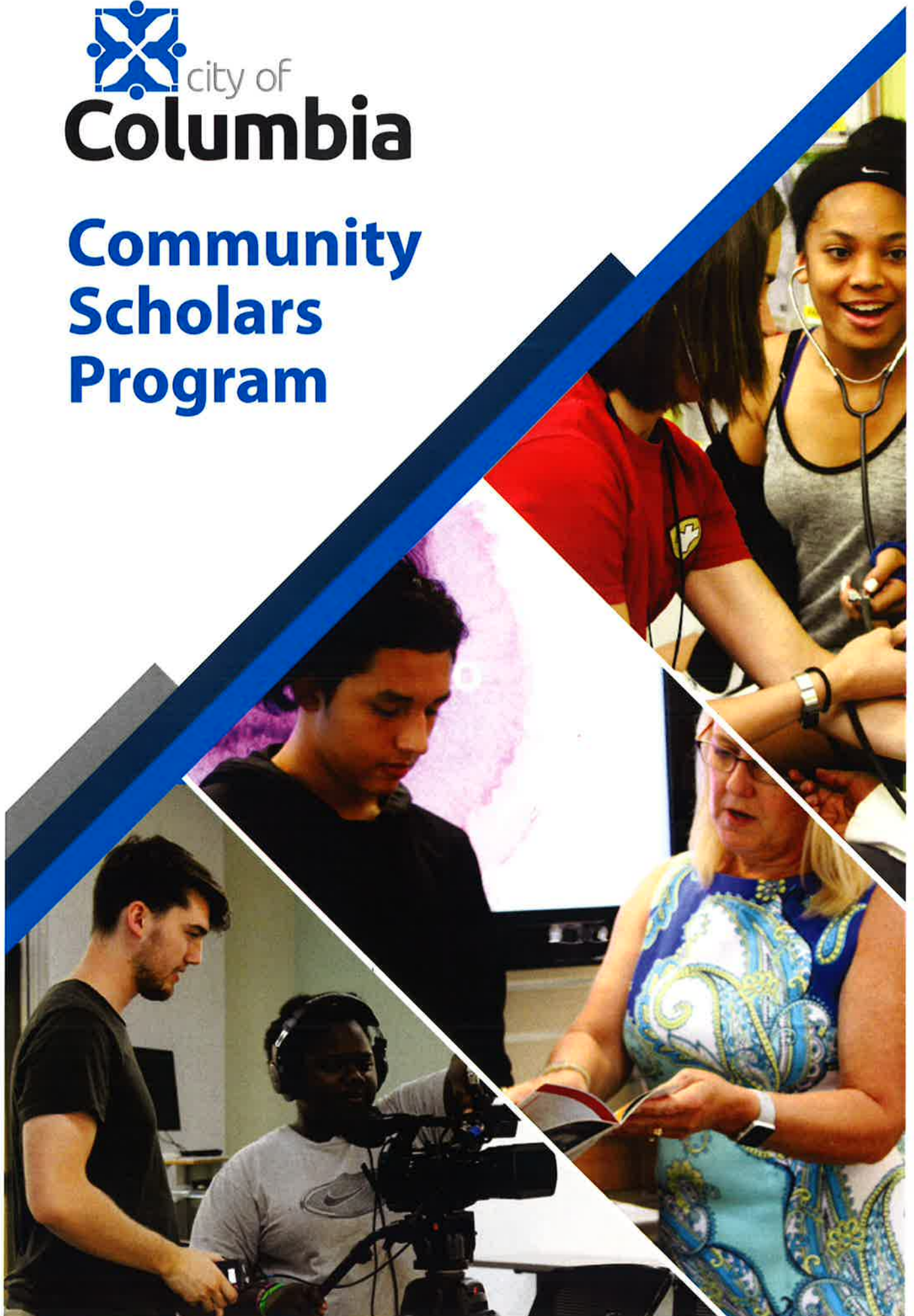




Community Scholars Program



City of Columbia Community Scholars Program

The Community Scholars Program provides at-risk students and their families with the support they need and is centered on the fundamental premise that it takes a whole community to raise a child. This innovative program utilizes community partnerships to more effectively target existing resources to empower the students to achieve success in high school and in life. Community organizations provide additional support to the children and their families. This ongoing program was first successfully implemented in the summer of 2017 by the City of Columbia and Hickman High School.

The program is targeted toward incoming ninth grade students who are identified by the school as at-risk. The summer following eighth grade graduation, the students participate in a summer school course which integrates job readiness skills training and job shadowing opportunities. Students are matched with City staff based upon areas of interest identified through the Missouri Connections Program. Time spent job-shadowing counts towards the 50 hours of unpaid tutoring or mentoring for Missouri's A+ Scholarship Program. The City's CARE Program assists teachers by providing job readiness skills training and an opportunity to apply for a CARE summer job for the following summer. Together, the City and Hickman High School have developed a curriculum guide and forms to make the program easily replicable and scalable in other communities.

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