In order for students to succeed in college, career, and life, they need the opportunity and resources to obtain a postsecondary credential. Tennessee’s ambitious attainment goal recognizes that by 2025 at least 55 percent of jobs in the state will require some form of postsecondary training. Tennessee still has a long way to go in meeting this goal, as only 42.7 percent of residents currently have a degree or high-quality certificate. For Tennessee to increase this percentage, students need to be prepared and have equitable access to opportunities that lead to success and enable economic independence. A key support in postsecondary success is for students to receive high-quality advising in high school to begin navigating college and career opportunities.

Tennessee has made significant progress in removing financial barriers to postsecondary education through statewide scholarship and mentorship programs, including Tennessee Promise and Tennessee Reconnect, and the state has seen increased enrollment rates at community and technical colleges in recent years. However, fewer than two-thirds of high school graduates enroll in postsecondary education immediately after high school, and fewer than half of those who attend a postsecondary institution have graduated with a degree or credential in six years. Additionally, as the postsecondary landscape becomes increasingly complex, many students and their families find navigating college and career options difficult and overwhelming. More than ever, students need strong advising support to gain the information and guidance to succeed after high school. School counselors face time constraints and other duties that can make it challenging to provide college and career planning services to all students. On the state and national levels, several organizations work to support existing college and career advising services or provide new services to not only increase postsecondary enrollment and attainment but also support students as they develop long-term career goals. This brief highlights their work, looks at common practices in the college and career advising space, and charts a potential path forward for Tennessee.

Despite the hard work of school counselors and many advising organizations working in schools and districts across Tennessee, there are remaining gaps in the advising supports needed for postsecondary success. These steps can improve college and career advising in Tennessee:

1. Improve preparation and support for school counselors
2. Capture students’ postsecondary intentions earlier to inform advising strategies
3. Provide greater coordination and collaboration among K-12 educators, higher education professionals, and advising organizations to support student success
4. Continue advising support and alignment through postsecondary education
School Counselors Face Challenges In College And Career Advising

Traditionally, school counselors are expected to assist students with the college and career planning process in addition to providing support for academic and social and emotional development. Tennessee school counseling standards identify “college and career readiness” as a focus area for counselors. However, despite research that suggests students benefit from increased access to counselors during the college application and enrollment process, large caseloads and numerous responsibilities often inhibit them from individually supporting students as they develop postsecondary plans. The average student-to-counselor ratio in Tennessee is 335:1, which is far above the American School Counselor Association’s recommended ratio of 250:1. In some counties, school counselors have caseloads of more than 500 students. Based on the 2016 Tennessee Educator Survey, which displays the most recent publicly available data on school counselors, nearly half of counselors surveyed report having a larger than recommended student caseload.

In developing this brief, the State Collaborative on Reforming Education (SCORE) conducted a focus group with high school counselors from across Tennessee to understand their perspective on college and career advising. The conversations shed light on the broad scope of their role and the challenges they face in supporting students through postsecondary and career planning. Although changes to Tennessee counseling standards have lessened testing responsibilities, counselors echoed a limited capacity to focus on college and career advising with students due to large caseloads. Moreover, counselors felt unprepared to advise students through the college application process. They voiced difficulty in keeping up with changing college admissions and financial aid policies, and a lack of training on college and career advising.
Definitions

Adviser: An individual distinct from a school counselor whose primary responsibility involves assisting students with the college and career planning process. Organizations may also refer to advisers as mentors, coaches, or college access counselors.

Career and Technical Education (CTE): Programs of study offered at the middle school or high school level aimed at equipping students with industry-aligned career skills. CTE programs are categorized into 16 career clusters and may include opportunities for students to engage in work-based learning and receive postsecondary credentials.

College: Any postsecondary training beyond high school education that provides students with meaningful credentials, including four-year colleges and universities, community colleges, and trade and technical colleges.

College and Career Advising: The process of providing students with information and assistance to help them develop and pursue their postsecondary plans.

Early Postsecondary Opportunity (EPSO): A course and/or exam that gives students the opportunity to obtain postsecondary credit while in high school. Tennessee offers eight types of EPSOs for students: Advanced Placement (AP), Cambridge International Examinations (CIE), College Level Examination Program (CLEP), dual enrollment, International Baccalaureate (IB), local dual credit, statewide dual credit, and student industry certification.

