

January 9, 2025

## WEST VIRGINIA GEAR UP PROGRAM STAFF MEETING

### AGENDA

- I. Welcome.....9:30 am**  
Jason Luyster, Senior Director of Student Affairs
- II. GEAR UP Success Stories.....9:45 am**  
Mallory Carpenter, College Access and Success Program Director
  - HEROs Holiday Hangout
  - Seeds Leadership Training
  - HEROs and SSS: Best Practices
- III. Data and Evaluation Update.....10:15 am**  
Lesli Taylor, Assistant Director of Research and Evaluation
  - Survey Progress
  - Brainstorming Parent Survey Solutions
- IV. GEAR UP Communications Update.....10:30 am**  
Emily Hammond, Assistant Director of Communications and Outreach
  - WV FAFSA Day
  - My Climb Guides
  - Level All
  - Action and Impact Awards nominations
- V. GEAR UP U 2025 Application and Enrollment Procedures.....11:00 am**  
Mallory Carpenter, College Access and Success Program Director
- VI. Career Academy.....11:20 am**  
Janine Coutu, College Access and Success Program Director  
Beth Bowden and Lorrin Shelton, Education Alliance
- VII. Lunch.....12:00 pm**
- VIII. Regional Breakouts .....12:45 pm**
- IX. FAFSA Workshops Discussion: Completion and Promotion.....1:15 pm**  
Chelsea Stickelman, College Access and Success Program Director
- X. Statewide Outreach Initiatives.....1:30 pm**  
Heather McChesney, Director of Statewide Access Initiatives
  - 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars Expansion
  - Texting Program Updates
  - CFWV Champions Expansion
- XI. Gambling Among Students: The Coming Crisis.....2:00 pm**  
Shelia Moran, Director of Marketing, First Choice Services
- XII. SAT Prep Bootcamps.....2:40 pm**  
Jason Luyster, Senior Director of Student Affairs
- XIII. Meeting Adjourned.....3:00 pm**



## Save the Dates

### West Virginia GEAR UP Program Staff Meetings

Thursday, March 13, 2025, 9:30 - 4:30 pm, Advanced Technology Center,  
WVRTP - South Charleston, WV

Tuesday, May 6, 2025, 9:30 - 4:30 pm, Advanced Technology Center,  
WVRTP - South Charleston, WV

Tuesday, July 22, 2025, 10:00 - 3:00 pm, Charleston Coliseum and  
Convention Center, Charleston, WV

### West Virginia GEAR UP Events

Career Academy, Wednesday, April 30, 2025, Charleston Coliseum and  
Convention Center, Charleston, WV

GEAR UP U at Marshall University, June 25 – 28, 2025, Huntington, WV

Student Success Summit, July 23 – 24, 2025, Charleston Coliseum and  
Convention Center, Charleston, WV

### Other Important Dates

WV FAFSA Day, February 6, 2025

Promise Application and FAFSA Deadline, March 1, 2025

WV Higher Education Grant FAFSA Deadline, April 15, 2025

WV Invests Priority Application Deadline, April 15, 2025



# GEAR UP Program Staff Meeting

Thursday, January 9, 2025



# Welcome and Program Updates

Jason Luyster, Senior Director of Student Affairs



# GEAR UP Success Stories

Mallory Carpenter, College Access and Success Program Director



# HEROs Holiday Hangout



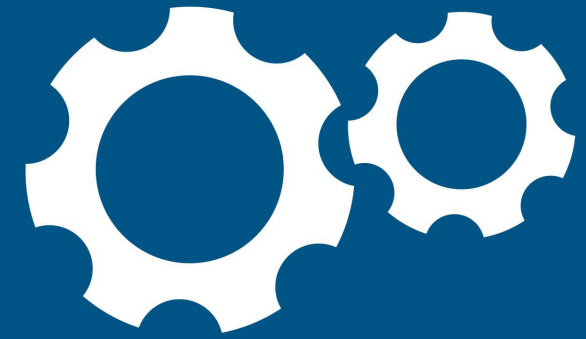
# HEROs POSTER BOARD

We would like each HEROs group to create a Poster Board to highlight the following:

- What your group has done throughout the year
- We will provide each school with materials
- HEROs groups should bring the boards with them to the GEAR UP Career Academy

Each board will be displayed at the GEAR UP Career Academy on April 30<sup>th</sup>

# Seeds Leadership Training



- 7 schools participated
- On-site trainings
- Great feedback from students and staff (and from Seeds!)







