

11



Location:

Charleston Coliseum and Convention Center

Date:

July 11, 2023 • 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Directions:

Charleston Coliseum and Convention Center 200 Civic Center Drive, Charleston, WV 25301











Scan Me





July 11, 2023

WEST VIRGINIA GEAR UP PROGRAM STAFF MEETING AGENDA

I.	Welcome and Updates						
II.	GEAR UP Year 2 Successes10:10 am						
	FAFSA All Stars						
	STEM Academy						
	College Decision Days						
	Year 2 Data and Survey Highlights						
	GEAR UP U 2023 at Marshall University						
III.	Jason Luyster, Assistant Director of WV GEAR UP						
IV.	GEAR UP Year 3 Overview and Workplans						
٧.	GEAR UP Year 3 Site Coordinator Contracts						
VI.	Lunch						
VII.	21st Century Scholars Awards						
/III.	Work-Based Learning Modules						
IX.	GEAR UP Groups						
	Student Success Society						
	• HEROs						
	• FANs						
X.	State Level Financial Aid Update						
XI.	Regional Breakout						
XII.	Meeting Adjournment3:00 pm						



Save the Dates

West Virginia GEAR UP Program Staff Meetings

Thursday, September 14, 2023 (from Year 2 Workplan), 9:30-4:30 pm, Marshall's Bill Noe Flight School at Yeager International Airport, Charleston, WV

Thursday, November 9, 2023, 9:30-4:30 pm, Advanced Technology Center, South Charleston, WV

Thursday, January 11, 2024, 9:30-4:30 pm, Advanced Technology Center, South Charleston, WV

Thursday, March 7, 2024, 9:30-4:30 pm, Advanced Technology Center, South Charleston, WV

Thursday, April 25, 2024, 9:30-4:30 pm, Advanced Technology Center, South Charleston, WV

July 2024 (Date TBD)

West Virginia GEAR UP Events

WV GEAR UP Fiscal Year 3 Budget Webinar, August 15, 2023

National GEAR UP Week, September 25-29, 2023

Mentor Summit, October 2, 2023, David Hendrickson Conference Center, WV Regional Technology Park, South Charleston, WV

Student Leadership Academy, October 3, 2023, Clay Center, Charleston, WV

Important Dates

College Application and Exploration Week, October 30 – November 3, 2023

FAFSA Application Opens, December 1, 2023





WV GEAR UP Program Staff Meeting

Tuesday, July 11, 2023





Welcome and Updates

Elizabeth Manuel, Senior Director of Student Services





FAFSA All Stars

Point Pleasant High School Spring Valley High School





Year 2 Data and Survey Highlights







NEWS

Students across the state visit the Clay Center to explore STEM field career opportunities and watch Kate the Chemist

By Katherine Skeldon May 18, 2023 - 2:10 pm









College Decision Days





GEAR UP U 2024!!! Hosted by Marshall University



GEAR UP Year 2 Closeout (fiscal items)

Cumulative Classroom Enhancement Reports

➤ They are now well past due

Reviewing monthly invoices for accuracy

- ▶It takes a team
- ➤ Please review and speak up about any abnormalities

Site Coordinator payments



GEAR UP Year 2 Closeout (workplan items)

Submit any outstanding Year 2 data

>Including rosters for any GU funded dual enrollment

Year 2 workplan remaining workplan items:

- ➤ Welcome to GEAR UP Event
- ➤ National GEAR UP Week
- >Academic Enrichment

Submit your Event Notifications at least 2 weeks in advance





GEAR UP Year 3 Workplans





Priority (12th grade) Workplan





WV GEAR UP WORKPLAN: CLASS OF 2024 PRIORITY GROUP

						Q		
MINIMUM REQUIRED ACTIVITIES	SITE LEVEL COORDINATION	CENTRAL OFFICE COORDINATION	HOSPITALITY	MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	COMPLETION DEADLINE	COMMENTS AND WORKPLAN CLARIFICATION		
Welcome to GEAR UP Day	•		•	•	September 2023	Host a welcome to GEAR UP awareness day for students as part of National GEAR UP Week. The event must include information about the federally funded GEAR UP grant and services for the 2023-24 academic year for 12th-grade students new to the GEAR UP program. Site Coordinators are asked to utilize the WV GEAR UP launch toolkit developed by the central office. Resources in the form of informational hand-outs are also available.		
CFWV Txt 4 Success Opt-In (Target 75% of Senior Class)	•			•	October 2023	WV GEAR UP and College for WV provides college access and success counseling via text message. Provide all priority students and parents the opportunity to sign up for text messages through an organized in-school event/activity where students have access to a computer. Each school's goal is a miminum of 75% of senior class enrollment.		
College Application and Exploration Week	•	•	•	•	Oct 30 - Nov 3, 2023	Priority group activities MUST include computer lab time for students to submit college applications. Site coordinators must register their school as a participate in CAEW and are encouraged to scale this event as part of a school-wide effort involving other staff. All students are encouraged to participate and 60% of seniors are required to submit at least 2 college or career/technical applications.		
In-State College Campus Visit	•		•	•	December 15, 2023	Site coordinators are encouraged to plan an in-person college visit if possible. Priority group site coordinators are highly encouraged to couple this trip with other activities such as a job-site visit when possible. Additional college visits will be considered as funds allow. In unique circumstances due to geographical location, out-of-state college trips may be considered if they do not include overnight stays.		
Faculty Senate Presentation	•			•	December 15, 2023	Site coordinators will present to faculty and staff to ensure they are aware of the goals and services of the WV GEAR UP grant. Additionally, faculty and staff will be made aware of opportunities available for them to assist and participate in WV GEAR UP events and activities as addressed during the annual personnel survey.		
FAFSA Completion Workshops (Minimum of 2 Workshops)	•		•	•	February 1, 2024 April 15, 2024	Host a minimum of two separate FAFSA completion workshops designed to help students and parents complete the Free Application for Federal Student Ald. Efforts should be made to meet the statewide FAFSA completion goal. Events may NOT take place prior to the opening of the FAFSA application.		
State Financial Aid and Scholarship Workshop	•		•	•	March 1, 2024	Coordinate a state financial aid and scholarship workshop designed to help students and parents apply for the PROMISE Scholarship, WV Invests Grant and other grants and scholarships. Events may NOT take place prior to October 1, 2023.		
Transition and College Readiness Family Event	•		•	•	May 15, 2024	Site coordinators will host one event focusing on educating students and parents about the successful transition from high school to postsecondary. The event must be associated with an activity that addresses the transition to college and first-year experience topic to help prepare priority students for matriculation.		
College Decision Day	•	•	•	•	June 1, 2024	Site coordinators will host one College Decision Day event focused on honoring students who plan to pursue postsecondary education and training. The event must provide transition and college readness materials to families. Site coordinators must register for the College Decision Day event as it is part of a statewide initiative. Site coordinators are strongly encouraged to invite GEAR UP parents and other students to witness the event.		
Academic Enrichment: See Below								
Dual Credit Courses	•	•			September 2023 - May 2024	Beginning in fall 2023, (under recent legislation) GEAR UP seniors may be eligible for the funding of dual credit courses identified through institutional partners for certain pathways. In the event that a course is not covered under the program's provision and a course is listed on the 2023-24 General Studies and Course Equivalency Transfer Agreement, GU funds may be used to cover the course. Reporting of student enrollment in all dual credit courses will be need to be tracked for reporting purposes.		
Other Academic Enrichment	•	•			Ongoing	Academic enrichment funds may be used for SAT/ACT prep, credit recovery opportunities (not already funded through other existing sources), AP exams, and in some cases partial funding for programs like Early College Academy (with approval from WV GEAR UP administration).		
				i	i			

