



Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy 2017 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

DEADLINE: December 9, 2016

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Who can participate?

Participation in the Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy is open to all **parents, grandparents** and **guardians** who have or have had children in any of the 24 GEAR UP schools/sites in the Oklahoma GEAR UP grant **and who is not a current employee or their spouse of the school or school district.**

Participants will:

- Enhance their leadership and communication skills.
- Learn about the public education system in Oklahoma.
- Receive and learn how to read and understand the test data from their school and district.
- Learn about achievement gaps in our schools.
- Partner with their school administrators, teachers, and other parents to improve student achievement.
- Connect to an existing network of committed parents and community leaders.
- **Commit to attend all three two-day sessions.**
- **Commit to leading at least one project in a school or community.**
- Receive support and coaching as they plan and implement their project.
- Maintain an ongoing connection with Oklahoma GEAR UP.

To attend:

- Read complete application packet. (See complete packet contents on back of this page.)
- Fill out Application Form (2 pages), sign, and date.
- Have school representative complete Recommendation Form (2 pages).
- Submit completed, signed Application & Recommendation Forms to the following address by December 9, 2016.
 - Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy
 - ATTENTION: LaDonna Bornemann
 - 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200
 - Oklahoma City, OK 73104-3603
- Reserve these dates:
 - January 19-20, 2017
 - February 16-17, 2017
 - March 23-24, 2017
 - April 13-14, 2017 (if needed for snow makeup day)
- Attend Academy at the following location on above dates.
 - Rose State College-Professional Training Center
 - 6420 S.E. 15th
 - Midwest City, Oklahoma 73110-2799

(continued on back)

The U.S. Department of Education awarded Oklahoma with state GEAR UP grants totaling \$20.5 million in August 1999, \$20.6 million in August 2005 and \$34.9 million in September 2011. The grants have been matched by more than \$48 million from state and partner resources. From 1999 to 2011, GEAR UP received more than \$45.6 million in federal funds. With the addition of the 2011 grant, Oklahoma's GEAR UP program will ultimately receive more than \$80.6 million in federal funds by 2018.



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- Complete application packet includes the following:
 1. Application Instructions (2 pages with important information)
 2. Application Form – 2 pages (must be submitted by December 9, 2016)
 3. Recommendation Form - 2 pages (must be submitted by December 9, 2016)
 4. Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Fact Sheet (1 page)
 5. Parent Leadership in a Nutshell information page (1 page)
 6. Benefits to Parents, Schools, and Students (1 page)

If you have not received all of the above documents, please contact LaDonna Bornemann (lbornemann@osrhe.edu or 405/225-9174).



**Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy
2017 APPLICATION FORM**

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(To be completed by parent, grandparent, or guardian)

Name	
Home Address Street Address City, State, Zip	
Home Phone Work Phone Cell Phone (Circle where you like to be contacted.)	
E-mail	
Emergency contact & Phone number	
Employment (Current)	
Race/ethnic origin (Optional)	

PERSONAL COMMITMENT

I understand participation in the **Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy** requires attendance at three two-day trainings and a commitment to work with my school to plan and implement a project designed to improve student achievement.

I agree to participate in all six days of training and conduct at least one team project.

Signature

Date

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(To be completed by parent, grandparent, or guardian)

Please tell us about your children:

Name	Age	Grade	Current School	School will attend in Fall 2017

What school do you plan to work with during your two-year commitment?

Who is the principal?

List some ways you are currently involved with the school(s) or ways you would like to be involved in your child's school.

List any issues or problems your school/school district is currently experiencing.

Tell us about any ways you are involved in your community.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Participants are required to attend all day and evening sessions. Participants need to make arrangements in advance in order to attend all sessions.



**Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy
2017 RECOMMENDATION FORM**

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(To be completed by participant's school representative.)

Provide Parent/Grandparent/Guardian Information below:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

County _____

Telephone Number _____

E-mail _____

TO THE PERSON RECOMMENDING THE PARTICIPANT:

You are being asked to recommend a parent to participate in the Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy. Parents who care deeply about their children's education and who have leadership potential will be provided with additional knowledge and skills to become more involved in education and to help other parents become involved. Consideration should be given to parents who may have not been actively involved in school process but could develop into leaders who will support education in your community. Employees of the school or school district should not be considered. For questions contact Oklahoma GEAR UP staff assistant (LaDonna Bornemann, lbornemann@osrhe.edu or 405.225.9174)

Please complete this form and **return it by December 9, 2016** for the 2017 Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy. Send by e-mail to lbornemann@osrhe.edu OR fax to 405.225.9230 (ATTENTION: Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy – LaDonna Bornemann) OR mail (address: Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy, ATTN: LaDonna Bornemann, 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK 73104-3603).

