

## Data, Research & Evaluation Institute 101



National Council for Community  
and Education Partnerships (NCCEP)  
1400 20th Street, NW, Suite G-1  
Washington, DC 20036  
Telephone: (202) 530-1135

### **The Annual Performance Report: Mapping an Infrastructure to Enhance Your Work** Wednesday, July 19 • 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM

**Session Description:** The GEAR UP Annual Performance Report (APR) can be a daunting task that involves a lot of time and effort. What if you had an infrastructure to collect the APR throughout the year so that putting the report together was more efficient? Join NCCEP’s Director of Evaluation as you walk through a step-by-step process for creating a student-level infrastructure that maps directly to your APR. This Institute will explore a systematic approach to the APR data that can be used to leverage your evaluation work—because once you have the core GEAR UP data in place, you can elevate your evaluation efforts. Send your Data Manager, Evaluator, or bring your Leadership Team for this hands-on workshop to excel your core data management efforts and leave with knowledge on how to implement effective APR mapping strategies in your program.

This workshop will provide participants with:

- An overview of the GEAR UP Annual Performance Report.
- An overview of Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) performance indicators and GEAR UP objectives.
- An overview of what to collect, when to collect it, and how to collect it.
- Hands-on work identifying pertinent variables that are needed to guide your work.
- Hands-on work to mapping an infrastructure for your APR data.
- An infrastructure that is grounded in student-level data.
- An overview of how to integrate National Student Clearinghouse data into your APR.
- An opportunity to interact with and learn from GEAR UP leaders and evaluators.
- Materials and suggested topical resources for further exploration following the Institute.

**Who Should Attend?** **Data Managers, Evaluators,** and **Leadership Teams** are encouraged to attend this session. For maximum learning, have your core team attend (Director plus Evaluation Staff). Project Directors are encouraged to attend.

**Workshop Leader:** The Institute will be led by NCCEP’s Director of Evaluation, Dr. Chrissy Tillery. This Institute will provide foundational knowledge to advance your APR and subsequent evaluation efforts. GEAR UP Evaluators, Data Managers, and Leadership Staff will all benefit from this new way of mapping data. Drawing on twelve years of GEAR UP experience, this session will advance the efficiencies of completing the APR while helping you create a sustainable infrastructure.

## Data, Research & Evaluation Institute 201



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### **Using Early Warning Indicators for Improvement: Empowering Practitioners and Making the Most of Evaluation**

Wednesday, July 19 • 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM

**Session Description:** GEAR UP program directors, staff, and evaluators need early information to ensure that students are on-track to meet the critical milestones of high school graduation, as well as enrollment and persistence in postsecondary education. Increasingly, early warning indicators related to high school graduation and postsecondary readiness are being used to identify students at risk of missing key milestones and provide targeted student success interventions. When these indicators are used as part of an early warning system, they can provide critical and frequent formative data for program improvement and refinement. Participants in this workshop will learn about research-based early warning indicators associated with college and career readiness milestones, and will be provided with an in-depth, hands-on training on how to use indicators using an evidence-based early warning approach, called the Early Warning Intervention Monitoring System (EWIMS). Finally, participants will be provided with opportunities to review data and discuss strategies for using these data for program improvement.

This workshop will provide participants with:

- An overview of early warning systems and the evidence-based Early Warning Intervention and Monitoring System (EWIMS) implementation process.
- An overview of research-based early warning indicators and thresholds associated with college and career readiness milestones, including high school graduation and postsecondary education enrollment and persistence.
- Guidelines for how to use early warning indicators.
- Strategies to use early warning indicators and other data for formative feedback and continuous improvement efforts at the individual, group, and programmatic levels.
- A guide for using EWIMS to support continuous improvement efforts.
- Hands-on experience using early warning indicator data to inform refinement decisions.
- An opportunity to interact with and learn from EWIMS experts.
- Materials and suggested topical resources for further exploration following the Institute.

**Who Should Attend?** The workshop focuses on strategies to use formative data as part of a system for continuous improvement at the individual, group, and programmatic levels. Two groups of individuals will benefit from participating in this workshop:

- **GEAR UP Project Directors and Program Staff** interested in using readily available data to routinely monitor progress of participating students and to use these data to enact strategies for program improvement aimed at increasing student outcomes.
- **GEAR UP Program Evaluators** interested in useable and formative strategies to enhance programmatic improvements and refinement.

**Workshop Leaders:** The Institute will be led by senior researchers at the American Institutes for Research (AIR), and will focus on evidence-based strategies to increase GEAR UP outcomes using an early warning system. Join Dr. Matt Soldner, Jenny Scala, and Dr. Susan Therriault as they share their cumulative experience bridging evaluation needs through working with practitioners to advance college and career readiness.

## Data, Research & Evaluation Institute 301



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### **Bringing Formative and Summative Evaluation Together: High Leverage Practices and Processes to Advance GEAR UP Outcomes**

Wednesday, July 19 • 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM

**Session Description:** The research is clear—formative evaluation and assessment matters. John Hattie (2012) conducted an extensive meta-analysis, looking at 800 meta-analyses that focused on locating a specific student achievement outcome and identifying an influence on that outcome. Formative assessment, in particular, topped the list of the most influential practices that improve student outcomes.

While we often think of summative indicators such as the U.S. Department of Education's Annual Performance Report (APR) when it comes to evaluating GEAR UP, it is important to realize that formative assessment and processes have a critical role in driving continuous improvement for stakeholders and program providers.

What makes formative assessment so effective? What do we know about how to integrate formative and summative evaluation? How can we connect “best practices” in formative assessment and evaluation to feedback cycles for multiple stakeholders in a program model—from students to teachers to counselors, staff, and administrators at the school site level?

This workshop will provide participants with:

- An understanding of formative and summative GEAR UP outcomes.
- An identification of qualitative and quantitative methodologies and frameworks that support the deeper formative assessment.
- Hands-on exposure to practices and processes that can advance GEAR UP students' growth.
- A discussion about how to create a GEAR UP formative assessment/evaluation plan to paint a more nuanced, “continuous improvement” approach to your GEAR UP program's benchmark data.
- An opportunity to interact with and learn from experienced GEAR UP practitioners and researchers that come from inside the community.
- Materials and suggested topical resources for further exploration following the Institute.

**Who Should Attend? Practitioners and Evaluators** working closely with GEAR UP program service providers and local stakeholders are encouraged to attend this session, especially those who desire to advance their use of formative data. A sound understanding of GEAR UP and evaluation methods is desirable, but not required.

**Workshop Leaders:** This Institute will be led by education and assessment scholars from San Jose State University, Drs. Brent Duckor and Lorri Capizzi. Dr. Duckor is a trained psychometrician in Quantitative Methods and Evaluation from the University of California, Berkeley, and an expert in formative assessment and school reform. Dr. Capizzi has twelve years of experience working with GEAR UP overseeing academic and support services and teaches pre-service counselors.