WVGU Priority Workplan

Dates and Deadlines Workflow 15th: Budget Meeting Build awareness/excitement, family engagement, campus visits. college apps 14th: Staff Meeting 25th-29th: GU Week/Day 31st: Txt4Success Opt-in Oct 30th-Nov 3rd: CAEW 9th: Staff Meeting 15th: College Visit 15th: Faculty Senate Presentation FAFSA completion, State Aid 11th: Staff Meeting 1st: FAFSA Completion Workshop 1 1st: State Financial Aid Workshop 7th: Staff Meeting 15th: FAFSA Completion Workshop 2 Apr 25th: Staff Meeting 15th: Transition/College Readiness Event 1st: College Decision Day





Cohort 1 (9th grade) Workplan





Cohort 2 (8th grade) Workplan



Welcome to GEAR UP Day (September)



Combination welcome event/awareness day for National GEAR UP Week (September 25-29, 2023)



Includes information about the GEAR UP grant and services for the year



Informational handouts are available—if you need assistance with promotion, information, resources, etc. let your regional director know



College Application and Exploration Week

- October 30th-November 3rd
- Computer time for students to explore colleges and careers and college planning resources
- Must register school as a participant in CAEW
- Toolkits provided
- The more the merrier!



Faculty Senate Presentation

- Completed before December 15
- Regional Directors can assist
- Great opportunity to build your team!



In-State College Campus Visit

At least one WV college or university

Consider adding a job site visit or multiple schools

Don't be afraid to reach out to regional directors Consider where your students went last year— what would increase their exposure?



Transition to High School



Involve the families



Includes information about importance of grades and academic credits, goal setting, career pathways, and introduction to financial aid and scholarships

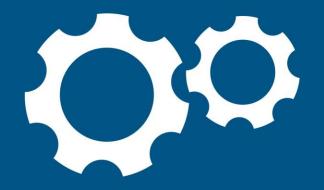


Before May 15



GEAR UP U! 2024

- Registration opens in the winter
- Promote, assist students with registration and followups







TI Data/STEM-Pre-Algebra Support



Teachers

- Teachers use TI equipment and document class attendance; only need data on 8th grade
- Minimum 4 class periods dedicated to the equipment each term
- If you need to change your TI teachers, contact regional directors

Site Coordinators

- Collect usage data from teachers monthly
- Confirm that an accurate attendance list is attached, along with information on date and duration
- Upload data to GoAnywhere

Regional Directors

• Enter TI Data into Scribe





GEAR UP Site Coordinator Contracts





LUNCH BREAK





21st Century Scholars College-Ready Milestones

Emily Hammond, Assistant Director of Communications and Outreach



Program Requirements

- Sign up for TXT 4 Success
- Apply for West Virginia Invests Grant –OR– the Promise Scholarship
- File the FAFSA

All milestones must be completed by April 15, 2024 Counselors will assist in ensuring students have met all milestones and distributing 21st Century Scholar Awards



Awards

- 21st Century Scholar college-ready milestones completion certificate
- 21st Century Scholar lapel pin
- Tri-color graduation chord (1 color for each milestone completed)







Work Based Learning Modules

The Education Alliance



GEAR UP Groups Launching in Year 3

Student Success Society

- Please help us to identify a mentor for up to 12 of your 9th graders
- The 2023 Mentor Summit will take place on Monday, October 2, 2023 at the David Hendrickson Conference Center at BridgeValley CTC in South Charleston.
- Mentor/Mentor Summit registration will open August 16, 2023
- We have nearly 800 students transitioning into our GEAR UP high schools that participated in our two virtual mentoring events this year

HEROs (Higher Education Readiness Officers)

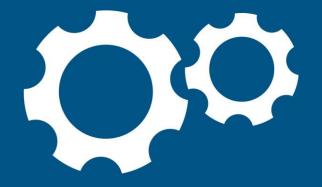
FANs (Family Action Networks)





2023-2024 Financial Aid Update





Regional Breakout





Thank you!!!





Financial Aid Update

2023 Student Success Summit





December 2023 for 2024-2025



Studentaid.gov/FAFSA





FAFSA Changes

- Will have more of an online application feel like TurboTax
- Fewer questions overall
- FSA IDs require verification/authentication before being used
- All "contributors" required to have FSA ID to give permission for FTI to be transferred from IRS
- SAI replacing EFC; calculation will change
- Students may have negative SAI, which is used only to determine Pell Grant eligibility.
- Unusual Circumstances will receive estimated federal aid





Pell Grant

- Maximum award \$7,395 for upcoming academic year
- Max eligible EFC is 6,656
- Up to 12 full-time semesters







2023-2024 Outreach Activities

In person

- Financial Aid 101
 Presentation
- FAFSA workshop

Virtual

- Pre recorded Financial Aid Webinars Available on Youtube – CFWV Financial Aid Video Library
- Program Specific Webinars
- Shared on social media through CFWV
- One on one- Fafsa remote assistance

Other Initiatives

- FAFSA Data share
- Financial Aid Hotline M-F
 8-5
- Social Media Press Kit
- Text Campaign
- High School Counselor Workshops





2023-2024 Financial Aid Event Scheduling







CFWV Calendar

July 20					Add To Calendar 🕶	
100		enues		3-400		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5	6	7	
9	10	11	12	13	14	
16	17	18	19	20	21	
					9:00am Read Aloud - Bob Burdette Center	
23 CT National Test D	24	25	26	27	28	
30						
	toopm Mountaineer Challenge Academy South - Education Fair					



High School Counselor Workshops

- Highly recommend counselors attend!!
- Will have FAFSA Changes and SAI Updates
- November 2023, registration available October 1
- Virtual and In Person events available
- Sponsored through WVASFAA.
- Goes in depth on FAFSA, Federal Aid, and State Aid.





