

Access to quality education is vital for empowering underserved communities. Below is a curated list of free educational programs and resources available both nationwide and at the community level:

1. **[Let's Get Ready \(LGR\)](#)** LGR is a nonprofit organization offering free SAT preparation, admissions counseling, and other support services to low-income high school students. Programs are based at colleges and staffed by college student volunteers. LGR operates in multiple cities, including Boston, New York City, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C.

2. **[Bard Early Colleges](#)** Bard College operates early college programs that allow students to earn up to 60 college credits alongside their high school diploma. Campuses are located in several cities, including:

- **Baltimore, MD:** [Bard High School Early College Baltimore](#)
- **Bronx, NY:** [Bard High School Early College Bronx](#)
- **Brooklyn, NY:** [Bard High School Early College Brooklyn](#)
- **Cleveland, OH:** [Bard High School Early College Cleveland](#)
- **Hudson Valley, NY:** [Bard High School Early College Hudson Valley](#)
- **Newark, NJ:** [Bard High School Early College Newark](#)
- **New Orleans, LA:** [Bard High School Early College New Orleans](#)
- **Queens, NY:** [Bard High School Early College Queens](#)
- **Washington, D.C.:** [Bard High School Early College DC](#)

These programs provide a rigorous curriculum aimed at preparing students for college-level work.

3. **[Peer Health Exchange \(PHE\)](#)** PHE partners with public high schools to provide health education workshops led by trained college student volunteers. The program operates in several cities, including:

- **Boston, MA**
- **Chicago, IL**
- **Detroit, MI**
- **Los Angeles, CA**
- **New York, NY**
- **Washington, D.C.**

While focusing on health education, PHE equips students with knowledge and skills that contribute to overall well-being and academic success.

4. **[CodeDay](#)** CodeDay is a nationwide program that provides students with opportunities to explore coding and computer science through workshops and hackathons. Events are held in various cities, including:

- **Atlanta, GA**
- **Chicago, IL**
- **Houston, TX**

- **Los Angeles, CA**
- **Miami, FL**
- **Philadelphia, PA**
- **Washington, D.C.**

These events are designed to be beginner-friendly and encourage students to develop an interest in technology and coding.

5. **Upward Bound** Upward Bound is a federally funded program that provides fundamental support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. The program offers academic tutoring, counseling, and cultural enrichment activities. Upward Bound operates in various cities across the United States, including those listed.

6. **TRIO Educational Talent Search** This federally funded program identifies and assists individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who have the potential to succeed in higher education. Services include academic, career, and financial counseling. The program operates in multiple cities nationwide.

7. **Minds Matter** Minds Matter is a nonprofit organization that offers a rigorous academic program for high school students from low-income families. The program includes tutoring, mentoring, and summer enrichment programs. Chapters are located in several cities, including:

- **Boston, MA**
- **Chicago, IL**
- **Cleveland, OH**
- **Denver, CO**
- **Detroit, MI**
- **Houston, TX**
- **Los Angeles, CA**
- **New York, NY**

8. **AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)** AVID is a nonprofit organization that provides professional development and curriculum resources to schools to prepare students for college readiness. Many schools in major cities implement the AVID program to support underserved students.

9. **Boys & Girls Clubs of America** Many Boys & Girls Clubs offer programs focused on academic success, including tutoring, homework help, and college preparation workshops. With locations in numerous cities, they provide accessible resources to support students' educational goals.

10. **YMCA Youth Programs** The YMCA offers various youth programs that include academic support, leadership development, and college readiness initiatives. Many YMCAs in major cities provide these services to help students succeed academically.

11. **Rural and Low-Income School Program (RLIS)** Provides grant funds to rural local educational agencies (LEAs) serving concentrations of children from low-income families, aiming to enhance educational opportunities.