School Counselor: An individual responsible for delivering a comprehensive counseling program for a school. According to Tennessee school counseling standards, counselors focus their work on the academic development, social and emotional development, and college and career readiness of their students.
What Should College And Career Advising Look Like?

College and career advising is most effective as a multistage process that exposes students to a variety of pathways early in their high school years and instills an understanding of how to navigate postsecondary education and career opportunities. College and career advising also entails individualized, hands-on assistance as students select pathways, determine college admissions requirements, and complete tasks toward postsecondary enrollment and completion.

Starting Early

Tennessee counseling standards recognize that postsecondary and career exploration should start as early as kindergarten in order to impact students’ choices and opportunities. However, in practice, postsecondary planning begins too late for many students, often in their final year of high school.
Exposing students to a range of college and career options in late middle school and early high school is important to laying a foundation for postsecondary readiness. Students can explore potential careers through jobs, internships, and other work-based learning opportunities that expose them to a variety of sectors.

Additionally, students should know the availability of courses at their high school — including early postsecondary opportunities (EPSO) and career and technical (CTE) courses — and how they translate to college and career options. Students should also receive guidance on how academic performance in school shapes postsecondary opportunities. Emerging research shows that students’ postsecondary options can be influenced as early as middle school, suggesting that advising activities could be helpful earlier in a student’s career.

In Tennessee and nationally, enrollment in postsecondary coursework is not equitable across student groups. National research indicates that first-generation students whose parents did not participate in postsecondary education are less likely to enroll in advanced courses and earn college credit in high school compared to non-first-generation students. In Tennessee, more than 70 percent of students of color and students from high-poverty families do not participate in any EPSOs during high school. Overall, only 44 percent of all high school students take at least one EPSO. The disparities in EPSO enrollment in Tennessee point to the importance of early exposure to postsecondary opportunities and advising.

**Ayers Foundation Starts Advising Early**

The Ayers Foundation relies on long-term advisers to build strong relationships with students from eighth grade through college completion. The organization places college access counselors and financial aid assistants in eight Tennessee high schools. Counselors work full time in their schools to support students during the college-going process, and they maintain contact with students after graduation to track their progress through postsecondary completion. Over the summer, Ayers counselors check to see that students have registered for orientation and completed necessary paperwork for enrollment. During students’ freshman year of college and beyond, Ayers Foundation counselors check whether students have refiled their financial aid forms and maintained academic progress toward college completion. Since the organization’s start in 1999, the Ayers Foundation has served more than 6,000 students. The Ayers Foundation is a partnering organization to Tennessee Promise in five counties, and students served through Ayers have a college enrollment rate of 87 percent and postsecondary graduation rate of 75 percent.
Assistance Through The Career Development And College-Going Process

By junior and senior year of high school, students need assistance as they take steps to determine their plan for a career path and apply for and enroll in their postsecondary institution of choice. The career-planning and college-going process can be complex and confusing, especially for underserved students who may not have the supports either inside or outside of school to navigate steps like preparing for college entrance exams, completing financial aid forms, and submitting college applications. With high-quality advising, students can better develop a plan to reach their career choice, enroll in and gain college credit from a course while in high school, create a list of potential postsecondary options that fit their goals, determine requirements for admissions and financial aid, and make informed decisions to guide them toward long-term success.

In order for students to build plans for after high school, they need to determine a pathway that encompasses their academic, financial, and personal needs. An adviser can provide students with awareness and knowledge of postsecondary options, help them weigh their options with accurate information, and ensure they have completed all the necessary steps to matriculate to the pathway of their choice. Research suggests that students and families who receive in-person assistance during the financial aid application process (as opposed to just being provided general information about financial aid and college costs) are more likely to complete applications, receive need-based aid, and enroll in college.12

Advise TN Increases FAFSA Completion Rates

Created in 2016, Advise TN was developed and implemented by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) to support the Drive to 55 goal to increase postsecondary enrollment and completion. Advise TN places full-time college advisers in 33 Tennessee high schools where the college-going rate is below the state average. Advisers work year-round to help high school juniors and seniors through the postsecondary enrollment process, including assistance with submitting college applications, applying for scholarships, and completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). In addition to meeting individually with students and families, advisers plan school-wide events including College Application Week, FAFSA Frenzy, College Planning Night, and College Signing Day. The program builds upon the work of GEAR UP TN, which provides college and career access resources to elementary, middle, and high schools in 22 counties across the state. Since Advise TN’s implementation, the FAFSA filing rate at their schools increased by almost 10 percentage points in comparison to a 3.7 percentage point increase across all Tennessee high schools during the same time period.
College Access In Action