High School Counselor Workshops

NOVEMBER 2023

"THE ONLY WAY TO MAKE SENSE OF CHANGE IS TO PLUNGE INTO IT. MOVE WITH IT, AND JOIN THE DANCE." ALAN WATTS

Surviving and Thriving in Financial Aid 2023-24

13

20

27

AKE	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ТО	1	2	3	4
OIN tts		Wood County Career and Technical Center	West Virginia State University	
-24	8	9	10	11
	West Virginia Wesleyan College	Shepherd University		
14	15	16	17	18
New River Community and Technical College	Huntington Junior College	Glenville State University	Northern WV Community College	
21	22	23	24	25
		Thanksgiving		
28	29	30		2
	West Virginia University-Virtual		8	50



12

19

26

High School Counselor Workshops

- NOVEMBER 2 WOOD COUNTY CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER
- NOVEMBER 3 WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY
- NOVEMBER 8 WV WESLEYAN COLLEGE
- NOVEMBER 9 SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY
- NOVEMBER 14 NEW RIVER COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE
- NOVEMBER 15 HUNTINGTON JUNIOR COLLEGE
- NOVEMBER 16 GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY
- NOVEMBER 17 WV NORTHERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- NOVEMBER 29 VIRTUAL WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY





Prerecorded Webinars

- Financial Aid 101
- FAFSA Line by Line
- Promise Requirements/ Promise App Demo
- Underwood Smith Teaching Scholars Second Round
- Overview Fed Programs
- Overview State Programs
- Grandparents/Legal Guardian/Who are the parents

- Dependency Status
- Invest Grant Process
- HEAPs Programs
- Underwood-Smith Teaching Scholars program
- WV STEM Scholarship
- HEGP
- FAFSA Frequent Errors/FSA ID







EAPS

6:08

5:06

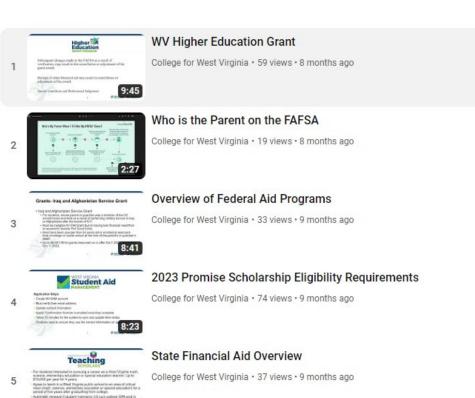






Play all

> Shuffle



Renewal For WV State Financial Aid Programs

College for West Virginia • 29 views • 9 months ago

UWS Teaching Scholars Overview

College for West Virginia • 11 views • 9 months ago













https://socialpresskit.com/cfwv





Higher Education Outreach

DESCRIPTION

Ready-made social media & marketing materials for colleges, universities, high schools & partners across West Virginia promoting West Virginia's state-sponsored financial aid programs that offer more than \$100 million per year to support students pursuing postsecondary education. Additional resources cover campus mental health & apprenticeship opportunities.

FAFSA Assistance

- Screen sharing technology
- Student needs assistance we can help them remotely, just contact our office to set up a time
- FAFSA Help line
 - Monday through Friday
 - 8am-5pm
 - 304-558-4618
 - Toll free 1-877-987-7664









Financial Aid Management System (FAMS)

Allows counselors to view

- Who has applied for Promise
- Starting 2024 will show who applied for WV Invests
- Promise eligibility of your students who have applied
- FAFSA status of your students through the FAFSA Datashare
 - Not until December 2023 for 2024-2025

https://www.wvhepc.org/secure/fams





FAFSA Data Share

- Signed agreement with the county/school and our office
- Authorized school personnel will upload a CSV file to FAMS
- First name, last name, birth date, and zip code
- We will match and disclose back to the high school which students have a Completed FAFSA, Incomplete FAFSA, or No FAFSA
- Change in counselor or principal, new agreement needed





FAFSA Data Share

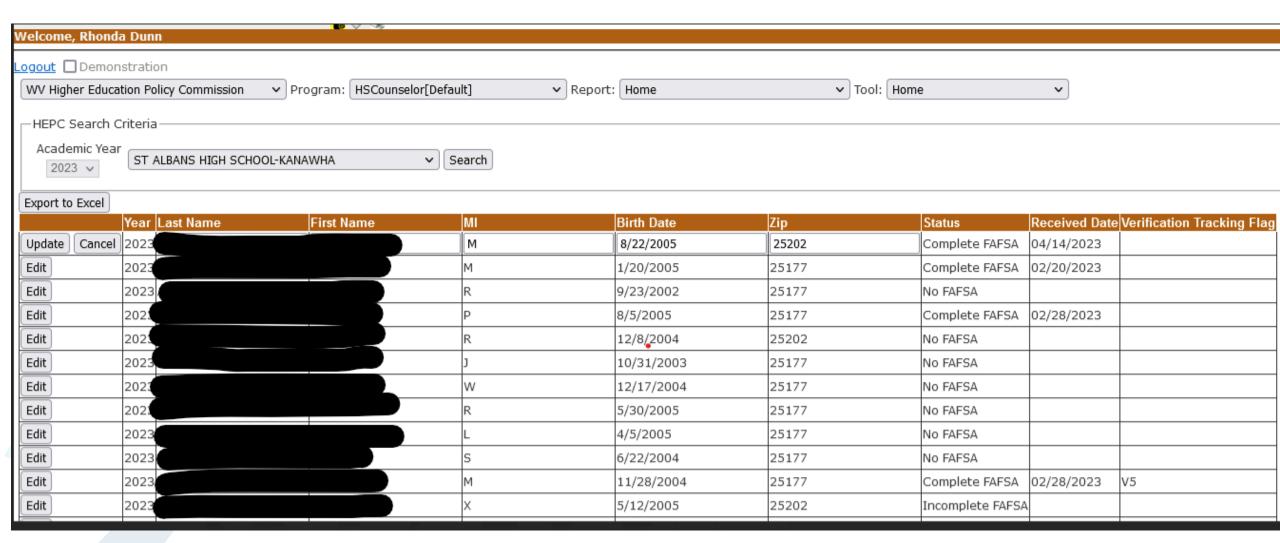
- Revamping the Data share for 2024-2025
- Will show reason if the FAFSA is invalid
- Will be able to edit individual student data including First and Last Name, Zip code, and birthdate if that is the issue with matching to FAFSA.

