



Florida's Black Students and the State Benefit from College Enrollment and HBCUs

The benefits of a college education are undeniable for Black students in Florida. Helios released today a two-part research study in partnership with the Institute of Higher Education at the University of Florida that shows a college degree has significant advantages. And those benefits increase for some Black Florida students who attend historically Black colleges and universities

The findings are based on one of the largest and richest student-level datasets in the U.S. that follows a group of Black students throughout the state of Florida from high school, through college, and tracking their financial outcomes by the time they're in their 30s.

The first research brief, **College is a Net Positive for Black Students in Florida**, examines 96,710 Black Florida high school students who took the SAT between 2004 and 2010. The findings show clear and compelling advantages associated with college attendance that not only benefit Black students, but the state of Florida as well.

From the research we saw that enrolling initially at a four-year institution is the most viable pathway for Black students to earn a bachelor's degree. Doing so leads to a 42.9 percentage point increase in the probability of earning a bachelor's degree when compared to students who did not initially enroll in college, and an approximate 30 percentage point increase when compared to students who initially enrolled in a two-year college.

The second research brief, **The Importance of HBCUs for Florida**, examines Black Florida student enrollment at HBCUs. The study revealed that HBCUs are associated with an increase in likelihood that a Black student will complete college and earn a degree.

The findings show Black students see a 40% increase in the probability of earning a bachelor's degree when attending HBCUs compared to those attending other colleges and universities. Additionally, Florida's four HBCUs graduate more Black students in STEM disciplines than all other Florida universities combined.

We invite you to [visit our website](#) to download the full two-part study and share the findings with others.

COLLEGE IS A NET POSITIVE FOR BLACK STUDENTS IN FLORIDA

How Black Students and the State
Benefit from College Attendance

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THE IMPORTANCE OF HBCUs FOR FLORIDA

How Black Students from Florida and
the State Benefit Historically Black
Colleges and Universities

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