# HEROs and SSS: Best Practices?





# Research Updates

Lesli Taylor, Assistant Director of Research and Evaluation



# Current Survey Progress

School	% Students	% Parents	School	% Students	% Parents
Scott High School	48.3%	0%	Mingo Central High School	80.3%	11.5%
Sherman High School	70.3%	2.2%	Tug Valley High School	81.5%	18.5%
<b>Van Junior/Senior High School</b>	84.6%	11.5%	<b>Nicholas County High School</b>	83.6%	32.7%
Clay County High School	78%	1.4%	Richwood High School	50.8%	30.2%
Lincoln County High School	77.3%	16.4%	<b>Roane County High</b>	85.3%	5.9%
Chapmanville Regional High School	60.1%	0.7%	<b>Spring Valley High School</b>	88.7%	15.5%
Logan Senior High School	54.8%	8.9%	Tolsia High School	17.9%	1.2%
<b>Man Senior High School</b>	87.2%	66%	<b>Wayne High School</b>	95%	10.1%
Hannan Junior/Senior High School	64.5%	0%	<b>Webster County High School</b>	84.9%	49.5%
<b>Point Pleasant Junior/Senior High School</b>	81%	6.7%	<b>Wirt County High School</b>	82.8%	23.4%
<b>Wahama Junior/Senior High School</b>	80%	0%	GU Total	74.8%	14.4%





# Selecting your school

[illegible]

- Select the down arrow next to school
- Click the checkmark next to “select all”
- Select your school

**Note: Not real WVEIS ID numbers. These are examples only.**

## Selecting students without a survey response

[illegible]

- Select the down arrow next to student surveys received
- Click the checkmark next to “select all”
- Select “0”
- These are your students who have not completed a survey

# Parent Survey Solutions

- How did mailing surveys go?
- Ideas for increased success in the coming years?
  - Man High School
  - Nicholas County High School
  - Richwood High School
  - Webster County High School



# GEAR UP Communications Update

Emily Hammond, Assistant Director of Communications and Outreach



# GEAR UP U 2025 Application and Enrollment Procedures

Mallory Carpenter, College Access and Success Program Director



# GEAR UP U!



- 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> grade students
- Completely free to students; they just have to get there
- Four days, three nights on campus at Marshall University
- All meals provided
- Leadership training, hands-on classes, mentoring opportunities, and more!



# Marshall University

## Camp Dates: June 25-28<sup>th</sup>, 2025

	<b>Opens</b>	<b>Closes</b>
<b>Interest application:</b>	Jan. 1	Jan. 31
<b>Scoresheets released:</b>	Feb. 1	Feb. 14
<b>Accepted applicants notified:</b>	Late Feb.	
<b>Full registration kit released:</b>	Mar. 1	Mar. 31
<b>Camp Supervisor application:</b>	Jan. 1	Jan. 31
<b>Camp Counselor application:</b>	Jan. 1	Jan. 31

# Student Numbers:



- 12 students per school (more may be allotted if schools do not use their full number of slots)
- Waitlist/alternates can be selected if a student drops out at your own discretion (up until March 31), but they must've applied in the initial interest round and be next on the ranked list

# Current (1/6) Signups

- Lincoln County High School—7
- Roane County High School—7
- Mingo Central Comprehensive High School—3





# Confirmed Classes

- Japanese Studies
- Creative Writing
- Physics
- Psychology
- Education
- Broadcast Journalism
- Cybersecurity
- Robotics/Programming
- ...and more!