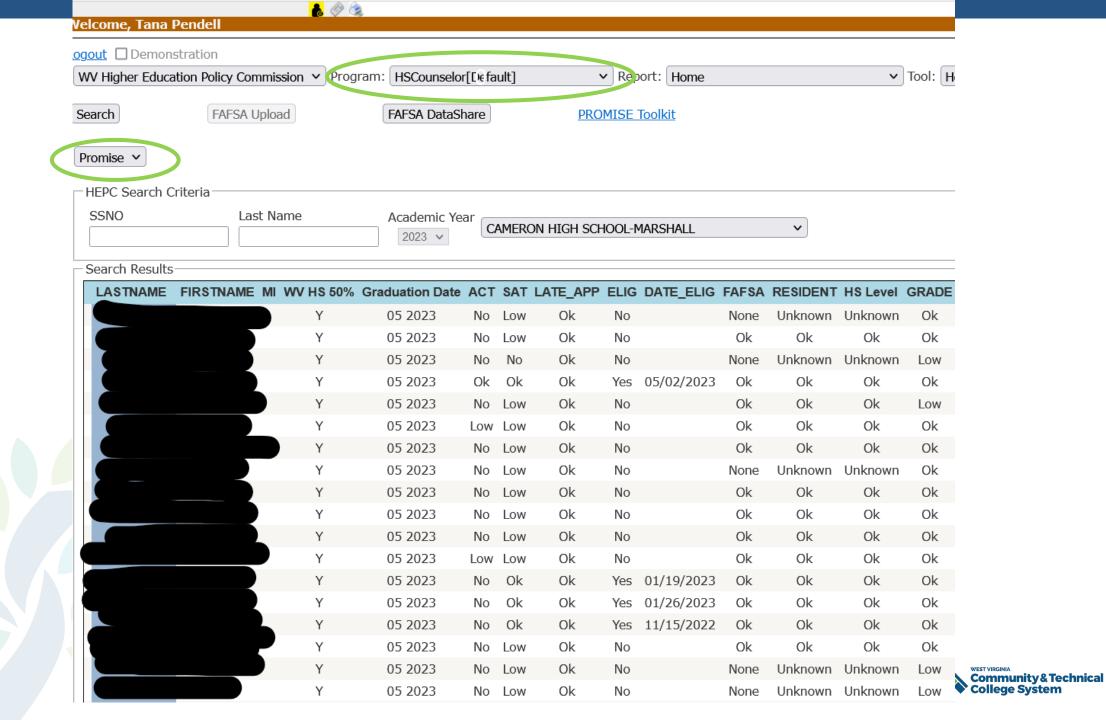


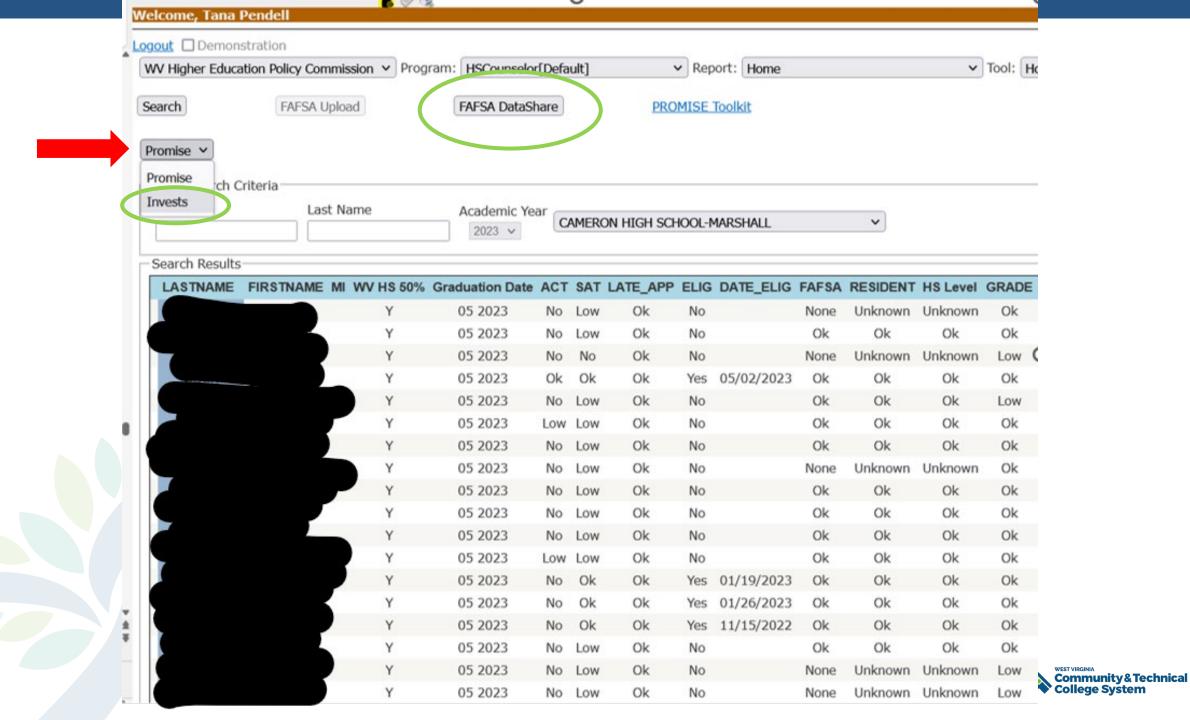




FAFSA DataShare







Dual Enrollment

- Signed agreement with the county/school and our office
- \$75 a credit hour we are reimbursing the colleges directly
- Legislation requires the student to be enrolled in an approved pathway program. For example, Nursing, teacher education, process for developing other pathways. Public 4 year and public 2 year.
 - Colleges are sending pathways to our agencies for approval, the courses will need to be approved to be covered.
 - They can change their pathway, if they are in a course that isn't connected to an approved pathway.
- Will have to go through the colleges to determine eligibility. We will share a contact person for the colleges.
 - Each college will have a different process to determine how to receive an award.
 - Can be juniors and seniors
- Working on website and the details and will share asap.
- Pilot project 4 million. Will be limited to 479 courses per school this year, may be more next year.
- Currently no limitation on how many courses one student can take. College may impose a limit.

State Financial Aid Programs Funding Levels

Program	Funding
Promise Scholarship	\$47,500,000
Higher Education Grant	\$40,619,864
WV Invests Grant	\$7,032,672
Higher Education Adult Part-Time Student Grant	\$5,011,298
Engineering, Science and Technology Scholarship	\$452,831
Underwood-Smith Teacher Scholarship and Loan Assistance	\$628,349
WV Center for Nursing	Using Nursing Expansion Funds
Total	\$101,245,011