In addition to college and career advising, the state of Tennessee has pushed for initiatives to support broader postsecondary access for Tennessee students, including:

1. **Offering the ACT Retake option:** In 2016, Tennessee enacted a policy to allow high school seniors to retake the ACT for free. Almost 75 percent of the class of 2018 participated in the ACT retake opportunity, and 40 percent of students who retook the exam increased their overall score.13

2. **Promoting high FAFSA completion rates:** Tennessee is a leading state in FAFSA completion. More than 75 percent of high school seniors submitted the FAFSA in 2019. As a required component of Tennessee Promise, school counselors and advisers have generated awareness of FAFSA’s importance and assisted students with completing the application.

3. **Utilizing CollegeforTN.org:** College for TN is a free online resource that schools and districts can use to expand college and career advising. The website provides tools for counselors and advisers to inventory students’ interests, values, and skills to help them navigate each student through career and college pathways.

Support During The Transition From High School To Postsecondary

For many students, advising services should continue beyond high school as they make the transition to postsecondary. The summer after high school graduation often poses barriers to seamless postsecondary enrollment as students do not have frequent access to school personnel for assistance. If a student plans to attend a postsecondary institution, they need to complete a variety of tasks over the summer, such as attending orientation, registering for classes, submitting health forms, fulfilling financial aid verification, and completing loan entrance counseling. The consequences of not supporting students during this transition are clear: In Metro Nashville Public Schools, 80 percent of high school seniors took steps toward college enrollment, yet only 60 percent enrolled in college in the fall and just 24 percent receive a degree within six years.14

Extending college and career advising services to students after high school graduation can lead to increases in postsecondary enrollment and persistence. Research suggests that when students are provided counseling over the summer, they are 3 percentage points more likely to enroll in college and 8 percentage points more likely to persist into their second year.15 Advisers can also connect students to services at their institution so that they receive continual support through postsecondary. For students planning to enter the workforce directly after high school, it is important that they also receive ongoing assistance in developing resumes, interview skills, and networking opportunities, and receive information on pursuing future higher education options to obtain high-quality jobs.
tnAchieves Extends Advising Beyond High School

As the partnering organization to Tennessee Promise, tnAchieves utilizes more than 7,500 volunteer mentors to support students as they transition from high school to the state’s community and technical colleges. Mentors help students maintain Tennessee Promise eligibility by reminding them of scholarship requirements and connecting them to campus resources. tnAchieves volunteer mentors have served more than 250,000 students since 2016 with a 65 percent retention rate and a 34 percent three-year graduation rate for students under Tennessee Promise. In September 2018, the organization also launched a personalized coaching model that employs 15 coaches statewide to work proactively with approximately 200 students each. tnAchieves coaches seek to increase persistence and completion for students with the greatest needs by supporting them through college completion.

Addressing Gaps In College And Career Advising

Efforts to improve postsecondary success and workforce readiness increasingly focus on college and career advising. Organizations in Tennessee and across the country try varied approaches to increase student success by determining who should advise students, what information to collect, and where to build partnerships within their communities.

Identifying Advisers

Given that school counselors have limited time to advise students on multiple levels, several organizations place full- or part-time advisers in schools to assist students with college and career planning. There is limited research on the type of adviser best poised to serve students, and school districts should consider the needs and assets of their communities as they identify the right kinds of advisers for their students.

Some organizations leverage experienced individuals on a long-term basis to fill the positions. These advisers may be from the communities they serve, so they have a better understanding of their students’ needs. For example, the Ayers Foundation approaches advising as a long-standing role to build strong relationships with students and families.
Other programs utilize recent college graduates to be advisers, also known as near-peer advising. This model stems from the belief that advisers can better relate to students when they are close in age, and, given evolving changes in postsecondary access, near-peer advisers may have more familiarity with the college application process and the ability to speak to their recent college experiences. NiswongerCARE uses both near-peer advisers and graduate school counseling interns to serve as part-time advisers in 30 high schools in the northeast region of the state.

