



TN Achieves

Changing Lives, Transforming Communities



MISSION

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The mission of tnAchieves is to provide every Tennessee public high school graduate the opportunity to attend college with mentor support.

ENDORSEMENTS

"The family goal is for me to be the first one in my family to attend college and receive my bachelor's degree. My parents were not presented with the same opportunities that I have today. I am excited about entering into this partnership with knoxAchieves. I chose partnership to describe the relationship that I will have with knoxAchieves because I know that we will be on this journey together. And partnership means that both knoxAchieves and I are committed to my future."



Tyler, Karno H.S.

"knoxAchieves has proven to be life changing for many students and families in our area and appears to be providing a richer pipeline of students to enter the workforce someday. The Knoxville Chamber supports tnAchieves as it provides college access outside of Knox County."

Mike Edwards, CEO and President, Knoxville Chamber

"The impact of knoxAchieves has provided a much needed helping hand to first-generation college going students, students with financial hardships, and students that need just a little mentoring to be extremely successful college students and eventually college graduates. Roane State is proud to partner with the tnAchieves program as it expands into other communities."

Dr. Gary Goff, President, Roane State Community College

"Providing our citizens with an opportunity to obtain a college degree or enhance their skills not only changes their lives but makes our state a better place for all of us. Increased educational attainment is essential to our economic success. tnAchieves is a two-year investment with a 40-year impact."

Bill Haslam, Governor, State of Tennessee

"Pellissippi State has enrolled over 400 students who are participating in the knoxAchieves program and we believe these students are better oriented to college life than other students and will have a better chance to succeed. I support tnAchieves in its efforts to expand the program and believe that the program can be instrumental in making college more accessible to these potential students."

Dr. Allen Edwards, President, Pellissippi State Community College

"tnAchieves is the most promising college-access program I've seen. It's also probably the most cost-effective. The assignment of a strong mentor to each student is what really sets this program apart."

Oliver "Buzz" Thomas, President, Great Schools Partnership

"The expansion of knoxachieves aligns with Tennessee's focus to increase the number of students enrolling and succeeding in college. This initiative not only provides opportunities to assist students in enrolling in college, but it also strengthens partnerships between K-12 schools, higher education institutions, businesses and community organizations. THEC is proud to partner with fellow Tennessee College Access and Success Network member tnAchieves as they carry out this important work."

Rich Rhoda, Executive Director, Tennessee Higher Education Commission

"tnAchieves transforms lives by making the opportunity for higher education a reality for many young people that could otherwise easily lose hope. In the process, it helps our community reach toward its full potential. It provides an excellent return on our investment!"

J. Laurens Tullock, President, Cornerstone Foundation of Knoxville

"As communities understand the growing connection between educational attainment and economic development, supporting higher education opportunities for their high school graduates becomes a real strategy that can make a difference. Last dollar scholarships are an investment that will pay dividends far in excess of other kinds of economic development incentives."

John Morgan, Chancellor, Tennessee Board of Regents

"knoxAchieves is a powerful tool in helping students attend college and further prepare for the increased demands of the 21st Century world. The opportunity to receive financial assistance for college in a challenging economic climate, combined with meaningful interaction with veteran business professionals as mentors is truly extraordinary. I'm excited that with the expansion of this program to students across Tennessee, knoxAchieves will now help even more young people stay on track to succeed in college, in career, and in life. knoxAchieves enables our students to envision a brighter, more successful future - and then helps them make that future a reality."

Dr. Jim McIntyre, Superintendent Knox County Schools

PROGRAM



"I have a strong desire to build skills and knowledge so I can become the first in my family to earn a college degree. Since I am from a large family, we do not have extra money for college. Without help from KnoxAchieves, I may not be able to attend college. Since I am not from the United States, I had many questions about college. KnoxAchieves was very helpful in explaining how to get into college."

*-Mugabonihera,
Central H.S.*

OVERVIEW

- tnAchieves seeks to send the student to college who would otherwise lack the opportunity.
- tnAchieves is a last-dollar scholarship and mentoring program. Neither cost nor encouragement should be obstacles to college access.
- tnAchieves provides up to \$3000 annually for community college tuition.
- 100% of donations goes to scholarships. (Other donors are funding all administrative costs).

