Consortium Partners

- 15 GEAR UP State Grant Programs
- U.S. Department of Education
- National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP)
- ACT, Inc.
- National Student Clearinghouse Research Center
Objectives [Government Performance Results Act / Office of Management and Budget]

1. Increase the academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education of GEAR UP students.

2. Increase the rate of high school graduation and participation in postsecondary education for GEAR UP students.

3. Increase GEAR UP students’ and their families’ knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparation and financing.
Grant Projects

- Award period: 6 or 7 year grants
- Eligibility entity: a State or Partnership grant
- Cohort approach:
  - services provided to entire grade level
  - services begin not later than 7th grade
  - schools with at least 50% eligible for FRL
  - services continue through 12th grade or year 1 PSE

- Required and permissible activities

What is GEAR UP?
Consortium Research & Evaluation

The mission of the College and Career Readiness Evaluation Consortium is to enhance the administration of GEAR UP projects, consistent with the federal GPRA and Annual Performance Report guidelines and requirements. Interstate collaboration, entailing adoption of common standards, indicators, data elements, diagnostics, and data collection and reporting methods, will strengthen the formative and summative evaluation and practice of GEAR UP as a whole.
The GEAR UP College & Career Readiness Evaluation Consortium

• A self-initiated project among 15 State GEAR UP grants representing over 140,000 students.

• A partnership that includes the National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP) as the managing partner.

• A structure that includes:
  − A Director of Evaluation;
  − National education partners;
  − An Executive Committee;
  − A Research and Evaluation Committee; and
  − Formal Voting Procedures.
The GEAR UP College & Career Readiness Evaluation Consortium States

- Washington
- Montana
- Idaho
- Wyoming
- Nevada
- Utah
- Arizona
- New Mexico
- Oklahoma
- Minnesota
- Wisconsin
- Michigan
- Kentucky
- Tennessee
- North Carolina
## Consortium-led Evaluation Numbers

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*Research questions will be answered on longitudinal cohort data*
*Green=FY11; Yellow=FY12*
Preparing Data for Research & Evaluation

Setting Up the Data

Non-Technical
- Build Relationships
- Define Research Questions
- Train Staff and Document

Technical
- Build Data Repository
- Data Recoding and Automation
- Link Tables of Data

LEA Data Sharing Agreements
- Partner and State Memorandums of Understanding
- Define Common Data Definitions
- Data Integrity and Entry
- Data Loading by Appointed State Personnel
- State and Project Reporting
A Multi-State Data Repository: Inputs and Outputs

- Demographic and Outcome Data
- Student and Parent Service Data
- ACT Data: EXPLORE, PLAN, ACT
- National Student Clearinghouse Data

Multi-State Data Repository

- State-Level Reports
- Multi-State Reports
- National Student Clearinghouse Reports
- Raw Data Access
Consortium Deliverables

- Common service definitions (Adopted)
- Common outcome definitions (Most have been Adopted)
- Common data elements (Adopted)
- Common Data Sharing in a longitudinal data repository (Adopted)
- Evaluation Plan to guide our work (Currently being finalized)
- Comprehensive Review of the GEAR UP Literature to assess the gaps and how we can begin to fill those (currently in progress)
Importance of Accountability

- Connecting the dots.
- Finding common program indicators through data.
- Showing “the proof” that an action has resulted in the desired outcome.
- Bringing it to scale.
- Coming together.
Why this work is so Important

Moving beyond anecdote to quality data analyses

- Does the program work?
- What is working?
- What doesn’t work?
- How do we improve?
- How do we become more efficient?

How do we better serve more students?
QUESTIONS