State Financial Aid Programs











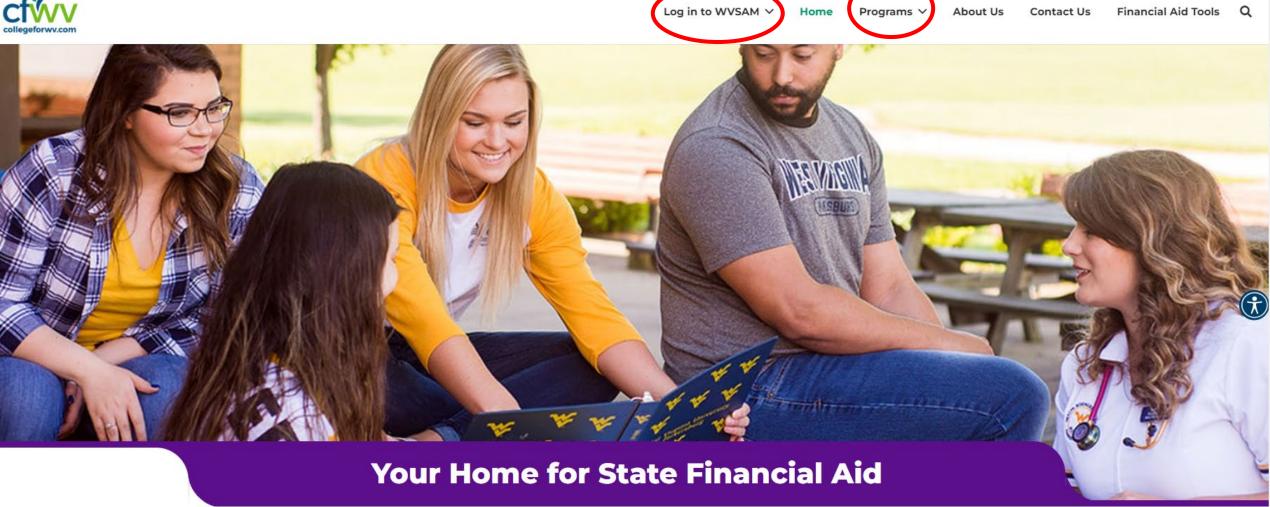






Website for state financial aid programs Collegeforwv.com







WEST VIRGINIA Student Aid MANAGEMENT







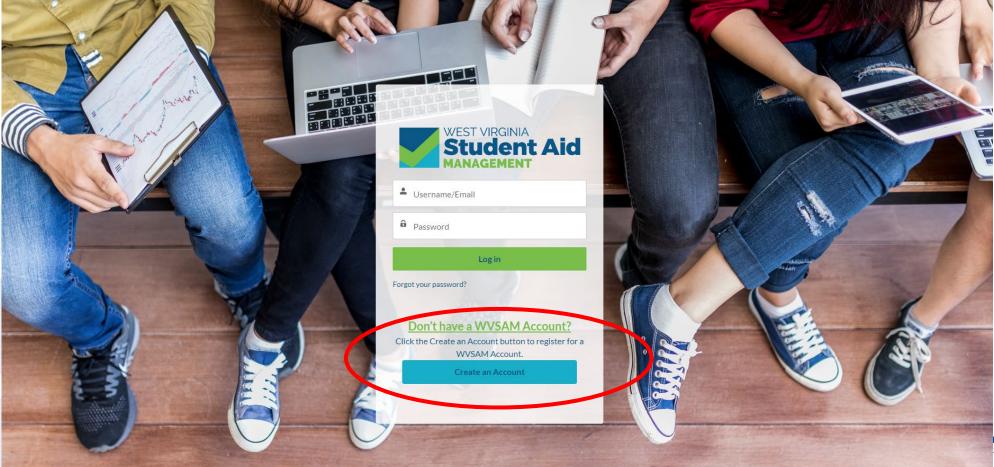
- Apply, Edit, or Check the status of your applications on the WVSAM system
- Best Practice: Personal email to create account
- Must verify their email address
 - Email comes from WVSAM <u>WVFinancialaid@wvhepc.edu</u>
 - Username is email address
- Students need to ensure they use the correct SSN and Legal Name
- Applicant gets a confirmation page by email for each program after the application is complete.





MEN MYSAM





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Create an Account

If this is your first time visiting, you must create an account. Only the student should create an account. Register with an email you will have long-term access to.

We recommend you do not use a school email.

If you already have an account, return to the login page. If you forgot your password, use the "Forgot Password" link to reset your password.

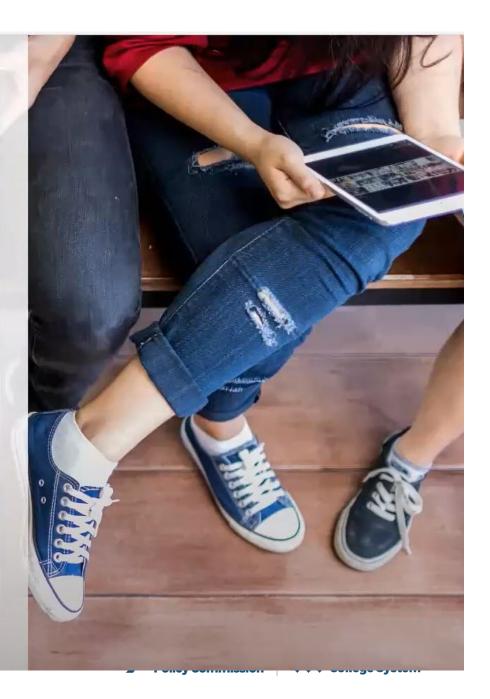
Last Name:		

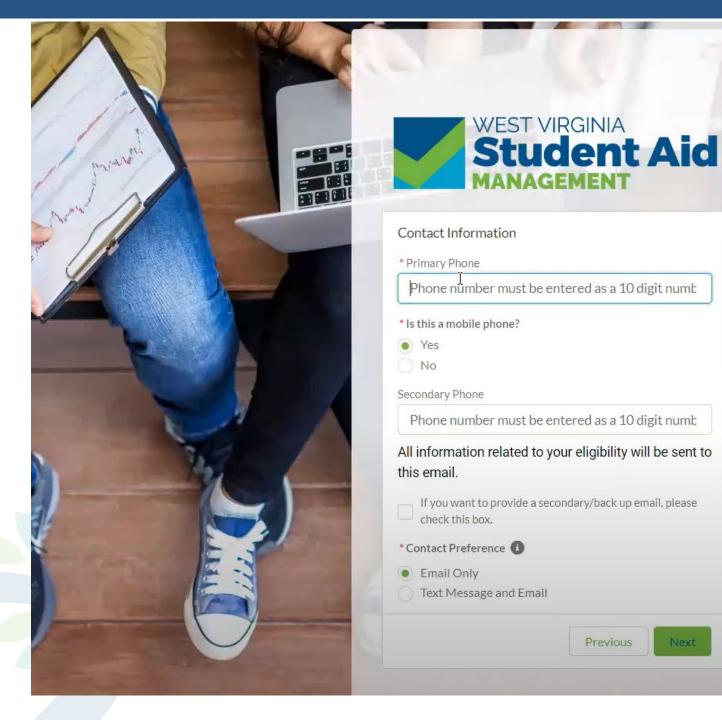




MANAGEMENI

Address Information * Current Address 123 D Street * Current City Charleston * Current State WV * Current ZIP 55555 My mailing address is the same as my current address * Mailing Address * Mailing City * Mailing State Please select your Mailing State * Mailing ZIP Previous











Other Contact Information

To give permission to a parent/guardian or other person to access your application/award information, you must check this box and list names and information below.

1	Grant	Permission to	Discuss	Account
---	-------	---------------	---------	---------

* Person 1 Name

* Person 1 Relationship

* Person 1 Phone

* Person 1 Email

Person 2 Name

Person 2 Relationship



ty&Technical /stem







WVSAM wvfinancialaid@wvhepc.edu <u>via</u> h0eco682260c.hv-8frsmaq.cs308.bnc.sandbox.salesforce.com to me ▼

Thu, Mar 30, 10:28 AM







Hi Tana,

Welcome to WVSAM, your one-stop shop for state financial aid! To get started, click the link below to finish setting up your account:

Verify your email and setup your WVSAM password

Username: tanapendell@gmail.com

Use your WVSAM account to submit applications for state financial aid, check the status of your application, ask questions, upload documents, and view your award information.

Important updates about your eligibility for all state financial aid programs will be sent to the email address on file. Once you log in, you can submit an application(s) by clicking "NEW" under My Applications.





WVSAM Your One-Stop Shop for State Financial Aid







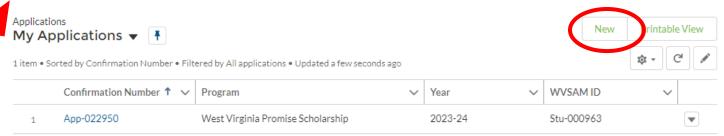








- You must review and update your contact information before submitting an application.
- To submit an application, select "New" in the My Applications section below.
- After you apply, you may monitor the status under My Applications by clicking the Confirmation Number for the application. Please allow 15 minutes after submission or edits before reviewing.



Keep your contact information updated. Click your name under MY CONTACT INFORMATION below to review and edit.

