



**Overcoming our nation's deep roots in racism and inequality will require undoing layers of systems and structures that were built to keep people of color from having access to educational opportunity. But in order to improve education outcomes for all, we must challenge the status quo and deeply consider what isn't working, why, and what can be done.**

### **Our Mission and Vision**

College Spark Washington supports the postsecondary dreams of students and their communities through grant-making focused on dismantling racism in the education system.

We envision an education system that encourages learners to be their authentic selves and is eager and equipped to guide them toward realizing their dreams.

### **What We Do**

For change to happen, to take root and to be long-lasting, people need to have a say in the goals and how to accomplish them. Our work is to help support community-driven projects and partnerships to translate that voice and vision into systemic solutions.

We prioritize our values across our programs. At College Spark, we:

- **Focus on systems change** with an understanding that educational systems that support students of color benefits all learners.
- **Champion community-driven change** to ensure our work reflects and is guided by the voices and needs of communities in Washington.
- **Prioritize racial justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion** in the grants we make and the collective work we undertake.
- **Collaborate with partners** to bring people, resources, and ideas together.

## Current College Spark Programs



### Leaders in Education Advancing Diversity Equity and Racial Justice (LEADER) Initiative: \$13.8 million over nine years

The LEADER Initiative will focus on increasing community representation in teaching, supporting the systems changes needed to sustain these educators and leaders, and supporting the transformation toward just and equitable educator prep programs, districts, and schools.



### Education Equity Fund: \$1.7 million per year

The Education Equity Fund supports schools, colleges, and community-based organizations working toward antiracist practices in education to stimulate systemic change and create positive outcomes for students. Grant funding, up to \$180K over three years, supports work designed to dismantle barriers to equity in education for K-12 and higher education students.



### Guided Pathways: \$8.5 million over eight years

Committed \$8.5 million over eight years to help ten Washington community and technical colleges develop clear pathways and new advising strategies so more students can successfully navigate college and connect their goals to completed degrees and credentials.



### Small Districts Fund: \$300K per year

Small school districts and rural communities face unique challenges to improving the college-readiness of their students. The Small Districts Fund provides flexible grant funding, up to \$50K per year, to support small districts with K-12 enrollments under 2,000 students with efforts that better prepare students for successful transition to postsecondary education and that improve racial equity in education.