AN INTRODUCTION TO GEAR UP • 2018-2019

STATEWIDE TRAINING

OVERVIEW

- Research
- National GEAR UP
- Utah's Statewide GEAR UP Program
- Region 1 GEAR UP: Weber State University
 - Organization, Training, Student Recruitment & Eligibility, Outreach, Tracking,
 Services, Vision

RESEARCH

- Compared to their low-income peers in other states, low-income students in Utah are significantly less likely to enroll in college (Mortenson, 2010).
- Enrollment in remedial courses is tied to decreased college graduation rates (Conley, 2007)
- > Students are at a greater risk of dropping out of high school if they are inadequately prepared or feel disconnected from their high school organization (Neild, 2009)
- The more information and guidance students have, the more likely they will enroll in college (Berkner and Chavez, 1997; Bell, Rowan-Kenyon, and Perna, 2009)

- ▶ In Utah, there has historically been a shortage of counselors available to assist students with the college application process, but is gradually improving (DSD 1:356; WSD 1:355). (Utah State Board of Education, 2017)
- The college participation rate of students on free and reduced student lunch is approximately 20 percent lower than for those not on FRL (Utah System of Higher Education, 2017).
- Low-income students are more reliant on school staff than their own families to learn about postsecondary options, preparation, and financing (Bell, Rowan-Kenyon, and Perna, 2009)
- Availability of financial aid information is linked to increased college enrollment (Bell, Rowan-Kenyon, and Perna, 2009)
- Many low-income students and their parents drastically underestimate the costs of college and are not adequately prepared (Utah's Statewide GEAR UP Education Program, 2011)



THINK-PAIR-SHARE

What picture does this research paint?

What ideas come to your mind on how we can come together as a community to make a difference?

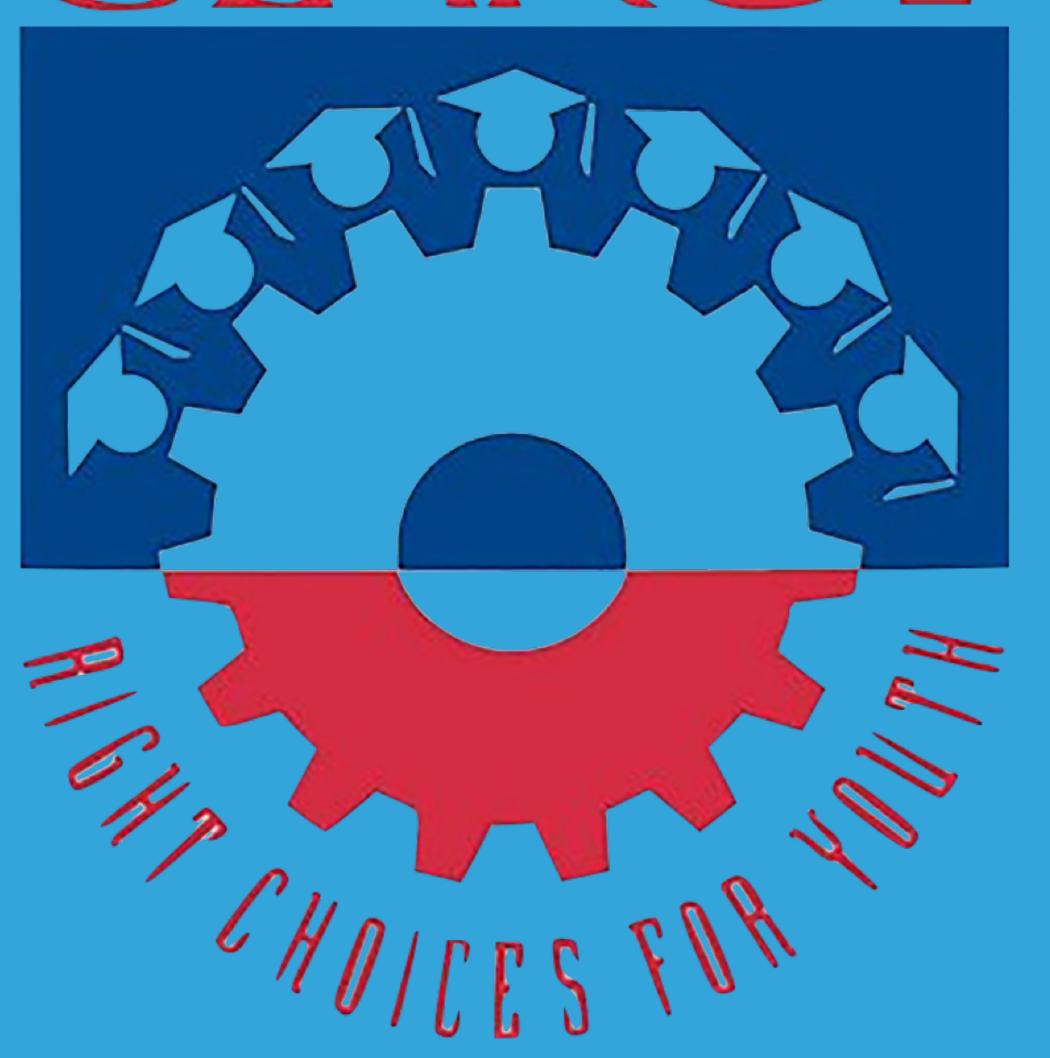
How can you personally become an agent for change?

NATIONAL GEAR UP INITIATIVE

"In today's global economy, what you earn depends on what you learn. This bill will make it easier for millions of Americans to get the higher education they need to succeed in the global economy...It responds to the challenge I issued in the State of the Union to create a 'High Hopes' initiative, where colleges reach down to middle school students in high-poverty areas to give them the support they need to be ready for higher education."