MY CONTACT INFORMATION

WVSAM ID	Name	Phone	Email
Stu-000963	Tana D Pendell	(304) 437-1076	tanapendell@gmail.com

View All

Click the Contact Us button below to submit:

- Questions
- Documents
- Appeals

Contact Us/Upload Document

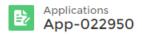
ALL MY INQUIRIES

Inquiry Number	Student Name	Subject	Last Modified Date
00009190	Tana D Pendell	TEST	3/9/2023, 4:16 PM

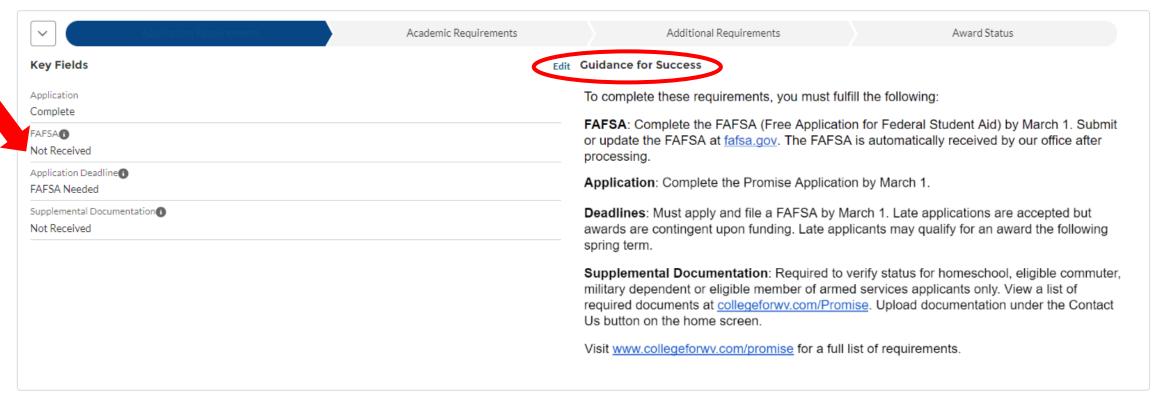
View All

Application Status

Click the application pathway to see your application status. Click the edit button to correct your application.











- State Merit Based Scholarship Program for WV Residents to attend college in WV.
- All information at CollegeforWV.com/Promise
- Applicants must meet all requirements to qualify







Counselors Role:

- Help students file application and FAFSA by March 1, 2024
 - Check FAMS for applicants by February 14
- Grade File Submission (PRM.DTA report)
 - 7th grade file is due February 14
 - 8th grade file is with End of May/Early June
- Review FAMS for errors











PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP TOOLKIT

The information and instruction provided in this toolkit is intended to assist high school counselors in their role in processing the PROMISE Scholarship Awards each year.

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- Must file FAFSA each year by April 15
- Need-Based Grant for WV Residents attending full time towards an Associates or Bachelor's degree program at WV school (some PA schools).
- Must achieve 24 credit hours and a 2.0 Cumulative GPA

2023-2024 Expected Family Contribution (EFC)	Maximum Annual Higher Education Grant Award
0-13000	\$3,300







- For students interested in pursuing a career as a West Virginia math, science, elementary education or special education teacher. Up to \$10,000 per year for 4 years.
- Agree to teach in a West Virginia public school in an area of critical need (math, science, elementary education or special education) for a period of five years after graduating from college.
- 3rd Cohort of 25 selected for Fall 2023.
- Automatic renewal if student maintains 3.0 cumulative college GPA and in eligible program
- Application for 2024-25 opens July 15







- WV STEM Scholarship
- Up to \$3000 per year
- March 1 deadline
- Agree to work full-time in an engineering, science or technology field in West Virginia for one year for each year the scholarship was received or begin an approved program of community service related to engineering, science or technology.
- Be willing to repay the scholarship received plus interest and any required collection fees if he/she fails to fulfill the work requirement.







- A "last-dollar-in" financial aid program designed to cover the cost tuition and approved fees for certificate or associate degree programs in specific high-demand fields at a participating West Virginia two- or four-year institutions.
 - Only covers fees approved by the Council. Not all fees covered.
- All details available at <u>www.collegeforwv.com/WVInvests</u>
 - Eligibility criteria, participating institution, eligible programs
 - Requirements drug screen, promissory note, community service
 - Post-enrollment residency requirement







- To apply, complete:
 - WV Invests Grant application
 - FAFSA
- Priority deadline of April 15, 2024 for 2024-2025
 - Before first term of enrollment
- Application will become available October 1, 2023, for 2024-2025.
 - For 2024-2025, the year starts with summer 2024 term and ends with spring 2025





- The West Virginia Nursing Scholarship program is for LPN, RN, LPN teaching certificate, and master's or doctoral nursing education students.
- Must work in WV for a certain amount of time for each year you receive the award or becomes a student loan.
- Application goes live April 15
- Deadline June 1, 2024, for Fall 2024-Summer 2025
- Working on collaboration with Workforce WV for those who apply for the nursing scholarship
- Award amounts vary each year based on the availability of funds and are dispersed each semester (Fall, Spring, Summer). Awards ranged from \$2,500 to \$5,000 per disbursement during the 2023-2024 award cycle





- Block grant given to public 4-year, public 2-year, private non-profit, and career and vocational centers for their part-time students
- \$256 a credit hour for 2022-2023 at non-public colleges
- Students must be enrolled 3-11 hours to be eligible for HEAPS part-time
- Students must have a 2.0 cum gpa and meet SAP
- Contact college/vocational school for application







- Application available on July 1;
- Contact the college/vocational school for application
- Can receive up to \$2,000 or tuition and fees
- For Certificate or short-term training programs like certified medical training, mining, gaming, LPN etc.
- Must file the FAFSA and complete HEAPS application



Other programs

- Underwood-Smith Teacher Loan Repayment Program Teacher or counselor in a high need area in West Virginia can agree to full time in a public-school area of critical need for two years and have up to \$3,000 in student loan debt cancelled annually.
- The following is a list of subject areas of critical need and the geographic areas of the state in critical need and are eligible to apply for 2023-2024.
 - Counselor: Berkeley, Fayette, Jefferson, Kanawha, McDowell, Mercer, Pendleton, Upshur, Wayne, Wood, Wyoming
 - Elementary: Berkeley, Jefferson, McDowell, Mineral, Wyoming
 - NEW English: Berkeley, Mineral
 - Special Education: Berkeley, Cabell, Hardy, Kanawha, Lewis, Lincoln, Marshall, Mason, McDowell, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Roane, Taylor, Tyler, Wayne, Wetzel, Wood, Wyoming
 - Math: Clay, Logan, Raleigh, Wayne, Taylor
 - Science: Berkeley, Clay, Lincoln, Mineral
- Application opens July 1 each year.





Other programs

- Choose WV Practice Program -A tuition waiver program that incentivizes nonresident West Virginia medical students to remain in West Virginia to practice.
- Medical Student Loan Program A need-based program for students pursuing a medical degree.
- Health Science Service Program A service-obligation scholarship for health professions students interested in primary care and rural health in West Virginia.
- Mental Health Loan Repayment Program A service obligation loan repayment program for mental health professionals who are residents of West Virginia and practice in an underserved area of West Virginia.





