

Texas GEAR UP

Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs

Description

The Texas State GEAR UP program is a six-year federal program (2012-2019) created to enhance early college awareness, access, and readiness for Texas students beginning in the seventh grade.

Texas GEAR UP is divided into two major strands:

- A district intervention model that provides support to cohort students in four targeted, high-need districts. Participating districts were pre-identified in the state's grant application. TEA collaborates with the University of Texas at Austin's Institute for Public School Initiatives (IPSI) as the state implementation office (technical assistance provider).
- A statewide outreach model that provides information, guidance, and resources related to college and career readiness for all Texas students, parents, and educators. TEA collaborates with AMS, Public Interest as the product development provider.

GEAR UP Grant Objectives and Goals

- Increase the academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education of GEAR UP students
 - 1) Improve instruction and expanded academic opportunities in math and science.
 - 2) Increase access to and success in quality advanced academic programs.
 - 3) Professional development for strong, data-driven instruction.
- Increase the rate of high school graduation and participation in Postsecondary education.
 - 1) Provide a network of strong student support services to Promote on-time promotion and academic preparation For college.
 - 2) Increase high school completion & college attendance
 - 3) Increase first-year college retention
- Increase the educational expectations and family knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparation, and financing.
 - 1) Increase postsecondary information and opportunities for students, parents, and communities
 - 2) Build and expand community partnerships.
 - 3) Promote college readiness statewide.
- Build local partnerships and capacity and work to ensure long-term sustainability

Funding

The Texas GEAR UP State Grant project receives \$5 million annually for the first six years of the grant. In year seven, TEA will Received \$3 million for Texas GEAR UP.

GEAR UP Profile

- Texas GEAR UP provides resources for educators, students, and parents on topics including:
 - ◆ College Readiness
 - ◆ College Awareness
 - ◆ Advanced Academics
 - ◆ Promising Outreach Practices
 - ◆ Financial Aid
 - ◆ Parent Involvement
 - ◆ Mentors, Mindsets, and Relationships
 - ◆ ...and many more.
- Approximately 1900 students in four districts around the state have participated in this round of the Texas GEAR UP State Grant.
- The Texas Education Agency manages the Texas GEAR UP State Grant. Ten other partnerships are currently at work throughout the state providing services to over 25,000 students.
- Nationally, GEAR UP students graduate from high school at a higher rate than their peers regardless of ethnicity or income and attend college at a higher rate.

Contact Us

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For more details regarding Texas GEAR UP and to access GEAR UP resources, visit www.texasgearup.com. For more information about GEAR UP at the national level, visit www.ed.gov/gearup.