

About Center for Student Opportunity

Center for Student Opportunity (www.CSOpportunity.org) empowers underserved, first-generation college students to and through college by providing critical information, guidance, scholarships, and ongoing support.

We believe that the *opportunity* for college exists for any student who wants to go.

What we do:

- Create tools and resources to help underserved, first-generation college-bound high school students navigate the path to college and become better consumers in the process;
- Assist the ongoing efforts of students' supporters—parents, counselors, and mentors—to get their students to and through college;
- Partner with colleges and universities to strengthen and build awareness of their efforts to serve low-income, first-generation college students and facilitate interaction between these students and the colleges and universities that seek to support them

Our programs include:

- Opportunity Scholars, a national effort to support first-generation college and other traditionally underserved college-bound students with their college search and selection
- CSO College Center (www.CSOCollegeCenter.org), a free online college search tool for first-generation college and other traditionally underserved college-bound students
- College Access & Opportunity Guide*, a unique college guidebook for first-generation college and other traditionally underserved college-bound students
- College partnerships to support the promotion, improvement and expansion of campus outreach, recruitment, and retention efforts.

Founded in 2005 by a group of concerned parents, admissions professionals, and nonprofit practitioners, CSO fills the need for better information and resources guiding underserved, first-generation college-bound students in their pursuit of college.

While many schools and local programs across the country provide service to these students, few have the capacity to identify and connect with the many colleges and universities that have targeted these students for admission.

With this in mind, the principals founded CSO as a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit to support colleges and universities in their college access goals and create tools and programs to expand and promote the important opportunities these schools offer underserved, first-generation college students.