GEAR UP by the Numbers
Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs

Total Program Funding

FY 2015 PRESIDENT’S BUDGET REQUEST
$301,639,000

GEAR UP Grants

FY 2013–2014
Total # of Grants.......................... 93
State Grants................................. 29
Partnership Grants......................... 64

FY 2013–2014 Award Distribution (by type)
Partnership Grants......................... 31%
State Grants................................. 69%

New FY 2013 Grants
Total # of Grants.......................... 0
Partnership Grants......................... 0
State Grants................................. 0

FY 2014 Grant Competition:
Potential New Awards
State Grants................................. 12
Partnership Grants......................... 25

GEAR UP Grant Overview

STATE GRANTS

Number of New Awards: 12
Average New Award: $3,321,000
Total New Award Funding: $39,859,000
Number of Continuation Awards: 29
Average Continuation Award: $3,814,000
Total Continuation Award Funding: $110,616,000
Total Award Funding: $150,475,000
Total Number of Awards: 41
Total Number of Students: 403,818
Federal Cost Per Student: $347

PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

Number of New Awards: 25
Average New Award: $1,702,000
Total New Award Funding: $39,859,000
Number of Continuation Awards: 64
Average Continuation Award: $1,702,000
Total Continuation Award Funding: $108,899,000
Total Award Funding: $148,758,000
Total Number of Awards: 89
Total Number of Students: 243,954
Federal Cost Per Student: $649

GEAR UP Students

GEAR UP serves low-income students and their families on their path to enter and succeed in postsecondary education and beyond in 42 States and 2 Territories.

Students Served in FY 2013
647,772

Racial/Ethnic Composition of GEAR UP Students (estimate)

- African American: 19%
- Asian: 5%
- Hispanic: 35%
- Native American: 4%
- White: 37%

About GEAR UP

The Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) is a competitive grant program of the U.S. Department of Education that increases the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education by providing services at high-poverty middle and high schools. The program serves at least one grade level of students, beginning no later than the 7th grade, following them through high school graduation and their first year in college. GEAR UP provides critical early college awareness and support activities, like tutoring, mentoring, academic preparation, financial education and college scholarships to improve access to higher education for low income, minority and disadvantaged first-generation students and their families. The program also serves to support state and local education reform initiatives, fostering sustained systemic change in middle and high schools. GEAR UP mandates cooperation among K–12 schools, institutions of higher education, local and state education entities, businesses and community-based organizations. These dynamic partnerships are required to leverage local resources to match the federal investment dollar for dollar, creating a common agenda that more effectively facilitates the educational aspirations and attainment of students from low-income communities.

As a result of these efforts, GEAR UP is widely viewed as the most effective solution for creating systemic change, as well as increasing academic achievement, high school graduation rates and college enrollment rates among low-income, minority, and first-generation students. GEAR UP’s success has translated into increased support from federal, state, and local policymakers and leaders, who have invested more than $4.5 billion in the program since 1999, making GEAR UP the nation’s preeminent college access and success program.

About NCCEP

The National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP) is a national organization dedicated to the fundamental principle that every child deserves an equal chance to obtain a high quality college education. The mission of NCCEP is to expand access and opportunity in higher education for low-income families and to ensure that anyone who wants to be the first in his or her family to attend college can fulfill that dream. To accomplish this goal, NCCEP brings together colleges and universities with local K–12 schools, parent groups, government agencies, foundations, corporations, and community-based organizations in collaborative efforts to improve education at all levels.

By building these broad-based partnerships, linking schools and communities, developing new initiatives, supporting proven programs, and using research findings to create successful frameworks for action, NCCEP aims to invigorate the principle of equal education opportunity for all and, in the process, enrich the lives of our youth.

NCCEP: Serving & Representing Innovative College Access Programs

One of NCCEP’s primary functions is to serve as an intermediary organization for public agencies, private and corporate foundations, and their grantees. Most significant of these efforts is the federally-funded GEAR UP initiative for which NCCEP serves as the national technical assistance provider, annual conference convener, and voice in Washington, DC. Through support for this initiative, NCCEP strives to continually grow local programmatic efforts and increase the national commitment to its successful programs, while continually infusing research based reflection to stimulate ongoing programmatic enhancements. Confident that education paves the way to social equity, NCCEP advances college access through advocacy, training and research.