



For more information, contact:
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GEAR UP TN is a movement in local communities to expand the college-going culture in Tennessee and empower students to succeed.

GEAR UP TN provides Tennessee students with a clear path to college. Funded through a seven-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education and administered by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, GEAR UP TN works with Collaboratives in 15 counties across the state to promote college readiness and success.

How GEAR UP TN Works

- GEAR UP TN will serve a cohort of 7,500 students in the Class of 2018, along with 5,000 graduating seniors each year through 2019.
- Each GEAR UP TN Collaborative includes at least one priority high school, one middle school, one higher education institution, the local board of education, and two community-based partners.
- Through the Collaboratives, GEAR UP TN provides students with direct services, including mentoring, tutoring, college visits, and financial aid counseling.
- Each Collaborative is required to fully match federal funds in the sixth and seventh year of the grant to ensure long-term sustainability of the GEAR UP TN programs in Tennessee.

GEAR UP TN by the Numbers

- 15** counties served by GEAR UP TN
- 5,000** graduating seniors anticipated to be served each year
- 7,500** students in the Class of 2018 cohort
- 37,500** students anticipated to be served by GEAR UP TN over the next seven years
- \$15 million** in total awards over the next seven years

GEAR UP TN State Staff

Based out of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission

Leigh Ann Bodie
Associate Director of College
Access Initiatives

Lisa Davies
Program Coordinator-
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Mission

GEAR UP TN aims to expand the college-going culture in Tennessee. By using an empowerment model that recognizes the assets and needs of local communities, GEAR UP TN looks to shift the state's educational culture. We aim to develop long-term, successful partnerships to support students in reaching college and providing them with the resources to succeed in college.

GEAR UP TN Goals

- 1) Increase the academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education for GEAR UP TN students.
- 2) Increase the rates of high school graduation and enrollment in postsecondary education for GEAR UP TN students.
- 3) Increase GEAR UP TN students' and their families' knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparation, and financing.

GEAR UP TN Counties



Anderson County • Bradley County • Campbell County • Claiborne County
Davidson County/Metro Nashville Public Schools • Grainger County
Hardeman County • Haywood County • Henderson County
Johnson County • McNairy County • Robertson County
Shelby County • Union County • Wayne County