



Preparing students for success!



What is GEAR UP?



West Virginia GEAR UP (WVGU) is a program funded by the US Department of Education and stands for **G**aining **E**arly **A**wareness and **R**eadiness for **U**ndergraduate **P**rograms. More than 40 states across the United States have GEAR UP programs. In September 2021, WVGU received a \$24.5 million dollar grant to serve more than 17,000 middle and high school students across Boone, Clay, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, Mingo, Nicholas, Roane, Wayne, Webster and Wirt counties through 2028.

Who can participate?

Students in the **classes of 2027 and 2028** who are graduating from participating high schools can participate in GEAR UP from their seventh grade year all the way through their first year of postsecondary education. For a list of participating schools, visit WVGearUp.org.

12th grade students graduating from participating high schools between **2022 and 2028** will receive services to help them transition to life after high school and through their first year of postsecondary education and/or training.



WVGU students receive academic enrichment, such as SAT/ACT prep, tutoring, dual credit and credit recovery opportunities and STEM programming.



Students and families benefit from financial aid and college counseling, FAFSA completion workshops, financial literacy programs and much more!

VISIT WVGearUp.org FOR MORE INFO

“WV GEAR UP goes above and beyond, and without a doubt the program helped me to succeed and be where I am at today.”

Taylor Raby - WVGU Participant

FREE SERVICES FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

All services provided by WVGU are **FREE** to students, families, and educators. Services are designed to help students and families plan, apply, and pay for education training beyond high school. Examples include:

- FAFSA completion workshops
- In-state college campus visits
- Parent/guardian initiatives
- Financial literacy programing
- CFVW account creation
- Family events
- GEAR UP U Summer Academy for middle school students
- Online tutoring
- STEM programing
- Dual credit courses for high school students
- Financial aid and scholarship workshops
- College Application and Exploration Week
- CFVW Txt 4 Success
- Transition workshops

More information about our services can be found at WVGearUp.org

CFVW Account Creation

College for West Virginia (CFVW) provides **FREE** resources and information to students and families seeking financial planning and aid for postsecondary education and training. This includes resources on FAFSA completion, scholarship and grant opportunities, college and career planning information, and financial planning.

WVGU helps students and their families create an account on CFVW and navigate the site's many resources. WVGU students and families have the opportunity to participate in workshops on financial planning for college specifically geared towards their needs.



For the latest WVGU news and to sign up for our newsletter, visit our website by following the QR code.

For Parents

The WV GEAR UP program believes college is a necessity. When we use the term "college," we are referring to any training and education beyond high school including earning a trade certificate, two-year degree or four-year degree. The program provides parents with a full range of resources to help them navigate the college-going process with their students to help them plan and succeed. These services are made available to help ensure the success of your student!

West Virginia GEAR UP is managed by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission with funding from the U.S. Department of Education.