Gathering Information

Data is an important tool in college and career advising in Tennessee and other states. Advisers keep track of student progress throughout the college application process and may continue to track their progress through college completion. By gathering information on students’ career interests and goals, maintaining records of meetings, monitoring FAFSA completions, and tracking college application submissions, advisers ensure that students have completed each step of the postsecondary planning process. Collecting this information also helps programs identify gaps in student outreach within their schools to inform advising practices.

Building Partnerships

Getting students to create a career plan and receive a college credential involves close partnerships with postsecondary institutions, local businesses, and industry partners. College and career advising programs recognize the importance of being familiar with specific academic programs, financial aid policies, and student support services at postsecondary institutions as well as ultimate job requirements and skill sets. Collaborating with colleges, universities, and workforce partners can take various forms. Whereas some organizations hire advisers from partner institutions and organizations as part of their program model, others rely on close relationships beyond the K-12 education sector to monitor the progress of their students following college enrollment and entry into the workforce.

Many advising organizations in Tennessee concentrate their work in specific areas, allowing them to build close relationships with nearby institutions and industry. For example, the Martha O’Bryan Center’s Postsecondary Success Initiative serves three high schools in Nashville. In addition to planning college fairs and visits for their high schools, the program staff also works closely with the colleges their students most often attend in order to maintain relationships with students after high school.

NiswongerCARE Builds Partnerships With Postsecondary Institutions

NiswongerCARE places college advisers in 30 high schools across the northeast Tennessee region, serving approximately 30,000 students. The organization uses a mix of near-peer advisers and graduate school interns to serve as part-time advisers in schools. As part of their program model, NiswongerCARE partners with school counseling programs at East Tennessee State University, Carson-Newman University, and Milligan College to hire graduate school interns. These partnerships allow the program to also function as a training and development opportunity for future school counselors to receive experience in college and career advising.
The Path Forward

Through early exposure to college and career options, assistance with the college application process, and support during the transition to postsecondary, high-quality advising can remove barriers to postsecondary enrollment and attainment. However, there are challenges to ensuring all students receive high-quality advising:

1. School counselors have limited time, knowledge, and training for high-quality advising.
2. College and career planning begins too late in high school.
3. The process of postsecondary enrollment, including applications, financial aid, and matriculation, is complex for students and families.
4. Access to high-quality college and career advising is unevenly distributed in the state.
5. Advising often ends with high school graduation, leaving students without support in their transition to college and beyond.

There are several Tennessee-based and national organizations that aim to address these challenges and provide advising services to students. Each organization utilizes myriad strategies to assist and support students toward college and career success. Nevertheless, these programs do not exist in every high school or for every student, and much more can be done to improve advising for all students. Implementing the following recommendations would enhance college and career advising across Tennessee.

Improve Preparation And Support For School Counselors

Despite the many advising services across Tennessee, not every school has a dedicated college and career adviser, meaning that a range of adults – teachers, school counselors, family members – are often the primary individuals advising students. Although school counseling standards have been changed to remove unrelated tasks from counselors’ workloads, many are still doing work that is not directly related to student support services, such as filing paperwork, mailing report cards, and managing course scheduling. In the scope of their role, they also handle student crises and mental health needs, which leaves limited time for them to advise students on postsecondary plans.

For counselors to feel equipped to advise students on college and career pathways, they need sufficient and timely training in their preparation programs and ongoing professional development. SCORE’s conversations with school counselors revealed that counselors often seek out resources through external organizations and networks. Effectiveness in college and career advising requires that counselors be nimble and acquire up-to-date practices in the field. They should have opportunities to learn about their role in the college application process, to develop an understanding of various postsecondary institutions, and to build relationships with admissions and financial aid professionals.

Tennessee should improve support for school counselors by leveraging school resources and personnel to lessen non-counseling responsibilities, particularly in communities that will rely heavily on their school counselors for college and career
advising services. The Tennessee Department of Education should provide counselors with regional professional development opportunities to learn about the postsecondary landscape and their role in the college and career planning process. Given that college admissions and financial aid policies change frequently, it is important that counselors receive timely and relevant information to best serve students.

