Position Title: STUDENT SUCCESS COACH
Preferred Start: January 2022
Location: Chicago, IL
Role Type: On-site

How to Apply
To apply, please email your resume and a cover letter to careers@hopechicago.org.

About Hope Chicago
Launched in 2021, Hope Chicago is a new, non-profit seeking to reduce economic and social inequity by providing access to debt-free higher education for Chicago public school students and their adult family members. Hope Chicago’s unique two-generation approach is modeled after a similar program in Toledo pioneered by Hope Chicago co-founder Pete Kadens. By lifting up families, in addition to students, Hope Chicago aims to accelerate economic and social progress and the rebirth and restoration of Chicago communities.

Focused on providing access, Hope Chicago funds post-secondary scholarships for Chicago public school graduates and an adult family member to attend 4-year, 2-year or credentialing programs. Hope Chicago’s holistic approach also provides for students’ non-tuition costs like room and board, books, fees, and transportation, and supports scholars with wraparound support from local and national partner organizations. All students in Hope Chicago’s partner high schools are eligible. More information about Hope Chicago is available at www.hopechicago.org.

About the Role
Hope Chicago is seeking to hire a small team of Student Success Coaches (SSCs) to join our growing program team. Under the supervision and support of the assigned Program Manager, and in collaboration with school staff and partners, SSCs will be responsible for supporting high school students’ preparation for and navigation of their post-secondary opportunities. Working with students in one-on-one and group settings, SSCs will help students develop their plans for after high school graduation, access the available financial support from Hope Chicago and other aid, and make a best-fit decision for their post-secondary future.

A successful candidate must have a personal and professional commitment to equitable access to learning opportunities for young people and adults alike, with a particular focus on communities that have been underestimated and lacked investment. SSCs must believe that pathways to postsecondary educational attainment can empower people of all ages to create socio-economic mobility for themselves, their families and entire communities, and have an unwavering belief in students, particularly those who may not believe college is attainable for them.
Key Responsibilities

A Student Success Coach will:

- Serve as an advisor, mentor, and coach to one or more schools, focused on 11th and 12th graders, with more infrequent support for 9th and 10th graders, as assigned;
- Closely collaborate with the high school’s administration, school counselor(s) and post-secondary team, as well as other student support organizations within the school;
- Participate in Hope Chicago school site, CPS network and district led professional learning activities/sessions that are associated with postsecondary leadership teams, the Learn, Plan, Succeed. initiative and other postsecondary education spaces;
- Lead one-on-one and small group sessions with students to help them overcome barriers, access available academic, social emotional and financial resources;
- Assist students in the completion of necessary financial documents (including but not limited to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid/FAFSA, the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid formally known as the RISE Act Application), scholarship applications and Hope Chicago registration requirements;
- Guide students through available postsecondary opportunities and associated application processes, and career exploration and planning;
- Connect students with test preparation and college application workshops and resources;
- Deliver curriculum to parents/guardians of students on how they can support their students’ pursuit of post-secondary education, regardless of their own educational experience;
- Provide intentional support to students and their families with navigating the transition from high school to postsecondary education;
- Plan and conduct college visits, career workshops, and summer programs for students;
- Coordinate with other SSCs to develop, document, and implement best practices;
- Contribute to Hope Chicago's growth and evolution as an organization through participation in regular team meetings, professional development and planning; and
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Competencies

Exceptional candidates will:

- Hold a bachelor’s degree; at least 2-3 years of experience with HS or college students;
- Have experience building and maintaining trusting relationships with students, families, and school staff, and/or coaching students toward goals;
- Demonstrate meticulous organizational and time management skills;
- Be relentless and creative when confronted with obstacles in the way of student success;
- Possess exceptional professional judgement and discretion, with unquestioned responsibility, persistence and diligence;
- Seek feedback and learning opportunities whenever possible; and
- Enjoy a dynamic, fast-paced, and collaborative team environment.

Fluency in Spanish is strongly preferred. Public or private transportation to schools will be required.

All offers contingent on completion of the Chicago Public School background check process.
Compensation
Salary is competitive, and commensurate with experience. Hope Chicago offers full medical, dental and vision benefits, 401(k) with employer match, and generous paid time off.

Hope Chicago is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, and values its diverse and inclusive workplace. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, gender identity or expression, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or marital status, and are committed to a welcoming, respectful environment for all who work for and engage with Hope Chicago.