3 KEY COMPONENTS

- Private donors contribute funds to provide the last dollar for up to five semesters of community college tuition.
- Volunteers serve as mentors to our students to eliminate the barriers associated with access to post-secondary education.
- Our students are required to give back one day of community service per semester.

MENTORS

- The mentoring component sets tnAchieves apart from other programs.
- Our mentors support the student through admission and financial aid paperwork, motivate the student to meet deadlines, and perhaps most importantly, encourage the student to reach his/her potential.
- Average mentor spends 10-15 hours per year and serves four students.

REQUIREMENTS

- While all Tennessee public high school seniors are eligible for tnAchieves, preference is given to first generation college attendees.
- No GPA or ACT requirements.
- Fund developmental courses.
- Full requirement details are available at www.tnachieves.org.

SUCCESS



"I do not have a fortunate enough family that could pay for college if needed, so I have never even thought about going to college straight out of high school. I always had in mind that I would have to work for a year or two and try and save up enough money to even go to college.

I've always dreamed about going to college and not worrying about how I will pay for it, now, thanks to KnoxAchieves, this dream for me can come true."

-Whitney, Powell H.S.

SUCCESS

■ Since launching in October 2008, KnoxAchieves has worked with over 2,300 applicants and placed 711 students into community college.

■ 608 students currently enrolled.

■ 408 students from the Class of 2010.

■ Retained 200 students from the Class of 2009.

■ KnoxAchieves provided \$218,763 in scholarships the initial year.

■ Average cost is \$370 a semester per student.

■ KnoxAchieves has offered 1,071 scholarships to the Class of 2011.

■ 34% increase from last year and a 114% increase from our initial year in applications.

■ 65% being first generation college attendees.

■ 59% coming from families who earn less than \$50,000 annually.

■ 550 new students forecasted to begin college in the fall.

■ 275 current mentors.

OTHER WINS

■ 8,000 hours of community service completed by students.

■ Piloting a program for non-traditional students.

■ Expanded to Blount and Madison counties.

■ Piloting a summer bridge program.

RETENTION

■ Retention rate of nearly 65% while Tennessee statewide retention is 51% and the country's level is 50%.

■ Hold a mandatory "Transition from High School to College" event at each community college.

■ Hold focus group meetings with our college students.

PARTNERS



“Ever since I was little I would tell my mom I wanted to be everything from the president to a teacher. I later realized all the things I wanted to accomplish in my life meant I had to be committed to school and my future. Neither my mom nor my dad ever demanded I focus on school or punished me if I slacked off. It was always up to me, and that never seemed hard because I have such a passion for learning. If it wasn't for KnoxAchieves I may not have the money to further my education and go on to accomplish all those things I said I would.”

-Caitlin, Karns H.S.

■ Knox County Schools

Supported by the Knox County Superintendent, KnoxAchieves serves all 13 Knox County public high schools and works closely with administrators, counselors, and teachers to ensure we are reaching our target students. We rely heavily on our relationships with the guidance counselors at each school to reach out to our students.

■ Pellissippi, Roane and Walters State Community Colleges

KnoxAchieves has a strong relationship with each of the three community colleges and their employees. Many employees even serve as mentors. Each year, KnoxAchieves hosts FAFSA filing days at PSCC. This event, held the last two Sundays in January, gives our students and their families the opportunity to file FAFSA with financial aid representatives from all three of our represented community colleges in the room. They answer questions and eliminate the intimidation factor often associated with FAFSA filing.

Each community college allows KnoxAchieves to host a “Transition from High School to College” event at their campus. The colleges play a large role in determining the

structure of these events and provide institution specific information for the different sections. Recruiters from each college also attend the final team meetings in March. These “experts” assist our students in filing their applications as well as scheduling advising appointments and registering for classes. They understand the goal is attending college and speak in generalities when sharing this information with students and their families.

Every spring the KnoxAchieves staff meets with every student that has failed to meet the academic requirements. The meetings are held on campus and serve as a chance for the student to explain his/her reasoning behind the poor grades, but more importantly, they give KnoxAchieves the opportunity to assist the student in finding an appropriate avenue for improvement.