President Bill Clinton, 1998

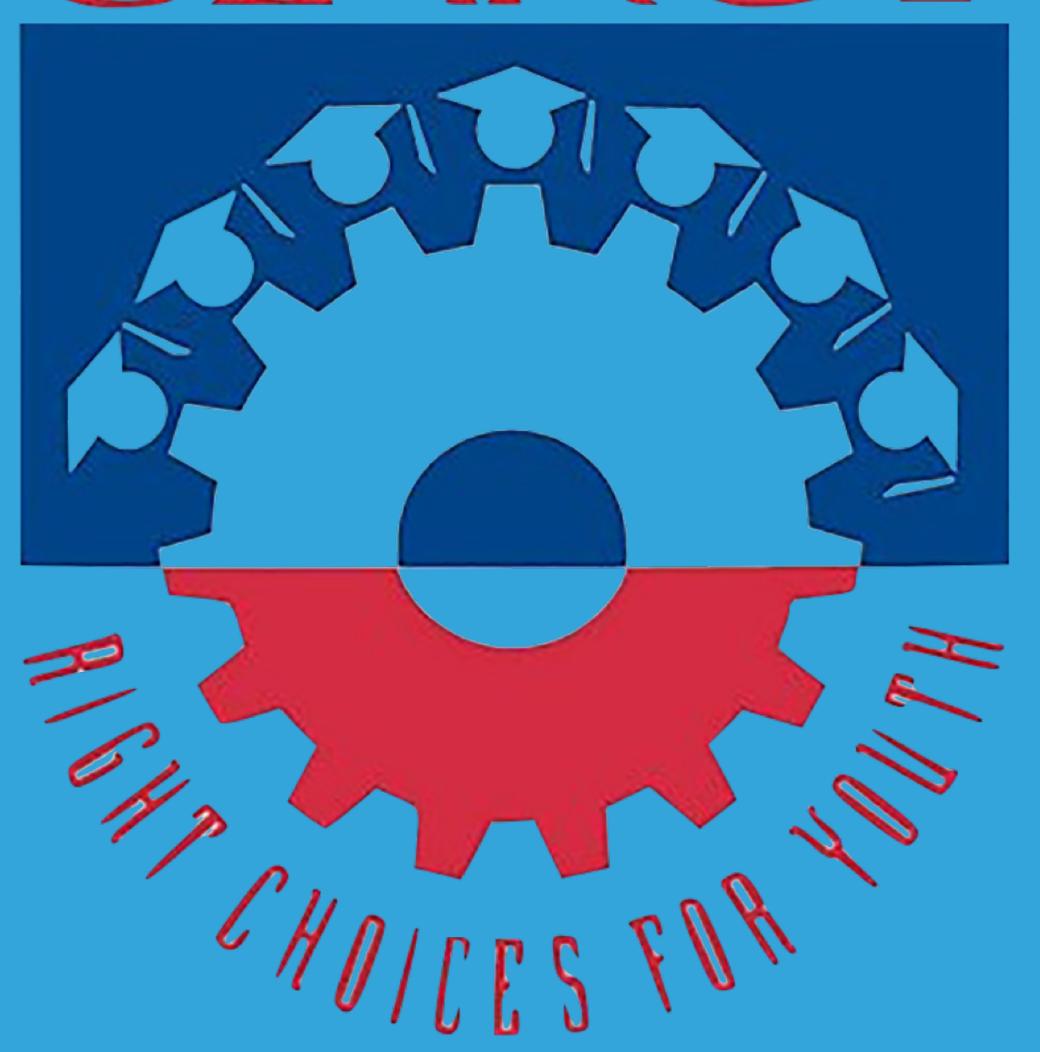
GEARUP



"GEAR UP was created to provide communities with a comprehensive, holistic and research-driven initiative to prepare low-income and minority students for higher education."

National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP)





GEAR UP began in 1998 and last year alone, served over 640,000 students nationwide in 48 states

Students who enroll in GEAR UP are more than 30% more likely than non-GEAR UP students to enroll in higher education immediately after high school

UTAH'S STATEWIDE GEAR UP PROGRAM

- Central office: <u>Utah Valley University</u>
- Awarded a 7-year \$26 million grant for 2011-18
- Recently awarded another 7-year \$24.5 million
 GEAR UP grant for 2017-24
- 54 secondary schools, 16 school districts, 11 counties
- 4,850 students projected to be served statewide each year from 2017-24



GRANT OBJECTIVES

- 1. Increase **academic performance** and **preparation for postsecondary** education for GEAR UP students.
- 2. Increase the rate of **high school graduation** and **enrollment in postsecondary education** for GEAR UP students.
- 3. Increase GEAR UP students' **and their families'** knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparations, and financing.
- 4. Increase GEAR UP students' success in their **first** year of attendance at an institution of higher education.



GEAR UP, REGION 1: WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

DUAL GRANTS

- ▶ 2011-2018 GEAR UP Grant
 - Davis School District: Clearfield HS, Layton HS, Mountain HS
 - Weber School District: Roy HS
 - WSU First Year Students
- ▶ 2018-2024 GEAR UP Grant
 - Davis School District: Northridge HS, Syracuse HS, North Layton JH, Syracuse JH, Sunset JH
 - Weber School District: Bonneville HS, TH Bell JH, South Ogden JH
 - WSU First Year Students



PART I

GEAR UP IMPLEMENTATION

OVERVIEW

- Vision
- Organization
- Training
- Student Recruitment & Eligibility
- Outreach
- Tracking
- Services

