



Simon Youth Foundation's (SYF) impact across the country is broad and deep, supporting more than 33,000 graduates and families since its inception in 1998. Simon Youth Academies, operated by local public school districts, maintain an average graduation rate of 91%, ensuring that youth who have not been successful in a traditional environment, 78% of whom qualify for free or reduced lunch, earn their high school diplomas. Simon Property Group (Simon) employees founded SYF to give back to the community by meeting students where they were – in the mall instead of school – through the creation of Alternative Education Academies inside Simon Malls. To this day, Simon and its employees continue to support the success of SYF. Simon donates more than \$1M of in-kind space for Academies located in Simon Malls. The 2025 SYF Annual Campaign raised \$3.23M to expand programs and services in our Academies, including partners like, **PNC Bank, IU Health, KeyBank Foundation, and Whiting Turner**, among others, which supported our 32 Simon Youth Academies, student scholarships, and capacity building grants.

A Solution with Real Impact

For more than 25 years, SYF has empowered thousands of students each year to create better futures for their families and communities through education. SYF's work is changing the way students who seek Alternative Education pathways are perceived – we believe all students deserve to be seen, heard, and met where they are with access to a meaningful education. SYF continues to seek out partnerships with credentialing organizations, national and local employers, and education organizations to expand and enhance our mission. Adults who have earned a high school diploma earn, on average, 25% more annually than students who have dropped out of school. Knowing this, SYF celebrates how our graduates are transforming the workforce, economy, and communities in which they live for generations to come.

Simon Youth Academies

SYF has robust educational partnerships with 25 local school districts in 12 states. For more than 25 years, SYF has made an educational commitment to students, families, and communities in which these school districts operate – positively impacting over 33,000 graduates and families through the power of earning a high school diploma. Engaging local school districts across the country extends SYF's annual reach to support an average of 2,824 students and their families who might otherwise never achieve a high school diploma or feel worthy and able to consider college and career opportunities. These students do not lack academic promise or drive; they must choose to attend a Simon Youth Academy. Students come to our Academies because they have had personal challenges and circumstances, such as the need to be employed to help support their families, managing a chronic illness, or contending with other factors that prevent them from succeeding in a traditional high school setting. Some students are stepping up to fulfill family roles beyond those of a typical teen to ensure their parents and siblings are safe, warm, and fed.



SYF Scholarships

Each year, SYF's national scholarship program serves students who were at risk of dropping out of high school, but whose personal initiative enabled them to persevere and earn their high school diploma. To date, SYF has awarded over \$22.6M in scholarships. SYF Academy scholarships remove financial barriers for students, many of whom are minorities. In 2025, 68% were students of color, who might not consider post-secondary education absent financial support. In 2025, 34% of students identified as Hispanic or Latino. SYF awarded 67 Academy scholarships valued at \$827,000, averaging \$8,955 per scholarship.

SYF also invests in Simon Mall communities to support more students through community and employee scholarships; 2025 awards to 96 students, were valued at nearly \$126,000. Students attend community colleges, Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCUs), Ivy League institutions, and local colleges and universities for post-secondary education.

SYF Educator Capacity

In 2025, SYF invested more than \$173,000 in capacity-building grants to Academies which employ over 400 Academy educators. Since the inception of the program in 2006, SYF has invested over \$1.7M in educators and Academies. These grants allow SYF Academies to address the specific needs of their Academies that are not covered through other federal, state, or local funds.

As teacher needs continue to grow and communities are challenged with attracting and retaining talented teachers, SYF stands firm in our commitment to providing ongoing professional development and continuing education credits for our teachers. Through annual surveys, teachers identify issues and content for continuing education. SYF uses their feedback to host an annual conference, through which teachers participate in workshops from national experts and their Academy peers. In 2025, this also included a focus on attendance and multi-tiered systems of support. In coordination with the conference theme, *Still, We Rise*, Academies learned about resilience and strategies from our greatest asset, our network.

