As was announced in the Fall 2011 newsletter, GEAR UP Wyoming (GUWy) is operating under a new grant with a renewed focus on individual student services.

To help students with college readiness and success, GEAR UP is tailoring services to meet individual student needs. For example, staff will meet with students twice each semester to create and discuss an Individual Academic Plan. In addition to college visits and summer academies, GEAR UP will offer mentoring, academic coaching, and tutoring for students.

GUWy will also begin a new service for first-year college and university students entering college during the 2012 fall semester. GEAR UP students can participate in a GEAR UP specific orientation for the Wyoming college they will be attending, connect and build a relationship with a mentor, and access tutoring. These freshman services will ease the transition to college and enhance the services offered at each college.

In addition to a new programming focus, GUWy has a new Student Programming Coordinator, Gabrielle Eklund Rowley. Gabe works at the University of Wyoming as part of the administrative team. After growing up in a small farming community in Montana, she attended college at Tufts University in Massachusetts. She has been working with youth and educators for the past ten years. Most recently, Gabe was the Program Director for Outward Bound in Baltimore. In her first few months with GEAR UP, Gabrielle has helped deliver a series of statewide trainings for GEAR UP staff.

GEAR UP will continue to offer group programming to students and families as well as professional development to educators. GEAR UP serves students in over 100 schools around the state. If you are interested in receiving GEAR UP services, contact a local site coordinator for additional information.
Persons seeking admission, employment, or access to programs of the University of Wyoming shall be considered without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, veteran status, sexual orientation, or political belief.

GEAR UP WYOMING thanks the following schools for their partnership:

**Casper College**
- C Y Junior High School
- Casper Classical Academy
- Centennial Junior High School
- Dean Morgan Junior High School
- Frontier Middle School
- Kelly Walsh High School
- Natrona County High School
- Roosevelt High School
- Star Lane Center
- Transitions Learning Center

**Central Wyoming College**
- Hot Springs County High School
- Jackson Hole High School
- Jackson Hole Middle School
- Lander Middle School
- Lander Valley High School
- Pathfinder High School
- Riverton High School
- Riverton Middle School
- Shoshoni High School
- Shoshoni Junior High School
- Summit High School

**Eastern Wyoming College**
- Douglas High School
- Glenrock High School
- Guernsey High School
- Hulett School
- Lingle-Ft. Laramie High School
- Lingle-Ft. Laramie Middle School
- Lusk Middle School
- Moorcroft Secondary School
- Newcastle High School
- Newcastle Middle School
- Niobrara County High School
- Southeast High School
- Southeast Junior High School
- Sundance Secondary School
- Torrington High School
- Torrington Middle School
- Upton High School
- Wheatland High School
- Wheatland Middle School

**Laramie County Community College**
- Burns Jr & Sr High School
- Carey Junior High School
- Central High School
- East High School
- Johnson Junior High School
- McCormick Junior High School
- Pine Bluffs Jr & Sr High School
- Rock River High School
- Rock River Junior High School
- South High School
- Triumph High School
- Whiting High School

**Northwest College**
- Burlington High School
- Burlington Middle School
- Cloud Peak Middle School
- Cody High School
- Greybull High School
- Greybull Middle School
- Lovell High School
- Lovell Middle School
- Meeteetse School
- Powell High School
- Riverside High School
- Rocky Mountain High School
- Rocky Mountain Middle School
- Shoshone Learning Center
- Worland High School
- Worland Middle School

**Northern Wyoming Community College District**
- Buffalo High School
- Campbell County High School
- Clear Creek Middle School
- Ft. Mackenzie
- Kaycee School
- Sheridan High School
- Sheridan Junior High School
- The Wright Place

**Western Wyoming Community College**
- Big Piney High School
- Big Piney Middle School
- Cokeville High School
- Cooperative High School
- Davis Middle School
- Desert Middle School
- Encampment K-12 School
- Evanston High School
- Evanston Middle School
- Expedition Academy
- Farson-Eden High School
- Farson-Eden Middle School
- Green River High School
- HEM Junior/Senior High School
- Horizon Alternative School
- Independence High School
- Kemmerer Alternative School
- Kemmerer High School
- Kemmerer Middle School
- Lincoln Middle School
- Little Snake River Valley School
- Lyman High School
- Lyman Middle School
- Mountain View High School
- Mountain View Middle School
- Pinedale High School
- Pinedale Middle School
- Rawlins High School
- Rawlins Middle School
- Rock Springs High School
- Rock Springs Junior High School
- Saratoga Middle/High School
- Star Valley High School
- Star Valley Middle School
- Swift Creek High School

GEAR UP WYOMING is administered by the office of Student Educational Opportunity (SEO) in the Division of Student Affairs at the University of Wyoming.
Education Spotlight: Dean Morgan Junior High School

Dean Morgan Junior High is located in Casper, Wyoming and is served by Casper College’s GEAR UP program. It has a total of 840 6th–8th grade students with about 280 students per grade.