TAKING GEAR UP TO THE NEXT LEVEL

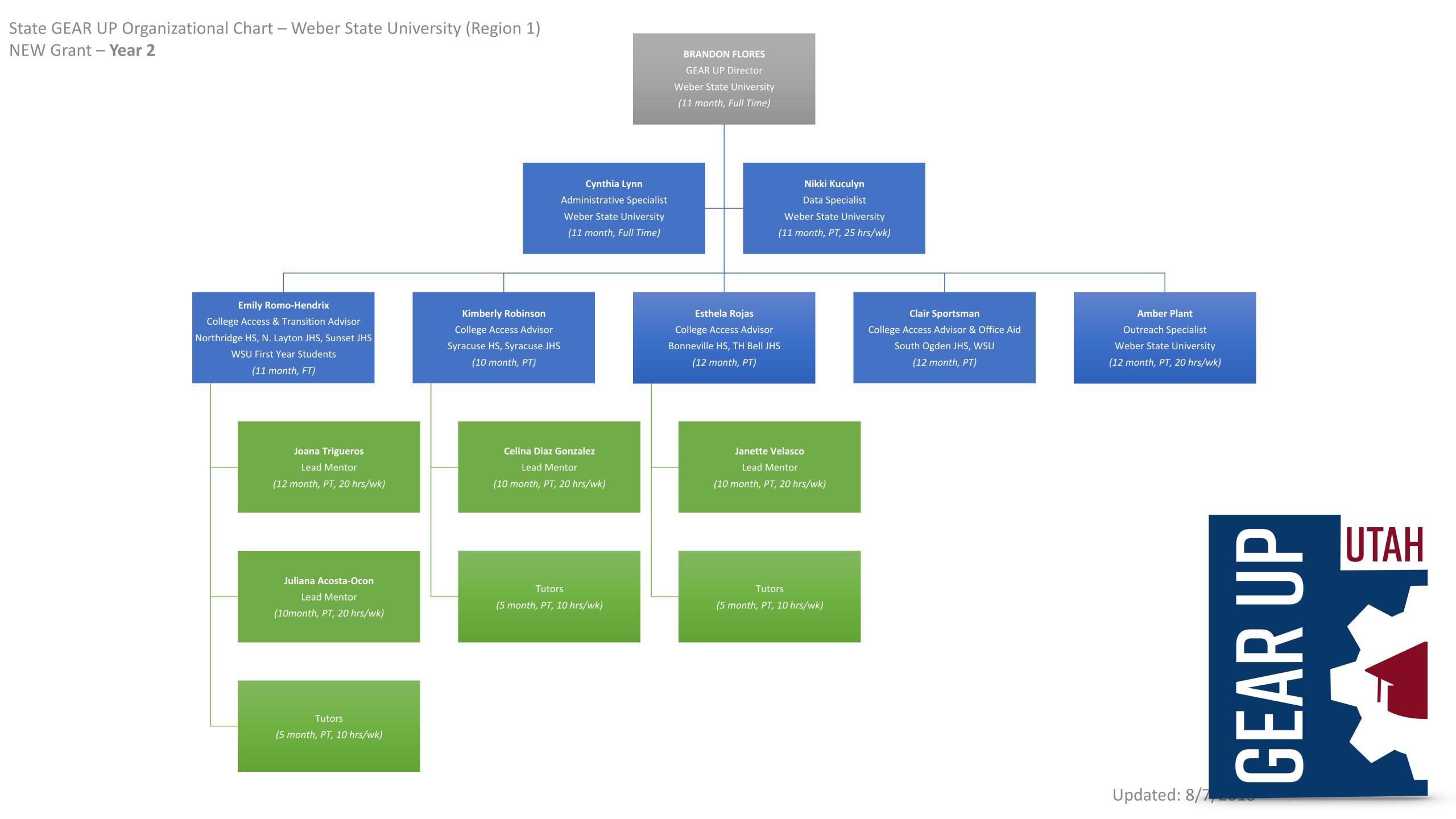
- Sense of ownership (schools, students, parents)
- Solid collaboration
- Disassociate negative stigmas
- Improve accessibility to GU services
- Greater intentionality in GU services





REGION 1

ORGANIZATION





REGION 1

TRAINING

HOW DO WE TRAIN OUR STAFF?

- Internal on-boarding, bi-weekly meetings, on-site, & summer trainings
- UHEAA FAFSA Boot Camps
- WSU training and professional development
- State and national conferences:
 - USHE Conference
 - ACT Conference
 - GEAR UP national and regional conferences



TRAINING & COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR GEAR UP PARTNERS

- WSU Access & Diversity Department
 - FAFSA Boot Camps
 - School Partner Breakfast
 - Multicultural Youth Conference
 - Senior Recognition Night
- National GEAR UP Conferences
 - Capacity Building Workshop (Feb 4-7, Las Vegas)
 - Annual Conference (July 15-18, Washington D.C.)
 - ► GEAR UP West (Oct 14-16, Boise)



TRAINING & COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR GEAR UP PARTNERS

- Region 1 GEAR UP Partner Meetings
 - How often should we, as Weber & Davis School District GEAR UP, meet? (e.g quarterly, bi-annually)
 - What should the content of those meetings be?
 - Data review
 - Strategizing & Implementation
 - Sharing best practices
 - Collaborating
 - What worked? What didn't?