12. [Columbia University Irving Medical Center \(CUIMC\) Community Programs](#) Offers a range of community initiatives, including college prep programs for youth and school-based dental clinics, to support educational and health needs.
13. [Save the Children's U.S. Education Programs](#) Focuses on early learning opportunities, school-age programs, and summer learning to help children in rural America succeed academically.
14. [Communities In Schools \(CIS\)](#) Surrounds students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life through integrated student support services.
15. [College/Underserved Community Partnership Program \(CUPP\)](#) Enlists colleges and universities to assist underserved communities through student internships, practicums, and capstone projects, providing vital services at no cost.
16. [Community-Based Participatory Research Program \(CBPR\)](#) Supports collaborative interventions involving researchers and community members to address health disparities, enhancing educational outreach and community health.
17. [Health Workforce Programs by HRSA](#) Offers scholarships and loan repayment programs to individuals, and grants to organizations, to strengthen the health workforce in underserved communities.
18. [Educational and Community-Based Programs Workgroup Designs](#) strategies to reach people outside traditional health care settings, including schools and community organizations, to promote health education.
19. [Community-Based Programs](#) - Rural Health Information Hub Features programs targeting childhood health and positive health behaviors for rural families, integrating educational components to promote well-being.
20. [Service Learning Programs at Albany Medical College](#) Involves medical students in underserved communities through service learning, combining medical education with community service.
21. [Community Service Learning - Tufts University School of Medicine](#) Engages students in addressing health disparities through programs focusing on medically underserved populations, combining education with community service.
22. [Must-Have Resources for Low-Income College Students](#) Provides a comprehensive guide offering resources and programs to help low-income students combat insecurities related to food, housing, and tuition.
23. [Colleges Offering Free Tuition for Low-Income Students](#) Several institutions provide free tuition to students from low-income families, ensuring access to higher education without financial burden.

24. [Help Available for Low-Income Students – Continuing Studies](#) Explores educational resources and financial aid options, including scholarships and state aid, to support low-income students in pursuing higher education.

25. [Full List of Programs - Social Programs that Work](#) Offers evidence-based programs, including home visitation for low-income families, aiming to improve educational and developmental outcomes for children.

26. [Find Aid You Need | HESC - NY.gov](#) Provides information on institutional grants and scholarships to help families afford college, emphasizing the importance of completing the FAFSA annually.

27. [Free Colleges/Universities in the U.S.](#) Highlights institutions offering free tuition programs, particularly for students from low-income backgrounds, to promote higher education accessibility.

28. [Community Programs & Initiatives at CUIMC](#) Offers programs like college prep for youth and school-based clinics, aiming to support educational and health needs in the community.

29. [Community-Based Participatory Research Program \(CBPR\) by NIMHD](#) Supports collaborative interventions involving researchers and community members to address health disparities, enhancing educational outreach.

30. [Educational and Community-Based Programs Workgroup by ODPHP](#) Designs strategies to reach people outside traditional health care settings, including schools and community organizations, to promote health education.

31. [Service Learning Programs at Tufts University School of Medicine](#) Engages students in addressing health disparities through programs focusing on medically underserved populations, combining education with community service.

32. [Community-Based Programs - Rural Health Information Hub](#) Features programs targeting childhood health and positive health behaviors for rural families, integrating educational components to promote well-being.

33. [Henry George School](#)

Since 1932, tens of thousands of students have taken courses in economics and social philosophy at the Henry George School, gaining insights into the nature of society and practical solutions for our seemingly intractable social problems. Classes, offered in English and in Spanish, attract students from all walks of life, and all levels of academic achievement.

34. [LA'S BEST](#)

LA's BEST – Better Educated Students for Tomorrow – is a nationally recognized after school education, enrichment and recreation program serving more than 28,000 children with the greatest needs and fewest resources throughout the City of Los Angeles. LA's BEST After School Enrichment Program provides a safe haven for children, ages 5 to 12, at over 200 elementary school sites each day during the critical hours after school, providing academic support and the opportunity to participate in a wide array of enrichment activities – at no cost to parents.

Established in 1988, LA's BEST is a partnership including the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Unified School District and the private sector.