Capture Students’ Postsecondary Intentions Earlier To Inform Advising Strategies

In order to advise students along a pathway, it is essential that advisers and counselors capture students’ postsecondary intentions early in a meaningful and actionable way. Advising students requires a wholistic approach to addressing a student’s personal background while recognizing that college and career readiness occurs over the span of a student’s education. A study in Chicago found an aspiration-attainment gap in which more than 90 percent of high school juniors indicated a desire to obtain a bachelor’s degree, but fewer than half of the African-American and Latino students in the study graduated with the grades and coursework to be eligible for admission to a four-year college.16

In Tennessee, improved information on students’ postsecondary intentions can help counselors and advisers understand students’ personal and educational goals. By capturing this information early, advising services can be better tailored toward students’ aspirations to ensure they are prepared in high school for long-term success.

Furthermore, advising should be coupled with the acknowledgement that college and career opportunities are closely tied, as many high-quality careers require some form of postsecondary education. Students should be provided opportunities to explore careers early in their education, along with information on how postsecondary education can guide them toward their goals.

Provide Opportunities For Greater Coordination And Collaboration

Many organizations are working to improve postsecondary success in Tennessee, but they are often siloed within their own professional networks and have limited opportunities to collaborate with similar groups. Advising students for long-term success is a shared responsibility of educators, higher education professionals, and other advising organizations who each play an important role in a student’s pathway.

There should be greater collaboration among these organizations and stakeholders to share information, resources, and effective practices in college and career advising in order to better coordinate efforts.
developing and sustaining this network, counselors, organizations, and higher education professionals across the state can foster collaboration toward statewide postsecondary access and attainment.

## Continue Advising Support And Alignment Of Effort Through Postsecondary

Students face challenges beyond their initial transition to postsecondary. High-quality advising should continue as students persist in higher education through career. Some advising organizations and K-12 educators support their students beyond high school, but maintaining frequent contact with every student is difficult when they take diverse pathways. To close the gap between college enrollment and completion, high-quality advising should extend into students’ postsecondary experience. Students should be provided with information and resources on the variety of services available to them at their institution, including academic advising, counseling services, and career support. Likewise, higher education institutions should provide comprehensive advising services to students to support their professional goals.

## College And Career Advising Programs In Tennessee

In developing this brief, SCORE conducted focus groups with school counselors across Tennessee to discuss their responsibilities, preparation, and advising practices. SCORE also spoke with 11 organizations in the state doing direct support for college and career advising. We collected information about the organization’s program model, the schools they serve, and their impact. While this list does not include all individuals and organizations doing college and career advising in Tennessee, it identifies some of the most impactful programs available. The descriptions and table, based on self-reported data, summarize key features of each program.

### Featured Program Descriptions:

- **Advise TN:** Advise TN is a college advising and capacity building program aimed at increasing the number of Tennesseans accessing higher education. Through partnerships with high schools, the program provides college advising services to junior and senior students across Tennessee. Advisers offer services related to college application and financial aid assistance, helping students enroll in the postsecondary option where they will be most likely to succeed and persist.

- **Ayers Foundation:** The Ayers Foundation provides grants and scholarships to advance their mission of improving the quality of life for people in Tennessee through education, conservation, and social welfare. The foundation places a full-time college access counselor and financial aid assistant in eight high schools across the state to assist students with their postsecondary goals. The Ayers Foundation is a partnering organization to Tennessee Promise in five counties.

- **Conexión Américas:** A nonprofit organization aimed at supporting the social, economic, and civic integration of Latino families in Middle Tennessee, Conexión Américas organizes the Escalera program. Escalera serves four high schools in Metro Nashville, providing students with college and career planning services and internship opportunities to promote the economic mobility of immigrant and refugee youth.

- **GEAR UP TN:** GEAR UP TN is a federally funded college access program that aims to expand the college-going culture in Tennessee. GEAR UP serves 22 counties across the state to provide college and career planning services to elementary, middle, and high school students. Services include tutoring, mentoring, college and job visits, and financial aid assistance.

- **Latino Memphis:** Latino Memphis is a nonprofit organization dedicated to connecting, collaborating, and advocating for the health, education, and justice of Latinos in Memphis. Through their Abriendo Puertas program, Latino Student Success is an after-school program serving juniors and seniors in two Memphis high schools. The program uses curriculum to help students develop and pursue their postsecondary goals.

