

ECMC Foundation



Funded by ECMC Group, ECMC Foundation is a Los Angeles-based, nationally focused foundation with current assets of \$354 million. The mission of ECMC Foundation is to inspire and facilitate improvements that affect educational outcomes—especially among underserved populations—through evidence-based innovation. The foundation has three priority investment areas: teacher development, college readiness and retention, and career readiness. ECMC Foundation prioritizes evaluation and measurement and is committed to sharing its impact.

Our Values

We endeavor to make long-term investments—either alone or by leveraging the work of other philanthropic, governmental and business partners—that improve academic achievement among underserved students as they prepare themselves for higher education and careers.

We are willing to be entrepreneurial and to take risks with a preponderance of our grantmaking dollars, understanding that failure is a natural part of generating discoveries; we will support innovation and a willingness to experiment with a bias toward ideas that can be scaled to benefit large numbers of students.

We will require evaluation and measurement in all that we do, and recognize our obligation to share the results of our work to help educate and improve the field, free of charge and available to all.

We support important research and reforms that help people prepare for college and careers.

Focus Areas

COLLEGE READINESS AND RETENTION

We aim to increase the number of students from traditionally underserved backgrounds, including low-income and first-generation, who are prepared for, admitted to, and graduate from an institution of higher education.

CAREER READINESS

We aim to invest in opportunities in the career and technical education and training arena, focusing on those students who are not planning to attend traditional four-year or two-year colleges. We seek to help students who desire the training and skill development that leads to better job prospects by obtaining high-quality credentials—postsecondary certificates with economic and education value.

TEACHER DEVELOPMENT

We aim to invest in teacher and leader development focused on complex intellectual student work, often referred to as Deeper Learning. We also focus on initiatives that build the diversity pipelines into the teaching and school leader professions. Through these investments, we intend to improve teaching and student academic outcomes as measured by the next generation of standards and assessments.

Grantee Spotlight: uAspire

In 2015, ECMC Foundation granted uAspire (Boston, MA) \$450,000 over two years to create and support their pilot program “I Know What I Owe” to help leverage technology and build out new systems and processes for award letter collection and entry.