# Camp Supervisor Positions Now Open!

- **June 24 mandatory training**
- **June 25-28<sup>th</sup> camp**
- **Housing and food covered**
- **\$1000 stipend**



# Scoring Applications

- Scoring will begin in the first week of February
- You will receive a list of all the students who applied from your school
- Use rubric to score, rank, and return by Feb. 14
- Students will be notified in late February of their status; you will be copied
- **Please notify me of any “drops” or if alternates are moved up**



June 25-28, 2025

## GEAR UP U! Application Score Sheet

Student Name:

School:

Site coordinators: Please complete this score sheet for each GEAR UP U applicant from your school and have it signed by your principal.

How often does the student participate in GEAR UP or other college-planning activities?

1=Never      2= Rarely      3=Occasionally      4=Often      5=Always

Participation Score:

Does the student exhibit good behavior and encourage positive interactions with peers?

0=I have behavioral concerns      1=Mostly positive behavior/peer interactions      2=Very positive behavior/peer interactions

Behavior Score:

Is the student involved in student clubs, extra-curriculars, or other leadership activities?

0=Student is not involved in leadership activities      1=Student has some involvement in student leadership activities      2=Student is very active in student leadership activities

Community involvement score:

How much interest has the student demonstrated in pursuing education/training beyond high school?

1=Little to no interest      2=Some interest      3=Strong interest

Interest Score:

**Bonus Points (select all that apply):**

- 1=Student would be a first generation college student
- 1=Student is a member of the Student Success Society
- 1=Student is a member of the school's HEROs group

Bonus Score: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student's Total Score: (Max 15):** \_\_\_\_\_

This student is

☐

Recommended to attend GEAR UP U

☐

NOT recommended to attend GEAR UP U

and is ranked \_\_\_\_\_

out of \_\_\_\_\_

applicants from my school.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Site Coordinator Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Please direct any questions to Mallory Carpenter at [mallory.carpenter@whepc.edu](mailto:mallory.carpenter@whepc.edu) or (304) 696-3646.*


# The Better GUU Enrollment Kit

GEARUP U Academy Application 2025  
1 of 8 documents

Get started

More actions Log in

GearUP U Registration



### GEAR UP U! 2025 Online Enrollment Form

Congratulations on your student's selection to participate in GEAR UP U 2025. They'll have the opportunity to take classes, meet students from across the state, stay on a college campus, and so much more. It's going to be an amazing experience, but there are still a few things to do before their enrollment is complete. Please complete this online enrollment form. Providing your accurate information allows us to create a personalized camp experience that aligns with your student's goals and interests. Students cannot attend GEAR UP U unless parents/guardians complete the online enrollment form in its entirety. Information on the camp can be found here: <https://www.wvgearup.org/guu/> Please be sure to take your time completing this online enrollment form and read each item carefully. Thank you and we look forward to seeing your child at camp soon!

- All fields: 0/39
- Student First Name \*
- Student Last Name \*
- Parent/Guardia...
- Confirm Parent/...
- Address 1 \*
- Address 2 \*
- City \*
- Zip code
- Parent/Guardia...
- Parent/Guardia...
- Parent/Guardia...
- Parent/Guardia...
- Student Cell Ph...
- Student Email A...
- In what county I...
- Would your chil...
- What is your chil...
- What is your chil...
- What is your chil...

## Registration - GEAR UP U Online Enrollment Form

### Contact Information

Student First Name \*

Enter your answer here

Student Last Name \*

Enter your answer here

Parent/Guardian Email Address(es). Please double check for accuracy and choose an email address you check regularly. Important communication about GUU, including arrival instructions, will be sent to this email: \*

name@example.com

Confirm Parent/Guardian Email Address \*

name@example.com

Address 1 \*

Enter your answer here

Address 2

Enter your answer here

City \*

Enter your answer here

Zip code

Enter your

**Form will automatically move parent/guardians through to the required waivers upon completing the first page of the form. Only a completed enrollment kit will be accepted.**



