



2017-2018 Professional Development Opportunities

When preparing your GEAR UP School's Implementation Plan for the upcoming year, this document provides a listing of mandatory and suggested professional developmental opportunities. Please take into consideration that this list is not comprehensive of all opportunities that may be important for your particular school and is subject to change, but should serve as a basis for how you plan to meet the GEAR UP goals. The mandatory and state-sponsored opportunities are in **BOLD**. Updated 9/5/2017.

Opportunity	Date & Location	Interest/Topic	Audience	GEAR UP Support (No supplanting)	For More Information
Montana Providers Professional Learning Network (MPPLN)	Varies On-going	MPPLN is a statewide collaborative infrastructure supporting high quality professional learning opportunities that are equitable, consistent and support the implementation of the Montana Common Core Standards. Professional development opportunities are offered regionally and statewide.	Educators	Include in local budget for mileage, lodging, meals, & substitutes as applicable, and registration costs as needed	MPPLN Calendar http://learninghub.mrooms.net/ Jessica Bryant, Learning Hub Administrator jbryant3@mt.gov
School Administrators of Montana 21 st Century Principal Leadership Institute	2017-2018 Academic Year	This institute uses a blended learning model for administrators to learn and collaborate amongst colleagues. It is aligned to individual needs and professional goals, allows for an inquiry based program, followed up with action research.	Administrators	GEAR UP Administrators by interest and registration STATE SUPPORTED; do not include in local budget	Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director samkm@sammt.org Zach Hawkins, MT GEAR UP Director zhawkins@montana.edu
ACT College & Career Readiness Workshops	September 19, Missoula September 20, Helena September 21, Billings	This workshop will help educators determine how best to use ACT programs and services to help students achieve education and career success.	GEAR UP local management team	For in-person workshops: Include in local budget for mileage, lodging, meals, & substitutes as applicable Free online webinars are also available in November and December.	For in-person workshops: http://www.act.org/learningevents/workshops/index.html For FREE online webinars: http://www.act.org/content/act/en/act-events/college-and-career-readiness-webinars.html
Montana Council of Teachers of Math (MCTM) MCubed Conference	August 9-10, 2017 Butte, MT	Join mathematics teachers from across Montana as to discuss and learn about mathematics education from one another. Conference will include workshops on modeling, number talks, probability, etc.	Math Teachers	Include in local budget for registration, mileage, lodging, meals, & substitutes as applicable PRE-APPROVAL REQUIRED	www.montanamath.org
Childwise Fall Summit "The Brain Behind the Behavior"	September 28-29, 2017 Helena, MT	This Summit will feature leading experts in neuroscience and adolescent behaviors to guide participants through an understanding of how the developing brain plays into the health and social issues our youth face.	School Counselors Administrators	Include in local budget for mileage, lodging, meals, & substitutes as applicable, and registration costs as needed	Childwise Institute https://www.childwise.org/registration/2017-fall-summit/
MEA-MFT Educator's Conference	October 19-20, 2017 Missoula, MT	This conference is dedicated to bringing top-quality professional development to Montana teachers. Each year, teachers from all over Montana come to the conference for inspiration, information, and renewal units.	Educators	N/A	http://www.mea-mft.org/educators_conference.aspx
GEAR UP West Conference & Montana GEAR UP Fall Liaison Meeting	October 29-31, 2017 Portland, OR	GEAR UP West is a collaborative regional conference for college access practitioners from the western states of the U.S. Montana GEAR UP Fall Liaison Meeting TBD	Liaisons REQUIRED College Access Professionals	One liaison is required to attend. STATE SUPPORTED; do not include in local budget Additional GU team members are BY APPLICATION ONLY . Do not include in local budget for travel, lodging, meals. Applications on GU website Aug. 1	http://www.gearup.wa.gov/about/what-we-do/gear-west Registration, travel arrangements, and reimbursements will be coordinated through MT GEAR UP.
Montana Post-Secondary Educational Opportunities Council (MPSEOC) Montana Counselor Updates	End of October – Virtual Update via MET-NET	Annual updates from each Montana postsecondary institution broadcasted via MET-NET.	Counselors Liaisons	Include in local budget for mileage reimbursement to MET-NET site; no registration fee; lunch provided	www.montanacolleges.com Montana GEAR UP is a sponsor of MPSEOC events.
OPI Assessment/Data Conference	February 8-9, 2018 Billings, MT February 12-13, 2018 Helena, MT	College & Career Readiness; Common Core State Standards; assessments to impact instruction; ACT Plus Writing; GEMS; using data efficiently and effectively.	Curriculum Directors Teachers Administrators Counselors Liaisons	Include in local budget for registration, mileage, lodging, meals, & substitutes as applicable	http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/

