



# Nevada State College

## Ambassador and GEAR UP Specialist

### GEAR UP Abstract 2017-2018

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The Nevada State College GEAR UP Ambassador Program is dedicated to creating a deeply ingrained college-going culture in the Nevada GEAR UP schools. In the sixth grant year, the Nevada State College GEAR UP Program will provide guidance and support for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students on their journey through high school onto postsecondary education. In order to enhance the college-going culture at the Nevada GEAR UP high schools, we will deliver workshops, presentations, and facilitate small mentorship groups. The NSC Ambassador program will participate in GEAR UP family events and collaborate with GEAR UP personnel to implement summer bridge programs as well. The program will also provide printed information regarding the institution, financial literacy, preparation for college, college admissions and financial aid processes.

NSC will assist GEAR UP by adhering to the four goals in the service we provide. The NSC GEAR UP Ambassador program plans each activity that will be performed in relation to these four GEAR UP goals:

1. To increase academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education for GEAR UP students.
2. To increase the rate of high school graduation and participation in postsecondary education.
3. To increase GEAR UP student's and families' knowledge of postsecondary options, preparation and financing.
4. To create a college-going culture in GEAR UP schools to ensure that all students have the opportunity, support, guidance and information to obtain the skills and knowledge necessary to apply for and succeed in postsecondary education.

More specifically for the 12<sup>th</sup> grade GEAR UP cohort the Ambassador program will design activities around three priorities in order to further prepare these students to succeed in higher education after high school graduation. The three priorities will include, increasing efforts to assist students who may not have the GPA or ACT scores to be accepted into a university, increasing financial aid and financial literacy awareness, and increasing assistance with college applications as well as FAFSA completion. Adhering to these three priorities will increase the numbers of students that benefit from the GEAR UP Ambassador program that may not have been able to take full advantage of the program in previous years. This year, the NSC GEAR UP Ambassador Program will increase parent participation as well. We are hosting multiple parent campus visits throughout the upcoming year. By increasing parent participation our program will be able to improve our impact on the families of our GEAR UP students.