■ Business and Community-Based Organizations

Being rooted in workforce development, KnoxAchieves has a strong relationship with the Knox County business community, including the **Knoxville Chamber Partnership (KCP)**. We participate in many of KCP's events that raise awareness about education and workforce development. KnoxAchieves is also discussed with companies that consider locating/relocating to our area. KCP and various companies across our community also have a strong mentor presence with KnoxAchieves. KnoxAchieves also partners with community-based organizations like **ProjectGRAD** and the **Boys and Girls Club of the Tennessee Valley** to help their students eliminate any financial barriers associated with college access.

EXPANSION



"My dad lost his job with a company he had been with for many years. As a result of the non-compete agreement he signed, our family decided to move to Knoxville in July of the same year. We were forced to live off our life savings in order to get by. I took it upon myself to get a part-time job while going to school because I knew that college expenses would now be my responsibility. I am very grateful knoxAchieves can assist during these tough times and help make college costs feasible."

-Daniel, Bearden H.S.

tnACHIEVES

■ Total Number of Public High Schools: 325

■ Total Number of 2009 Graduates: 60,371

■ Projected Number of tennesseeAchieves recipients:
Year One: 5,960
Year Two: 9,833
(12% of total TN graduates)

■ Initial Projected Cost: \$3,924,993

■ Subsequent Year Projected Cost (with two classes): \$6,476,238

■ Projected Number of Mentors: 1,811

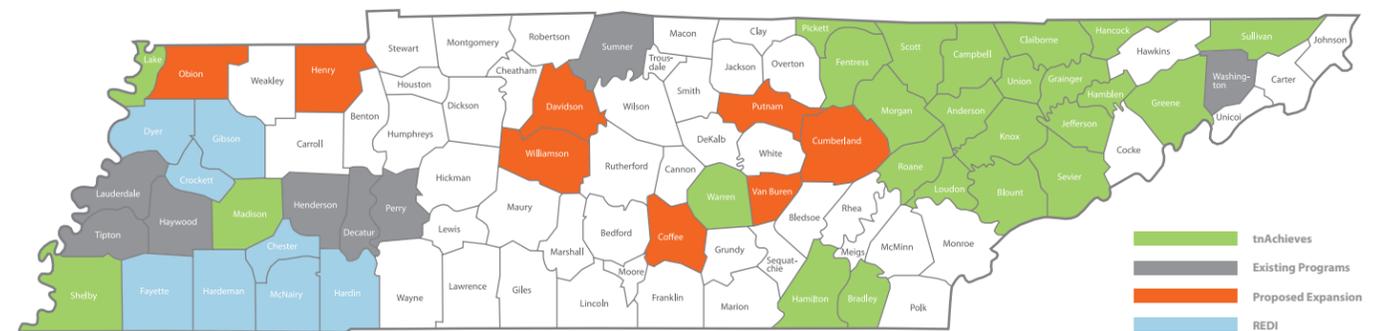
■ Students would be allowed to attend any community college in the TBR system.

We may provide:

1. Financial Assistance
2. Mentor Training and Support
3. All Materials (e.g. applications)
4. Relationships with Community Colleges
5. Implementation of Program in High Schools
6. All Metrics
7. FAFSA Days
8. Retention Programs
9. Website
10. 501c3 Status and Liability
11. Fund Management
12. Administration of Scholarships

We ask you to provide:

1. Mentors
2. Development Councils
3. Access to High School Leaders
4. Information to Stakeholders
5. Funding



STATEWIDE PROJECTIONS

	No. Of Grads	tnA Apps	No. Entering Fall	Spring Retention	Total Cost (Y1)	No. Entering Subsequent Years	Spring Retention	Total Cost In Subsequent Years	Unfunded Cost	Funded Cost
Anderson	905	181	91	71	\$59,603	149	116	\$98,345	\$49,173	\$49,173
Bedford	444	89	44	35	\$29,242	73	57	\$48,249	\$48,249	
Benton	188	38	19	15	\$12,382	31	24	\$20,430	\$20,430	
Bledsoe	110	22	11	9	\$7,245	18	14	\$11,954	\$11,954	
Blount	1280	256	128	100	\$84,301	211	165	\$139,096	\$0	\$139,096
Bradley	903	181	90	70	\$59,472	149	116	\$98,128	\$0	\$98,128
Campbell	335	67	34	26	\$22,063	55	43	\$36,404	\$18,202	\$18,202
Cannon	155	31	16	12	\$10,208	26	20	\$16,844	\$16,844	
Carroll	369	74	37	29	\$24,302	61	47	\$40,099	\$40,099	
Carter	539	108	54	42	\$35,499	89	69	\$58,573	\$58,573	
Cheatham	434	87	43	34	\$28,583	72	56	\$47,162	\$47,162	
Chester	165	33	17	13	\$10,867	27	21	\$17,930	\$17,930	
Claiborne	295	59	30	23	\$19,429	49	38	\$32,057	\$16,029	\$16,029
Clay	86	17	9	7	\$5,664	14	11	\$9,346	\$9,346	
Cocke	433	87	43	34	\$28,517	71	56	\$47,054	\$47,054	
Coffee	645	129	65	50	\$42,480	106	83	\$70,092	\$70,092	
Crockett	215	43	22	17	\$14,160	35	28	\$23,364	\$23,364	
Cumberland	420	84	42	33	\$27,661	69	54	\$45,641	\$45,641	
Davidson	3436	687	344	268	\$226,295	567	442	\$373,387	\$373,387	
Decatur	111	22	11	9	\$7,310	18	14	\$12,062	\$0	\$12,062
Dekalb	167	33	17	13	\$10,999	28	21	\$18,148	\$18,148	
Dickson	552	110	55	43	\$36,355	91	71	\$59,985	\$59,985	
Dyer	432	86	43	34	\$28,452	71	56	\$46,945	\$46,945	
Fayette	187	37	19	15	\$12,316	31	24	\$20,321	\$20,321	
Fentress	70	14	7	5	\$4,610	12	9	\$7,607	\$0	\$7,607
Franklin	343	69	34	27	\$22,590	57	44	\$37,273	\$37,273	
Gibson	563	113	56	44	\$37,079	93	72	\$61,181	\$61,181	
Giles	292	58	29	23	\$19,231	48	38	\$31,731	\$31,731	
Grainger	230	46	23	18	\$15,148	38	30	\$24,994	\$12,497	\$12,497
Greene	776	155	78	61	\$51,107	128	100	\$84,327	\$84,327	
Grundy	152	30	15	12	\$10,011	25	20	\$16,518	\$16,518	
Hamblen	521	104	52	41	\$34,313	86	67	\$28,308	\$17,157	\$17,157
Hamilton	2367	473	237	185	\$155,891	391	305	\$257,220	\$157,220	\$100,000
Hancock	60	12	6	5	\$3,952	10	8	\$6,520	\$0	\$6,520
Hardeman	259	52	26	20	\$17,058	43	33	\$28,145	\$28,145	
Hardin	256	51	26	20	\$16,860	42	33	\$27,819	\$27,819	
Hawkins	539	108	54	42	\$35,499	89	69	\$58,573	\$58,573	
Haywood	184	37	18	14	\$12,118	30	24	\$19,995	\$19,995	
Henderson	301	60	30	23	\$19,824	50	39	\$32,709	\$32,709	
Henry	336	67	34	26	\$22,129	55	43	\$36,513	\$36,513	
Hickman	275	55	28	21	\$18,112	45	35	\$29,884	\$29,884	
Houston	109	22	11	9	\$7,179	18	14	\$11,845	\$11,845	
Humphrey	215	43	22	17	\$14,160	35	28	\$23,364	\$23,364	
Jackson	121	24	12	9	\$7,969	20	16	\$13,149	\$13,149	
Jefferson	485	97	49	38	\$31,942	80	62	\$52,704	\$26,352	\$26,352
Johnson	181	36	18	14	\$11,921	30	23	\$19,669	\$19,669	
Knox	3500	700	350	273	\$230,510	578	450	\$380,342	\$0	\$380,342
Lake	46	9	5	4	\$3,030	8	6	\$4,999	\$0	\$4,999
Lauderdale	255	51	26	20	\$16,794	42	33	\$27,711	\$27,711	