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Montana GEAR UP Winter Liaison Meeting	TBD	Montana GEAR UP Winter Liaison Meeting	Liaisons REQUIRED	One liaison from each school is required to attend- STATE SUPPORTED; do not include in local budget	Registration, lodging, and reimbursements will be coordinated through MT GEAR UP.
NCCEP/GEAR UP Capacity Building Workshop	February 4-7, 2018 Las Vegas, NV	Conference is designed to provide professional development, deepened knowledge, and practical guidance around issues and current topics that impact GEAR UP programs, college access and success activities. This conference is coordinated by NCCEP and planned in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Education.	College Access Professionals GEAR UP Local Management Team members may apply	BY APPLICATION If selected, STATE SUPPORTED; do not include in local budget	www.edpartnerships.org Applications will be available through MT GEAR UP in November, 2017. Registration, travel arrangements, and reimbursements will be coordinated through MT GEAR UP.
OPI Indian Education for All Best Practices Conference	February 25-27, 2018 Helena, MT Radisson Hotel	Conference will highlight promising school and classroom practices. Montana educators will share what they are learning through ongoing efforts to implement Indian Education for All in classrooms around the state.	Teachers Administrators Liaisons	Include in local budget for registration, mileage, lodging, meals, & substitutes as applicable	http://opi.mt.gov/Programs/IndianEd/
Montana College Access Network (MCAN) Conference	TBD-Date to be determined in August	Conference encompasses networking opportunities, educational updates, and presentations of best practices that are relevant to increasing access to higher education for all Montanans.	College Access Professionals Business & Community Partners GEAR UP local management team	Include in local budget for mileage, lodging, meals, & substitutes as applicable	http://www.mtcollegeaccess.org/ Montana GEAR UP is a conference sponsor.
Montana Indian Education for All (MIEA) Conference	April, 2018 Bozeman, MT	Conference focuses on celebrating lifelong learning, best practices, and innovation to ensure American Indian students at all levels of the educational system receive a high quality education that prepares them for whatever future they envision. Includes a student track.	Teachers Administrators Counselors Liaisons Students	Include in local budget for registration, mileage, lodging, meals, & substitutes as applicable	www.mtiea.org
Montana School Counselor Association (MSCA) Spring Conference	TBD	Conference focuses on information and best practices in student's academic, career, and personal/social development.	Counselors Liaisons	Include in local budget for registration, mileage, lodging, meals as applicable	www.mtschoolcounselor.org Montana GEAR UP is a conference sponsor.
Montana GEAR UP Spring Planning Meeting	May 1-2, 2018 Helena, MT	GEAR UP Spring Implementation Planning Meeting-Local GU teams will develop their Year 4 IP and Budgets.	REQUIRED GEAR UP Local Management Team to include: Administrator Counselor Core Content Teacher Liaison	GEAR UP local management team is required to attend- STATE SUPPORTED; do not include in local budget	Registration, lodging, and reimbursements will be coordinated through MT GEAR UP.
Montana Behavioral Initiative (MBI) Summer Institute/GMM Summit	June 2018 - TBD	Conference focuses on changing community and school culture through Graduation Matters Montana, positive school-wide behavior plans, classroom strategies and student aspirations. MBI and GMM are working together to keep children and youth engaged, safe, and graduate.	Educators	Include in local summer budget for registration, mileage, lodging, meals as applicable. (Lodging reimbursement for dorm room rate of \$26 only)	Susan Bailey-Anderson at 1-888-231- 9393 ext. 2046 sbanderson@mt.gov
NCCEP/GEAR UP Annual Conference	July 15-18, 2018 Washington, D.C.	The national conference serves as the annual convening for the GEAR UP program directors and school grant recipients, college access professionals, and business and community partners. It is coordinated by the National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP) in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Education. Conference will showcase the innovative work of GEAR UP grantees across the nation.	College Access Professionals Business & Community Partners GEAR UP Local Management Team members may apply	BY APPLICATION If selected, STATE SUPPORTED; do not include in local budget	www.edpartnerships.org Applications will be available through MT GEAR UP in March, 2018. Registration, travel arrangements, and reimbursements will be coordinated through MT GEAR UP.