- **Martha O’Bryan Center:** The Martha O’Bryan Center Postsecondary Success Initiative serves underrepresented and underresourced first-generation college students primarily from the Stratford and Maplewood clusters of schools in East Nashville. The initiative offers a support network to first-generation and low-income students; works to ensure that first-
generation college students stay in college and graduate; and provides first-generation college students with opportunities to achieve their post-secondary goals.

**NiswongerCARE**: This college access program in northeast Tennessee places a college adviser in 30 high schools in the region. The program utilizes a mix of near-peer advisers and graduate school interns from partnering counseling programs. Advisers hold five campaigns throughout the year including College Application Week, FAFSA Frenzy, College Planning Night, College Signing Day, and Summer Melt.

**Oasis College Connection**: The Oasis Center aims to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty through programs in youth leadership, community engagement, and college and career readiness. The Oasis College Connection program utilizes full-time staff members to mentor high school students through the postsecondary planning process and currently operates in 12 high schools in Metro Nashville.

**PEF Chattanooga**: PEF Chattanooga serves the Chattanooga and Hamilton County area. In 2009, it merged with the College Access Center to support college advisers in every high school in the county. The organization offers professional development opportunities to help advisers best serve their students. PEF Chattanooga also hosts Camp College, a retreat for rising seniors to visit Sewanee-The University of the South, and STEP-UP, an internship program for juniors and seniors.

**Project GRAD Knoxville**: This K-16 nonprofit program works with students from kindergarten through postsecondary and beyond. The organization’s College and Career Access program has 10 college and career access coaches who address barriers to success and assist students with knowledge of postsecondary options, access, pathways, applications, and career exploration processes. The Project GRAD staff also directly supports students through these processes. Additionally, two success coaches assist students once they enroll in postsecondary programs. The alumni network of Project GRAD also encourages and inspires younger students in the program.

**tnAchieves**: tnAchieves is the partnering organization to Tennessee Promise in 90 counties. The organization’s mission is to increase higher education opportunities for Tennessee students by providing last-dollar scholarships with mentor guidance. In September 2018, tnAchieves also launched a coaching model with 15 coaches who work proactively with approximately 200 students each to support their transition to college.

### Tennessee College And Career Advising Organizations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization Name</th>
<th>AdvisAI TN</th>
<th>Ayers Foundation</th>
<th>Conexión Americas Escalera</th>
<th>GEAR UP TN</th>
<th>Latino Student Success</th>
<th>Martha O’Bryan CARE</th>
<th>Niswonger CARE</th>
<th>Oasis College Connection</th>
<th>PEF Chattanooga</th>
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<td>10</td>
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#### Program Components

- **College application assistance**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **ACT registration**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **ACT preparation**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **FAFSA assistance**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **Scholarship application assistance**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **Awarding scholarships/grants**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **Planning college visits/tours**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **Planning college fairs**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **Planning college and career night event**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **Planning college signing day event**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **Summer programming**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **College transition programming**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **Connecting students to internship opportunities**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **Parent and family engagement**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **Tutoring and academic support**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **Social and emotional support services**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **Tracking student progress in high school**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
- **Tracking student progress in postsecondary**: ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️
About SCORE

The State Collaborative on Reforming Education (SCORE) is a nonpartisan nonprofit education policy and advocacy organization based in Nashville, Tennessee. SCORE was founded in 2009 by Senator Bill Frist, MD, former US Senate majority leader, and works to transform education in Tennessee so all students can achieve success in college, career, and life.

Notes

1 Lumina Foundation, "A Stronger Nation" (February 2019)
4 American School Counselor Association, "Student-to-School-Counselor Ratio 2016-2017" (May 2019)
5 Patel, Pooja, and Melissa Cinedin, "State-by-State Student-To-Counselor Ratio Maps By School District," National Association for College Admission Counseling (October 2019)
6 Tennessee Department of Education, "Voices from the Classroom: Results from the 2016 Educator Survey" (2016)
9 U.S. Department of Education "First-Generation Students: College Access, Persistence, and Postbachelor’s Outcomes" (February 2018)
10 Tennessee Department of Education
11 The Ayers Foundation
13 Gonzales, Jason, "Tennessee’s ACT retake opportunity doubles participation rates in its second year," The Tennessean. (January 2018)
14 Nashville Public Education Foundation, Tennessee College Access and Success Network "Bridge to Completion: The First Year of Nashville’s Campaign for College Success" (June 2019)