

Mission

Diploma Plus small high schools incorporate a performance-based approach, a supportive school culture, future focus, and effective supports in order to increase opportunities for students so that they have the ability to graduate college- and career-ready.

Model Description

Diploma Plus (DP) is a model for small high schools with 150 to 400 students. DP Schools are primarily located in urban areas and serve students who are over-aged and under-credited or at risk of dropping out. DP provides a rigorous and student-centered alternative for youth who have been failed by a traditional system that did not adequately nurture their gifts, curiosity, intelligence, and power as learners. DP is an alternative in the best sense of the word; its role is to transform our students' learning experiences so they will achieve success in high school, college, and careers.

The Diploma Plus Model is built around **Four Essentials** for success.

- Performance-Based Approach
- Supportive School Culture
- Future Focus
- Effective Supports

The DP model has three phases – the Foundation Phase, the Presentation Phase and the Plus Phase. In all three phases, students work on projects and assignments with clearly defined competency expectations and content objectives, and are promoted or graduate as soon as they have demonstrated these goals, regardless of the amount of time they have spent in the phase. They also compile, present, and defend a portfolio containing their best work across subjects. Students in the Plus Phase are also participating in internships, college courses, and community action projects in order to support their transition to life after high school.



I've accomplished a lot more here in a year than I did in my last school in three. If it weren't for this opportunity, I don't believe I ever would have gone back to school.
-Diploma Plus Student



Networks

There are Diploma Plus Networks in New England, New York City, and California.

Diploma Plus is made possible through the generous support of:



For more information about Diploma Plus please contact the appropriate office:

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