



Quick Stats

Agency	Program/Policy Start Date	Number Served Annually	Annual Budget
Department of Education	January 2012	4,000 students (9 th grade cohort of 40 ESI schools)	\$7,000,000 – 8,000,000

Problem Statement	The reforms of the DOE's Children First Initiative have increased academic success across all grades, the outcomes for Black and Latino males, though improved, remain troubling. Although the 2010 four-year graduation rates for Black and Latino males – at 54% and 52% respectively – are still well below the citywide average and 20 points lower than the graduation rates for their White male peers. For those Black and Latino young men who did graduate in 2010, only 18% and 21%, respectively, were deemed “college and career ready” as defined by the New York State Education Department. When performance is held constant, a students’ race and gender is far too determinative of educational success. This highly problematic phenomenon is this gap that ESI seeks to close.
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Research and Evidence	The strategy of ESI is grounded in evidence that schools require coherent systems for postsecondary planning across three inter-related areas of school operation: Academics, Youth Development, and School Culture (Conley, D.; Gilligan, C.; Murray, L; Noguera, P.). ESI will improve college and career readiness outcomes of Black and Latino young men by supporting the design, development, and expansion of these three areas of practice.
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Program Description	<p>ESI will invest deeply in a targeted group of schools to test, refine, and document best practices—then disseminate these practices system-wide. There are three key components of the ESI strategy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Invest in 40 schools that demonstrate success in graduating Black and Latino young men, to strengthen and improve their practices towards a new bar of college and career readiness; Research, evaluate, and document successful practices showing us how to actually bridge the achievement gap in ways that are sustainable, replicable, and scalable; City-wide scale up of college advisement training across all high schools for school-based and network staff, focused on the most salient skill and knowledge areas connected to postsecondary access (15k total students will benefit annually); and Develop leading-edge educational models and open new schools that dramatically increase college and career readiness for all students, including Black and Latino young men
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Program Implementation	The program launched in January 2012.
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Target Population	Black and Latino young men enrolled in high school; Network/Cluster and school-based staff to build capacity in successful postsecondary readiness practices.
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**Expected
Outcomes**

ESI expects narrowing of the postsecondary readiness achievement gap as measured by performance indicators of 9th grade cohort at target schools (e.g. credit accumulation in core subjects, Regents performance, attendance rates, etc.); Documentation of promising practices for further study and potential scale-up across the remainder of the DOE upon completion of the grant.