Follow SYF on Social Media

Facebook	@simonyouthfoundation
Instagram	@simonyouthfoundation
LinkedIn	@simonyouthfoundation
X	@simonyouth
YouTube	@simonyouthfoundation_



SIMON YOUTH FOUNDATION ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

Simon Youth Foundation (SYF) helps at-risk students stay in school and earn their high school diploma through alternative education programs embedded in community spaces across the U.S. This report outlines the measurable national economic impact of SYF’s work from 2010-2024. It quantifies that impact by analyzing two key drivers: (1) SYF’s direct investments in local communities, and (2) the increased lifetime earnings of SYF graduates. The findings demonstrate the powerful, long-term value of supporting SYF - an investment in students, communities, and the future of the U.S. economy.

THE MEASURABLE ECONOMIC POWER OF SYF’S WORK



HOW SYF STRENGTHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Simon Youth Foundation partners with public school districts to serve students at risk of dropping out. By supporting alternative education programs in accessible, community-based locations, SYF helps districts re-engage students, boost graduation rates, and reduce dropout-related costs. Each SYF graduate generates an estimated \$176,000 in long-term economic value through higher earnings, increased tax contributions, and reduced reliance on public assistance - benefits that flow directly back into local communities and school systems.

WHO WE ARE

Simon Youth Foundation (SYF) is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to helping students graduate and prepare for life after high school. We believe every young person, no matter their personal circumstances, deserves the opportunity to pursue their dreams through education.

We advance this mission through two core programs.

SIMON YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year, SYF awards an average of \$1 million in scholarships to graduating students. By focusing on first-generation college students and those with financial need, we help break down barriers to higher education.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- **Simon Youth Academy Scholarships**
exclusively for graduates of Simon Youth Academies.
- **Greg Saunders Legacy Program Scholarships**
for dependents of Simon Property Group employees.
- **Shari Simon Greenberg Community Scholarships**
for high school seniors living near a Simon mall or in the surrounding communities.

SIMON YOUTH ACADEMIES & ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION SUPPORT

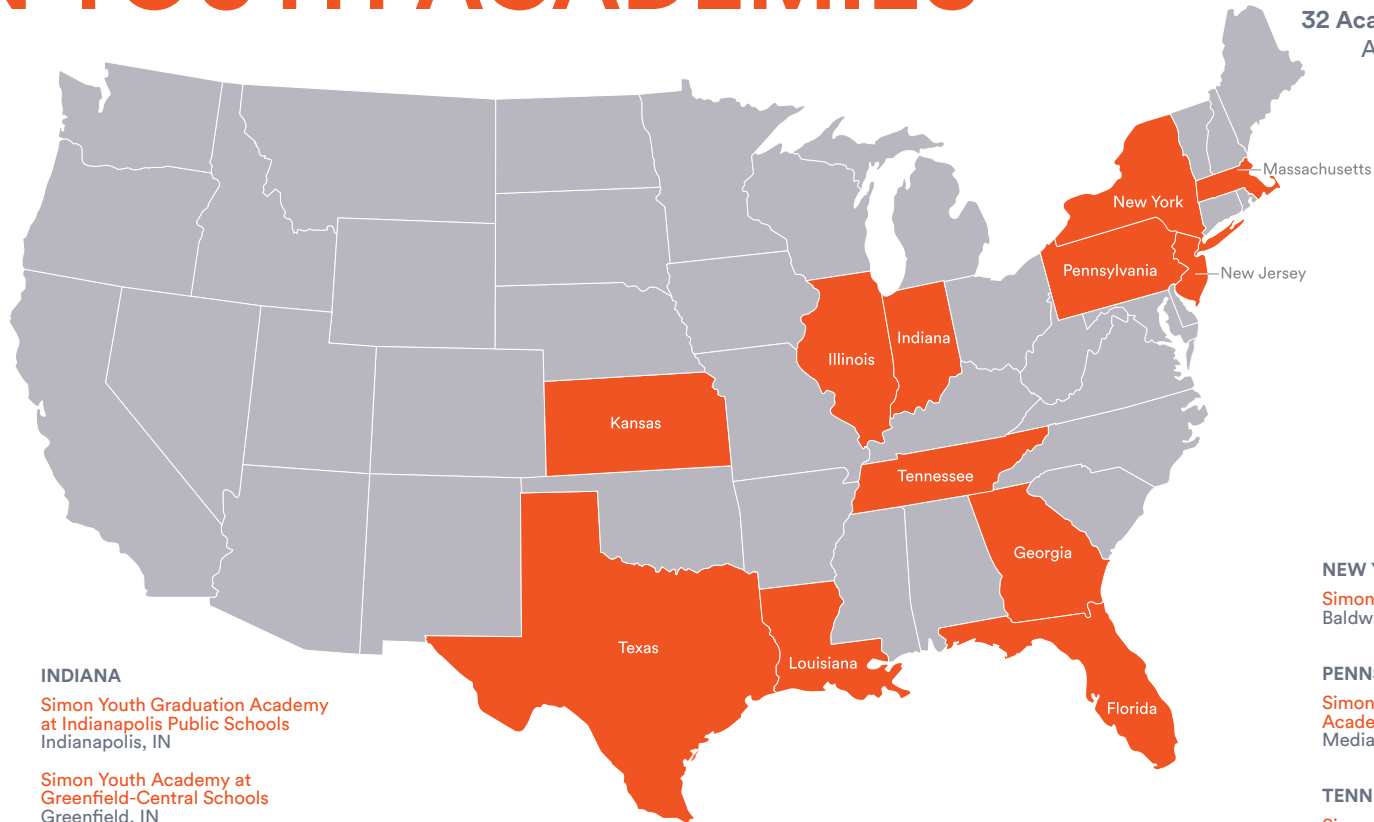
SYF partners with public school districts to strengthen and sustain alternative education programs that serve students at risk of dropping out. Often located in Simon mall communities, these programs provide a lifeline for young people facing challenges such as homelessness, bullying, parenthood, or the need to work to support their families.

