

# Diversity

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## Diversity Programs typically support the following students

- African American
- Hispanic/Latino
- Pacific Islander
- Native American
- LGBT
- First-generation
- Physically Challenged

## Support Programs for Diverse Students

### Diversity Office

These offices are a great help for diverse students. A Diversity office has information about all of the programs available on campus for diverse students and will answer any questions you have about college life.

### Open House/Fly-In

Open House and Fly-in Programs are special weekends reserved for selected diverse high school students to visit a college. Generally the college will help pay for the expenses of the trip. The programs vary college to college and will sometimes target a specific cohort of diverse students. [CollegeMapper Blog: What's a Fly-In Program and Are You Eligible](#)

### First Year Transition

First Year Transition Programs are formal programs to help diverse students adapt to college life. They can include first year students meetings to share experiences, matching faculty with college students, classes for freshman about college (how to use the library, study-skills, the writing center, etc.), living communities and initiatives designed to make students feel included once they have enrolled at your college. [CollegeMapper Blog: Why College Transition Programs Are Awesome](#)

### Student Life

Some colleges have groups or clubs that you can join where you can meet other diverse students. These groups can be really helpful to share experiences you're having and get advice from your peers.

## Community Outreach

Some schools have programs that pair college student mentors with diverse high school students. If you're still in high-school you should check to see if your school offers such a program. If you're getting ready to head to college think about joining this group as a mentor!

## LGBT Support

Many colleges work to foster campus atmospheres that are very supportive of LGBT students, through initiatives such as student housing, counseling services, recruiting efforts, campus safety measures, and academic programming. As more and more US colleges do a great job of focusing on this issue, there are a few schools that are already well known for their efforts and success.

## Summer Bridge and Orientation

Provides students with an early introduction to the college they will be attending. It is an alternative admissions program for first-gen college students, and students who are disadvantaged by economic or educational circumstances. This high school to college bridge program is designed to help students adjust to college life and build a foundation for academic success. The costs for most programs can be covered by scholarships. Often these programs involve some community service where diverse students are giving back to the community, OR classes which help students prepare for the term (such as study skills, time management, college level writing lab, even a short class on locations and how to access all of the learning resources on campus.) In addition to this students get a head start on meeting classmates and becoming familiar with their surroundings.

## Pre-College Programs

These are programs that typically provide gifted kids with enriched programs and bring LIFG (low income, first generation) kids up to grade level. Programs often focus on encouraging girls to study STEM. Some are on college campuses and kids take classes. Many of these programs are "field of study" specific. Others are like UW's Dream Project where the college goes into the high schools to support the students.