



FACT SHEET

A mind is a terrible thing to waste but a wonderful thing to invest in.™



WHO WE ARE

UNCF (United Negro College Fund) is the nation's largest and most effective minority education organization.

UNCF lives up to the ideal expressed in its universally recognized motto—"A mind is a terrible thing to waste"®—by enabling more than 60,000 students each year to attend college and get the education they need and the nation needs them to have and by serving as a national advocate for the importance of education and college readiness—the idea that every student needs and deserves a pre-college education that prepares them for college coursework and college success.

UNCF helps increase minority degree attainment by:

- **Awarding more than 10,000 scholarships and internships each year**, so students from low- and moderate-income families can afford college tuition, books and room and board
- **Providing operating funds for its 37 member colleges**, making it possible for them to offer their students 21st century academic programs in a small-college environment and still keep their average cost approximately 30 percent lower than comparable institutions
- **Serving as a national advocate for the importance of education** by representing students' public policy interests in Washington, in newspapers and magazines and on radio, TV and the Web and through the national broadcast of **UNCF An Evening of Stars®**, the annual televised UNCF celebration of excellence in education and entertainment

SUPPORTING STUDENTS

UNCF manages approximately 400 programs that provide scholarships, internships, academic support and mentoring to students. Since it began providing scholarships, UNCF has awarded more than \$615 million in scholarships to nearly 50,000 undergraduate students.

UNCF programs include:

- **Gates Millennium Scholars Program** - A 20-year, \$1.6 billion collaboration with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation that provides assistance to 5,000 low-income, high-achieving minority students at 900 colleges and universities each year. Gates Millennium Scholars have six-year graduation rates of 90 percent, significantly higher than the overall national graduation rate and comparable to graduation rates of students from higher-income families.
- **UNCF/Merck Science Initiative** - A 20-year, \$43.8 million program that has provided undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral support to more than 500 students and scholars in the biological sciences and engineering.
- **Institute for Capacity Building** - A suite of institutional capacity-building programs that enable UNCF-member colleges and universities to become stronger and more self-sustaining, improving their capabilities in such areas as curriculum enhancement, fundraising and enrollment management.
- **Campaign for Emergency Student Aid** - A just-in-time scholarship program that enables UNCF-member college students to pay their tuition, text book and dormitory bills so they can graduate and begin their careers.



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SMALL COLLEGES, MAJOR IMPACT

UNCF's 37 member historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) offer students a small-college experience at affordable tuition and have made major contributions to the communities in which their graduates live and raise their families, as well as the nation as a whole.

HBCUs Produce College Graduates

HBCUs enroll only nine percent of all African American undergraduates attending postsecondary institutions, but award almost 16 percent of bachelor's degrees earned by African American students.

UNCF Schools Dominate *U.S. News & World Report* Rankings

UNCF-member colleges occupy seven of the top 10 places in the 2012 *U.S. News & World Report's* ranking of black colleges and universities.

HBCUs Prepare Students for Graduate Degrees

HBCUs represent 10 of the top 11 colleges graduating African American students who go on to earn doctoral degrees in science and engineering. HBCUs awarded 27 percent of African American degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics included 20 percent of African American engineering bachelor's degrees, 29 percent of African American biological and biomedical sciences bachelor's degrees and 31 percent of African American mathematics and statistics bachelor's degrees. This degree productivity further confirms HBCU contributions to our country's current and future workforce needs.

NOTABLE GRADUATES

Many of the nation's leading figures in government, education, literature, the arts and media graduated from UNCF-member colleges.

Well-known alumni of UNCF colleges include:

- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Dr. Regina Benjamin, U.S. Surgeon General
- Rep. John Lewis, (D-GA) U.S. Representative and civil rights pioneer
- Samuel L. Jackson, actor
- Dr. Ruth Simmons, former president, Brown University
- Tom Joyner, radio personality and philanthropist
- Lionel Richie, award-winning composer, singer
- Marian Wright Edelman, founder/president of Children's Defense Fund
- Nikki Giovanni, poet
- Spike Lee, award-winning film director, producer, actor
- Alvin J. Boutte, founder and CEO of Indecorp, the largest black-owned U.S. financial institution

FUNDRAISING AND EFFICIENCY

UNCF has raised more than \$3.6 billion to enable more than 400,000 deserving students to attend UNCF-member colleges and earn the college degrees they want and need but might not otherwise be able to afford.

UNCF has earned the top evaluation from the American Institute for Philanthropy and is ranked among the country's top charitable organizations by *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*. UNCF President and CEO Dr. Michael L. Lomax has been named to the *Non-Profit Times'* "Power & Influence Top 50" list.

UNCF maintained a low cost ratio of 14 percent of total revenues—eight percent for administrative costs and six percent for fundraising in fiscal year 2013.