Average rate per semester \$370

Retention
Fall-Spring 78%
Fall-Fall 65%

	No. Of Grads	tnA Apps	No. Entering Fall	Spring Retention	Total Cost (Y1)	No. Entering Subsequent Years	Spring Retention	Total Cost In Subsequent Years	Unfunded Cost	Funded Cost
Lawrence	467	93	47	36	\$30,757	77	60	\$50,748	\$50,748	
Lewis	114	23	11	9	\$7,508	19	15	\$12,388	\$12,388	
Lincoln	312	62	31	24	\$20,548	51	40	\$33,905	\$33,905	
Loudon	475	95	48	37	\$31,284	78	61	\$51,618	\$25,809	\$25,809
Macon	242	48	24	19	\$15,938	40	31	\$26,298	\$26,298	
Madison	879	176	88	69	\$57,891	145	113	\$95,520	\$0	\$95,520
Marion	226	45	23	18	\$14,884	37	29	\$24,559	\$24,559	
Marshall	392	78	39	31	\$25,817	65	50	\$42,598	\$42,598	
Maury	714	143	71	56	\$47,024	118	92	\$77,590	\$77,590	
McMinn	497	99	50	39	\$32,732	82	64	\$54,008	\$54,008	
McNairy	324	65	32	25	\$21,339	53	42	\$35,209	\$35,209	
Meigs	111	22	11	9	\$7,310	18	14	\$12,062	\$12,062	
Monroe	512	102	51	40	\$33,720	84	66	\$55,639	\$55,639	
Montgomery	1696	339	170	132	\$111,699	280	218	\$184,303	\$184,303	
Moore	92	18	9	7	\$6,059	15	12	\$9,998	\$9,998	
Morgan	360	72	36	28	\$23,710	59	46	\$39,121	\$19,561	\$19,561
Obion	332	66	33	26	\$21,866	55	43	\$36,078	\$36,078	
Overton	229	46	23	18	\$15,082	38	29	\$24,885	\$24,885	
Perry	97	19	10	8	\$6,388	16	12	\$10,541	\$0	\$10,541
Pickett	40	8	4	3	\$2,634	7	5	\$4,347	\$0	\$4,347
Polk	165	33	17	13	\$10,867	27	21	\$17,930	\$17,930	
Putnam	755	151	76	59	\$49,724	125	97	\$82,045	\$82,045	
Rhea	316	63	32	25	\$20,812	52	41	\$34,339	\$34,339	
Roane	440	88	44	34	\$28,978	73	57	\$47,814	\$23,907	\$23,907
Robertson	619	124	62	48	\$40,767	102	80	\$67,266	\$67,266	
Rutherford	2649	530	265	207	\$174,463	437	341	\$287,864	\$287,864	
Scott	280	56	28	22	\$18,441	46	36	\$30,427	\$0	\$30,427
Sequatchie	147	29	15	11	\$9,681	24	19	\$15,974	\$15,974	
Sevier	845	169	85	66	\$55,652	139	109	\$91,825	\$45,913	\$45,913
Shelby	9286	1857	929	724	\$611,576	1532	1195	\$1,009,100	\$984,100	\$25,000
Smith	232	46	23	18	\$15,280	38	30	\$25,211	\$25,211	
Stewart	193	39	19	15	\$12,711	32	25	\$20,973	\$20,973	
Sullivan	1621	324	162	126	\$106,759	267	209	\$176,152	\$176,152	
Sumner	1701	340	170	133	\$112,028	281	219	\$184,846	\$184,846	
Tipton	753	151	75	59	\$49,593	124	97	\$81,828	\$81,828	
Trousdale	102	20	10	8	\$6,718	17	13	\$11,084	\$11,084	
Unicoi	66	13	7	5	\$4,347	11	8	\$7,172	\$7,172	
Union	200	40	20	16	\$13,172	33	26	\$21,734	\$10,867	\$10,867
Van Buren	78	16	8	6	\$5,137	13	10	\$8,476	\$8,476	
Warren	443	89	44	35	\$29,176	73	57	\$48,140	\$48,140	
Washington	1104	221	110	86	\$72,709	182	142	\$119,971	\$119,971	
Wayne	211	42	21	16	\$13,896	35	27	\$22,929	\$22,929	
Weakley	293	59	29	23	\$19,297	48	38	\$31,840	\$31,840	
White	241	48	24	19	\$15,872	40	31	\$26,189	\$26,189	
Williamson	2288	458	229	178	\$150,688	378	294	\$248,635	\$248,635	
Wilson	1215	243	122	95	\$80,020	200	156	\$132,033	\$132,033	
Total			5960	4648	\$3,924,993	9833	7670	\$6,476,238	\$5,301,612	\$1,208,364



TN Achieves

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