessons from year to year, they are done so within the context of self-reflection and self-assessment. Were the goals established in 9th grade achieved? Are the career aspirations in the 10th grade the same as originally affirmed? Was there a

summer experience prior to entering the 11th grade that caused a shift in college aspirations?  
Nearing the end of the 11th grade, did the student achieve the GPA and test scores consistent with the admission standards of the colleges they affirmed in the 9th grade?

## **VIII. Confidentiality and Photographic Consent**

We are committed to the confidentiality of student records. As previously stated, we are a Google Partner in Education and utilize the secure Google cloud-based platform for the exchange of documents. Also, your participation in our program grants us, or our community partners, permission to take photographs at meetings, share student work in our curriculum, and profile student outcomes on our website.

## **IX. How to Begin**

New students must take the following actions prior to being enrolled into the appropriate online classroom:

1. Create login credentials on our website (<https://www.accessandequity.org/my-account/>), with a username in the following format: FirstnameLastname (no space between first and last name).
2. Log in to your account.
3. Select 'Course Outline' from the side menu.
4. Select 'Welcome to Our Program'
5. Click onto 'Welcome to Our Program'
6. Complete units 1 - 7.
7. Upon completion of the welcome units, send an email to [cpc@collegeplanningcohort.com](mailto:cpc@collegeplanningcohort.com) (with your email signature) and include, 'I have completed the Welcome to Our Program' in the subject line. At that time you will be enrolled into your grade-level appropriate online classroom.

## **X. Communication**

There are two primary communication methods upon which we rely:

1. **Emails:** We send regular emails to the email address used to register for our classroom. These emails pertain to the classroom, scholarship opportunities, or other pertinent college-planning information. Completing each of the steps outlined in the *Module 1: Unit 2* -

*Create a Google Account*, ensures that the Email address used to register for our program is automatically forward to a parent.

2. **Monthly Newsletter:** Parents and students must sign up for our monthly newsletter. Our College Planning Newsletter is released on the first of each month and provides important information about our program, meeting dates, and our monthly focus

**Note:** After the student registration has been finalized, all of our email correspondence will only be directed to the email address of the registered student. The reason that we require that emails to students, whether from us, or from colleges and scholarship providers, be automatically forwarded to parents is to ensure that parents are always aware of important college-related communication with students, which may include time-sensitive information or provide unique college or scholarship opportunities.

## **XI. Copyrighted Materials**

Our College Planning Cohort Program™ is a trademark of the Foundation for Ensuring Access and Equity, Inc. All printed materials, curriculum units, presentations, and forms are protected by US Copyright law by Mychal Wynn (author) and Rising Sun Publishing (publisher) and may not be copied, shared via screen shots, or otherwise shared with individuals beyond the students' parents, cohort staff, counselors, and mentors. Students may share their login credentials with their parents, but may not share their login credentials with other persons. Any violation of these terms can result in the immediate removal from our program and forfeiture of any registration fees.

## **XII. Disclaimer**

We make no guarantees regarding a student's college or scholarship outcomes. Our program utilizes the latest in research, conversations with college admissions officers, and our own experiences to provide students with a deeper understanding of the college admissions and financial aid processes in a manner as to assist students in expanding their college and scholarship opportunities. Participating in our program confirms your acceptance of our [Terms and Conditions](#).