REGION 1

STUDENT RECRUITMENT & ELIGIBILITY



GEAR UP Utah 2017-2024 Application



| School Location:(Print School | ool Name) | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Are you in TRIO's Upward Bound, and/or Educ | cational Talent Search (ETS)? YesNo | | | |
| Student Information | | | | |
| Name: | Grade: Age: Gender: | | | |
| Address: | Birthdate: | | | |
| City:Zip: | Anticipated high school graduation year: | | | |
| Student Cell Number: | Parent/Guardian(s) Relationship to student: | | | |
| Student email: | Parent/Guardian Home Phone: | | | |
| Student social media username: | | | | |
| Used only to send articles, forms, or updates on activities or | Parent/Guardian Cell Phone: | | | |
| scholarships. | Parent/Guardian Email: | | | |
| Parent/Guardian Name(s): | | | | |
| | Please check mark the method of contact you would prefer Home # Cell # Email | | | |
| to the safe day, and safe Ann and the same same day and the safe day of the Annah day the same | | | | |
| What language is spoken in the home? | | | | |
| Have you been in foster care at any time during the Have you been homeless at any time during the Please see back of application for definition. Do you have any other siblings in high school? | g the prior academic year? Yes No le prior academic year? Yes No Yes No If yes, what school? | | | |
| Have you been in foster care at any time during the Have you been homeless at any time during the Please see back of application for definition. Do you have any other siblings in high school? Race (check one, required for federal reporting) | g the prior academic year? Yes No le prior academic year? Yes No Yes No If yes, what school? | | | |
| Have you been in foster care at any time during the Have you been homeless at any time during the Please see back of application for definition. Do you have any other siblings in high school? | g the prior academic year? Yes No le prior academic year? Yes No Yes No If yes, what school? | | | |
| Have you been in foster care at any time during the Have you been homeless at any time during the Please see back of application for definition. Do you have any other siblings in high school? Race (check one, required for federal reporting American Indian or Alaskan Native | g the prior academic year? Yes No le prior academic year? Yes No Yes No If yes, what school? Description: Descri | | | |
| Have you been in foster care at any time during the Have you been homeless at any time during the Please see back of application for definition. Do you have any other siblings in high school? Race (check one, required for federal reporting American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian | g the prior academic year? Yes No le prior academic year? Yes No Yes No If yes, what school? Description: Yes No If yes, what school? Description: White Two or More Races | | | |
| Have you been in foster care at any time during the Please see back of application for definition. Do you have any other siblings in high school? Race (check one, required for federal reporting American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian Black or African American Ethnicity (check one, required for federal reporting Hispanic/Latino By completing and returning this application for to participate in Utah's Statewide GEAR UP Editors | g the prior academic year? Yes No le prior academic year? Yes No Yes No If yes, what school? Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander White Two or More Races orting) Non Hispanic/Non Latino rm, you are submitting yourself for consideration | | | |
| Have you been in foster care at any time during the Have you been homeless at any time during the Please see back of application for definition. Do you have any other siblings in high school? Race (check one, required for federal reporting American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian Black or African American Ethnicity (check one, required for federal reporting Hispanic/Latino By completing and returning this application for to participate in Utah's Statewide GEAR UP Edhelp students graduate from high school and p | g the prior academic year? Yes No le prior academic year? Yes No Yes No If yes, what school? Yes No If yes, what school? | | | |

GU App Form Page 1 of 4 Revised 06/28/2018

2750 University Park Blvd., Dept. 0152, Bldg 2 Rm 308, Layton, UT 84041-0152 Phone: (801) 395-3547 | stategearup@weber.edu | www.weber.edu/stategearup facebook.com/stategearup instagram.com/stategearup

Defining Homeless

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children as "individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence." The act provides examples of children who would fall under this definition:

- Children and youth sharing housing due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason
- Children and youth living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camp grounds due to lack of alternative accommodations
- Children and youth living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Children and youth abandoned in hospitals
- Children and youth awaiting foster care placement
- Children and youth whose primary nighttime residence is not ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation (e.g. park benches, etc)
- Children and youth living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations

| For Office Use Only: |
|---|
| GEAR UP Counselor/ Advisor: Initial: Enrollment Date: |
| IEP: Yes No LEP: Yes No Student State ID: |
| Homeless: Yes No Foster Care: Yes No |
| Data entry/verification of enrollment packet: |
| Release FRLV Entered into Compass by: Date: |
| |

GU App Form Page 2 of 4 Revised 06/28/2018



GU App Form

GEAR UP Utah Authorization for Release of Information



| (Print Parent/Guardian Name) GEAR UP Education Program, including the | ereby grant the representative of Utah's Statewide neir external evaluators, authorization to contact ase and/or obtain information from social media, ding the following individual: |
|---|--|
| Student's Name This release is effect | (Please Print) ive as of the date signed. |
| Reason for release of information: To track student's success in school and help fatheir education beyond middle school and high | acilitate their preparation for and success in continuing |
| X Class Schedules X Cumulative Student Record X IEP/LEP Information X Student State ID | X Transcripts, Grade Reports, & Test ScoresX AttendanceX Free/Reduced Lunch Status/EligibilityX College and Career Readiness Information |
| use them for historical, informational, and pron | notos/videos of my student during GEAR UP activities and notional purposes by the GEAR UP program. By signing viduals from any and all liability for revealing and/or |
| I understand that I may revoke this release at an | ny time by informing this agency in writing. |
| Student Signature | Date |
| Parent/Guardian Signature | Date |
| Utah's Statewide GEAR UP Counselor/ Advisor | Date |
| Any additional individuals who may have access to protect sibling, grandparent, or other parent representative) | ed student information disclosed by students during our session(s) (i.e. |
| Name: | Phone Number: |
| | |
| | |

Page 3 of 4 Revised 06/28/2018





GEAR UP Utah Parent/Guardian Declaration of Eligibility for Free and Reduced Price School Meals



Dear Parent/Guardian,

In order for your student to qualify to be enrolled in Utah's Statewide GEAR UP Education Program, they need to be <u>eligible</u> under the Free and Reduced Price School Meals Guidelines. Please review the chart below and refer to it as you complete the rest of the form. Military Personnel do not need to include housing allowance when reporting income.

| Household Size | Yearly | Monthly | Twice Per Month | Every Two Weeks | Weekly |
|---|--------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|--------|
| 1 | 22,459 | 1,872 | 936 | 864 | 432 |
| 2 | 30,451 | 2,538 | 1,269 | 1,172 | 586 |
| 3 | 38,443 | 3,204 | 1,602 | 1,479 | 740 |
| 4 | 46,435 | 3,870 | 1,935 | 1,786 | 893 |
| 5 | 54,427 | 4,536 | 2,268 | 2,094 | 1,047 |
| 6 | 62,419 | 5,202 | 2,601 | 2,401 | 1,201 |
| 7 | 70,411 | 5,868 | 2,934 | 2,709 | 1,355 |
| 8 | 78,403 | 6,534 | 3,267 | 3,016 | 1,508 |
| Each Additional Person | 7,992 | 666 | 333 | 308 | 154 |
| This table is valid from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. | | | | | |

| Sour | Source: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/05/08/2018-09679/child-nutrition-programs-income-eli | gibility-guidelines | | | | |
|------|--|---------------------|--|--|--|--|
| The | The number of persons in my household is | | | | | |
| | The total gross income for my household is \$per (circle one) <u>year / mor</u> per month / every two weeks / weekly. | <u>ith / twice</u> | | | | |
| | According to the chart above, my family's income is (circle one) <u>above / below</u> the mat level for my household size. | ching income | | | | |
| Bas | Based on this information, my son/daughter is: | | | | | |
| | □ <u>Eligible</u> for Free or Reduced Lunch □ <u>Not Eligible</u> for Free or Reduced Lunch | | | | | |
| Par | Parent/Guardian Printed Name: | | | | | |
| Par | Parent/Guardian Signature: Date: Date: | <u>-</u> | | | | |
| | *Please note that this form is not an Application for Free & Reduced Price School Meals, but rather an eligibility verificatio GEAR UP Program. If you would like to apply for the Free & Reduced Price School Meals Program, please contact your stu | | | | | |
| | Please return this form to your GEAR UP Counselor/ Advisor | | | | | |
| | For Office Use Only: Accepted Denied Counselor Initials Date | e | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