**Resources available:**  
**[www.wvgearup.org/GUU](http://www.wvgearup.org/GUU)**



# FAFSA Workshops Discussion: Completion and Promotion

Chelsea Stickelman, College Access and Success Program Director



# Statewide Outreach Initiatives

Heather McChesney, Director of Statewide Access Initiatives

# College Application & Exploration Week Post Event Survey

		2021	2022	2023	2024
Total # of schools/organizations		180	197	278	180
Elementary			38	82	35
Middle			37	80	43
Organizations			6	9	5
Total High Schools Reported to ACAC		99	91	107	97

*\* As of 1/6/25, ten registered high schools had yet to submit post-event survey results. Failure to submit the survey by the end of the week forfeits Champion status for 2025.*

# College Application & Exploration Week Post Event Survey

Participation		2021	2022	2023	2024
Preschool		742	962	1724	631
K-5		9409	10,439	15,491	8,512
6-8		17,003	23,836	19,140	10,728
9-12		50,911	51,250	50,935	48,748
Adult		92	47	118	50
Parent/Guardian		1,484	2,274	2,186	1,850



Applications		2021	2022	2023	2024
Seniors Submitting 1 Application during CAEW		4193	3967	3932	4209
Adults Submitting 1 Application during CAEW		29	39	3914	11
Total 12 <sup>th</sup> grade Applications Submitted during CAEW		5124	6038	5466	6917
Total Adult Applications Submitted during CAEW		29	61	14	11
<b>Total Applications Submitted during CAEW</b>		<b>5153</b>	<b>6099</b>	<b>5480</b>	<b>6928</b>

# College Application & Exploration Week Post Event Survey

Applications		2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of Seniors Who Submitted 1 Applications This Academic Year		5456	5501	4703	5291
Number of Seniors Who Submitted 2 Applications This Academic Year		5874	3635	2339	2728
Number of Seniors Who Submitted More than 2 Applications This Academic Year		1883	2354	1454	1477



Champions

Track your school's progress



## What does it take to be a champion?

[College for West Virginia](#) (CFWV) coordinates three annual college-planning milestones to help students in West Virginia plan their pathway to education or training beyond high school.

High schools that successfully participate in all three of these pathway events will be recognized as a CFWV Champion of College Access and Success.

### The three milestone events

The three milestones are [College Application & Exploration Week](#), a [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\) Completion Campaign](#), and [College Decision Day](#). Each of these milestones has specific components to help college-bound students in West Virginia transition to college.

