

Our Goals

Our mission is to significantly increase the number of students who are prepared to enter and succeed in post-secondary education.

We aim to increase opportunities for southeastern Oklahoma by expanding the dreams and skills of its people. We will work together to improve academic instruction and student performance. We will assure that students are aware of college as a viable option and that they are prepared for college success.

Our Partners

- Chickasaw Nation
- Choctaw Nation
- Arnett Insurance Agency
- Kiamichi Vocational Technology Centers
- Schoolware, Inc.
- Oklahoma State Department of Education
- Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
- Southeastern Oklahoma State University
- Wal-Mart



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SOSU GEAR UP Partnership

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Southeastern Oklahoma State University

GEAR UP

Gaining
Early
Awareness and
Readiness for
Undergraduate
Programs



**Preparing students
for college**

www.sosu.edu/gearup

What is GEAR UP ?

GEAR UP, an acronym for Gaining Early Awareness and readiness for Undergraduate Programs, is funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

The Southeastern Oklahoma State University GEAR UP Partnership offers students activities and programs that prepare them for college, improve their current academic studies, allow them to explore careers and expand their cultural experiences.

GEAR UP student programs and activities include:

- ACT preparation through after school Programs and computer program ACT online Prep.
- College Visits
- One-on one tutoring
- Educational field trips
- Career awareness through monthly career speakers and periodic Career Days.
- College Prep Summer Camps
- Cutting –edge educational technology.

Partnership Schools

Achille	Durant
Bennington	Fort Towson
Boswell	Hugo
Broken Bow	Rock Creek
Caddo	Silo
Calera	Soper
Colbert	Valliant

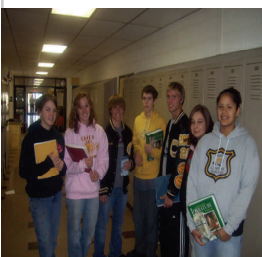


Silo GEAR UP Students

Student Testimonials

“Oh, Wow! Senior guidebooks are awesome tools for us. They are so helpful in tracking my ACT scores. I learned about FASTWEB, scholarships, and testing.” *Bailey Caughern/Achille*

“If it hadn’t been for GEAR UP, I would have missed touring college campuses in our area of the U.S. GEAR UP trips are a blast!” *Amanda Davis/Caddo*



Caddo GEAR UP Students

“GEAR UP is so awesome! I love all the ACT Prep products and the trips we take to college campuses are great!” *James Brigham/Hugo*

“GEAR UP has helped me study and prepare for the ACT test. It has helped me raise my score and hopefully will help in receiving more scholarships”. *Malorie Weger/ Colbert*

“GEAR UP really helps seniors to prepare for college and investigate college life before we are out of high school. They provide our schools with educational materials for better learning and teaching. All around GEAR UP is a major part of being able to go to college.” *Casey Cross / Ft. Towson*

Parent Testimonials

My son is a senior at Valliant High School planning to attend SOSU in the fall. The GEAR UP services made available to him have certainly made this task of college prep a more enjoyable experience. *Terry Matlock / Valliant Parent*

GEAR UP has been such a blessing; it has helped my son in so many ways -from learning educational values to understanding career goals. This program has helped me as a single mom by offering a variety of activities that prepare him for college. I don’t feel I could have given my son the full aspects of accomplishing his goals without the help from GEAR UP. *Mindy House / Silo Parent*

Teacher & Administrator Testimonials

“Broken Bow has been highly involved with GEAR UP since its inception. The GEAR UP partnership has been the absolute most valuable ever! GEAR UP has provided supplies and materials that could never have purchased; offered opportunities and recognition for rural students; and trained teachers to work together cohesively and with colleagues in other GEAR UP schools to develop an “I CAN” attitude in our GEAR UP students. Test scores have skyrocketed in these six years!” *Carolyn Davis, Superintendent- Broken Bow*

“GEAR UP has been a very successful program for Colbert students, parents, and staff for the past 6 years. We were fortunate enough to be included in the original cohort group of schools. GEAR UP has allowed many of our students the opportunity to experience activities outside of their normal realm. Our staff has benefited from training through GEAR UP! Students benefit from the educational materials they otherwise would not receive. GEAR UP is a program that works the way it is supposed to; it is a success”. *Jarvis Dobbs, Superintendent-Colbert*

“GEAR UP is win-win for students, teachers, and parents. Through a group effort in southeastern Oklahoma, we are making a difference! Among public schools, the university, and our communities, we will achieve the ultimate mission of GEAR UP.” *Cheryl Conditt, Counselor-Durant*

Resources for college readiness

Financial Aid and Scholarships:

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA): www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Free searchable scholarship database: www.fastweb.com
- Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program (OHLAP), which offers free college tuition to students in eighth through tenth grades whose household income makes them eligible. Find out more and apply online at www.okhighered.org/ohlap
- **Oklahoma colleges:** www.okhighered.org
- **Career Exploration:** www.careervoyages.gov
- **General college preparations:** www.ed.gov
- **Your high school counselor**