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## **Modeling Post-Secondary Alternatives Among High Performing Minority Students**

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**Abstract:** The United States Military (USMA) is currently under-represented within its Corps of Cadets in terms of minority which are defined as low-income students (\$50,000 and below), females, and any ethnicity other than Caucasian (U.S. Department of Education, 2015). The object of this report is to examine the wants, needs, and desires of high-performing minority high school students in New York City (NYC) to pursue post-secondary educational opportunities, specifically USMA. The report is intended to provide the USMA Offices of Diversity and Admissions and the USMA Superintendent with proposed recommendations to increase minority enrollment at USMA. In return, an increase in minority enrollment increases trust with the American people as the military becomes more representative of the American population and the operational Army. From NYC minority high schools visits and surveys, we found that there is a huge knowledge gap between NYC minority students and USMA. Specifically, the gap is the biggest in terms of tuition, athletics, and advertisement. NYC minority students, although located roughly 50 miles away from USMA, do not about the academic, athletic, and leaderships USMA offers.

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