Your Name _____ Date _____

Home Address _____

Business Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Business Phone (_____) _____

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(To be completed by participant's school representative.)

How long have you known this person? _____

How do you know this person?

How long has this person been involved in his or her child/children's education at home, in the school and/or in the community?

Explain why you believe this person has leadership potential and would be a good Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy attendee?

The U.S. Department of Education awarded Oklahoma with state GEAR UP grants totaling \$20.5 million in August 1999, \$20.6 million in August 2005 and \$34.9 million in September 2011. The grants have been matched by more than \$48 million from state and partner resources. From 1999 to 2011, GEAR UP received more than \$45.6 million in federal funds. With the addition of the 2011 grant, Oklahoma's GEAR UP program will ultimately receive more than \$80.6 million in federal funds by 2018.



Parent Leadership Academy

FACT SHEET

What is the Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy?

The Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy (PLA), a program of the Center for Parent Leadership at the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, helps Oklahoma parents become more involved in improving public schools to enhance academic achievement for all students.

What are the mission and goals of the Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy?

Mission: To develop a network of skilled confident parents who will partner with local school sites to significantly increase the number of students who are prepared to enter and succeed in post-secondary education.

Goals: Graduates of the PLA will be able to: (1) provide leadership in parent-school-community partnerships that enhance student achievement in preparation for entrance and success in postsecondary education, (2) design and implement school-wide or district-wide processes that promote a high performance learning culture, and (3) encourage historically under-involved parents to engage in a strong community-school partnership.

How many parents will participate?

The Academy will train 15 parents in 2017 throughout Oklahoma. These parents will engage other parents through projects and activities in their local schools and communities.

Who will participate?

The Academy will accept nominations from the 24 school districts/sites participating in the Oklahoma GEAR UP grant. Participants must have an interest in the improvement of Oklahoma student achievement.

What will participants in the Academy be trained to do?

Participants will be trained in leadership and communications skills, given information, including achievement data, and provided an explanation of Oklahoma's public education system. Training will enable them to work more effectively with other parents in their communities to improve local schools and increase student achievement by designing and completing a project in their school or district.

Where will the institute sessions be held?

The sessions will be held in Midwest City, Oklahoma at Rose State College, Professional Training Center.

How much do the sessions cost?

The Academy is free to all participants; all expenses including lodging, meals, and materials will be provided.

How does someone get more information on the Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy?

For more information, please e-mail or call Oklahoma GEAR UP (contact LaDonna Bornemann – lbornemann@osrhe.edu or 405/225-9174).

For more information regarding the Prichard Committee and the Center for Parent Leadership Institute, check this website: <http://www.centerforparentleadership.org>.



Parent Leadership Academy



Parent Leadership in a Nutshell

What you give . . .

- Your time-by attending all 6 days (6 days and 3 evenings spread out over 3 months)
- Homework- there will be homework following each session
- Understanding-the institute classes are just the beginning, the real work is the project (for which you will receive support and money)
- Commitment to student achievement and involving all parents

What you get. . .

- Skills and knowledge that will make you an expert in your school
- Expertise that will help you in your job
- Experience to add to your resume
- Lots of materials and resources
- A personal trainer/coach
- Information to help you become a better parent
- Skills to become a better communicator
- Chance to make new friends who care about what you care about
- Opportunity for personal growth
- Good food
- 6 free nights of lodging
- Stipends to cover gasoline and childcare
- CHOCOLATE



Parent Leadership Academy

BENEFITS OF PARENT LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR PARENTS:

- Parents will be better informed about education, in general
- Parents will have clearer understanding of education terms/jargon which facilitates more effective conversations between parents, teachers and students
- Parents will have clearer understanding of what children are expected to learn and be able to do
- Parents will place higher value on education for their child and for themselves
- Parents will help schools better communicate with all parents

BENEFITS OF PARENT LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR SCHOOLS:

- Schools will have parents who are better informed about the challenges schools face
- Schools will have parents who are more supportive of schools and school staff
- Schools will have parents who are better prepared to serve as effective members of school committees, councils, etc.
- Schools will have parents who understand the need to be involved in their child's education
- Schools will have parents who can bring skills and resources to schools

BENEFITS OF PARENT LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR STUDENTS:

- Students will have parents who better understand the child's strengths and challenges at school
- Students will know their parents are interested in their education
- Students will know their parents value education
- Students will have parents who are stronger advocates, decision-makers and teachers
- Students will have greater likelihood of achieving at higher levels and of continuing education after high school