



University of Nevada, Reno

Ambassador and GEAR UP Specialist

GEAR UP Abstract 2017-2018

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The University of Nevada, Reno supports the efforts of GEAR UP to address the low percentages of postsecondary matriculation in Nevada through the creation of a strengthened K-16 pipeline. The institution has created a plan of operation designed to meet the four GEAR UP goals. Service delivery will be focused on all high school target sites in the state of Nevada.

Project activities will include campus visits which brings GEAR UP cohorts to the University for campus tours and participation in intensive workshops aimed at early preparation for college. GEAR UP families will be targeted through Family Access Day which is a collaborative partnership between GEAR UP and Washoe County School District and other school site workshops. In order to meet local and state goals, the Ambassador grant has incorporated an aggressive travel schedule that will reach all GEAR UP sites in the 2017-2018 academic year.

Near Peer mentoring will be continued during this grant cycle through a girl's group and a leadership group at target high schools. Monthly workshops will continue during this grant cycle at Washoe County schools in order to increase GEAR UP students' and families' knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparation and financing. These workshops will also emphasize admissions processes and college applications for the seniors in the grant. As requested by Washoe County, programming will also occur over winter break targeting college readiness. One major goal for summer 2018 is to develop a targeted summer program for rising seniors and a bridge program for graduating seniors.

Much like previous grants, student development programs will be held at assigned targeted schools and will include after school tutoring, financial literacy presentations, college application workshops, and recognition events for outstanding academic achievement. Working closely with GEAR UP counselors and Student/Parent Involvement Facilitators (SPIFs), a strong postsecondary presence will be established in each target school.