NEW PARTNER ORIENTATION

OVERVIEW

- Research
- National GEAR UP
- Utah’s Statewide GEAR UP Program
- Region 1 GEAR UP: Weber State University
  - Organization & Funding, Training, Student Recruitment & Eligibility, Outreach, Tracking, Services, Vision
Compared to their low-income peers in other states, low-income students in Utah are significantly less likely to enroll in college (Mortenson, 2010).

Enrollment in remedial courses is tied to decreased college graduation rates (Conley, 2007)

Students are at a greater risk of dropping out of high school if they are inadequately prepared or feel disconnected from their high school organization (Neild, 2009)

The more information and guidance students have, the more likely they will enroll in college (Berkner and Chavez, 1997; Bell, Rowan-Kenyon, and Perna, 2009)
RESEARCH

- In Utah, there has historically been a shortage of counselors available to assist students with the college application process, but is gradually improving (DSD - 1:356; WSD - 1:355). (Utah State Board of Education, 2017)
- The college participation rate of students on free and reduced student lunch is approximately 20 percent lower than for those not on FRL (Utah System of Higher Education, 2017).
- Low-income students are more reliant on school staff than their own families to learn about postsecondary options, preparation, and financing (Bell, Rowan-Kenyon, and Perna, 2009)
- Availability of financial aid information is linked to increased college enrollment (Bell, Rowan-Kenyon, and Perna, 2009)
- Many low-income students and their parents drastically underestimate the costs of college and are not adequately prepared (Utah's Statewide GEAR UP Education Program, 2011)

THINK-PAIR-SHARE

- What picture does this research paint?
- What ideas come to your mind on how we can come together as a community to make a difference?
- How can you personally become an agent for change?
“In today’s global economy, what you earn depends on what you learn. This bill will make it easier for millions of Americans to get the higher education they need to succeed in the global economy...It responds to the challenge I issued in the State of the Union to create a ‘High Hopes’ initiative, where colleges reach down to middle school students in high-poverty areas to give them the support they need to be ready for higher education.”

President Bill Clinton, 1998
GEAR UP was created to provide communities with a comprehensive, holistic and research-driven initiative to prepare low-income and minority students for higher education.

National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP)

GEAR UP began in 1998 and last year alone, served over 640,000 students nationwide in 48 states.

Students who enroll in GEAR UP are more than 30% more likely than non-GEAR UP students to enroll in higher education immediately after high school.
UTAH’S STATEWIDE GEAR UP PROGRAM

- Central office: Utah Valley University
- Awarded a 7-year $26 million grant for 2011-18
- Recently awarded another 7-year $24.5 million GEAR UP grant for 2017-24
- 54 secondary schools, 16 school districts, 11 counties
- 4,850 secondary students projected to be served statewide each year from 2017-24
UTAH'S STATEWIDE GEAR UP PROGRAM

GRANT OBJECTIVES

1. Increase academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education for GEAR UP students.
2. Increase the rate of high school graduation and enrollment in postsecondary education for GEAR UP students.
3. Increase GEAR UP students’ and their families’ knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparations, and financing.
4. Increase GEAR UP students’ success in their first year of attendance at an institution of higher education.

GEAR UP, REGION 1: WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY
GEAR UP, REGION 1: WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

DUAL GRANTS

- 2011-2018 GEAR UP Grant
  - Davis School District: Clearfield HS, Layton HS, Mountain HS
  - Weber School District: Roy HS
  - WSU First Year Students
- 2018-2024 GEAR UP Grant
  - Davis School District: Northridge HS, Syracuse HS, North Layton JH, Syracuse JH, Sunset JH
  - Weber School District: Bonneville HS, TH Bell JH, South Ogden JH
  - WSU First Year Students

PART I
GEAR UP IMPLEMENTATION
GEAR UP IMPLEMENTATION (PART I)

OVERVIEW

▸ Vision
▸ Organization & Funding
▸ Training
▸ Student Recruitment & Eligibility
▸ Outreach
▸ Tracking
▸ Services

GEAR UP IMPLEMENTATION

TAKING GEAR UP TO THE NEXT LEVEL

▸ Sense of ownership (schools, students, parents)
▸ Solid collaboration
▸ Disassociate negative stigmas
▸ Improve accessibility to GU services
▸ Greater intentionality in GU services
GEAR UP, REGION 1: ORGANIZATION & FUNDING

**FUNDING**

- 2018-24 Grant: $315,000 yearly budget:
  - Staffing
  - Travel (e.g. conferences, campus visits)
  - Materials & Supplies (e.g. office supplies, marketing materials)
  - Other (e.g. food for activities, etc.)
- GEAR UP is not allowed to spend funding on:
  - Incentives, non-academic activities (e.g. Lagoon), time spent on non-GU related activities, etc.

