The Institute for Student Achievement (ISA) partners with schools and districts to reinvent high schools so that students who are traditionally underserved and underperforming graduate prepared for success in college.
Proven Results
Preparing College-Ready Graduates

ISA students are succeeding. Two independent external studies of ISA schools by the Academy for Educational Development and IMPAQ International found that ISA has a large and positive effect on student achievement, significantly improving high school attendance, credit accumulation, grade promotion, high school graduation rates, and college attendance and persistence rates.

An evaluation study conducted by IMPAQ International consistently found that African American male students in ISA schools outperformed matched comparison students on high school outcome measures, including attendance, credit accumulation, grade promotion and 4-year graduation rates.

- **90% college persistence rate of ISA students** who persist to the third semester, as compared to the national rate of 77%, and the national rate for African American and Latino students of 55%.

- **81% of ISA students have either graduated** from college or are still enrolled after 4 years.

- **80% average 4-year cohort high school graduation rate** for ISA students, as compared to the national average. For ISA’s largely African American and Latino student population, this number greatly exceeds the national high school graduation rate of 60% for African Americans and 58% for Latino students.

- **70,000+ students impacted**

- **72% of ISA coaches are former dynamic principals**

The ISA Approach has been identified by the U.S. Department of Education as meeting the requirements for an evidence-based whole-school reform model, which includes having a study that meets the What Works Clearinghouse standards.
ISA’s proven approach is **research-based, effective, and sustainable**. The ISA model has three core areas of focus that are supported by seven research-based principles and a strong ISA network.
College Prep Teaching & Learning

College-preparatory instructional program provides all students with a rigorous, inquiry-based curriculum and instruction aligned with your state standards and teacher effectiveness framework.

Extended day/extended year provide additional opportunities for student enrichment, remediation, and external learning experiences.

Continuous professional development ensures a collaborative learning community in which teachers and school leaders participate in individual and team job-embedded coaching, workshops, and institutes.

Building Relationships & Personalization

Distributed counseling leverages trusting adult/student relationships to increase student and school achievement and accountability and provide a safety net of care and support.

Dedicated team of teachers and counselors provides a consistent, four-year support network.

Parent involvement is structured so that the school is in partnership with families for the purpose of supporting post-secondary education and achieving student success.

Continuous Improvement

Continuous organizational improvement focuses on the use of multiple sources of data to monitor program implementation and student progress and performance outcomes.

The ISA Network allows school leaders, teachers and counselors to connect with a larger community of ISA educators to promote sharing and collaboration.
Customized Solutions
Ensuring High Achievement

Every school is unique. That’s why ISA customizes its solutions to respond to the individual needs and local context of each school. In collaboration with schools and districts, ISA’s team of expert educators helps to assess the strengths and gaps of each school in order to design a customized plan that uses the seven principles as the plan’s framework. ISA then supports schools in the implementation of practices and strategies that will increase their capacity to graduate all students ready for success in college and career. ISA uses three approaches to reinvent high schools:

Start A School
• Creation of new small high schools, including Career and Technical Education schools, starting with a 9th grade and adding a grade per year
• Creation of a new culture with norms and practices designed for success
• Typically used where districts have a small school reform strategy or desire innovation and diversity in their portfolio of high schools

Transform A School
• Redesign of chronically under-performing schools into smaller academies
• Typically used where a large, under-performing high school has not improved after many attempts at improvement

Target Improvement
• Support for existing schools to improve in selected areas such as leadership, instruction, content knowledge and pedagogy, student support and counseling
• Typically used where schools exhibit some evidence of graduating students college-ready, but need to build capacity in a few areas

“My coach helps me break a lesson into several different steps to build a group project. She helps me look at content and see what’s really needed for kids to understand a topic.
Teacher, Queens High School of Teaching
Learn More.
If you want your school to graduate all students ready for college and career success, then an ISA partnership can help you get there.

Contact ISA
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www.studentachievement.org

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“School is like family. It is always possible to find teachers who will help. Friends from other schools say it is unbelievable to have the support we have here.”
Student, George Washington Carver School of the Arts