



Build a Better Future for Saint Louis by Joining the Board of Directors at Access Academies!



Who We Are

Access was founded in 2005 by a group of St. Louisans convinced that education was the most enduring path out of poverty. Embracing an innovative model that emphasized longer school days, a challenging enrichment curriculum, and 11+ years of individualized counseling, they started the first academy with 15 students in a single South City middle school.

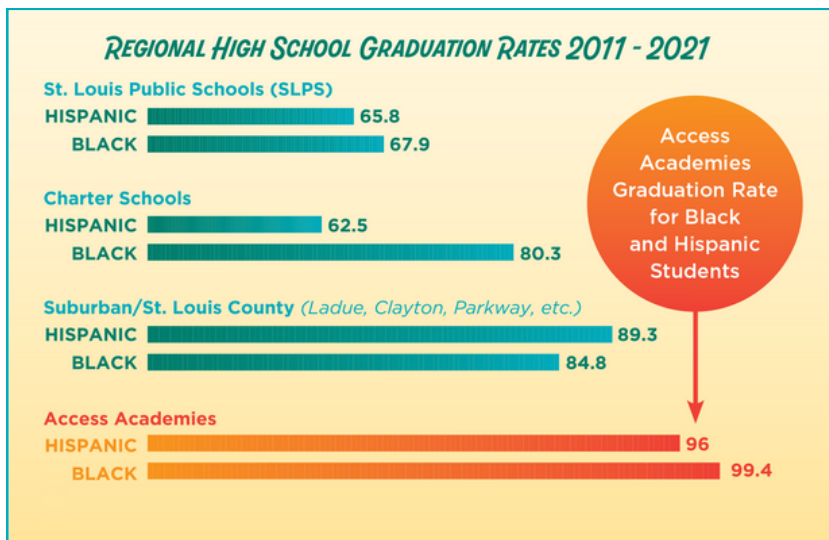
Our Vision

Access envisions a vibrant St. Louis community where equity in education allows every child to think, dream, and achieve big.

Our Mission

Access propels middle school students who have been historically underserved through high school and on to college and career success with enrichment, counseling, and scholarships.

Help Us Make an Even Greater Impact



Our Three Pillars Empower Youth Success

Enrichment

Access offers over 1,000 hours of after-school and summer enrichment programs to challenge students in important STEM subjects like robotics, coding, and computer science, as well as in key areas such as leadership and character development, entrepreneurship, and the arts.

Counseling

Starting in 6th grade and continuing through college, our Graduate Support Directors build strong, enduring relationships with each student, providing individualized mentoring, guidance, and advocacy at every step of their 11+ year educational journey.

Scholarships

At Access, we believe in equity: that every student should have every chance to thrive every day. Since our founding, Access has contributed more than \$9 million in financial scholarships to high school and post-secondary students. It's an investment that reduces financial barriers for our families and uplifts the St. Louis region.



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Why Join Our Board



Use Your Skills to Make a Generational Impact in Our Region



Grow Your Network and Get Connected to Other Leaders Across the Broader Community



Broaden Your Thinking and Your Leadership Capacity

Board Commitment

- Commit to a 3-year term on the Access Board
- Attend and actively participate in 75% of all Access Board and committee meetings. The Access Board meets 5-6 times per year and committees meet either bi-monthly or monthly
- Provide support and feedback to the Executive Director, staff, and fellow Board Members
- Actively recruit a replacement Board member when your term is ending
- Be responsible for at least one relationship-building activity per quarter (i.e., invite potential supporters to coffee to meet with the Executive Director, etc.)
- Give an annual financial contribution to the best of your ability, considering Access as one of your top charities for financial support
- Attend Celebration Dinner and other fundraisers

Board Member Qualities

Mission-Driven Advocates

Our Board Members believe in and are active advocates and ambassadors for the vision, mission, and values of Access Academies. They share their personal and professional networks and help identify and cultivate relationships to support Access' organizational needs.

Stewards of Access

Our Board Members utilize their expertise and skillsets, as well as their time and talent to support the specific needs of the organization, including:

- Providing financial oversight to ensure resources are managed effectively.
- Reviewing the budget and periodic financial reports, including longer-range forecasts.
- Supporting fundraising efforts

Skillsets Needed

- Donor and Board Development
- Communications/Marketing
- Education and Evaluation
- Strategic Planning and Governance

