



## **Rutgers Future Scholars**

Since it's founding in 2008, Rutgers Future Scholars (RFS) has been a Signature Program supported through the President's Office.

Each year, 215 first-generation students are selected from the host communities of Rutgers: Camden, Newark, New Brunswick, Piscataway, and a 2016 expansion to Rahway.

The successful RFS approach supports academically promising students from middle school through high school with a five-year interdisciplinary and holistic preparatory curriculum inclusive of:



Over the course of the program scholars participate in Academic Year Programming, Saturday Academies and Summer Institutes.

RFS Scholars who successfully complete the pre-college program, graduate high school and gain acceptance to Rutgers receive a tuition assistance scholarship (in addition to their financial aid). They have no out-of-pocket tuition costs. Rutgers University provides 100% of the tuition assistance scholarships for RFS students who attend Rutgers.

Scholars continue to receive mentoring support once enrolled in college, as well as experiential learning opportunities and dedicated career development support.

3500 + Scholars Have participated in RFS since it's founding. 8 cohorts have graduated college, the first in 2017! 70% 98% 81% **COLLEGE GRADUATION RATE COLLEGE ENROLLMENT HIGH SCHOOL GRAD RATE** National First-Gen Grad Rate is 42% Non-RFS grad rate in partner districts 79% Non-RFS enrollment rate in partner districts 56%



The investment in our Future Scholars is one that sees returns across the board. In addition to increased graduation and retention rates, the career outcomes are also critical to the underlying need for the program. Research further suggests programs that raise high school graduation and college progression rates for students like those who participate in RFS can be viewed as public investments.





4:1 return for every dollar spent

\$3500 Annual Investment Per Scholar

Every 200 Scholars (Cohort) projects \$30 Million Dollars in NJ Taxpayer returns

Rutgers Future Scholars has become a national model for this work, with 6+ universities having already adopted their model. The program further aims to assist peer institutions to establish partnerships with their own school districts and work to identify, support, prepare, and offer tuition scholarships to similarly promising students.

Rutgers Future Scholars represents a unique opportunity and innovative direction for the future of college access and success for some of the nation's most deserving students. Today's national landscape reinforces the importance of programs like Rutgers Future Scholars as the need to ensure access to higher education has become heightened.



## **PROGRAM COSTS:**

The program is supported by private donors - individuals, corporations, and foundations. The RFS pre-college program costs \$3,500 per student annually, or \$17,500 to cover one student through the entire pre-college program (8th - 12th grade). An endowment gift of \$87,500 supports one student annually, in perpetuity.

To learn more, please email rutgersfuturescholars@rutgersfoundation.org