

WEST VIRGINIA GEAR UP

ADMINISTERED BY THE WEST VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION
UPDATES FOR 2022-2023

Who We Are

West Virginia GEAR UP is a federal grant program that assists students in "Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs".

The Commission's first GEAR UP project launched in 2008 and continued through the 2014-2015 academic year. During the fall of 2014, the Commission received its second GEAR UP grant. This grant served more than 15,000 students through the spring of 2021.

In September 2021, the Commission was granted a third award, which aims to serve more than 17,000 students across Boone, Clay, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, Mingo, Nicholas, Roane, Wayne, Webster and Wirt counties by 2028. In the grant's second year, West Virginia GEAR UP served more than 7,500 students in the 7th, 8th, and 12th grades, and provided first year postsecondary services and statewide services.



WV GEAR UP'S AUDIENCE INCLUDES FIRST GENERATION AND LOW-INCOME STUDENTS, PARENTS/GUARDIANS, EDUCATORS, COUNSELORS, AND ADMINISTRATORS

14,671

HOURS STUDENTS SPENT EXPLORING COLLEGE CAMPUSES



OVER 29,600 HOURS IN STUDENT ADVISING, ACADEMIC PLANNING, AND COUNSELING

GEAR UP U! SUMMER ACADEMY

A FOUR-DAY, THREE-NIGHT COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

HELD ON THE MARSHALL UNIVERSITY HUNTINGTON CAMPUS



156 RISING 8TH AND 9TH GRADE STUDENTS PARTICIPATED



STUDENTS TOOK CLASSES, MET PEERS FROM ACROSS THE STATE, AND EXPERIENCED COLLEGE LIFE



7,743 GEAR UP SERVICE HOURS OVER THE COURSE OF THE ACADEMY



164 PARENTS AND GUARDIANS PARTICIPATED IN THE TOUR OF MARSHALL'S CAMPUS



AMONG THE CLASSES OFFERED WERE CHARACTER DESIGN, HUMAN ANATOMY, ROCKET SCIENCE, MOTOR DESIGN, AVIATION, FORENSIC SCIENCE, SWIMMING, AND VOLLEYBALL

SERVING 7TH, 8TH, AND 12TH GRADERS, AND PROVIDING FIRST YEAR POSTSECONDARY AND STATEWIDE SERVICES



93% OF GEAR UP STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN AT LEAST 1 ACTIVITY IN THE PROGRAM'S FIRST YEAR

STUDENT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

1,000+

7TH AND 8TH GRADE STUDENTS FROM 28 MIDDLE SCHOOLS ATTENDED



THE EVENT FOCUSED ON SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS IN ADDITION TO BUILDING SKILLS IN LEADERSHIP

ACTIVITIES

22,000+

HOURS SPENT PARTICIPATING IN LEARNING ACTIVITIES