**COST SHARE / MATCH**

- What is cost share?
  - Dollar for dollar match
  - Time & effort, space, other donations
GEAR UP, REGION 1: TRAINING

**HOW DO WE TRAIN OUR STAFF?**

- Internal on-boarding, bi-weekly meetings, on-site, & summer trainings
- UHEAA FAFSA Boot Camps
- WSU training and professional development
- State and national conferences:
  - USHE Conference
  - ACT Conference
  - USCA Conference
  - GEAR UP national and regional conferences
TRAINING & COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR GEAR UP PARTNERS

‣ WSU Access & Diversity Department
  ‣ FAFSA Boot Camps
  ‣ School Partner Breakfast
  ‣ Multicultural Youth Conference
  ‣ Senior Recognition Night
‣ National GEAR UP Conferences
  ‣ Capacity Building Workshop (Feb 4-7, Las Vegas)
  ‣ Annual Conference (July 15-18, Washington D.C.)
  ‣ GEAR UP West (Oct 14-16, Boise)

TRAINING & COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR GEAR UP PARTNERS

‣ Region 1 GEAR UP Partner Meetings
  ‣ How often should we, as Weber & Davis School District GEAR UP, meet? (e.g quarterly, bi-annually)
  ‣ What should the content of those meetings be?
    ‣ Data review
    ‣ Strategizing & Implementation
    ‣ Sharing best practices
    ‣ Collaborating
    ‣ What worked? What didn’t?
STUDENT RECRUITMENT & ELIGIBILITY

GEAR UP Utah 2017-2018 Application

School Location ____________________________

Are you a TRiO Student? Are you in a TRiO Program? Are you in a 4-year college? Yes ___ No ____

Student Information

First Name ___________ Last Name ___________ Grade ___________ Age ___________

Address: ____________________________

City ___________ State ___________ Zip ___________

Student Graduation Year: ___________

Parent/Guardian (Relationship to student): ____________________________

Student Email: ____________________________

Parent/Guardian E-mail: ____________________________

Student Social Media Account: ____________________________

Parent/Guardian Home Phone: ____________________________

Parent/Guardian Cell Phone: ____________________________

What language is spoken in the home? ____________________________

Have you been homeless at any time during the prior academic year? Yes ___ No ____

Have you been in foster care at any time during the prior academic year? Yes ___ No ____

Please explain your classification: ____________________________

Do you have any other siblings in high school? Yes ___ No ____ If yes, what school? ____________________________

Race (check one, required for federal reporting)

American Indian or Alaskan Native ___________ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ___________

Asian ___________ White ___________

Black or African American ___________ Two or More Races ___________

Ethnicity (check one, required for federal reporting)

Hispanic or Latino ___________ Non Hispanic/Latinx ____________________________

By completing and returning this application form, you are submitting yourself for consideration to participate in GEAR UP Utah. This program is designed to help students graduate from high school and prepare themselves for successful enrollment in and completion of college.

Parent Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

Student Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

GEAR UP Utah 1020 S State Street, Suite 200, Salt Lake City, UT 84111-1295 Phone: (801) 328-1724 Fax: (801) 328-1724 Website: www.gearuputah.org

Defining Homeless

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children as "individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence." The act provides examples of children who would fall under the umbrella of "homelessness:"

- Children and youth sleeping or staying in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or campgrounds due to lack of housing or substandard housing;
- Children and youth living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- Children and youth staying in public or private places not meant for human habitation, including car, bus, or train stations;
- Children and youth staying in cars, parks, boat yards, Convention Exhibition Halls, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, or motels for less than $25 a month;
- Children and youth living in cars, parks, boat yards, Convention Exhibition Halls, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, or motels for less than $25 a month;
GEAR UP, REGION 1: STUDENT RECRUITMENT & ELIGIBILITY

PROJECTED YEARLY ENROLLMENT (2017-2024)

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<th>Junior Highs</th>
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<tr>
<td>Syracuse</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
RECRUITMENT METHODS

‣ Personal referrals from counselors, teachers, students
‣ Registration packets
‣ Events involving parents & guardians (e.g. PTC)
‣ Mailings, email, social media
‣ Tabling during lunch or at other events
‣ Announcements
‣ Presentations (e.g. assemblies, classes)
‣ And more...
HOW DOES GEAR UP COMMUNICATE WITH STUDENTS & PARENTS?

