



**BEST PRACTICES FROM THE GEAR UP COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS
EVALUATION CONSORTIUM**

**NCCEP/GEAR UP ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
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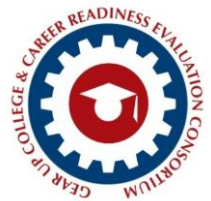
The GEAR UP College & Career Readiness Evaluation Consortium

- A self-initiated project among 14 State GEAR UP grants representing over 115,000 students.
- A partnership that includes the National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP) as the managing partner.
- A structure that includes:
 - A Director of Evaluation;
 - National education partners;
 - An Executive Committee;
 - A Research and Evaluation Committee; and
 - Formal Voting Procedures.



Relationships & Partners

- 14 GEAR UP State Grant Programs
- National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP)
- ACT, Inc.
- National Student Clearinghouse Research Center
- U.S. Department of Education



Mission: The GEAR UP College & Career Readiness Evaluation Consortium

The mission of the College and Career Readiness Evaluation Consortium is to enhance the administration of GEAR UP projects, consistent with the federal GPRA and Annual Performance Report guidelines and requirements. Interstate collaboration, entailing adoption of common standards, indicators, data elements, diagnostics, and data collection and reporting methods, will strengthen the formative and summative evaluation and practice of GEAR UP as a whole.



CCREC Research & Evaluation

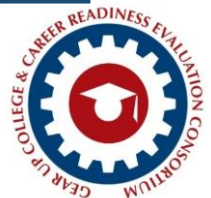
**GEAR UP College and Career
Readiness Evaluation
Consortium**
A 14-State Collaboration

ACT-Led Research

ACT Core Research and
ACT Supplemental Research

CCREC-Led Evaluation

Multi-State Data Repository and
Longitudinal GEAR UP Evaluation





Applying CCREC lessons and deliverables to other GEAR UP settings



GEAR UP Student and Parent/Family Definitions

CCREC Service Participation Data

| GEAR UP Student Services | GEAR UP Parent/Family Services |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Tutoring/homework assistance2) Comprehensive mentoring3) Financial aid counseling/advising4) Counseling/advising/academic planning/career counseling5) College visit/college student shadowing6) Job site visit/job shadowing7) Summer programs8) Educational field trips9) Student workshops | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Workshops of college prep/financial aid2) Counseling/advising3) College visit4) Family events |



Additional CCREC Outcome Data Definitions



What is a GEAR UP Student?

GEAR UP Student Definition

A GEAR UP student, for the purposes of the College and Career Readiness Evaluation Consortium (CCREC) including both ACT-led and CCREC-led research and evaluation, is a student that is eligible by definition to receive direct GEAR UP services through a cohort or priority model of program implementation. Direct GEAR UP services are defined as any service that is documented and coded for evaluation and/or reporting purposes by a CCREC-participating state GEAR UP program. Students who are enrolled in schools that are implementing GEAR UP services, regardless of model type (cohort, priority, or hybrid), participate at different levels of service that are documented through various data collection systems. Additionally, over the six- or seven-year life of a GEAR UP project, students enroll, withdraw, and/or re-enroll in schools where GEAR UP services are and/or are not provided. Therefore, to effectively analyze student outcomes for research, evaluation, and reporting purposes, participating CCREC states agree to collect and track the following information:

GEAR UP Student Definition (continued)

- How long a student has been in the GEAR UP program, i.e., a time stamp of entry, exit, and possible re-entry into the program;
- The type of GEAR UP student, i.e., cohort or priority student;
- The amount of GEAR UP services a student has received, i.e, the hours of services that will subsequently be coded as low, medium, high, or not applicable for none;
- The number of service incidences;
- The grade-level at each time the student is (re)enrolled/(re)enters program, as applicable; and
- The grade-level at time of each GEAR UP service.



What is FAFSA Completion?

FAFSA Completion Definition

- **FAFSA Completion:** For the purpose of the Consortium project, FAFSA completion is defined as data on each GEAR UP student which is derived from State Grant Agencies participating in the FAFSA Completion Initiative launched by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Student Federal Aid, in July 2014. This Initiative allows State Grant Agencies to release verified FAFSA Filing Status Information to the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR-UP) authorized under Chapter 2 of Subpart 2 of Part A of Title IV of the HEA to receive such data.
- For the purpose of the Consortium project, and by this definition, data will only be entered into the CCREC data repository housed at the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center if it is data provided to the GEAR UP project (as a designated entity) from the State Grant Agency. This will allow for consistency and analyses across state projects.
- The Consortium will calculate a percentage of FAFSA completers by high school with the denominator being the number of seniors at the end of their senior year.



What is Postsecondary Enrollment, Persistence, and Completion?

Postsecondary Enrollment Definition

Postsecondary Enrollment: Postsecondary enrollment is defined as at least part-time enrollment in a postsecondary, degree-granting institution by the fall semester after high school graduation, or earlier. Postsecondary enrollment also includes students if they attained a degree concurrent with their high school diploma.

- This includes students who were enrolled in postsecondary courses during high school or the summer preceding the fall semester if they continued enrollment after high school graduation.

Postsecondary Persistence Definition

Postsecondary Persistence: Student persistence is defined as enrollment at any higher education institution into the second year.

- This definition assumes that a student enrolled in a college in the fall after high school graduation and remained enrolled the following fall. This definition accounts for the fact that students may not attend college for a part of a year, (e.g., stop-out for one semester) but when he or she re-enrolls the following fall, s/he is still pursuing postsecondary education (i.e., persisting).



Postsecondary Completion Definition

Postsecondary Graduation: Postsecondary graduation is defined as graduation from a 2- or 4-year postsecondary institution up to six years after high school graduation.



Breaking Apart Research Questions

Postsecondary Enrollment Definitions

Sample research question

Research Question 1: What is the relationship of the level of involvement in GEAR UP activities relative to achievement, as measured by...

- FAFSA completion?
- postsecondary enrollment?
- persistence in postsecondary education?
- postsecondary graduation?



What data points do you need to answer your research questions?

Postsecondary Enrollment Definitions

Research Question 1: What is the relationship of the level of involvement in GEAR UP activities relative to achievement, as measured by...

- **FAFSA completion?**
- **postsecondary enrollment?**
- **persistence in postsecondary education?**
- **postsecondary graduation?**

You will need student-level data on the following:

- Student Service Data
- Parent/Family Service Data
- FAFSA Data
- Postsecondary Enrollment
- Postsecondary Persistence
- Postsecondary Graduation



Collaboration Across Grantees



Questions



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