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AP Regional and Annual Conferences	Regional -TBD; various sites throughout Western region 2018 Conference TBD	Conferences focus on AP courses and Pre-AP strategies for new and experienced teachers. Participants will learn methods and policies to increase educational access and equity.	AP Teachers	Include in local summer budget for registration, travel, lodging, and meals as applicable	For more information visit: http://apac.collegeboard.org
Suicide Prevention Training (QPR Training)	Date and location of training determined by school and trainer (typically in-school training) <i>*Training can be delivered remotely via webinar. If you are interested in the state office arranging a webinar for GEAR UP schools, please contact your School Grant Manager.</i>	In April 2015, the governor of Montana signed House Bill 374, which requires the Office of Public Instruction to provide guidance, technical assistance, and training materials to schools on youth suicide awareness and prevention. It also encourages school district employees and Office of Public Instruction staff who work directly with students to complete at least two hours of training in youth suicide awareness and prevention every five years.	Educators, Administrators, Other members of GEAR UP local management team	No costs to schools! MDPHHS receives state funds to administer QPR trainings. GEAR UP recommends schools capture in-kind match for trainer's time and trainer's travel expenses (mileage). Possible match ranges from ~\$200 to \$900 depending on school location. <i>A pre-populated in-kind match form is available upon request. Contact your School Grant Manager.</i>	Karl Rosston, LCSW, Suicide Prevention Coordinator Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services Phone: (406) 444-3349 krosston@mt.gov http://dphhs.mt.gov/amdd/Suicide.aspx
SOS Signs of Suicide High School Program *SOS kit includes guidelines for staff administering program.	Date and location of program activities determined by school (typically in-school training administered by school staff)	The SOS Signs of Suicide Prevention Program for High School teaches students how to identify the signs of depression and suicide in themselves and their peers and encourages help-seeking behaviors through the "ACT" technique (Acknowledge, Care, Tell). The program includes a step-by-step implementation guide, an educational DVD/discussion guide for students, and two tools to identify students in need: a validated adolescent depression screening tool and response cards that encourage help-seeking. A training DVD for staff and parents, posters, newsletters, and wallet cards help spread awareness and reinforce the ACT message throughout your school and community. Includes enough materials for 100 students.	Students grades 7-12 (curriculum for grades 6-8 available upon request)	No costs to schools! MDPHHS receives state funds to purchase SOS kits for schools. GEAR UP recommends schools capture in-kind match for the cost of the SOS kit (\$495). <i>A pre-populated in-kind match form is available upon request. Contact your School Grant Manager.</i>	Karl Rosston, LCSW, Suicide Prevention Coordinator Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services Phone: (406) 444-3349 krosston@mt.gov http://dphhs.mt.gov/Portals/85/amdd/documents/sosFlyer.pdf

Montana GEAR UP Supported Professional Development Guidelines

1. Follow your school policies for approval of professional development. School administrator approval is required before registering for GEAR UP-supported professional development opportunities. It is important to balance professional development participation with school responsibilities.
2. Complete the necessary registration form specific to the professional development opportunity you wish to attend and make necessary travel arrangements (unless otherwise specified). Montana GEAR UP will not reimburse for late registration fees.
3. Montana GEAR UP will reimburse the school district for costs associated with the event (unless otherwise specified). Keep receipts for registration fees, lodging, and other applicable expenses (e.g., airport parking for out of state travel) and turn them into your district. It is not necessary to keep food or gas receipts.
 - For state-sponsored PD (highlighted in yellow on the grid) Montana GEAR UP will reimburse the school district directly after receiving a signed *State-Sponsored School District Reimbursement Form* with applicable receipts within 30 days of the event which is available at <http://mus.edu/gearup/travel.asp>.
 - For PD included in the local IP and Budget, follow normal fiscal reporting procedures regarding reimbursement requests (i.e., turn in receipts to school clerk to be included in the backup documentation required by the federal accountant).
4. **Montana GEAR UP will reimburse expenses related to the event per State of Montana/OCHE guidelines** (<http://mus.edu/che/intranet/StateTravelPolicy.pdf>), which include but are not limited to: mileage expenses at the current state rate of one vehicle per every three participants, lodging at the current state rate or the hotel conference rate if state rate is unavailable, and meals at the current state rate not covered by the event. Reimbursement will not be greater than the current state allowable rates, even if the district reimbursement rate is higher.
5. GEAR UP can offer a stipend for professional development offered outside of the normal academic year up to \$100 per day for each participant.