35. [Manhattan Educational Opportunity Center](#)

Manhattan Educational Opportunity Center - administered by Borough of Manhattan Community College. The City University of New York, the Manhattan Educational Opportunity Center is a 40 year old educational institution that serves the vocational and academic needs of low income New Yorkers. Located conveniently in the Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. State Office Building on 125th Street in Manhattan.

36. [Adult Education Center](#)

- **Mid-Manhattan Adult Learning Center**
- **Bronx Adult Learning Center**
- **Brooklyn Adult Learning Center**
- **Queens Adult Learning Center**
- [Mount Vernon Adult Education](#)

Adult Career & Continuing Education Services

- **NY State:** <https://www.acces.nysed.gov/>
- **NY City:** <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/other-ways-to-graduate/adult-education>

37. [Harlem Center for Education](#)

The Harlem Center for Education serves economically disadvantaged youth and adults in New York City in pursuing higher education and career achievement by providing them with college, career and financial counseling through workshops, classes and personal assistance. The Harlem Center for Education has served the Harlem community for over 40 years, and has assisted thousands of young people and adults to obtain their high school diplomas and go on to college. HCE has helped participants gain admission to over 175 different colleges and universities across the country, and has averaged a college placement rate of 80% over the years. HCE serves over 1,000 students yearly at its offices in East Harlem

38. [Mentoring USA](#)

Mentoring USA is closing the mentoring gap by fueling the quantity & quality of mentoring relationships for America's young people.

39. [City Squash](#)

CitySquash is a not-for-profit after-school program based in the Bronx at Fordham University. CitySquash serves 100 elementary, middle and high school students. Our year-round, intensive programming combines squash, tutoring, mentoring, community service, travel, culture, nutrition, independent school placement, employment training and college prep.

40. [CAMBA](#)

CAMBA is a non-profit agency that provides services that connect people with opportunities to enhance their quality of life. CAMBA offers integrated services and programs in: Economic

Development, Education & Youth Development, Family Support Services, Health Services, Housing Services & Development, Legal Services. 50 locations in New York City, including more than 15 school-based programs.

41. [Prep for Prep](#)

Prep for Prep is a leadership development and gifted education program dedicated to expanding educational access to students of color.

42. [St. Joseph Center - Los Angeles](#)

Code Talk

- **Description:**CodeTalk is a 16-week digital web technology vocational program for low-income, underserved women of all age groups. The program provides the fundamentals of front end web development - how to code and build websites, the skills, tools, training, professional development and support so that our graduates can pursue entry level positions in the technology sector.
- [St Joseph Center - Code Talk](#)

Bread & Roses Training Kitchen

- **Description:**Bread & Roses Training Kitchen is a vocational initiative that educates low-income adults in kitchen safety, culinary techniques and professional and life skills to help them obtain jobs in the food service industry. Classical cooking techniques are taught through 8 weeks of hands-on classes led by experienced local chefs, followed by a 4-week internship placement at a local restaurant.
- [St Joseph Ctr - Bread & Roses Training Kitchen](#)

Fortifi LA

- **Description:** Fortifi LA is a technology job training program offered by St. Joseph Center in Los Angeles. It is designed for individuals who have experienced the justice system and those affected by economic hardship. The program aims to equip participants with cutting-edge technology skills, professional development, and support to help them overcome obstacles and reach their full potential.
- [St Joseph Ctr - Fortifi LA](#)

43. Local Community College Outreach Programs Many community colleges offer pre-college programs, such as dual enrollment or summer bridge programs, to help high school students prepare for college. For example:

- **Los Angeles, CA:** Los Angeles City College offers dual enrollment programs for high school students.
- **Houston, TX:** Houston Community College provides a Summer Bridge Program to assist students in the transition to college.

44. State-Specific Initiatives Some states have initiatives to support low-income students in accessing higher education. For instance, Washington state notifies low-income students by 10th grade that they automatically qualify for free college tuition, encouraging early consideration of higher education.

Note: Availability and eligibility for these programs may vary by location. It's recommended to visit the official websites or contact the organizations directly for the most current information and to confirm program details in your specific city.