



Position Title: Peer Mentor, Washington State GEAR UP
Supervisor: Annie Pocklington, Assistant Director, Washington State GEAR UP
Hours: 5-10 hours a week
Pay: \$20 per hour

Application Deadline: March 28, 2025
Start Date: A series of trainings for this position will be provided from May - August 2025, with regular office hours to begin Fall 2025.

Location: GEAR UP-supported college campuses, including:

- Grays Harbor College
- Wenatchee Valley College
- Centralia College

At the Washington Student Achievement Council

Our programs and policies work with diverse communities to eliminate barriers to people pursuing education beyond high school. As an employer, we strive to hire, cultivate, and retain a competitive workforce that reflects the communities we serve. If you are a member of communities of color; a person who identifies as queer, trans, lesbian, gay or bisexual; a veteran; a person with disabilities; a student with IEPs or a 504 plan-you are strongly encouraged to apply, even if you don't meet all the desired/preferred qualifications listed.

About Washington State GEAR UP

GEAR UP (GU) is a competitive federal program that ensures all students are academically, socially, and financially prepared to enter and complete the postsecondary program or institution of their choice. Starting in Fall of 2025, GU will provide peer mentor support in local high schools and to GEAR UP students who go on to Grays Harbor College, Wenatchee Valley College, and Centralia College. Learn more about GEAR UP, here: [Home | GEAR UP](#)

About the Position

Peer Mentors can provide a positive influence and motivate new students by providing peer-to-peer information sharing and support services. Peer Mentors will be hired at each Washington State GEAR UP supported college campus to serve GEAR UP students. Peer Mentors will also work with local GEAR UP high schools to support juniors and seniors as they begin to plan for postsecondary options.

The purpose of this position is to support and mentor students as they look forward to their college options and plans, and as they begin their first year of postsecondary. Because peer mentoring is most effective when mentors reflect their mentees closely in life experience and identity, we will be prioritizing student applicants whose background, experiences and challenges navigating through the

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higher education system mirror the background experiences and challenges of the population that GEAR UP serves.

The Peer Mentor position is open to college-aged students who attend Grays Harbor College, Wenatchee Valley College, or Centralia College and is designed to facilitate professional growth and development. The position will encourage skill-building that translates to a wide variety of career pathways and job opportunities. *This position offers an initial one-year contract, with the possibility of extension for a second year based on performance.*

Peer Mentors will work 5-10 hours a week depending on student engagement levels, which includes:

- In-person, on-campus student check-ins at both the high school and community college.
- Support of GEAR UP programming in local high schools and on campus.
- Connecting with students through the GEAR UP text platform.
- Networking, coordinating, and building community with other Peer Mentors to track first-year barriers experienced by students.

Duties

- Host 'office hours' on campus Monday through Friday. Peer Mentors will work with their supervisor to determine office hours that work for GEAR UP students, peer mentors, and staff.
- Provide peer mentoring and GEAR UP service support at local high schools.
- Send a minimum of one informational text out each week to GEAR UP students on campus, using the GEAR UP text platform. Respond to those who reach out for information or guidance.
- Attend two virtual meetings a month with the Assistant Director of Washington State GEAR UP.

Minimum Qualifications

- Be a current student at Grays Harbor College, Centralia College, or Wenatchee Valley College.
- Be in good academic standing, according to your institution's definition.
- Experience with or knowledge of on-campus support services, including services like advising and tutoring, multicultural student services, financial aid, health and counseling services, student clubs and organizations, access services, etc.
- Eagerness to engage with and support other students, as well as a willingness to engage in ongoing training.
- Ability to articulate your commitment to equity.
- Must be able to pass a Washington State Patrol background check.
- Must have access to a smart device or laptop with wi-fi access.
- Must have reliable transportation to and from campus to off-site high school locations.

Preferred Experience and Competencies

- Participation in GEAR UP, CAMP, and/or TRiO programming.
- First in your family to attend college.
- A recipient of the College Bound Scholarship, Washington College Grant, or Work-Study.
- A history of campus engagement, including but not limited to sports, clubs, ASB, Greek Life, or student support service engagement, First-Year Experience, and on-campus employment.
- Experience as a peer mentor or advisor.
- Volunteer or community service experience.

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EEO Statement

The Washington Student Achievement Council is an equal-opportunity employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all applicants and employees. We are committed to building a team that represents a variety of backgrounds, perspectives, and skills. The more inclusive we are, the better our work will be. Women, racial and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, persons over 40 years of age, veterans, and people of all sexual orientations and gender identities are encouraged to apply. If you need accommodation in the application process or wish to receive this job announcement in an alternative format, please call 360.485.1138 or email HumanResources@wsac.wa.gov

Application Process and Timeline

To apply, please complete the following application: <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8216980/GEAR-UP-Peer-Mentor-Application-2025>

Applications are **due March 28th** and interviews will be held in April. For questions about this position, please contact anniep@wsac.wa.gov

Position training will begin in May and span throughout the summer, with regularly scheduled peer mentor hours to begin Fall 2025.