Revised 06/28/2018 GU App Form Page 4 of 4

> 2750 University Park Blvd., Dept. 0152, Bldg 2 Rm 308, Layton, UT 84041-0152 Phone: (801) 395-3547 | stategearup@weber.edu | www.weber.edu/stategearup facebook.com/stategearup instagram.com/stategearup

PROJECTED YEARLY ENROLLMENT (2017–2024)



RECRUITMENT METHODS

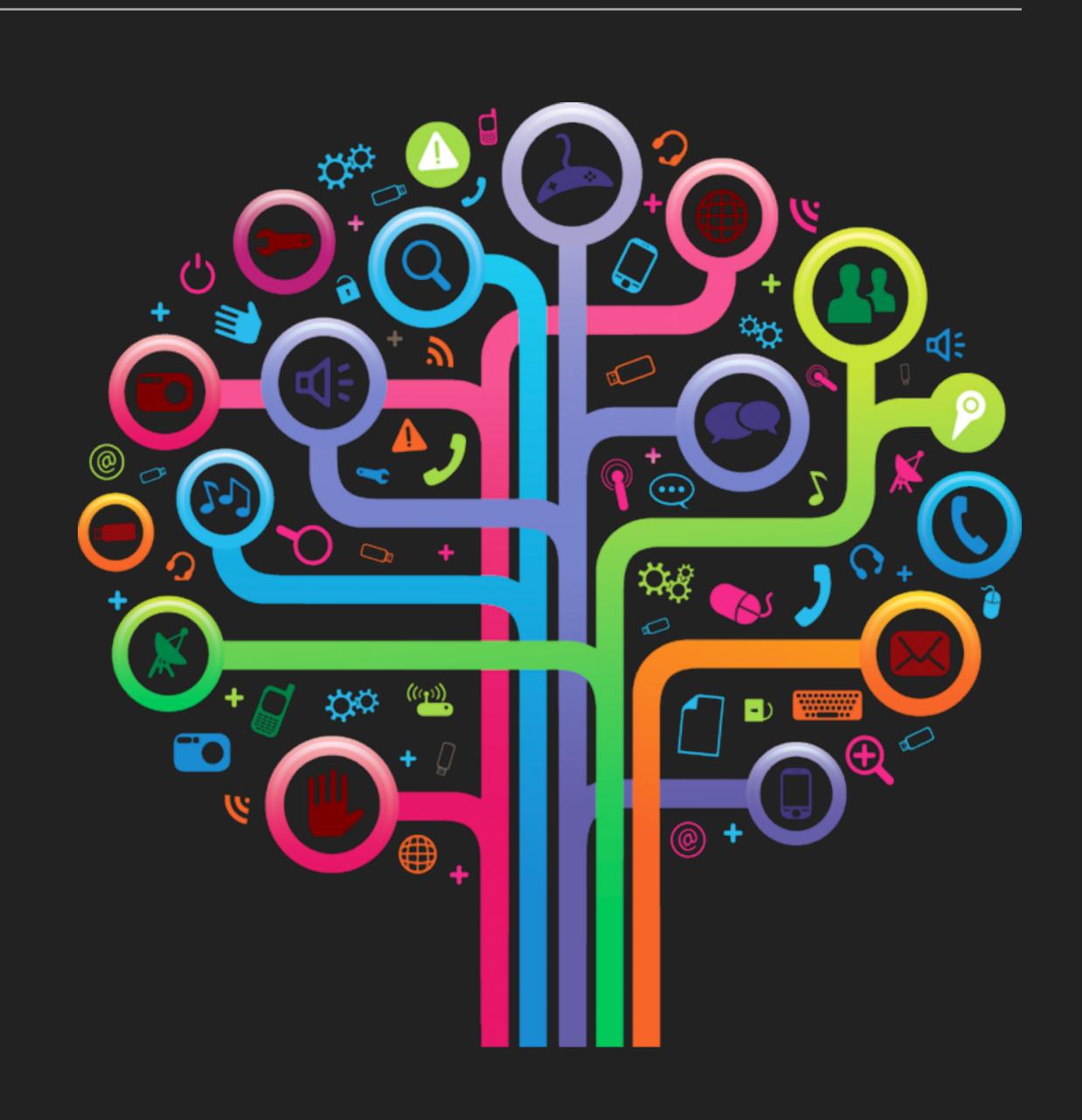
- Personal referrals from counselors, teachers, students
- Registration packets
- Events involving parents & guardians (e.g. PTC)
- Mailings, email, social media
- Tabling during lunch or at other events
- Announcements
- Presentations (e.g. assemblies, classes)
- And more...



REGION 1

HOW DOES GEAR UP COMMUNICATE WITH STUDENTS & PARENTS?

