



Summer Summit Young Professionals Panelist

Overview

Achieve Atlanta's vision is that **all** students educated in Atlanta Public Schools (APS) will complete a post-secondary education and obtain the full benefits that a higher education provides. To reach our vision, Achieve Atlanta is working to harness a broad array of community resources to dramatically increase the number of APS students graduating from a post-secondary institution. Currently, Achieve Atlanta is:

- Partnering with college advising providers with proven results to serve APS students while they are in high school;
- Establishing strategic formal relationships with post-secondary institutions that can successfully serve APS graduates, especially those who are first generation and who come from underrepresented populations;
- Providing Achieve Atlanta scholarships to students to eliminate financial barriers; and
- Developing a plan to mobilize broad community support by leveraging data to accelerate collaborations that further college access, persistence and completion in Atlanta.

Ultimately, Achieve Atlanta will be part of a system that transforms the lives of students, their families, and the city of Atlanta by creating a highly educated and skilled population and, as a result, address the lack of economic upward mobility and income inequality in our city. Achieve Atlanta has set a goal to **double the number of APS graduates** completing a post-secondary degree or credential by 2025.

Summer Summit 2018

This summer, Achieve Atlanta will hold a series of inspirational, half-day learning and networking experiences for all Achieve Atlanta Scholars (Scholars) called Summer Summit. Summer Summit is one component of Achieve Atlanta's broader effort to: 1) connect college students with academic and social supports they need to persist and graduate; and 2) create peer support networks for college students and families.

The specific goals of Summer Summit include the following:

1. Providing relevant information to Scholars, based upon their cohort, class standing, and degree-type;
2. Creating a sense of belonging and excitement among Scholars; and
3. Providing an opportunity for Scholars to connect with each other and their on-campus support network.

Currently, Achieve Atlanta serves three cohorts of APS high school graduates. The 2016 cohort is comprised of rising third-year students and recent graduates of two-year or technical degree programs. The 2017 cohort is made up of rising second-year students. The 2018 cohort, our newest, includes 2018 APS high school graduates who will enroll in a post-secondary institution this fall.

Achieve Atlanta will hold Summer Summit on four different dates between June 2018 and July 2018, to allow for differentiation of content by cohort and to provide flexibility for our Scholars. Each Summer Summit session will include motivational speakers, breakout workshops, meetings with on-campus support network representatives, and networking opportunities. Participation at one of the four Summer Summit sessions is mandatory for all Scholars.

The Opportunity

Achieve Atlanta is seeking recent college graduates to serve on a young professionals panel during Summer Summit. Panelists will be asked to speak about their experiences with the following:

- Being a responsible student (i.e., what I wish I had known);
- Identifying career areas of interest;
- Gaining career-aligned professional experiences while a student;
- Securing a position after graduation; and
- Managing the duties and responsibilities of a young adult (e.g., career, financial, personal, etc.).

Achieve Atlanta has a particular interest in identifying panelists who were first-generation college students and/or who work in Georgia's high-demand career areas. These career areas are as follows: mechanical engineer, electrical engineer, welder, machinist, computer numerical control operator, programmable logic controller, software developer, business support roles (accounting, human resources, marketing, etc.), computer programmer, maintenance technician, manufacturing associate.

Note that panelists have the option of serving on a panel during one or more Summer Summit sessions based upon their availability and interest.

If you are interested in leading a session for Summer Summit, please complete the brief [Achieve Atlanta Summer Summit Prospective Panelist Survey](#) by May 4, 2018.