

THE COLLEGE CONNECTION NEWSLETTER

SUMMER UPDATES

WE'VE MOVED!

Our new address is:
Miller's Court
2601 N. Howard Street
Suite 210
Baltimore, MD 21218

STILL HAPPENING... VIRTUALLY!

Join us online for the **32nd annual Scholars' Luncheon** on Wednesday, July 29th. The program will kick off at 11:45 am on our [luncheon website](#).

NEW DATE!

CollegeBound will hold the **8th Grade Success Seminar** for soon-to-be 9th grade students and their families virtually on Thursday, August 6th from 11 am to 12:30 pm. The registration link will go live on Friday, July 24th on our [website](#).

NEW DATE!

The **Rising Senior Seminar** will take place virtually on Tuesday, August 11th from 2 to 3 pm. Spanish translation will be available during the event. Register [online](#).

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BUILDING BALTIMORE'S TALENT PIPELINE: FIRST COLLEGE COMPLETION COHORT NOW SENIORS

The College Completion Program launched in Summer 2017 with 44 Baltimore City Schools' graduates who received support through CollegeBound's need-based Last Dollar Grants, dedicated program staff, campus liaisons, and adult mentors. The idea behind the program was to create a comprehensive support system that would guide scholars each step of the way to earning a college degree.

Three years later, 40 of those scholars -- or 91% -- are still enrolled in college, on track to graduate next year. Overall, the program boasts an 88% retention rate for the three cohorts of 161 scholars with an additional 75 freshmen joining the program this fall. The program is positively transforming participants' college journeys.

CONNECTING SCHOLARS WITH BALTIMORE COMPANIES



[2020 Alumni Spotlight Campaign](#) - celebrating 32 alumni in honor of our 32nd annual Scholars' Luncheon

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Top pictures: Scenes from the Greater Baltimore Committee Internship Event.
Bottom picture: CollegeBound Board Chair Alicia Wilson leads a professional networking skills session with participants prior to the event.

With the program's first senior cohort comes a new focus on ensuring these scholars are connected with post-graduate opportunities. This past January, Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) President and CEO and CollegeBound board member Don Fry orchestrated the first annual GBC internship event. Twenty-one Baltimore businesses participated in the event that resulted in multiple interviews and internship offers. Positive feedback from participating companies and scholars ensure that this event will become an annual highlight of the program.

**Baltimore employers, you're looking for talent.
CollegeBound scholars have it.**

Please consider joining our efforts to ensure all scholars are employed or pursuing a post-secondary degree when they graduate next spring.

Contact Director of College Success [Jennifer Covahey](#) for more information.

SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT: CHLOE JOHNSON

College Completion Program Scholar
Western High School '17
Morgan State University '21



Chloe Johnson, a senior multimedia journalism major at Morgan State University, has taken full advantage of her college experience. Most recently, Chloe accepted a summer paid internship through the Carnegie-Knight News21 Initiative, which examines America's youth violence and the juvenile justice system. The prestigious program, run through Arizona State University's Cronkite School of Journalism, has moved to a remote format. Despite the adjustment, Chloe's investigative drive is stronger than ever. "Working remotely has been the toughest part of this experience, but despite everything, I have witnessed a major growth in my own reporting skills! Everyday I'm challenging myself to do new things, learn new skills. Even with everything happening in today's world, this opportunity has reminded me that there is still much more work to be done for our country's

juvenile justice system."

In addition to her coursework, Chloe is a staff editor for Morgan State University's Spokesman student newspaper and works in the newsroom at WBAL-TV. As a member of the College Completion Program's first cohort, Chloe has given back to the program as a peer mentor for fellow program participants attending Morgan. You may have also spotted her on a Baltimore City [billboard](#) or [bus stop](#) as part of CollegeBound's spring scholarship media campaign!

2020 ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

CollegeBound has supported thousands of Baltimore City public school students along their paths to and through college since 1988. This year, on each of the 32 business days leading up to the 32nd annual Scholars' Luncheon, we are celebrating one CollegeBound alum on the [luncheon website](#) and across social media.



"As a first-generation college student, CollegeBound was the inspiration that I needed to pursue my dreams. This organization told a young black man that he too can succeed and lead the way for his siblings to follow. It was profoundly helpful to know that this organization believed in me. That belief paved the way for me to become the person I am today."

Antwan Little

Current Position: Computer System Analyst, Northrop Grumman Corporation
Baltimore City Public High School: National Academy Foundation
Undergraduate Institution: Towson University

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@COLLEGEBOUNDFND



Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) to check out this year's spotlights!

PIVOTING DURING THE PANDEMIC:

NEW FORMAT, INCREASED SUPPORT

In collaboration with Baltimore City Schools, over the last few months CollegeBound's College Access Program Specialists (CAPS) rose to the challenge of adapting to an online advising format at hyper speed. CAPS worked closely with Baltimore City Schools' seniors to navigate the financial aid process, including applying to CollegeBound's \$3 million in scholarship and grant offerings (scholarship applications increase by 20% compared to last year's application total). A list of 2020 scholarship winners is available [here](#).

PREPPED AND PUMPED FOR COLLEGE

The College Completion Program is also prepared to continue to deliver support in person and virtually this fall. [The emergency fund](#) continues to be a key resource for scholars in college. Since the onset of the pandemic, we have granted 54 emergency funding requests, mostly for grocery assistance. College Completion

Advisor Laurianne Brown shares that "the incoming freshmen are in a unique position, having completed their high school careers online and poised to begin their college experiences online."

The Transition to College Retreat for incoming freshmen will occur online in August. Laurianne adds, "The most impactful moments at past retreats occurred during the unstructured time between sessions. We are being very purposeful in manifesting those moments through icebreakers, group activities, and peer-led conversations about issues that students are likely to face. College is still a new adventure and great accomplishment for these scholars, many of whom are first-generation, and they should experience the same excitement for the next chapter, regardless of what the pandemic poses."

Thank you for supporting CollegeBound and the talented Baltimore City Schools' students and graduates we serve!

2020 COLLEGEBOUND FOUNDATION SCHOLARS' LUNCHEON



JOIN US VIRTUALLY!

Wednesday, July 29th at 11:45 am for the [2020 CollegeBound Scholars' Luncheon](#).

No registration is required. Tune in directly on the website on the 29th!