

## Community Scholars Program

### College/University

Georgetown University [Washington, DC] <http://cmea.georgetown.edu/scholars/>

### Description

The program consists of five core components: 1) Summer Bridge Program; 2) Continuation of Humanities and Writing course into the Fall semester; 3) Fourth hour study group for core Courses; 4) Freshman year support; 5) Ongoing support until graduation. Most Community Scholars participants self-identify as African American or Latino. This year's class is 43% African American, 30% Hispanic/Latino, 8% White, 2% Asian and 1% Native American.

### Goals

Nationally, only about 11% of first generation college students graduate college. The Community Scholars Program seeks to provide support to this crucial student population. Participants are selected during the University's Admissions process. These students are identified and considered for the program based on their high school academic and extracurricular achievements. They attended high schools that did not have the same access to college preparatory courses (such as AP or IB courses) as private or parochial schools. Nevertheless, these students took advantage of all of the best their high schools had to offer, and are often class presidents, mentors, and valedictorians with stellar grades. The program was developed in the late 1960s as a mechanism for enrolling more local Black District of Columbia residents. The program has evolved over the years to include other students of color and to serve primarily first generation college students from across the country.

### Outcomes

- 1) Retention of first year students from first to second semester - Class of 2014 Scholars across all ethnic groups: 98% (n=60; percentage reflects 59/60) - Class of 2014 Latino Scholars: 94% (n=18; percentage reflects 17/18)
- 2) Retention of first year students from their first to second year - Class of 2013 Scholars across all ethnic groups: 95% (n=55; percentage reflects 52/55) - Class of 2013 Latino Scholars: 100% (n=25)
- 3) Graduation rates (over a six year period) - Those students who began their Georgetown Career in 2003: 87% (n=46; percentage reflects 40/46) - Those Latino students who began their Georgetown Career in 2003: 100% (n=10; percentage reflects 10/10).

### Key Personnel

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