As students enter a new school year, the nonprofit program College Possible is engaging in another year of helping low-income students earn admission to – and succeed in college.

College Possible Twin Cities serves 1,600 juniors and seniors through its core high school program in 19 high schools, and 3,500 high school freshmen and sophomores at partner schools through college planning workshops. An additional 3,500 former high school program participants are supported in their transition to college. Nationwide, College Possible serves nearly 12,000 students in three metro areas.

College Possible is serving an additional 40 students each at Bloomington Kennedy and Park Center High Schools. The program was introduced at both schools last fall. This fall, College Possible will partner with Washington Technology Magnet School to offer intensive after-school college access curriculum to 40 students.

"We are very excited to become the newest high school partner with College Possible," said Dr. Mike McCollor, Washington Technology Magnet School principal. "We are confident that the support our students receive from College Possible will allow them not only to be accepted, but to thrive in their post-secondary education."

According to the nonprofit, in its 12-year history, 98 percent of College Possible students have earned admission to college, and high school juniors have raised their ACT scores by more than 22 percent. The organization said once enrolled, College Possible students graduate at five times the rate of their peers. Nationwide, College Possible's six year college graduation rate is 57%, compared to the 11% college graduation rate of low-income students across the country.

"We're thrilled at the opportunity to serve even more low-income students across the Twin Cities this year and bring our program to Washington Technology Magnet School," said Sara Dziuk, College Possible Twin Cities executive director. "With a results-driven staff that supports our mission and achievement goals, we're excited to build this partnership to ensure that more students may attain college success."

This school year, 59 AmeriCorps members will dedicate a year of their lives to directly supporting students and building organizational capacity in the Twin Cities. Together, they will contribute more than 106,000 hours of service toward making college accessible to all students, regardless of their economic status.

College Possible uses an intensive curriculum of coaching and support to assist in making college admission and success possible for low-income students. Launched in 2000, College Possible Twin Cities serves 8,600 low-income high school and college age students through its college access and completion programs.