- Face-to-Face
- Email (Constant Contact, newsletters)
- Texting (Remind/Signal Vine)
- Social Media (<u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>)
- Mailings
- Phone Calls
- Website



REGION 1

TRACKING

TRACKING STUDENT PROGRESS & PARTICIPATION

- Transcripts and standardized test scores
- School Database for Students (to view attendance, missing assignments, etc.)
- Checklists for each grade
- ► GEAR UP forms:
 - Contact Logs
 - Sign-in Sheets
 - Tutor Records
- Annual Surveys
- Senior Exit Forms (tracks FAFSA, scholarship, and college app completion)





2016 - 2017 YEAR

51% participants identify as ethnic or racial MINORITY

SENIOR COHORT STUDENTS enrolled in college FALL 2017

SENIOR COHORT STUDENTS who completed FAFSA

4 Schools Served

Mountain High School Roy High School

Layton High School Clearfield High School

total number of PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

\$1,148,411 total scholarship EARNED BY OUR SENIOR COHORT

RAM VS. STATE OF UTAH OUTREACH PROG FAFSA completion

57% vs 34%

high school grad

ENROLLED first year of college

students in SENIOR COHORT

> **WEBER STATE** UNIVERSITY Access & Diversity

801-626-7006 weber.edu/accessanddiversity

REGION 1

GEAR UP SERVICES

- Mentoring and advising
- College and career exploration
- Financial literacy, financial aid, and scholarship information
- Summer programs
- College visits and career exploration

- Family events
- College application support
- Test preparation and study skills
- Tutoring and homework assistance

PART II

GEAR UP IMPLEMENTATION

OVERVIEW

- Facility use
- Mentoring & Advising
- Tutoring
- Workshops
- Campus Visits
- Activities
- First Year College Services



FACILITY USE



GEAR UP SPACE

- Office space for advising
 - Auditory privacy
 - Desktop with printer/internet access
 - Desk and basic supplies
 - Phone (e.g. for calling admissions offices)
 - Storage (e.g. filing cabinet, closet)
- Space for tutoring (e.g. library)





GEAR UP SPACE

- Office space for advising
 - Auditory privacy
 - Desktop with printer/internet access
 - Desk and basic supplies
 - Phone (e.g. for calling admissions offices)
 - Storage (e.g. filing cabinet, closet)
- Space for tutoring (e.g. library)





MENTORING & ADVISING



GEAR UP ADVISING

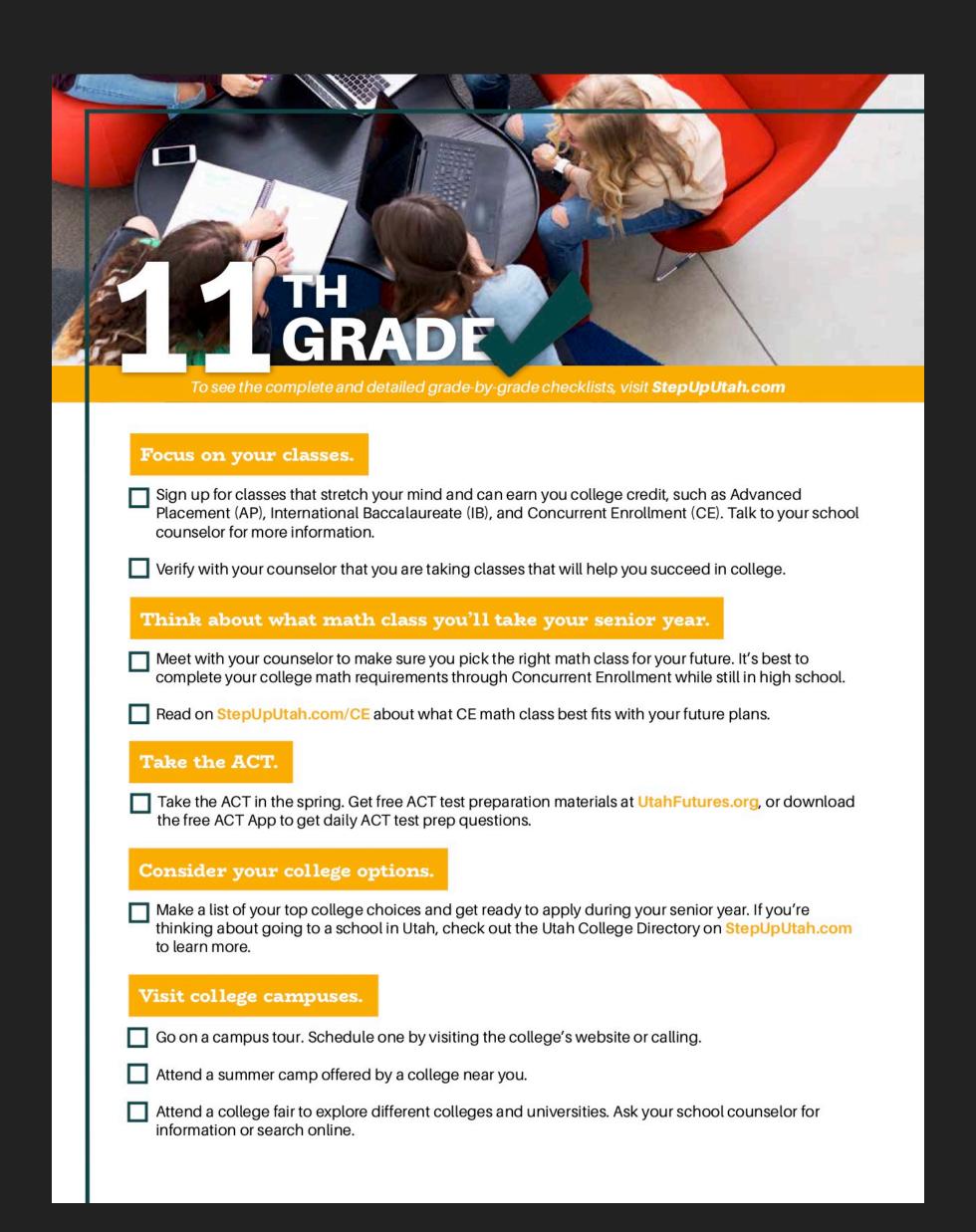
- Student checklists
- ▶ 1:1 and small group sessions
- When do we provide advising?
 - Between classes (late slip)
 - During classes (excusal slip)
 - During lunch, after-school, advisory





GEAR UP ADVISING

- Student checklists
- ▶ 1:1 and small group sessions
- When do we provide advising?
 - Between classes (late slip)
 - During classes (excusal slip)
 - During lunch, after-school, advisory





