



GAINING EARLY AWARENESS FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS



Maryland

Administered by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)

GEAR UP is a federal grant designed to increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. GEAR UP MD is a six-year grant providing services at selected high-poverty middle and high schools in three districts. GEAR UP MD services support a cohort of students beginning in the 7th grade and will follow them through high school. GEAR UP MD funds are also used to provide college scholarships to low-income cohort students.

GEAR UP MD Cohort

First Generation Underserved Low Income High School Students		Parents School Staff Mentors
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Years 1 & 2

Serving Schools in

- Baltimore City
- Dorchester County
- Wicomico County



Annual Requirements

- In **2014**, MSDE was awarded **\$2.1 M** each year for **6 years**
- \$1 M** of the 2.1 M is deposited into a **Scholarship** trust fund annually
- Total of **1,215** cohort students in middle schools
- 3** districts - **5** middle schools participated in the GEAR UP program activities and events
- Maryland Business Roundtable's** volunteer Speakers' Bureau provided career and college planning presentations to cohort students, parents & school staff

- Dollar for Dollar** match via community or business partnerships as well as district support
- Bi-annual surveys** along with **pre and post assessments** to monitor project success & progress
- Academic support services ∞ Rigorous Academic Curricula ∞ Comprehensive Mentoring ∞ Financial aid counseling/advising ∞ Counseling/advising/academic planning/career counseling
- Parent, guardian** and **family** support
- Partnerships with Maryland Higher Education Commission's** College Preparation Intervention Program (CPIP) colleges and universities.

GEAR UP MD Partners

