Our focus on preparing each Kappa Leaguer for college begins from the moment he enters our program. However, at the beginning of a Kappa Leaguer’s second semester of his junior year, he must participate in and successfully complete our “16 Month College Readiness Boot Camp”. The key elements of our college readiness’s bootcamp are:

ACADEMIC & CURRICULUM STRENGTHENING:
Kappa Leaguers are required to participate in Kappa League facilitated academic tutoring sessions, and must maintain a 3.2 unweighted GPA (on a 4.0 scale) per academic quarter at all times. Kappa Leaguers are required to take at least 3 honor classes or higher per semester, 3 years of a foreign language, at least 3 years of science, complete at least pre-Calculus, and take at least 2 AP courses by graduation from high school.

ACT & SAT TEST PREPARATION:
Kappa Leaguers must complete weekly ACT online prep course work, and attend our extensive 8 week ACT prep course. In addition, every Kappa Leaguer is required to master 1000 SAT commonly tested vocabulary words every year while in the program.

COMMUNITY & GLOBAL AWARENESS:
All Kappa Leaguers must complete 40 hours of community service in conjunction with the Kappa League Program every year. To better assist Kappa Leaguers’ in understanding their global impact, every Kappa Leaguer must participate in a 6 to 8 week study abroad program in conjunction with the American Field Service (AFS) during the summer preceding their senior year in high school.

COLLEGE RESEARCH & SELECTION:
Kappa Leaguers receive ongoing guidance from Kappa League staff to identify colleges that are a good “match fit” for the Kappa Leaguer based upon academic, social, and financial fit. Kappa Leaguers are required to participate in the three annual college tours. In a Kappa Leaguers’ senior year, fly-in visits to our college partners are offered.

FINANCIAL PLANNING:
The Kappa League program and our collaborative college partners provide Kappa Leaguers with detailed estimates of the costs they may incur while attending college and information regarding scholarships, grants, and other resources that assist Kappa Leaguers and their parents in budgeting properly for college expenses.

ADMISSION:
The Kappa Leadership Institute - Chicago seeks high performing under-represented and/or disadvantaged young men of all nationalities who attend a high school in the metro Chicago area, show superior academic potential, and desire a high powered “College Readiness”, “Leadership” and “Mentoring” program that is challenging and extremely rewarding.

Admission is determined by a competitive process in which all applicants are required to submit a specific set of materials. The competitive nature of the selection process does not permit the establishment of a pre-specified set of cut off of GPA or test scores but rather students who present the strongest combination of credentials are invited to apply.

Generally, young men who complete the application and interview process for admission represent a very select group of young men from throughout the Chicago area. In most cases, these young men have consistently experienced academic success or may have encountered several challenges along the way. But all have demonstrated their resilience, their interest, task commitment, and creativity in a variety of settings.

The Kappa Leadership Institute - Chicago utilizes an accomplishment-based selection process that incorporates performance and participation or leadership in extracurricular activities with more traditional indicators of talent such as test scores and grades. For this reason, students with the highest GPA and/or test scores may not emerge as the strongest applicants in the pool for the purpose of selection. Along with these criteria, demographic variables are considered to ensure a diverse student population.

We equip young men with the skills needed to not only get into a top college;
We equip them with the skills needed to persist through college and graduate!!
DEVELOPING ACHIEVERS!

The Kappa Leadership Institute - Chicago is one of the highest performing and most experienced college-readiness and mentoring program for young men in Chicago.

Our Mission:
The Kappa Leadership Institute – Chicago, commonly referred to as the Chicago Kappa League Program, mission is to provide educational college readiness opportunities for economically disadvantaged and/or underrepresented minority males, primarily, African American high school youth. In so doing, it integrates mentorship, service initiatives and leadership principles to foster academic success, personal development and global understanding and interracial harmony. Since 2005, the program has successfully transformed the lives of over 900 young men in the Chicago metropolitan area. Our 100 percent college acceptance rate, for our graduating seniors, creates a path for each of our students to become self-reliant and productive citizens.

Our success results:

100% of our seniors since 2005 were admitted into the "tier 1" college/university of their first choice.

83% of our seniors with the help of our program have achieved a 28 or higher on the ACT Exam.

82% of our students have a GPA of 3.431 or higher on a 4.0 scale

86% of our seniors received "Full tuition" scholarships to colleges.

$6.3 million in total scholarships over 4 years awarded to our seniors

The Kappa Leadership Institute - Chicago approach provides a rigorous support system built to develop and hone the academic and interpersonal skills necessary for admission to top tier colleges and universities, and ultimately, a lifetime of success.

The Kappa Leadership Institute - Chicago is a nonprofit 501(c)3 program operated by and funded by the Edward G. Irvin Foundation. Kappa League seeks to create equal educational opportunities for academically motivated low-income and/or underrepresented high school males who may have few alternatives to under performing schools in their neighborhoods. Kappa League incorporates global awareness, mentoring, Academic Enrichment, College Readiness, Tutoring and Study Skills, and Leadership Development programs to achieve its goals.

All programs occur during non-school hours. Kappa League enhances the high school curriculum with four years of College Readiness training, Academic Enrichment, Global Awareness and Leadership Development programs. All students are required to attend a 6-week global study abroad experience, ACT preparation classes, college site visits, and college counseling sessions from freshman year forward. All programs occur during non-school hours and are not available to the students at their respective high schools.

In addition to the mentorship, Kappa League believes that the Academic Enrichment, College Readiness, Tutoring and Study Skills, and Leadership Development programs contribute greatly to its student’s acceptance into four-year colleges and universities. Kappa Leadership Institute - Chicago helps its students focus on developing their ability to prepare high quality work, critical thinking skills, and selecting and applying for acceptance to a rigorous college or university.

Kappa League students can enter the program as early as the Fall of their freshman year of high school and remain until they graduate. Each year adds another layer of experience for our students, culminating in their graduation from high school and acceptance to a four-year college or university. This four-year approach to preparing our students for college is extremely effective for both the student and parent. We help the student and parent learn how to navigate the college application process.

THE KAPPA LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE - CHICAGO

Motto: "Achievers...Its who we are...Its what we do."