# CFWV Champions Expansion Launching Fall 2025

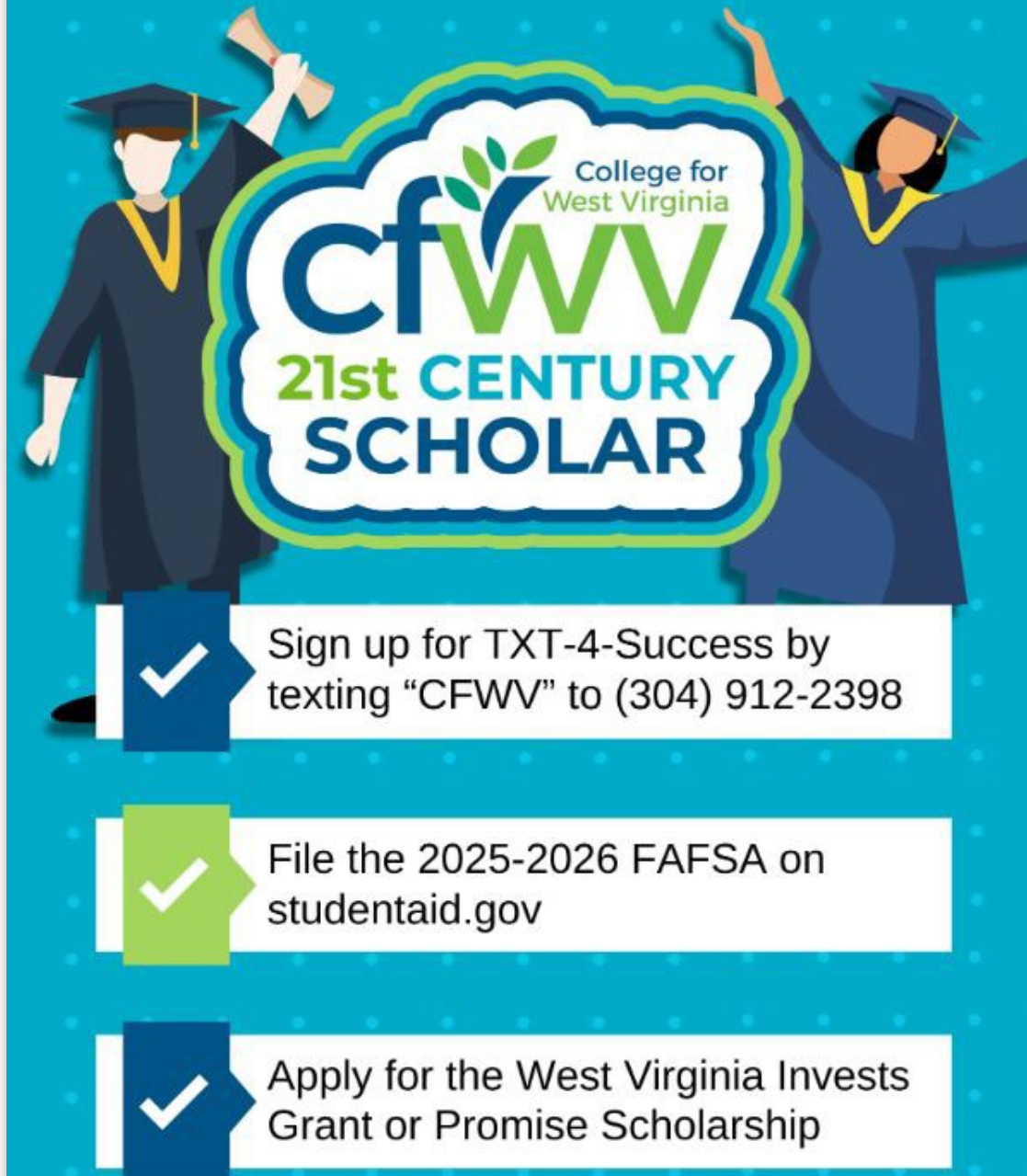
- Middle School Expansion
  - Award Title: CFWV Champions of College & Career Readiness & Success
  - Award: Outdoor Banner/TBD
  - What does it take to be a Middle School Champion?
    - College for West Virginia (CFWV) coordinates three annual college and career planning milestones to help students plan their pathway to education or training beyond high school. Middle schools participating in all three of these pathway events will be recognized as CFWV Champions of College and Career Readiness and Success.
    - Three Milestones: **College Application & Exploration Week** (participation and completion of post-event survey), **Completing the College-Going Culture Survey and completing a schoolwide College-Going Culture Project** (details to come), and **organizing a school-wide Career Day**. Each milestone has specific components to help students become career-ready and college-bound. Toolkits will be created soon. Registration will be released this summer.

# CFWV Champions Expansion Launching Fall 2025

- Elementary School Expansion
  - Award Title: CFWV Champions of Career Readiness & Success
  - Award: TBD
  - What does it take to be an Elementary School Champion?
    - College for West Virginia (CFWV) coordinates three annual college and career planning milestones to help students plan their pathway to education or training beyond high school. Elementary schools participating in all three of these pathway events will be recognized as CFWV Champions of College and Career Readiness and Success.
    - Three Milestones: **College Application & Exploration Week** (participation and completion of post-event survey), **organizing a college or career visitation day (virtual or in person)** (details to come), and **organizing a school-wide Proclamation Day (Similar to a College Decision Day. Details to come)**. Each milestone has specific components to help students become career-ready and college-bound. Toolkits will be created soon. Registration will be released this summer.



