



Breakthrough Collaborative “Without AmeriCorps” Statement August 2024

Breakthrough’s National [Teaching Fellowship](#) is a paid summer experience for college students to increase interest in and access to the teaching profession. Annually, we engage 1,000 undergraduates of all backgrounds and majors who are recruited from over 270 campuses across the country. [Our data](#) suggests that engaging young people at this critical juncture in their career exploration and exposing them to teaching as a meaningful profession is a high leverage pipeline-building strategy. We have intentionally built our Teaching Fellow model as a high-support early field experience that cultivates interest in the teaching profession and connects aspiring teachers to quality certification pathways, thereby extending the career runway into teaching.

Breakthrough’s Teaching Fellowship is building and diversifying the teacher pipeline: We are proud of our program's significant conversion rate into teaching (52% of Teaching Fellows go on to teach) and strong representation (50% of alumni who go on to teach identify as teachers of color).

Our partnership with AmeriCorps is at the heart of our strategy to strengthen the value proposition of our Teaching Fellowship and professionalize the pathway into teaching to ensure a sustainable start to a career in education. The benefits that AmeriCorps affords to our Teaching Fellows, as AmeriCorps members, include: an increased stipend, the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award, and the prestige of being part of the AmeriCorps community. AmeriCorps has elevated the Teaching Fellow position, which supports our efforts to recruit more diverse young people into our program. In this way, AmeriCorps is making a critical investment in our country’s next generation of teachers.