



Maryland **GEAR UP** Wicomico County



What is **GEAR UP**?

GEAR UP (which stands for **G**aining **E**arly **A**wareness and **R**eadiness for **U**ndergraduate **P**rograms) is a program made possible through a federal grant from the U.S. Department of

Education. This program is designed to prepare students and families academically, financially and socially to enroll and succeed in postsecondary (college or technical school) education.

GEAR UP began working with the Class of 2020 in middle school and will continue to support students as they progress through Bennett, Parkside and Wicomico High Schools until they graduate.

What's Been Going On?

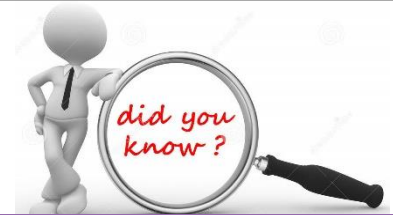
GEAR UP students and parents have been involved in a variety of activities this school year! Check out what's been going on...

Freshman GEAR UP Activities

- 2016 Summer Camps held at Wicomico High
- 2016 Summer Camps held at UMES
- 2016 Summer Camp held at Salisbury University
- GEAR UP Week Activities (Sept, 2016)
- After-school tutoring for math & English (2016-2017)
- Salisbury University Saturday Workshops (2016-2017)
- The Saturday Academy w/Wor-Wic College (for students & parents; 2016-17)
- Learn at SU Day field trip (Nov, 2016 & April, 2017)
- American Ed. Week (Nov, 2016)
- Wor- Wic College's Allied Health Division trip (Dec. 2016 & June 2017)
- Chris Herren Motivational Speech (Feb, 2017; PHS)
- Maryland Business Roundtable Speakers (Feb & March, 2017)
- SU Career Day (March, 2017)
- College Tours: Towson U. & Morgan State U. (March, 2017)
- AP US History Exam Practice (April, 2017)
- College Tours: Johns Hopkins U. & St. John's Coll. (May, 2017)
- College Tours: Stevenson U. & Bowie State U., & Goucher Coll. (June, 2017)

What's Coming Up?

- MD College Tours (Johns Hopkins U. & St. Johns Coll.)
- MD College Tours (Stevenson U., Bowie State U., Goucher Coll.)
- Wor-Wic Allied Health trip (see permission slip)
- GEAR UP Summer Camps (see flyer)
- Original Credit & Remediation Summer Classes (see flyer)



- By 2020, your child's year of graduation, 65% of jobs will require postsecondary education and training beyond high school. (Source: Georgetown Center on Education & Workforce analysis)
- GEAR UP is designed to help young people stay in school, develop good study skills and take the right courses to be college and career ready.
- GEAR UP also offers services for parents that will empower them to seek and obtain information and resources to help fund their child's postsecondary education.
- Participating in GEAR UP can make your child eligible for college and career exploration trips during the school year.
- Over \$7 million in scholarship money will be available **only** for students who participate in GEAR UP activities.



We Need Your Help!

GEAR UP is seeking to form a parent advisory board within the next few weeks in order to more effectively serve your families' needs. We are requesting parent input related to academic & enrichment activities, college tours, grant initiatives, higher education & community partnerships, and postsecondary financial planning. This group will meet 3-4 times a year, starting in June, on evenings that are most convenient for all members. In addition, your participation on this advisory board will also help make your child eligible for GEAR UP college and career exploration trips.

If you are willing to volunteer a little of your time, as well as provide much needed feedback and suggestions to improve this program, please contact Jackie Leggett.

GEAR UP In Action!



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REMINDERS:

- Parents, please complete the [GEAR UP MD Parent Survey](#), if you haven't already done so.
- Also, [consider volunteering](#) to assist with GEAR UP activities & trips. Only with your help can we make these opportunities available to your children.
- Participating in GEAR UP activities can make students eligible for [GEAR UP trips](#) and [scholarships](#).

