

Support Funding for GEAR UP: Sign onto the GEAR UP Appropriations Letter Here

Sending Office: Honorable Frederica S. Wilson
Sent By: Phelton.Moss@mail.house.gov

Request for Signature(s)

Dear Colleague:

Please join us as we send the below appropriations letter in support of funding for GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs). This comprehensive grant program through the U.S. Department of Education currently provides support to nearly 500,000 students across 43 states to help them prepare for success in college and in their future careers.

The program is highly competitive, but successful grant applicants often serve as national models for what is possible in education. With \$410,000,000, the program's success could be scaled up to serve an additional 40,000 students in even more communities in FY 2024. Given the high number both of new communities seeking support and current GEAR UP grantees needing to reapply to the program in FY 2024, support for this program is now more important than ever.

GEAR UP's success is not only seen through [evidence-based research](#) conducted using multi-year data from the program's built-in accountability measures, but also through countless success stories from students. As detailed in the below letter, the GEAR UP program has substantially improved college-going rates for participating students when compared to students from similar low-income backgrounds.

The goal of the program is to increase the number of students from low-income communities that complete high school and pursue some form of postsecondary education, leading to a high-quality certificate and/or degree. Programming includes improving the quality and intensity of secondary schoolwork, mentoring, tutoring, career planning, financial aid support, and school improvement efforts. GEAR UP is critical to the economic future of our communities and the global competitiveness of our nation.

We hope you will join us in urging House Appropriators to include an increase in funding for GEAR UP in FY 2023. To be added to the letter, [click here](#). For more information, please contact Dr. Phelton Moss (Phelton.Moss@mail.house.gov) with Representative Wilson's Office, or Emilee Milborn (Emilee.Milborn@mail.house.gov) with Representative Schrier's Office.

Sincerely,

Frederica Wilson

Member of Congress

Kim Schrier, M.D.

Member of Congress

Related Legislative Issues

Selected legislative information: Education