

KIPP Overview

KIPP schools are part of the free, public school system and enrollment is open to all students. There are 209 KIPP schools in 20 states and the District of Columbia educating nearly 90,000 students on their path to and through college, careers, and life.

KIPP origins

KIPP (Knowledge Is Power Program) began in 1994 with 47 fifth-graders within a public middle school in Houston, TX. The following year, two new public charter middle schools began in Houston and New York City. By 1999, these original KIPP schools were among the highest-performing schools in their respective communities.

KIPP Foundation

In 2000, Doris and Donald Fisher, founders of the Gap, committed \$15 million in philanthropy to replicate the success of the original KIPP schools. The non-profit KIPP Foundation was originally established to recruit and train outstanding school leaders to open and run new KIPP schools. Today, the KIPP Foundation also develops tools to support excellent teaching and facilitates the exchange of ideas across the KIPP network.

KIPP network

The first new KIPP middle schools opened as public charter schools in 2001. In 2004, KIPP opened its first elementary and high schools, which paved the way for KIPP to become a full PreK-12 school system. In 2005, Richard Barth became the CEO of the KIPP Foundation and helped to develop the regional growth model for KIPP's expansion. All KIPP schools are locally-run, non-profit organizations and are governed by a board of directors.

Our families choose KIPP schools because they are looking for a personalized, safe learning environment where teachers are focused on helping every child succeed. Ninety-five percent of the students KIPP educates are African American or Latino. Almost 90 percent of our students qualify for free or reduced price lunch, 11 percent receive special education services, and 17 percent are designated as English Language Learners.

Our results

As part of our commitment to transparency, the KIPP Foundation publishes the test scores, results, and demographic for all KIPP schools on an annual basis on its [website](#).

Mathematica, an independent research group, has conducted a multi-year study of KIPP schools. The [2015 Mathematica report](#) shows that KIPP elementary, middle, and high schools have impacts on student achievement that are positive and statistically significant. Mathematica also found that KIPP middle school students have entering fifth grade test scores that are equal to those of neighboring district schools.

KIPP Through College...and beyond

The KIPP Through College program supports KIPP alumni all the way to and through college graduation. KIPP Through College counselors help students navigate the application process and sort out financial aid. They also stay connected once students arrive on campus and navigate classes, housing, and more. KIPP has also forged partnerships with more than 90 colleges and universities who are committed to helping more low-income students of color persevere all the way to graduation.

Nationally, KIPP alumni complete college at a rate that is above the national average for all students and approximately four times the national average for students from similar economic backgrounds.

More Information Sources

- <http://kipp.org/results/national>
- <http://www.kipp.org/results/independent-reports/>
- <http://kipp.org/schools>
- <http://www.kipp.org/kipp-foundation/>