For six years, GEAR UP has been a valuable asset in the school to help students who may need assistance for a variety of reasons. According to Mr. Larry Meeboer, the assistant principal, “The program helps a lot of kids. Some of them need multiple interventions, and GEAR UP is an important one.” Mr. Meeboer went on to talk about the three-tier program that the Natrona County School District implements for behavior modification in an intervention process for at-risk students. GEAR UP is written into this discipline framework as an intervention and support program.

Dean Morgan also partners with local high schools. Students who enroll in high school leadership classes serve as role models and mentors for junior high school students. For example, high school students helped students at Dean Morgan collect 2½ tons of food for a community canned food drive this semester.

When asked what is the most unique aspect of Dean Morgan and why parents and students would choose the school, Mr. Meeboer said, “There are many reasons, but I will share the top two. First, Dean Morgan is a safe place. We make safety a number one priority. Our parents know their kids are safe. When they drop their children off at school, they see an adult at every crosswalk, every door, and in every hallway. We do not tolerate bullying, either.

“The program helps a lot of kids. Some of them need multiple interventions, and GEAR UP is an important one.”

Second, we have a kid-friendly and kid-centered culture. Those same adults make our students feel welcome. They visit with them, check in with them, and make sure they are well. We hire those people — the kid magnets. They are concerned about the whole child and not just test scores. It is important to them that our students are good people, too. This is because they are good people.”

Mr. Meeboer also replied, “We have a waiting list — and for good reason.” Dean Morgan Junior High School has high academic growth on local and state assessments. Sixty percent of its students are on the honor roll. It has a 97% daily attendance rate, and student misbehavior is very low. It offers about 30 activities and clubs and has a wide range of sports for students of all abilities and interests.

GEAR UP appreciates the strong commitment from Dean Morgan Junior High School to help students succeed in preparing for high school and, ultimately, college.
Scholarships

Many of the community colleges and the University of Wyoming have scholarships specifically for GEAR UP students called GEAR UP Institutional Scholarships. Each of the scholarships has unique qualification requirements and applications. See the websites provided for more detail. Also, remember that every school has many other scholarships!

**GEAR UP Institutional Scholarship by Location**

Please view websites provided for complete information

### Casper College
- **Rolling acceptance**
  - $500/semester. Students must maintain 2.0 GPA, have a FAFSA on file, and enroll in at least 9 credits. During high school, students need to attend a summer academy and complete 5 or more hours of PrepMe.
  - [http://www.caspercollege.edu/gearup/](http://www.caspercollege.edu/gearup/) (Click on Scholarships/Forms tab)

### Central Wyoming College
- **Due May 1**
  - Amount varies from $500 - $2,136/semester.
  - Students must maintain 2.0 GPA. Award is greater if GPA is higher.

### Laramie County Community College
- **Due June 30**
  - Depends on need (average award $1,236/semester).
  - Students must enroll in 12 credits, complete 9 of the 12 credits and maintain a 1.75 GPA (fall semester) or 2.0 GPA (spring semester). Students must also complete 25 hours of community service.
  - [https://www.keysurvey.com/survey/347535/4047/](https://www.keysurvey.com/survey/347535/4047/)

### Northwest College
- **Due March 1 (fall semester); Oct 1 (spring semester)**
  - Depends on need – scholarship may cover unmet need. Students must maintain 2.0 GPA.
  - [http://www.northwestcollege.edu/dotAsset/205096.pdf](http://www.northwestcollege.edu/dotAsset/205096.pdf)

### University of Wyoming
- **Due June 1 (fall semester); Nov 1 (spring semester)**
  - Depends on need – scholarship may cover up to $4,509.50/semester of unmet need. Students must maintain a 2.0 GPA. Student may also receive $500/semester towards books and/or a living stipend.
  - [http://www.uwyo.edu/gearup/Scholarships/](http://www.uwyo.edu/gearup/Scholarships/) (scroll to bottom of the page for link to document)

### Western Wyoming Community College
- **Due April 1**
  - $1600/year. Students must maintain a 2.0 GPA and full-time status. The application for GEAR UP has been combined with the Hathaway scholarship application by WWCC. Students need to participate in a student success program, work, or volunteer on campus.
  - [http://www wwcc wy edu/gearup/forms.htm](http://www wwcc wy edu/gearup/forms.htm)
  - There is no GEAR UP Institutional Scholarship for Eastern Wyoming College (EWC) or Northern Wyoming Community College District (NWCCD).

**GEAR UP Wyoming Federal Scholarship**

This GEAR UP Federal Scholarship can be applied to the University of Wyoming or any of the community colleges in Wyoming. This scholarship is available for students served in GEAR UP during 2005-2011. Students must have joined GEAR UP by Oct 31, 2010 in order to be eligible. Contact your local GEAR UP host site or visit the website [www.uwyo.edu/gearup/scholarships/index.html](http://www.uwyo.edu/gearup/scholarships/index.html) for more information on qualifying requirements.

**Award amount**: Depends on need. Maximum scholarship is $4,162.50 per semester.

**Deadlines**:
- Complete FAFSA application by April 1.
- Submit a GEAR UP (GU) Scholarship application by June 1 (fall) or November 1 (spring) deadline.
- Ask your Outreach Coordinator to fill out an on-line Coordinator Verification Form with the application. Students may receive the GU Wyoming Federal Scholarship for a maximum of six (6) semesters for an associate’s degree or 12 semesters for a bachelor’s degree regardless of part-time or full-time status.