GEAR UP ADVISING

- Student checklists
- ▶ 1:1 and small group sessions
- When do we provide advising?
 - Between classes (late slip)
 - During classes (excusal slip)
 - During lunch, after-school, advisory



Get organized for your final year. Some colleges (and scholarships) require one or more letters of recommendation. Decide which teachers might be willing to write letters of recommendation next year, and ask them now. Get a job over the summer to set aside money for college and gain valuable experience you can add to your resume. Research possible careers. Job shadow at a business/organization that interests you. Check to see if you could do an internship, which provides you with great experience. Talk to professionals in the area of study you're interested in. Ask your school counselor or parents/ guardians to help you find them. Learn about the many ways to pay for college. Forecast how much financial aid you could qualify for by using the FAFSA4Caster at fafsa.ed.gov. Keep applying for scholarships. Contact a Regent's Scholarship representative to make sure you're on track for the Regents' Scholarship. If possible, schedule a meeting to go over your classes for the next school year. Details at RegentsScholarship.org. Look for scholarships and apply to at least three during your junior year. See if your high school has a scholarship coordinator to help you find scholarships to apply for, but don't forget to also look in your community and search online.

TUTORING



TUTORING

- Embedded tutoring
- Near-peer model
 - WSU students
 - GEAR UP Alumni
- Academic coaching
- All topics including ACT Prep



WORKSHOPS



WORKSHOPS

- Redefining "workshop"
- It takes a village..." (e.g. school faculty and staff, WSU students and staff, community, GU alumni)
- Who, when, where, WHY, how





FAMILY NIGHTS



FAMILY NIGHT

- Once per semester
- During National GEAR UP Week
- Conference style
- Spanish/English
- Relevant & engaging
- Dinner







CAMPUS VISITS



▶ Goal: Both informative and ENGAGING





- ► Goal: Both informative and ENGAGING
 - Collaborate with departments = hands on experience



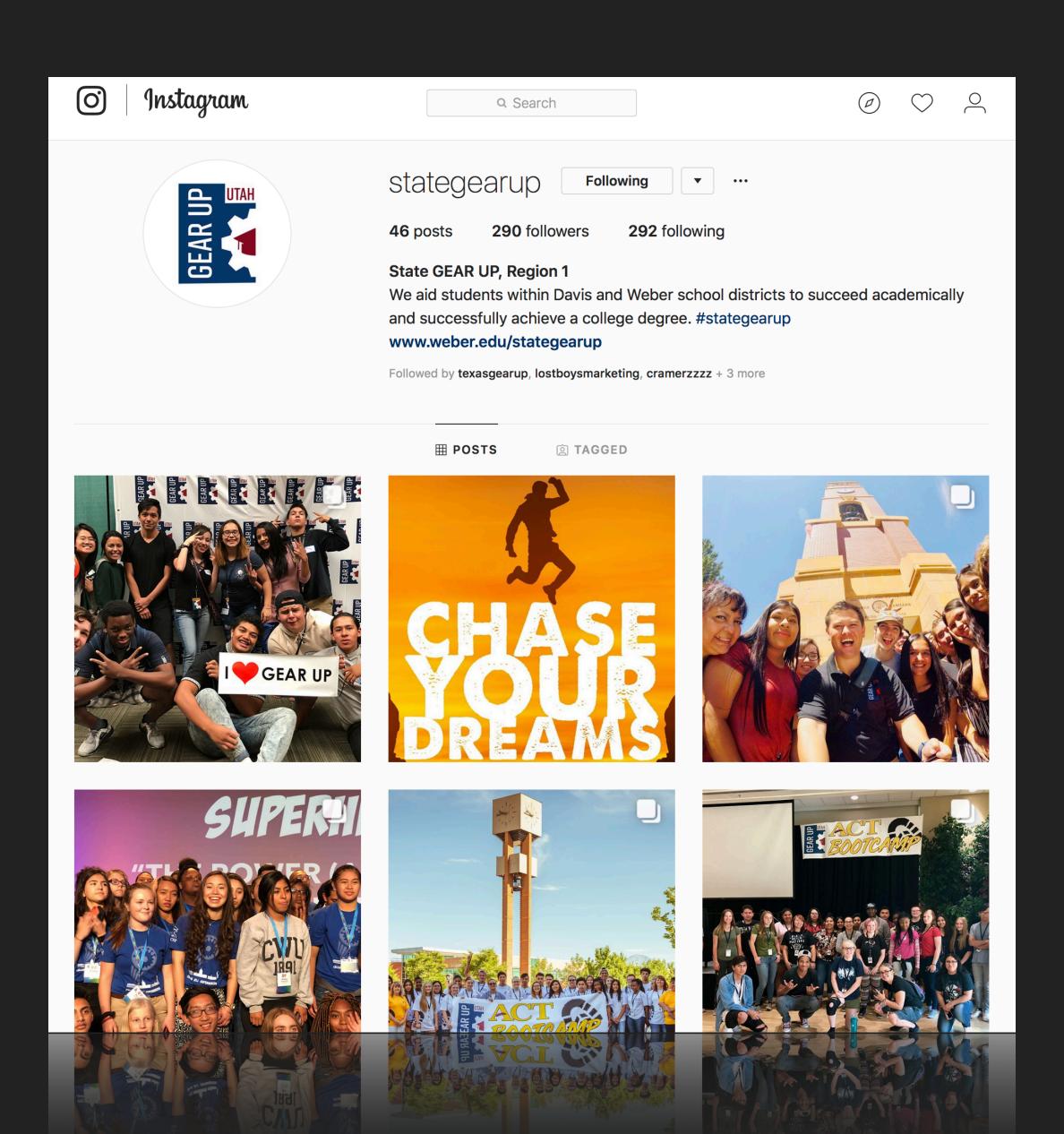


- ► Goal: Both informative and ENGAGING
 - Collaborate with departments = hands on experience
 - Intentionality





- Goal: Both informative and ENGAGING
 - Collaborate with departments = hands on experience
 - Intentionality
 - Social media





