



About YES Prep Public Schools

In a Houston public school today, the average sixth grader has less than a 10% chance of completing college. For the city's low income students, the odds are even worse. YES Prep Public Schools was founded in 1998 on a simple premise: *low income students can achieve at the same academic levels as their more affluent peers when given access to similar opportunities and resources.* YES Prep prepares students to meet the challenges of college and requires every senior to gain acceptance to a four-year college in order to earn their high school diploma.

In the 2010-2011 school year, YES Prep's eight schools are serving 4,200 students from Houston's most impoverished neighborhoods. YES Prep has no admission requirements and accepts students through a random lottery. Most students require intensive academic support when they enroll and over 90% are first-generation college-bound. YES Prep prepares these students for college by providing a rigorous 6th-12th grade college preparatory program that includes a longer school day, mandatory community service and a personalized college counseling program that supports students through college graduation.

Newsweek and *US News & World Report* consistently rank YES Prep as a top 100 U.S. High School. In September of 2010, YES Prep was featured on Oprah as a "groundbreaking charter school." In short, the YES Prep model is working:

- 100% of graduates have been accepted to four-year colleges and universities
- YES Prep graduates have been accepted to over 250 different schools nationwide, including Columbia, Vanderbilt, Harvard, Rice, Stanford, Texas A&M, UT-Austin, and Yale
- YES Prep graduates have received over \$25 million in scholarships and financial aid.
- 80% of alumni have either graduated or are still enrolled in college
(the national average is 20% for low income minorities).

Not surprisingly, YES Prep schools are in high demand! There are currently 4,000 students on the waiting list. In 2009, YES Prep announced its plan to meet this need by growing to 13 schools, to serve 10,000 students in Greater Houston. Of the \$38 million needed to complete its growth, YES Prep needs to raise an additional \$7.5 million.