

WASHINGTON STATE ACT SIX FACT SHEET



Mission

An initiative of the Northwest Leadership Foundation, the mission of Act Six is to equip emerging urban leaders to engage the college campus and their communities at home.

Model Summary

As an urban leadership development and college access and retention initiative, Act Six accomplishes this mission through the following model:

- (1) **Recruit and Select:** Annually recruit and select diverse, multicultural cadres of Tacoma-Seattle's most promising emerging urban leaders.
- (2) **Train and Prepare:** Intensively train these groups of students in the year prior to college, equipping them to support each other, succeed academically, and grow as service-minded leaders and agents of transformation.
- (3) **Send and Fund:** Send the teams together to select faith-based colleges across Washington on full-tuition, full-need scholarships.
- (4) **Support and Inspire:** Provide strong campus support and ongoing leadership development to nurture these young people as they find their vocation and grow into the next generation of community leaders.

Scholar Demographics

After selecting six cadres of scholars in Tacoma-Seattle for Whitworth and one for PLU, the first 67 Act Six scholars have the following characteristics:

- 37% African American, 24% Asian/Pacific Islander, 10% Hispanic, 5% Caucasian, 24% mixed heritage
- represent 6 continents of the world & speak 13 native languages
- median 3.44 high school gpa
- 70% first generation college students
- 73% qualify for a federal Pell grant
- 84% are first generation or Pell-eligible

Outcomes

The effectiveness and impact of the Act Six initiative at Whitworth is indicated by the following:

- by December 2008, 21 of 22 scholars in first two cadres will have graduated within five years
- 67% of first graduates have returned to work and serve in their home communities
- 94% of the first 67 scholars have graduated or are still enrolled
- current median Whitworth gpa of 3.2
- minority enrollment at Whitworth beyond Act Six showing promising trends
- new conversations and dialog across campus
- scholars are assuming increasing number of leadership roles on campus
- scholars are engaged in numerous community internships and service opportunities

National Partners and Affiliates

Memphis Leadership Foundation has four cadres on campus at Crichton College.
Portland Central Young Life has two cadres on campus at George Fox University.