- ▶ Goal: Both informative and ENGAGING
 - Collaborate with departments = hands on experience
 - Intentionality
 - Social media
- Name tags, folders, permission slips

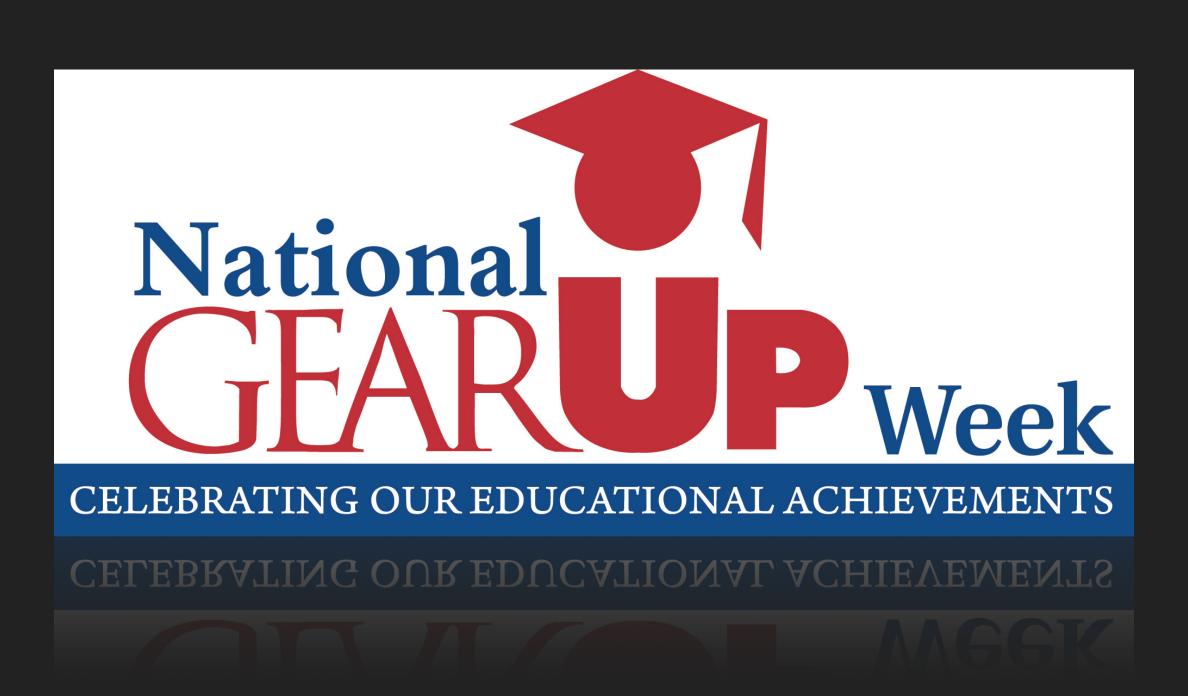




OTHER ACTIVITIES



National GEAR UP Week (September)





- National GEAR UP Week (September)
- Signing Day / Senior Recognition Night (May 3)





- National GEAR UP Week (September)
- Signing Day / Senior Recognition Night (May 3)
- Summer ACT Boot Camp





- National GEAR UP Week (September)
- Signing Day / Senior Recognition Night (May 3)
- Summer ACT Boot Camp
- GEAR UP Connections (Summer Bridge)







FIRST YEAR COLLEGE SERVICES

FIRST YEAR SERVICES

- ▶ GEAR UP assists first year GEAR UP students with:
 - Class registration
 - First-year advising
 - Success workshops
 - Summer Bridge
 - Referrals to campus resources & services
 - FAFSA & Scholarships
 - WSU Access & Diversity tuition waiver
 - Support at colleges & universities beyond WSU



Access & Diversity

Access & Diversity

GEAR UP

REFERENCES

REFERENCES

- Berkner, L. and Chavez, L. (1997), Access to Postsecondary Education for the 1992 High School Graduates, National Center for Education Statistics
- Conley, D. T. (2007). Redefining College Readiness. Eugene, OR: Educational Policy Improvement Center.
- Mortenson, Tom. (2010) "College Participation Rates by State for All 19 Year Old and for Low-income Students 1994-2008." Postsecondary Education Opportunity. Number 219.
- Neild, Stoner-Eby, and Furstenberg, 2008, in Neild, R.C. (2009), Falling off track during the transition to high school: What we know and what can be done. The Future of Children 19(1), 53-76. Retrieved June 28, 2011, from Project MUSE database.
- Plank & Jordon, 2001, cited in Bell, A. T., Rowan-Kenyon, H.T., & Perna, L. W. (2009). College knowledge of 9th and 11th grade students: Variation by school and state context. The Journal of Higher Education 80(6), 663-685. Retrieved March 22, 2011, from Project MUSE database.

REFERENCES

- Utah State Board of Education (2017). Counselor to student ratios: Grades seven through twelve. Retrieved from https://www.utah.gov/pmn/files/271921.pdf
- Utah System of Higher Education (2017). Access and participation. Retrieved from https://higheredutah.org/affordable-participation/#
- Utah's Statewide GEAR UP Education Program (2011). GEAR UP State Grant Application 2011-2018. Orem, UT: Utah Valley University

GEAR UP

GET CONNECTED

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

- Websites
 - ► GEAR UP, Region 1 (WSU): <u>www.weber.edu/stategearup</u>
 - Utah's Statewide GEAR UP Program: www.uvu.edu/gearup
 - National GEAR UP / NCCEP: www.edpartnerships.org
- ▶ GEAR UP, Region 1 (WSU) social media links
 - ► Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/StateGEARUP</u>
 - Instagram: www.instagram.com/stategearup
- Hashtags & Handles
 - #stategearup #GEARUPworks #IheartGEARUP @StateGEARUP

GEAR UP

CONTACT INFORMATION

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Mailing Address
 - > 2750 University Park Blvd., Dept. 0152, Bldg 2 Rm 308, Layton, UT 84041
- Phone: (801) 395-3547
- Email: stategearup@weber.edu