Our commitment to education
Americas Corporate Responsibility

Unlocking students’ potential
Across the Americas, EY encourages our people to volunteer in our communities to improve access to education. In the US, we place special emphasis on college and university access – especially for underserved students. This strategic focus on education:

• Mobilizes the business and problem-solving skills of EY professionals to address a compelling community need
• Counteracts the effects of the current economic environment, which has made it more challenging for students to pay for higher education
• Expands and enhances the talent pool from which EY, as well as our clients and community, will draw future employees

And it’s personal, too. One-third of EY employees in the US are first-generation college graduates.

College MAP (Mentoring for Access and Persistence)

The numbers don’t lie
An education can mean the difference between just getting by and succeeding in life.

• 21% of high school seniors from the lowest economic quintile are adequately prepared for college-level work (somewhat, very or highly prepared) compared with 54% of graduates from middle and upper levels.¹
• 30% of students in the bottom quarter of incomes enroll in a four-year school. And among that group, fewer than half graduate.²
• 26% of low-income, high-performing students go on to earn bachelor’s degrees, compared with 30% of high-income, low-performing students.³
• 60% of jobs in the US will require post-secondary education by 2018.⁴

A MAP for success
Many high school students don’t consider going to college. The goal seems too distant, the application process too confusing, the cost too expensive and the rewards too unclear. At EY, our people are working to remove these obstacles. We want to encourage students to apply for college, and help them succeed once they get there.

Through College MAP (Mentoring for Access and Persistence), we help demystify the process of applying to and affording college, encouraging students who might not have considered applying for college to do so. Then we work with students to build the skills that will help them persist in completing their post-secondary goals:

• Awareness of the lifelong benefits of earning a higher education
• Financial readiness that helps students apply for aid and pay for college
• Persistence skills to help students complete and succeed in careers

Since its start in 2009, College MAP has helped close to 800 young people by engaging 560 EY professionals as youth mentors in our communities.

How College MAP works
To implement the program, we collaborate with high schools and a not-for-profit organization called College For Every Student (CFES). Together, we identify young people who most need our support and bring College MAP directly to them. CFES brings a wealth of experience in curriculum development and a strong network of university relationships to the table. We provide volunteer mentors in more than 20 major cities across the US.

Mentoring in teams
Volunteers work in teams. The program matches small groups of EY professionals with high school juniors and seniors. The team-mentoring model has several advantages: multiple mentors provide insight and guidance to the students in the program, busy client-serving professionals are able to balance work and a long-term mentoring commitment and the group of students becomes its own supportive academic community.

Everybody wins
College MAP benefits the students we serve, our communities and our people:

Students. Being a part of College MAP offers students valuable academic coaching and support. Over the years, we’ve seen 90% of the students who participate in College MAP graduate high school and pursue higher education.

Communities. Schools receive EY’s professional experience and support; this can be a critical helping hand at a time when many school guidance counselors handle caseloads of more than 500 students. More broadly, College MAP lays the foundation for students to have successful careers after college, which ultimately will benefit our communities.

Our people. College MAP lets our people create positive social change while developing and practicing their professional skills: demonstrating leadership, speaking in public and collaborating with people from diverse backgrounds. Each mentor also receives intensive pre-mentoring training and access to a robust curriculum, as well as participating in ongoing mentoring webcasts. EY’s annual Global People Survey finds EY people who mentor are more engaged and take greater pride in working at EY than their peers.

Thought leadership in education
Published studies show clearly that the US educational system fails to produce graduates with the skills needed to succeed in the global marketplace. This failure is particularly acute when it comes to disadvantaged youth.

We believe corporations can improve the situation, and we’ve acted on that conviction. That is why we collaborated with FSG Social Impact Advisors on a white paper, Best in Class, to explore how companies can help transform K-12 public education and are currently working with the National Mentoring Partnership to conduct research on trends and best practices in corporate mentoring.

Making a difference in education
In addition to College MAP, we are proud of our collaborations with:

- Cyberchase. We are a sponsor of Cyberchase, PBS’s award-winning animated television series that teaches kids ages 8 to 11 math and problem-solving concepts. The cornerstone of this relationship is an after-school program where our volunteers bring the Cyberchase experience to life through hands-on games and activities. More information is available at www.ey.com/us/cyberchase.

- BizKids. Since 2011, Ernst & Young LLP has teamed with BizKids, another Emmy Award-winning television program, to help educate middle-school-aged students about money and business.

- Boys and Girls Clubs of America and Big Brothers Big Sisters. By making a differential investment in these organizations, we are tapping into the passion our people have for mentoring and education across the Americas.

College For Every Student
College For Every Student (CFES) is a nonprofit organization committed to raising the academic aspirations and performance of underserved youth so that they can prepare for, gain access to, and succeed in college. Since its founding in 1991, CFES has helped 75,000 underserved youth in 700 schools nationwide, in partnership with regional colleges, strengthen academic performance, graduate from high school and go on to college. For more information, visit www.collegeFES.org.

EY | Assurance | Tax | Transactions | Advisory

About EY
EY is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. The insights and quality services we deliver help build trust and confidence in the capital markets and in economies the world over. We develop outstanding leaders who team to deliver on our promises to all of our stakeholders. In so doing, we play a critical role in building a better working world for our people, for our clients and for our communities.

EY refers to the global organization, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients. For more information about our organization, please visit ey.com.

© 2014 EYGM Limited
All Rights Reserved.

EY no. CV0107
1403-1211399
ED none

This material has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not intended to be relied upon as accounting, tax, or other professional advice. Please refer to your advisors for specific advice.

ey.com