Meet Montana GEAR UP Partners
Montana GEAR UP has strong partnerships that support our goal of raising student achievement and increasing high school graduation and postsecondary enrollment rates.

- GEAR UP Schools
- ACT, Inc.
- Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)
- Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation
- Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education
- Montana Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
- Montana College Access Network
- Montana Credit Unions for Community Development
- Montana Department of Labor Career Resource Network
- Montana Office of Public Instruction
- Montana Postsecondary Educational Opportunities Council
- Montana Postsecondary Institutions
- Montana School Counselor Association
- Student Assistance Foundation
- More to come...

Montana GEAR UP Schools
Arlee Middle & High Schools
Box Elder Middle & High Schools
Browning Middle & High Schools
Eureka Middle School & Lincoln County High School
Hardin Middle & High Schools
Harlem Middle & High Schools
Heart Butte Middle & High Schools
Lame Deer Middle & High Schools
Libby Middle & High Schools
Lincoln Middle & High Schools
Lodge Grass Middle & High Schools
Pryor Middle School & Plenty Coups High School
Rocky Boy Middle & High Schools
St. Ignatius Middle & High Schools
St. Regis Middle & High Schools
Thompson Falls Middle & High Schools
Troy Middle & High Schools
Wolf Point Middle & High Schools

...College is possible for all Montana students

Montana GEAR UP
Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education
PO Box 203201
Helena, MT 59620-3201
Phone: 406-444-0056
Fax: 406-444-0425
Visit our website at www.mus.edu/gearup
Montana GEAR UP

Mission
Montana GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) believes that postsecondary education is possible for all Montana students, regardless of economic background.

Montana GEAR UP supports schools, students, and their families to increase students' college and career readiness through academic preparedness, postsecondary planning, and financial aid knowledge so that students may succeed in their education beyond high school.

Quick Facts
The U.S. Department of Education awarded the Montana Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education a seven-year, $28 million GEAR UP grant in September 2011. (Montana was also awarded grants in 1999 and 2005).

Montana GEAR UP:
🌟 Serves students in 7th-12th grades at 18 middle schools and their receiving high schools to improve high school graduation and college enrollment rates.
🌟 Works through postsecondary institutions to support GEAR UP college freshman with their transition to and retention in college.
🌟 Will serve 8,800 students, including 5,800 American Indian students, by the end of the grant.

Student Services at GEAR UP Schools

GOAL 1 – Increase the academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education of GEAR UP students
- Advanced Placement
- Dual enrollment
- Advancement in science, technology, engineering, and math initiatives (STEM)
- Enrollment in rigorous academic courses and the MUS College Preparatory Curriculum
- Pre-Algebra in 7th grade
- Algebra I in 8th grade

GOAL 2 – Increase the rate of high school graduation and enrollment in postsecondary education for GEAR UP students
- Dropout prevention programs, e.g., tutoring, credit recovery, study skills, summer programs
- Comprehensive mentoring
- Middle school to high school transition programs
- High to postsecondary transition programs
- Postsecondary support services
- College Application Week

GOAL 3 – Increase GEAR UP students' and their families' knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparation, and financing
- College and career awareness, e.g., college visits, college and career fairs and activities, job shadows
- Financial aid and literacy awareness
- FAFSA completion
- Matched education savings accounts
- Student academic advisement, including four-year course plans

GEAR UP School Services
- ACT's College and Career Readiness System
- Evaluation of course offerings
- Professional development
- School climate and culture assessment
- Parent engagement resources
- Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)
- Alignment of high school graduation requirements with MUS College Preparatory Curriculum
- College Application Week

Statewide Services
- ACT Plus Writing for all Montana public high school juniors
- Montana Common Core Standards implementation
- Support for the Montana College Access Network
- Montana School Counselor Association Spring Institute
- Pre-service teacher development