In today’s uncertain economy, a college degree is more important than ever. The unemployment rate of recent high school graduates (who do not pursue a college degree) is more than three times the unemployment rate of recent college graduates. In addition, college graduates are more likely to earn a higher wage, and more likely to have the skills and experience that employers value. Society as a whole benefits from each college degree attained because graduates start more businesses, vote more frequently, and volunteer at higher rates.

Unfortunately, without support, too few students are able to graduate and enjoy the economic benefits of a degree. Of those who begin college, only one-third of low-income, first-generation students actually graduate from four-year public colleges.

Unemployment Rates by Education Level per 100 young adults

- Recent High School Graduates: 24%
- Recent College Graduates: 7%


Bottom Line’s Solution

Access Program
Counselors help high school seniors get into college by providing one-on-one, expert guidance through every step of the college application process. Counselors work with students to brainstorm and write essays, submit applications, secure financial aid, and choose a college which they can afford and where they will succeed.

Success Program
We continue to support students who attend 24 popular, affordable colleges in Massachusetts. Counselors meet with students on-campus to help them overcome any academic, vocational, financial, and personal obstacles that they face while attending college.

Our Results
◆ 98% of high school seniors have been accepted to college
◆ 78.5% of college students have graduated within 6 years, more than twice the rate for similar students
◆ 82% of our most recent college class graduated within six years - on par with the wealthiest, most supported students in the nation
What’s the DEAL?

To ensure that students complete college, Bottom Line becomes a financial aid advocate, academic advisor, career counselor, and mentor. We offer one-on-one support in the four areas most likely to cause low-income, first-generation students to drop out: Degree, Employability, (financial) Aid, and Life (DEAL). Below is a sample of the services we provide to college students through the Success Program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Employability</th>
<th>Aid</th>
<th>Life</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Select a suitable major</td>
<td>Secure internships and part-time jobs</td>
<td>Renew scholarships and financial aid</td>
<td>Stay connected through monthly campus visits and frequent calls and emails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assess credits to track progress</td>
<td>Write and update resume and cover letter</td>
<td>Make smart financial decisions</td>
<td>Stay positive with cards and care packages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpret syllabi to succeed in class</td>
<td>Find a career path</td>
<td>Resolve problems with bills</td>
<td>Stay determined to work hard and achieve goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connect with tutoring, advising, other resources</td>
<td>Build a unique professional “brand”</td>
<td>Assess loan debt</td>
<td>Cope with life circumstances</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vision for 2015-2016

In 2015-2016 we will:
- Support 525 Boston and 130 Worcester high school seniors
- Provide continued guidance to more than 2,300 college students from Boston and Worcester
- Develop relationships with local companies who can hire our students for meaningful summer internships
- Continue to build partnerships with the high schools, colleges, and other non-profits in the city

How You Can Help

Corporate Involvement
- Sponsor the Get In, Graduate, and Go Far Dinner in April or the Get in, Graduate, Go Far Reception in October
- Provide internships and employment to Bottom Line’s college students and alumni
- Attend Bottom Line’s Go Far Forum career fair to meet and recruit our students and alumni
- Provide branded gifts for our students in Bottom Line’s care packages or other in-kind support

Individual Involvement
- Spread the word about Bottom Line by holding an open house in your home
- Attend our Get In, Graduate, and Go Far Events or another Bottom Line event
- Provide pro-bono services to Bottom Line (marketing, design, law, etc.)
- Become a “Go Far” volunteer and serve as a career mentor for a first-generation college student
- Make a donation to Bottom Line today!

Learn More

Visit www.bottomline.org or 500 Amory Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
Please don’t hesitate to contact us with any questions. We are always happy to talk about our programs and students!