1. Students must apply to Promise or Invests; they don't necessarily have to qualify.
2. Students need to complete all three milestones or activities.
3. Students need to stay opted into the texting program. If they "STOP OUT," they will be disqualified from 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars. They can opt back in by registering again if they have already opted out.
4. Please note that a texting column is now on FAMS.
5. I will have a survey/form for you to complete the week of April 15th to submit your cord orders, so they are delivered to you in time for graduation. You will determine your number based on the information found in FAMS. Students must have opted and stayed in the texting program, submitted a FAFSA, and applied for either Promise or Invests. You can determine this via FAMS. This provides students time to complete the Promise (deadline of March 1), Invests (priority date of April 15), and FAFSA.
6. There is no cost to the schools or counties for the cords.





**GET FREE**  
**FAFSA HELP**

- <https://www.cfwwconnect.com/wvfafsaday/>
- Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the most crucial step in securing financial aid for college. West Virginia FAFSA Day provides schools and organizations with the opportunity to assist students and their families in navigating the process of completing the FAFSA. This year's WV FAFSA Day will be held on Thursday, February 6th. Schools, higher education institutions, organizations, and community groups are encouraged to register to host an event focused on FAFSA and financial aid for West Virginia FAFSA Day.



# SAT Prep Bootcamps

Jason Luyster, Senior Director of Student Affairs



# Career Academy

Janine Coutu, College Access and Success Program Director

Beth Bowden and Lorrin Shelton, Education Alliance



# Career Academy Details

- Will take Place: Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>
- Interactive Career Expo of careers in WV
- Guest Speaker: The Bug Chicks
- Arrival by 9:45 AM
- A boxed lunch will be provided
- Departure in specified order to get you back to school on time



# Career Academy

- School Registration will open in late February/ early March
- Once we finalize the vendors, we will be sending out a student registration where they pick their top three career pathways.
- We will provide passports for students and maps of the booths

## HEROs Poster Boards

We would like each HEROs group to create a Poster Board to highlight the following:

- What your group has done throughout the year
- We will provide each school with materials during our next GEAR UP meeting.
- HEROs groups should bring the boards with them to the GEAR UP Career Academy

Each board will be displayed at the GEAR UP Career Academy on April 30<sup>th</sup>



Education  
**Alliance**  
Business & Community for Public Schools



West Virginia  
**GEARUP**

# Career Academy

April 30, 2025

# Education **Alliance**

Business & Community for Public Schools





- ✓ Large & Small Businesses
- ✓ STEM Aligned
- ✓ Living Wage/Upward Mobility
- ✓ Growing Career Opportunities





Education  
**Alliance**  
Business & Community for Public Schools



West Virginia  
**GEARUP**

# Career Academy

April 30, 2025

[EducationAlliance.org/CareerAcademy](https://EducationAlliance.org/CareerAcademy)

## Already Registered



Alpha Innovations  
Appalachian Power  
Cabin Creek Health Systems –  
Central WV AHEC  
Contractors Association of WV  
Dow, Inc.  
Hope Gas  
Marshall Aviation  
Marshall University School  
of Pharmacy  
Mon Health System  
Moses Auto Group  
National Weather Service  
Niterra North America Inc

Nucor Steel West Virginia  
Project BEST, Inc.  
QLabs  
Service Wire Company  
TOYOTA WV  
West Virginia American Water  
West Virginia Department of  
Education  
WV Department of  
Transportation  
WV SHRM  
WVDEP - Air Quality  
WVU Medicine Health System  
ZMM Architects and Engineers



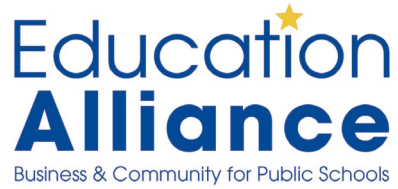
- ✓ Large & Small Businesses
- ✓ STEM Aligned
- ✓ Living Wage/Upward Mobility
- ✓ Growing Career Opportunities

#1



#2





Thank You!

[Beth@educationalliance.org](mailto:Beth@educationalliance.org)  
[Lorrin@educationalliance.org](mailto:Lorrin@educationalliance.org)

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# Open Forum



**Thank You!!**