Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Thank you for supporting your student in their application to the Opportunity Network Fellows Program. To help communicate the goals and expectations of our program and its application, we would like to share more about who we are, what our application process is, what our 6-year program looks like, and how you can support your student along the way.

Who are we?
The Opportunity Network (OppNet) ignites the drive, curiosity, and agency of students from historically and systematically underrepresented communities to connect them to college access and success, internships, career opportunities, and personal and professional networks.

What is our application process?
We seek students who are demonstrating motivation and commitment in their school and in their communities for our rigorous, but rewarding, program. Students are recruited during their sophomore year from New York City schools and are selected through an application process that includes school recommendations, written applications, transcript reviews and in-person interviews. Once selected, the program begins in the summer before junior year of high school and continues through college graduation for a total of six (or more) years.

What is the application timeline?  Students can choose to apply to either round of our application process

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How Can You Support Your Student in their Application?
• Review materials your student received from the OppNet Fellows Info Session they attend at their school OR
• If they didn’t attend an info session at their school, encourage your student to attend an OppNet Fellows Info Session at our office (85 Broad Street, Manhattan, NY)
  o January 23rd and February 6th from 5 – 6:30p
  o RSVP by emailing recruiting@opportunitynetwork.org
• Share information requested for household educational background and income for student’s application form (this information is used to assess need for the program as well as for future college applications)
• Sign Parent/Guardian Permission form necessary for student’s application to OppNet Fellows Program (attached)
• Contact us with any questions or concerns at recruiting@opportunitynetwork.org

Sincerely,
The OppNet Recruitment Team

www.opportunitynetwork.com/apply
OppNet Fellows Program Overview

Summer 2020
Students attend a 2 week Summer Institute program in July (Monday-Friday 9:30-3) in Lower Manhattan. Students participate in workshops, trips to colleges and worksites, and team building.

Junior Year - 11th Grade
Students attend weekly class one day a week after school (4:45-7p) in Lower Manhattan. Students participate in networking events and workshops. In the winter/spring, students attend an additional day for free test prep classes.

Senior Year - 12th Grade
Students attend college guidance sessions every other week with workshops supporting college applications throughout. In the spring, students participate in after school workshops for College Transition.

Career Exposure, Transition, and Success
Each summer of the OppNet Fellows Program, students have access to internships, abroad, and enrichment opportunities to build their resumes and experience. Students grow their networks as they shape their career goals, and participate in workshops to prepare for career transition and success.

College Transition and Success
While in college, each student has an OppNet staff member to check in with several times a semester. Students participate in in-person and virtual programming over school breaks to support their transition to, and success in, college.
Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your signature is a required component of your child’s application process. Please sign below and have your child submit this form (uploaded electronically) via the online student application by their deadline (December 19th or February 26th).

I, __________________________________________, have read the information contained in the Information for Applicants and Letter to Families. I hereby grant The Opportunity Network consent to request/retrieve my child’s high school transcript and relevant test scores on my behalf for the purpose of determining eligibility for the program.

Parent/Guardian Signature  Parent/Guardian Name (Print)  Date

Student Signature  Student Name (Print)  Date

Guidance Counselor Signature  Guidance Counselor Name (Print)  Date

Students: Please submit this form, along with your transcript (including all grades from 9th grade) and report card, online when you complete your application. Email questions to recruiting@opportunitynetwork.org.
Application Checklist

An application is complete when all the items below have been received.
If you are applying to Round 1, you need to complete all parts of your application by December 19th.
If you are applying to Round 2, you need to complete all parts of your application by February 26th.
However, it is important not to rush your application. We encourage you to take the time necessary to submit a thoughtful, well-prepared application.

Checklist:

Completed by the student:

_____ Online Student Application (to be submitted online via https://tinyurl.com/FellowsApp2020)

Attachments to be submitted with the application:

_____ Signed Parent/Guardian Consent Form

_____ Most recent 10th grade report card

_____ High school transcript including all grades from ninth grade and fall semester of tenth grade

Completed and submitted by others:

_____ Guidance Counselor Recommendation (to be submitted online by counselor via https://tinyurl.com/GuidanceRec2020)

Teacher Recommendation (to be submitted online by teacher via https://tinyurl.com/TeacherRec2020)

The online application and guidance counselor recommendation are available at www.opportunitynetwork.org/apply. If you have any questions at any point during the application process, please email recruiting@opportunitynetwork.org.
Opportunity Network: An Introduction

About Us
We ignite the drive, curiosity, and agency of students from historically and systematically underrepresented communities to connect them to college access and success, internships, career opportunities, and personal and professional networks.

The Fellows Program

The Opportunity Network’s Fellows Program is a unique six-year career development program for motivated and goal-driven high school students looking to:

- Examine personal values, skills, and passions for college and career exploration;
- Get exposure to over 25 career tracks;
- Make personal connections with peers, professionals, and contacts in higher education;
- Apply to four-year colleges or universities;
- Build resumes through paid internships or special enrichment opportunities; and
- Develop a lifelong network of support leading to finding a "best fit" college or university and rewarding careers.

Program Overview

The Fellows Program begins with a mandatory 2 week Summer Institute for incoming students (rising juniors). Afterwards, from the beginning of junior year to the end of senior year, students participate in weekly afterschool workshops focusing on networking, professional skills, and career exploration. Special activities throughout the year include field trips, guest speakers and panels, and The Opportunity Network’s signature Speed Networking event. Most class sessions and activities take place at OppNet’s offices in Lower Manhattan.

Through the summer opportunities program, juniors and seniors participate in paid internships and fully funded unique enrichment programs all over New York City, the United States, and the world. Many students are placed in a range of internships gaining real-life experience in a variety of roles and industries. Other students have received full scholarships to spend the summer on a college campus or travel to Europe, Africa, Latin America, and Asia. The college guidance program supports students and families throughout the college selection process and includes college visits, SAT/ACT prep, and individualized advising on admissions, financial aid, and scholarships. In recent years, 100% Opportunity Network Fellows have been accepted to four-year colleges and universities and just last year, 95% of the senior class’ financial need was met.

After high school, students continue to participate in college success and career readiness programming with continued peer-to-peer networking and staff support.

Who Should Apply?

- All students that are currently enrolled in the tenth grade at a New York City high school regardless of immigration or citizenship status*.

  *The Opportunity Network will not release information about identifiable immigration status of students unless consent is given or we are compelled to do so by law. We will do everything in our legal authority to protect the privacy of our community.

- Students that have demonstrated academic commitment. Our current Fellows reflect their academic commitment by taking challenging course loads. Most of our Fellows come into our program with a GPA of 87 and above.

- Students who identify as a member of a historically and systemically underrepresented community.

- Students that are pursuing their hobbies and interests with passion and energy.

- Applicants should not already have access to the kinds of resources, services, and opportunities the program offers such as intensive college counseling and application assistance, mandatory summer programming that conflicts with OppNet’s Summer Institute, or participate in programs such as SEO, Minds Matter, or Breakthrough.

- Applicants must be self-motivated to join a challenging peer network and commit to OppNet as their primary extracurricular.

When to Apply

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