Program Managers

- Judy Kee Smith WV Higher Education Grant
- Tana Pendell Promise Scholarship
- Sarah Musgrave WV Invests Grant
- Michelle Marlowe Underwood-Smith and WV Stem Scholarship
- Jordyn Reed WV Center for Nursing
- Michelle Ruppert Medical Student Loan, Choose WV Practice Program, and Health Science Service Program
- Matthew Walker- HEAPS & Post-Enrollment





FAFSA Completion Rates

As of May 15, 2023 for the 2023-2024 FAFSA, we have 53.2% completion rate. These Schools met the 60% FAFSA completion rate:

*Rates come from the U.S. Department of Education

- Buffalo High School
- Bridgeport High School
- Central Catholic High School
- Chapmanville Regional High School
- Cross Lanes Christian School
- Doddridge County High School
- Fairmont Senior High School
- Frankfurt High School
- George Washington High School
- Herbert Hoover High School
- Hurricane High School
- Liberty High School Raleigh
- Mingo Central Comprehensive School
- Morgantown High School
- Nitro High School
- Paw Paw High School
- Poca High School

- Point Pleasant Junior/ Senior High School
- Ripley High SchoolScott High School

- Shady Spring High Spring Valley High School Teays Valley Christian School
- Tug'Valley High School
- Tolsia High School
- Tyler Consolidated High School
- University High School
- Union Educational Complex
- Wahama High School
- Wayne High School
- Weirton Madonna High School
- Williamstown High School
- Winfield High School
- Wirt County High School
- Wood County Christian School



FAFSA COMPLETION - BEST PRACTICES

- Top WV Schools with highest FAFSA Completion Rates
 - Providing Information
 - Reminders!
 - Workshops
 - Planning ahead





FAFSA COMPLETION – BEST PRACTICES

Providing Information

- Telling parents the benefits of financial aid
- Host Financial aid night each year well attended, reminders, robocalls, emails, schoology blasts, civics class, monthly email, include in newsletter with link.
- Counselor presentation to the senior class only.
- Host FAFSA Workshop each year. Many hold multiple, announce other opportunities
- Host a rising senior FAFSA night in May.
- Language to communicate with parents. Many students and parents say "we aren't going to use the Promise" or "we aren't going to take out loans" and we answer them that you never know how your situation might change, and filling these things out doesn't commit you to anything, it just "leaves the door open" for every possible opportunity
- Make a handout with deadlines and links and place on students schoology page, school
 website, senior bulletin board, cafeteria, counselor bulletin board, front office and other
 counselors have handouts.





FAFSA COMPLETION – BEST PRACTICES

Reminders!

- Nagging, Badgering, persistence, Annoy the seniors, Handholding. Constant asking, "have you filed your fafsa?"
- Follow ups with those who didn't attend with links to fill it out
- Personally call those parents of the students who they believe will qualify for Promise and tell them to file FAFSA. Many just don't know. Are delighted to find out that this money is an opportunity.
- BIG PUSH FOR MARCH 1
- Use FAFSA datashare to monitor
- Reminder emails in February.
- Call personally and offer to help with the FAFSA.



FAFSA COMPLETION – BEST PRACTICES

Workshops

- Use school time to help each student apply for Promise
- Use school time to fill out as much as the FAFSA as possible.
- Remind students they can still use if go out of state and come back
- Counselors use school time to walk them through the application process and introduce to Collegeforwv.com-have them fill out Promise and Invests at school whether they qualify or not. ALL STUDENTS APPLY FOR PROMISE and INVESTS, Encourage interested students to sign up for WVSTEM, UWS, and Nursing.
- Also individual FAFSA sessions if can't attend workshop.
- We use HEPC to assist with our efforts!





FAFSA COMPLETION - BEST PRACTICES

Planning

- Encourage juniors to look at FAFSA to become familiar with it.
- Meet individually with seniors in the fall to discuss what they need to do and go over what they may qualify for.
- Have a counselor dedicated to EVERYTHING FAFSA!
- Plan dates ahead of time for workshops and help nights.
- Workshops, 4 different days and times to accommodate. Once a month.
- County wide FAFSA fair for students and parents.
- Use FAFSA datashare and FAMS
- Counselors set aside time to go over Datashare and Promise list. Schedule ahead of time.









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HEROs Peer-to-Peer Outreach Groups

Overview: West Virginia GEAR UP aims to fuel a college-going culture at each high school through the creation of peer-to-peer outreach groups led by students within the GEAR UP cohort. Eight to 20 students at each school will be identified as HEROs (Higher Education Readiness Officers).

These students will be charged with organizing their HEROs unit in order to assist the GEAR UP site coordinator with the GEAR UP workplan, encourage student, family and community involvement within the school and in the college-readiness process, and serve as peer mentors for their fellow students. In addition, HEROs will also have a voice in the overall direction of the GEAR UP program, particularly concerning program-wide outreach initiatives.

The GEAR UP site coordinator will serve as the group advisor in each school, and the site coordinator is responsible for organizing the HEROs unit, establishing the group's legitimacy as a student group within the school, and ensuring that HEROs students meet on a regular basis and accomplish their annual goals.

Selection of Students: Site Coordinators may recruit students to serve as HEROs as they see fit (nomination, election, etc.). A list of students who attended the 2023 GEAR UP U! summer academy is included as a starting point for identifying students who may be interested in the mission of the group. The ideal HERO is:

- Dedicated to utilizing their potential to the best of their ability and helping other students do the same:
- Positive, supportive, approachable and tolerant;
- Dedicated to pursuing some form of postsecondary education;
- A strong believer in the power of education;
- Someone who could benefit from being part of a supportive, engaging group; and
- Someone who could benefit from the opportunity to improve their leadership skills, self-confidence and high school resume.

It may be a good idea to select a few students to begin with, and then allow those students to grow the group through additional recruitment, nomination or election processes.

Organization: The GEAR UP site coordinator will serve as the advisor for the group, but the students should take full ownership of the organization and its responsibilities. HEROs units should be made up of eight to 20 student members. Each group should then elect the following Directors:

- Director of Educator Support and Appreciation
- Director of Family Support and Engagement
- Director of Community Support and Engagement
- Director of Student Support and Engagement

Each director will be responsible for leading their committee (charged with the topics of educator support and appreciation; parent and family support and engagement; community support and engagement; and student support and engagement). Every HEROs unit member should serve on a committee. Committees should be relatively equal in size.

Note: In the case of a smaller group of students (i.e. eight), it may be best to elect a Director and an Associate Director for each of the four project topics, rather than having a Director and one committee member.

Students may decide their own forms of governance, but it is recommended that students make major decisions by voting either as a unit or as a committee.

To become an official HERO, students must register with the West Virginia GEAR UP central office so that they can receive updates on program-wide activities and initiatives. To register, visit https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HEROregistration.





HEROs Peer-to-Peer Outreach Groups

Projects and Duties: The HEROs unit should meet at least once per month with the advisor. Each month, the HEROs should tackle the projects outlined below. When possible, all four committees should look for ways to accomplish their goal and reach their target audience through the activities associated with each project. In some instances it will be appropriate for one particular committee to play a larger role than the others (ex. the Educator Support and Appreciation Committee may want to take the lead in December).

