Schools are America’s foundation for building a just and equitable society. In today’s public schools, 80% of educators are Caucasian, while 51% students in classrooms are students of color.

As more and more students from diverse backgrounds enter our classrooms, too few diverse educators are there to teach them. In today’s public schools, 80 percent of educators are Caucasian and 77 percent are female.

Despite more than three decades of dedicated investment in recruitment and in stopgap measures intended to increase the number of educators in our schools, the diversity gap is widening. We need a new approach. We must begin to invest in what we know works to prepare greater numbers of highly effective diverse educators to enter and persist in American classrooms.

Diverse educators make up only 20% of the teacher workforce in the U.S.

Redefining Quality Educator Preparation for a Changing America

Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity (BranchED) serves and represents a national network of high impact educator preparation programs at minority serving institutions (MSIs), such as Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISIs).

We seek to strengthen educator preparation program performance and advocate for the essential role of MSIs in reform efforts, particularly those that support the increased achievement of all learners.

The U.S. cannot close the diversity gap without the educator preparation programs of minority serving institutions.

Not enough attention is paid to the unique capabilities of MSIs, who often serve the least resourced and most academically challenged students. While MSIs makeup only 13% of this nation’s educator preparation programs, they produce 48% of the country’s teachers of color. Additionally, MSI graduates are more likely to remain in the profession than their peers who are trained at other institutions.
What We Do

BranchED has worked with over 300 faculty from 110+ MSIs to help maximize their performance and foster collaboration with partners—including PK-12 districts, business communities, nonprofits, and philanthropies—to drive innovation in educator preparation programs.

EMPOWER

Maximize the capacity of MSIs to deliver high quality educator preparation through training and technical assistance.

CONNECT

Strengthen relationships among MSIs—and between the community of MSIs and other leading-edge organizations and reform efforts—to spur collaboration and innovation.

ADVANCE

Build awareness and appreciation of the critical contributions MSIs make to the field of educator preparation.

Educator Diversity Matters

Learning from diverse educators prepares all students to thrive in our multilingual, multiracial, and multicultural society. Students who have fewer educational advantages than their peers especially benefit, experiencing improved academic and social-emotional outcomes, when they are taught by educators from similar backgrounds.

PARTNER WITH US

We have been named one of the 10 Big Ideas in Education by Education Week. With your partnership we can do more to equip, unite, and activate these critically important programs, as well as collect and share their expertise with the field at large.

To learn more, visit www.educatordiversity.org/contact