



WASHINGTON STATE

Washington State GEAR UP Additional Implementation Resources

Note: The following resources have been developed by Washington State GEAR UP to support successful implementation of GEAR UP services. All resources can be found here: <http://gearup.wa.gov/resources/washington-state-gear-resources>, or by clicking on the hyperlink. If you have questions about the resources, please contact Beth Kelly, bethk@wsac.wa.gov, or 360-753-7826.

Campus Visits

- [Getting Ready for Campus Visits: A GEAR UP Handbook for Providing Campus Visits for Middle and High School Students](#). Includes best practices and resources to help plan meaningful on-campus experiences. Contains replicable, customizable tools.
- [Washington Campus Visit Information for GEAR UP Groups: 2018-19](#). Washington's colleges and universities offer a variety of activities for middle and high school tour groups. This matrix provides the necessary contact and background information to help coordinate a GEAR UP campus visit. This resource will be updated annually in the summer and as needed.

College Admissions

- [College Access Considerations for Diverse Populations A Primer for College Access Professionals](#). This resource guide is designed to assist college access professionals to gain a better understanding of special or diverse populations, learn how to identify these students in your school, learn how to build support systems, explore the college application and financial aid processes, and learn ways to help students successfully transition into education after high school.
- [Supporting Transgender Students: College Admissions & Financial Aid. A Resource Guide for College Access Professionals](#). Designed to assist college access professionals who work with high school students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ). The information provided has an emphasis on supporting transgender youth who plan to continue their education at a postsecondary institution.
- [Preparing Students with Disabilities for Postsecondary Education: A Resource Guide for Use with GEAR UP School Staff](#). Designed to assist those who work with high school students with disabilities who plan to continue their education in postsecondary institutions, including vocational and career schools, two- and four- year colleges, and universities.
- [Senior Year Binder System: Advisor's Guide to a Student Organizational Plan for College Admissions & Financial Aid](#). This binder system can be used with high school seniors to help them stay organized during the college and financial aid application process. This manual provides guidance on how to assemble the binder, provides examples, and explains the rationale.
- [Senior Year Student Tracker Template](#). This student tracker is designed for school staff to monitor student progress around the college application, financial aid application, and acceptance process. Washington State GEAR UP has adapted and modified this tool with much appreciation from Northeastern Illinois University/Chicago GEAR UP. It includes key action steps that college-going students must complete during their senior year in high school.

College-Going Culture

- [ABC's of College Posters](#), and [College, Armed Services, & Opportunity Pennants](#). Use to help create a college-going culture in your school and community. Display in your school, on a bulletin board, in a newsletter, PowerPoint presentation, or even on your social media pages.
- [I Heart GEAR UP Placards](#). For use during National GEAR UP Week and other times of advocacy.
- [Reversible GEAR UP Banner](#). Take this reversible banner with you and your students on trips and to events and be sure to capture the moment with a photo! The banner should be printed no smaller than 24" long by 8.75" high. Consider getting the banner laminated to increase its durability.



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- [12th Year Campaign Images](#), [I Heart GEAR UP Images](#), [Scholarship Images](#). Use these images to promote College Goal Washington, GEAR UP, and scholarships to your students, families, and school-based staff. Consider printing images to display throughout your school or using on your social media pages such as Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram

Financial Aid

- [Financial Aid 101](#). Use this guide to learn how you can begin finding and applying for money to finance your education!
- [Fostering College Knowledge: Planning & Paying for Higher Education for Youth in Care](#). All of the resources listed in this guide are specific to youth who have been in foster care.
- [Scholarships](#). View this list of upcoming scholarship opportunities.

Grant Management

- [National GEAR UP WEEK Toolkit](#). Get ideas and tips on how to celebrate National GEAR UP Week in your school!
- [Grant Management Documents](#). The Washington State GEAR UP Program has created a number of forms, policies, and worksheets to help GEAR UP grant administrators and site directors track, complete, and submit the data required to run a successful program.
- [GEAR UP Activity Type Definitions](#). These definitions clarify the Activity Type to assign to a particular activity into our data collection portal.
- [Washington State GEAR UP Bulletin](#). This weekly program bulletin is distributed via email. It includes program specific reminders and information, but also includes resources that support college and career readiness programming. To subscribe, email Beth Kelly at bethk@wsac.wa.gov.

Transitions

- [Graduate Handbook: Next Steps for First-Year Students](#). This "Summer Melt" student guide contains information on critical next steps. It also covers resources and support, registration, tips for commuters, common stages in the first year, strategies for students planning to transfer, and financial aid information.
- [A Family Guide: Supporting Your Child After High School](#). The purpose of this document is to provide support to families as their child transitions to college. The content aims to ease the initial transition to college by facilitating an on-going dialogue between a student and their family who may lack knowledge about college. It provides strategies to coach their student. The focus of this resource is to normalize the "first year experience," to counteract the "imposter syndrome." The strategies help set realistic expectations and problem solving behaviors that students will need in order to be successful in college.
- [Activity Guide: Preparing Students for the Transition to College](#). The transition from high school to a postsecondary institution is an important milestone. This period can be marked with enthusiasm as well as self-doubt, stress, and uncertainty. College access professionals can use this activity guide to help prepare students and families for the first year after high school, including what to expect and how to navigate common challenges.