August/September: Build your team! Select and recruit members to join. Organize the HEROs unit and support the site coordinator and help them to organize and coordinate the Welcome to GEAR UP event and National GEAR UP Week activities.

October: Apply yourself! Utilize CFWV.com to gain awareness and promote your school's College Application and Exploration Week. In addition, the HEROs should develop and implement at least one additional marketing idea to help promote either the activities of College Application and Exploration Week, or to inform students about the various colleges and universities throughout the state.

November: 'Tis the season! With the holidays, winter break, end of the semester, and finals coming up, HEROs will help inform your classmates about Brainfuse, WV GEAR UP's FREE 24/7 online tutoring and support platform.

December: Give the gift of GEAR UP U! We can't think of a better way to celebrate the holidays than by thinking about warm weather and planning to spend part of your summer with the GEAR UP staff at Glenville State University! Help your site coordinator spread the word and encourage your peers to apply for GEAR UP U 2024!

January: Show your appreciation! Develop and implement an activity to show the educators in the school that their hard work and support are valued.

February: Happy Valentine's Day! Show the senior class some love by celebrating those who have already completed their FAFSA and reminding others to apply for financial aid and inviting them to attend one of their school's FAFSA completion events.

March/April: Create your own! Working with your site coordinator and school administration, what special project would your HEROs group like to organize. Consider how this project benefits all students in planning for their future education and career goals.

May/June: Recognize and strategize! Showcase the work of your HEROs unit this year by putting together a recap — this can be a newsletter, one-pager, video, collage, online presentation, magazine — or anything else you can think of to show off all you've accomplished. Additionally, this could be a great opportunity to grow your HEROs club membership in preparation of next year.

Throughout the year: HEROs should also actively promote all other GEAR UP activities to their classmates, families and teachers. HEROs and their advisors will also receive frequent updates, promotional materials, and ideas for marketing events and services from central office staff. Media kits will be provided for major activities, including:

- #WhyApply Day
- Natiónal GEAR UP Week
- College Application and Exploration Week
- Celebrate FirstGen Day
- GEAR UP U!

Questions about HEROs? Call (304) 558-0655.









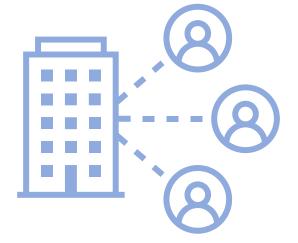
Virtual Work-based Learning

July 11, 2023 Charleston, WV









Why college?

We can help!



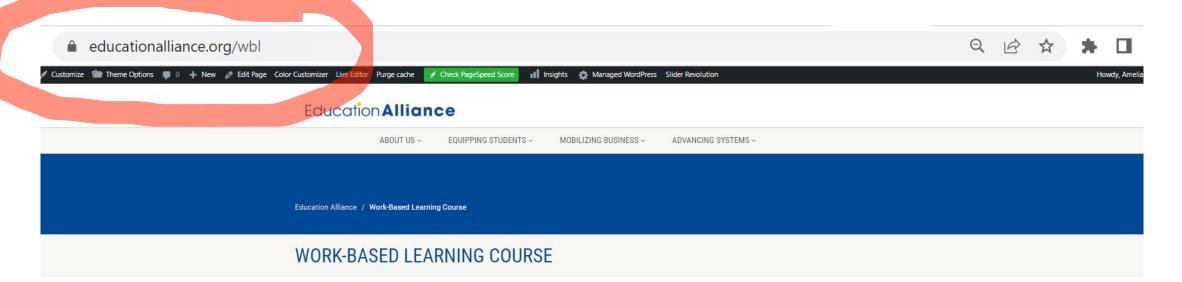




A fresh perspective...

Carries more weight







The WV Ready Work-Based Learning program is a semester-long program in which businesses partner with high schools to provide students with career awareness through a virtual job-shadowing and internship.

Learn more HERE - Sign Up to participate HERE.

Learn more HERE - Sign Up to participate HERE.

Contact us at the button below to notify us that you want your business or school to become part of the WV Ready Work-based Learning Course.

Contact Us





Weekly Job Shadowing Modules

Mentoring Calls & Capstone Project

2023 Work-Based Learning Course Modules



2023 Work-Based Learning Course Modules



2023 Work-Based Learning Course Modules









Participant Poll

- 1. Write your name on your stickers
- 2. Vote your response to 3 questions
- 3. Win a gift!





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VIRTUAL WORK-BASED LEARNING & INTERNSHIPS

EDUCATIONALLIANCE.ORG/WBL



Goal: 10 WV GEAR UP schools



Activities:

- 2-3 virtual 1 hr. trainings (outside school hours) Fall 2023
- Incorporate 9-10 modules into existing course + facilitate student capstone Spring 2024



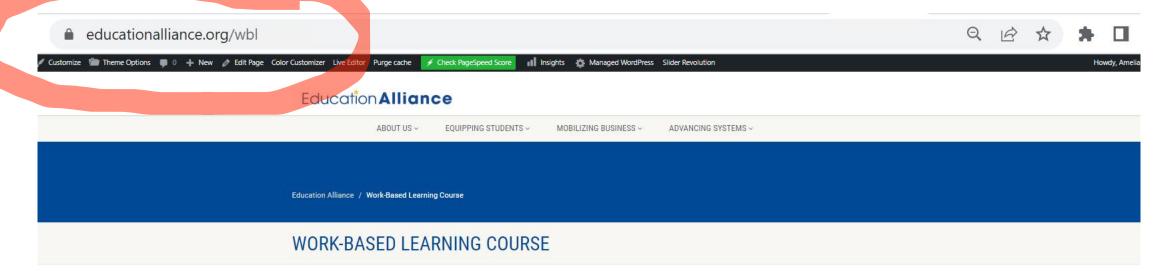
Complete Sign up form by:

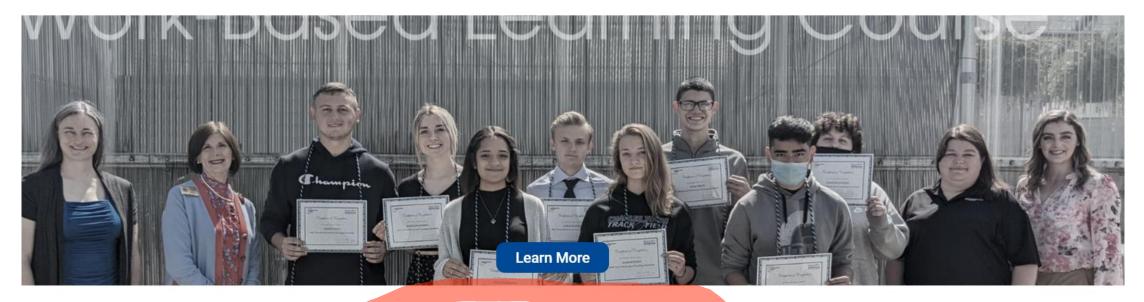
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- October 30: Capstone project (Full)



Reward: Priceless! (\$300 stipend per teacher)







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Complete Sign up form by:

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Questions: beth@educationalliance.org

Thank you!!!