

EDVANCE

FOUNDATION

OUR MISSION

The Edvance Foundation aims to **increase opportunities for college-bound students** and support institutions of higher education in improving the quality, accessibility, delivery, and sustainability of their academic offerings. Underlying these goals is an unwavering belief in the **power of education to transform lives and fuel economic development** – both in the United States and abroad.



The Edvance Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing American higher education through the development of bold, sustainable solutions to the most pressing challenges of the 21st century. Our flagship program, the Nexpectation Network, is designed to create stronger pathways to higher education success for America's college-bound students, particularly for exceptional non-traditional, low- to moderate-income, and minority students.

KEY FOCUS AREAS

Partnerships: Fostering collaboration between public and private institutions of higher education, strengthening institutional ties to regional economies, and creating efficiencies that support strategic objectives

Programs: Strengthening and supporting institutional leaders and unlocking opportunities for college-bound students

Best Practices:
Sharing insights and fresh approaches to the challenges facing America's higher education institutions



“By 2018, the goal of the Nexpectation Network is to enable at least 50,000 students annually, through a full range of academic, financial, and personal counseling, to transition successfully from two- to four-year institutions.”

– DR. BRIAN C. MITCHELL, DIRECTOR OF THE EDVANCE FOUNDATION

nexpectationnetwork

Built upon Bucknell University's successful Community College Transfer Initiative (CCTI) pilot, the Nexpectation Network is the first program to be supported by the Edvance Foundation. It promises to transform the delivery of higher education in America by providing a full range of academic, financial, and personal counseling to help remove the many barriers – social, cultural, political, familial, economic – that often inhibit bright, capable, and ambitious students from two-year institutions from going on to complete their baccalaureate studies.

- Two-year colleges enroll almost half of all U.S. undergraduate students (**12.4 million**).
- **29%** of students who enroll in two-year colleges transfer to four-year programs.
- But only **16%** of students who began their education at two-year colleges receive a bachelors degree or higher.
- This falls far short of the average **60%** graduation rate among students who matriculate at four-year institutions.

The Nexpectation Network aims to improve completion rates from two-year colleges and graduation rates from four-year institutions in order to ensure a robust, competitive U.S. workforce for the 21st century. It will give participating students greater choice and access to four-year schools and empower them to think and dream big when it comes to their educational futures.

“Established by the Edvance Foundation, the Nexpection Network is an elegant solution to address the question of how America provides access to qualified two-year community college graduates who seek a four-year degree. The Network is a creative, student-centered strategy to refocus institutional aid towards well-prepared students most motivated to receive it.” – MARGARET DANIELS TYLER, VISITING FELLOW AT THE FRANCES HESSELBEIN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE AND FORMER SENIOR PROGRAM OFFICER AT THE BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION

WHY EDVANCE?

According to a 2010 report from Georgetown University, the U.S. has been under-producing college-going workers since 1980, and projections indicate that by 2018, as many as 60 million Americans will lack the skills and credentials to join the knowledge economy.¹ Further, demand for college-educated employees will outpace supply by 300,000 per year. By 2018, there will be 3 million fewer college graduates than required.²

Seeing the intersecting needs of ensuring U.S. competitiveness in the global economy and maximizing the potential of young, hard-working students, a group of experts in American education created the Edvance Foundation. Led by Brian C. Mitchell, Edvance has set out to tackle the challenges of higher education, and its first initiative is to advance a pilot program (called the Community College Transfer Initiative, or CCTI) he launched while president of Bucknell University.



WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

The Edvance Foundation seeks new funding to achieve our next level of organizational growth and to pilot the Nexpection Network rollout across New England and other key states. The Network is now in the early stages of developing a regional and national infrastructure linking two-year colleges and four-year independent institutions, which will be phased in across the U.S. over a six-year period.

Your support would go directly toward building out our network, strategic planning, identifying new partners, and capacity building. In addition, as we look forward, technology will provide the backbone linking our national office in Boston to as many as 20 state and regional centers across the country, facilitating the capability for community college students to learn about and link to four-year colleges far beyond any perceived geographical barriers.

FOUNDING SUPPORTERS

BILL & MELINDA GATES foundation

JACK KENT COOKE
 FOUNDATION



¹ Carnevale, A. and Rose, S., "The Undereducated American" (2011)
² Carnevale, A., Smith, N. and Strohl, J., "Help Wanted: Projections of Jobs and Education Requirements Through 2018" (2010)



LEADERSHIP

Arthur J. Rothkopf, Board Chair, served as senior vice president and counselor to the president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce from 2005 until 2010, focusing on the Chamber's initiative on workforce development and education. He is president emeritus of Lafayette College.

Brian C. Mitchell, Ph.D., Founder and Director, was president of Bucknell University from 2004 to 2010. He previously served as president of Washington & Jefferson College (1998-2004) and the Association for Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania (1991-1998). He is a director of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation and immediate past chair of the Board of Trustees of Merrimack College.

Lydia M. Logan, Director, is the senior director of policy for The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation, an entrepreneurial philanthropy that invests in the bold and innovative transformation of K-12 public education in America. She previously served as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's vice president and executive director of the Institute for a Competitive Workforce.