Through direct funding and resources, SYF helps districts keep students engaged, overcome barriers, and graduate. **Today, SYF supports 32 academies across 12 states, and has helped more than 30,000 students earn their diplomas.**



SIMON YOUTH ACADEMIES

32 Academies in 12 States
As of July 2026



FLORIDA

Simon Youth Academy at Expecting Excellence
Orlando, FL

Simon Youth Academy at Orlando Outlet Marketplace
Orlando, FL

Simon Youth Academy at Port Charlotte
Port Charlotte, FL

GEORGIA

Simon Youth Academy at Phoenix High School
Lawrenceville, GA

Simon Youth Academy at Sugarloaf Mills
Lawrenceville, GA

ILLINOIS

Simon Youth Springfield Learning Academy
Springfield, IL

INDIANA

Simon Youth Graduation Academy at Indianapolis Public Schools
Indianapolis, IN

Simon Youth Academy at Greenfield-Central Schools
Greenfield, IN

Lawrence Advance Academy – A Simon Youth Academy
Lawrence, IN

Simon Youth Academy at McKinley Alternative School
Kokomo, IN

Simon Youth Academy at Options Noblesville
Noblesville, IN

Simon Youth Academy at Richmond High School
Richmond, IN

Simon Youth Academy at Shelbyville Central Schools
Shelbyville, IN

Simon Youth Academy at Avon
Avon, IN

Simon Youth Center Grove Academy
Greenwood, IN

Simon Youth Clark-Pleasant Academy
Whiteland, IN

Simon Youth Academy at Hope Academy
Indianapolis, IN

Simon Youth True North Academy
Indianapolis, IN

Simon Youth Academy Achievement Center at New Castle High School
New Castle, IN

KANSAS

Simon Youth Academy at Towne East Square
Wichita, KS

LOUISIANA

Simon Youth Academy at Prien Lake Mall
Lake Charles, LA

MASSACHUSETTS

Simon Youth Academy at Burlington
Burlington, MA

Simon Youth Academy at Northshore Mall
Peabody, MA

NEW JERSEY

Raymond J. Lesniak Recovery High School – A Simon Youth Academy
Roselle, NJ

Simon Youth Academy at The Mills at Jersey Gardens
Elizabeth, NJ

NEW YORK

Simon Youth Academy at Baldwin
Baldwin, NY

PENNSYLVANIA

Simon Youth Rose Tree Media Academy
Media, PA

TENNESSEE

Simon Youth Academy at Hickory Hollow
Antioch, TN

Simon Youth Academy at Old Cockrill
Nashville, TN

Simon Youth Academy at Opry Mills
Nashville, TN

Dr. Paul L. Kelley Volunteer Academy at Lincoln Park Center – A Simon Youth Academy
Knoxville, TN

TEXAS

Simon Youth Judson Learning Academy