- Face-to-Face
- Email (Constant Contact, newsletters)
- Texting (Remind)
- Social Media (Facebook, Instagram)
- Mailings
- Phone Calls
- Website
TRACKING STUDENT PROGRESS & PARTICIPATION

- Transcripts and standardized test scores
- School Database for Students (to view attendance, missing assignments, etc.)
- Checklists for each grade
- GEAR UP forms:
  - Contact Logs
  - Sign-in Sheets
  - Tutor Records
- Annual Surveys
- Senior Exit Forms (tracks FAFSA, scholarship, and college app completion)
GEAR UP, REGION 1: SERVICES

GEAR UP SERVICES

- Mentoring and advising
- College and career exploration
- Financial literacy, financial aid, and scholarship information
- Summer programs
- College and career tours & field trips
- Family events
- College application support
- Test preparation and study skills
- Tutoring and homework assistance
PART II

GEAR UP IMPLEMENTATION

OVERVIEW

- Space
- Mentoring & Advising
- Tutoring
- Workshops
- Field Trips
- Activities
- First Year College Services
GEAR UP SPACE

- Office space for advising
- Auditory privacy
- Desktop with printer/internet access
- Desk and basic supplies
- Phone (e.g. for calling admissions offices)
- Storage (e.g. filing cabinet, closet)
- Space for tutoring (e.g. library)
GEAR UP, REGION 1: FACILITY USE

GEAR UP SPACE

- Office space for advising
  - Auditory privacy
  - Desktop with printer/internet access
  - Desk and basic supplies
  - Phone (e.g. for calling admissions offices)
  - Storage (e.g. filing cabinet, closet)
- Space for tutoring (e.g. library)
GEAR UP, REGION 1: MENTORING & ADVISING

GEAR UP ADVISING

› Student checklists
› 1:1 and small group sessions
› When do we provide advising?
   › Between classes (late slip)
   › During classes (excusal slip)
   › During lunch, after-school, advisory
GEAR UP ADVISING

- Student checklists
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GEAR UP, REGION 1: TUTORING

**TUTORING**

- After-school tutoring
- Near-peer model
  - WSU students
  - GEAR UP Alumni
- Academic coaching
- All topics including ACT Prep

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**WORKSHOPS**

GEAR UP UTAH

REGION 1

WORKSHOPS

- ACT PREP
  - Stressing out about the ACT?
  - Come drop in and get free mock tests, tips on test taking strategies, and more!
  - What does the ACT cover?
    - MATH
    - READING
    - ENGLISH
    - SCIENCE
  - MONDAY - THURSDAY
    - 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM
    - Computer Lab 3
  - Questions?
    - Call GEAR UP at:
      - (801) 596-3547
      - gearpup@usu.edu

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**ACT PREP**

STRESSING OUT ABOUT THE ACT?
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+ READING
+ ENGLISH
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GEAR UP, REGION 1: WORKSHOPS

“LUNCH N’ LEARN” WORKSHOPS

- Tailored to each grade level
- Topics based on student checklists
- During lunch
  - BYOL or GEAR UP provides
  - GEAR UP grade level excused 15 minutes prior to lunch bell
- Designated location(s)
- Guest speakers (e.g. school faculty and staff, WSU students and staff, community, GU alumni)
- Redefining “workshop”

GEAR UP, REGION 1: WORKSHOPS

FAMILY WORKSHOPS

- Quarterly
- Evening time
- Looking into adding:
  - Live stream / replays
  - Materials online
GEAR UP, REGION 1: FIELD TRIPS

COLLEGE & CAREER FIELD TRIPS

- Upcoming junior high field trips:
  - Feb 15 University of Utah
  - April 26 Weber State University
- Upcoming high school field trips
  - March 29 University of Utah
  - May 10 Weber State University/New Student Orientation
- During school
- Summer career exploration
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COLLEGE & CAREER FIELD TRIPS

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‣ During school
‣ Summer career exploration
OTHER GEAR UP ACTIVITIES

- National GEAR UP Week (September)
- Signing Day / Senior Recognition Night (May 3)
- Summer ACT Boot Camp
- Summer Bridge
- Other activities GU supports:
  - FAFSA Completion Nights
  - Utah College Application Week
  - ...and more!
FIRST YEAR SERVICES

- GEAR UP assists first year GEAR UP students with:
  - Class registration
  - First-year advising
  - Success workshops
  - Summer Bridge
  - Referrals to campus resources & services
  - FAFSA & Scholarships
    - WSU Access & Diversity tuition waiver
  - Support at colleges & universities beyond WSU
REFERENCES


GEAR UP

GET CONNECTED

GEAR UP, REGION 1

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

› Websites
  › GEAR UP, Region 1 (WSU): www.weber.edu/stategearup
  › Utah’s Statewide GEAR UP Program: www.uvu.edu/gearup
  › National GEAR UP / NCCEP: www.edpartnerships.org
› GEAR UP, Region 1 (WSU) social media links
  › Facebook: www.facebook.com/StateGEARUP
  › Instagram: www.instagram.com/stategearup
› Hashtags & Handles
  › #GEARUPworks #IheartGEARUP @StateGEARUP
GEAR UP

CONTACT INFORMATION

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‣ Phone: (801) 395-3547
‣ Email: stategearup@weber.edu