**GEAR UP Wyoming Federal and UW Institutional Scholarships**

Questions concerning scholarships for GEAR UP students should be directed to Barbara Marino in Student Financial Aid at the University of Wyoming.

Barbara Marino, Financial Aid Specialist
Knight Hall 174
University of Wyoming
Dept. 3335, 1000 E. University Avenue
Laramie, WY 82071
(307) 766-3393
bmarino1@uwyo.edu
Hours: Monday thru Friday 8AM – 12PM
Important FAFSA information

The priority deadline is March 1. If a student applies by March 1, the student is given first priority for financial aid and scholarships. For more information, visit www.fafsa.ed.gov or contact your local GEAR UP host site. The final deadline is April 1.

What you need to fill out a FAFSA

You will need records of income earned in the year prior to when you will start school (2011 income information for admission in Fall 2012). You may need records of your parents’ income information.

You may need to refer to:

1. Your driver’s license and social security numbers
2. Your 2011 W-2 forms
4. Records of other untaxed income

ACT College Entrance Exam – 2012 Test Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Date</th>
<th>Registration Deadline</th>
<th>(Late Fee Required)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 13, 2012</td>
<td>March 9, 2012</td>
<td>March 10-23, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8, 2012</td>
<td>To Be Announced</td>
<td>To Be Announced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 27, 2012</td>
<td>To Be Announced</td>
<td>To Be Announced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 8, 2012</td>
<td>To Be Announced</td>
<td>To Be Announced</td>
</tr>
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</table>

All Wyoming eleventh-grade students will take the ACT on April 24 at their schools. Students who want to take the test again can visit the following ACT website to register for the test and to locate testing centers: www.actstudent.org/regist/dates.html

GEAR UP WYOMING students may contact their GEAR UP coordinator to obtain an ACT test fee waiver. Also, GEAR UP WYOMING students have free access to ACT preparation programs.
Student Resources
(continued from page 5)

GEAR UP WYOMING
Professional Development

Important Fee Waiver Information for GEAR UP Students Applying to the University of Wyoming

Step 1: Apply for the GEAR UP Scholarship:
• Complete a FAFSA application by April 1. Priority will be given to FAFSA applications completed by March 1.
• Complete the GEAR UP scholarship application by June 1. (http://www.uwyo.edu/gearup/scholarships/index.html)

Step 2: Apply to the University of Wyoming:
• Complete the online or paper application (http://www.uwyo.edu/admissions/apply/index.html)
• APPLICATION FEE WAIVER INSTRUCTIONS: The UW application fee will be waived for GEAR UP students, but your GEAR UP coordinator must FIRST submit a fee waiver to the GEAR UP office at UW. Please contact your GEAR UP coordinator to request that they submit a fee waiver. It is not automatic and you must contact your GEAR UP coordinator to receive a fee waiver. If you are submitting your application online, the GEAR UP Coordinator can email the fee waiver. If you are submitting a paper application, the GEAR UP coordinator must attach the fee waiver to the application and send both to GEAR UP UW.
• ENROLLMENT DEPOSIT: The University of Wyoming requires a $300 enrollment deposit to be paid as part of the admission and enrollment process for all first-time freshmen and transfer undergraduate students. $200 of this enrollment deposit will be waived for GEAR UP students. The remaining $100 will serve as your housing deposit at the University and CANNOT be waived. This $100 must be paid by the deadline.

Please be certain to follow the fee waiver and enrollment deposit processes above. If you are contacted by UW concerning these fees, tell them you are a GEAR UP student. If you have any questions, please contact your GEAR UP coordinator.

Upcoming Professional Development

February 10 and 11, Casper
Natrona County High School
March 2 and 3, Riverton
Holiday Inn Convention Center
ACT Prep & College Readiness Workshop
The Wyoming Department of Education and GEAR UP Wyoming are collaborating to offer two ACT Preparation Workshops for Wyoming high school teachers, GEAR UP outreach staff, and others who would be able to use the practices and strategies taught to improve student ACT scores. These workshops will be presented by a team of teachers from Cheyenne Central High School that has been trained in ACT Test Prep and assisting students in extended day ACT preparation. Contact Bob Bryant at robert.bryant@wyo.gov or 307-777-6840 for registration information.

March 5 and 6, Casper – Parkway Plaza
Quantum Learning for Teachers Level 3
This workshop will be a strand offered at the Spring School Improvement Conference at the Parkway Plaza in Casper. Contact Karan Wright at kwright@advanc-ed.org or 970-372-3010 for conference registration information.

May 2 and 3, Casper – Ramkota Hotel
Instructional Facilitator Summit
GEAR UP WYOMING and the Wyoming Department of Education are co-sponsoring a two-day training and networking opportunity for Instructional Facilitators and Summer School Administrators. Literacy strategies for under-resourced learners will be emphasized. Contact Bob Bryant at robert.bryant@wyo.gov or 307-777-6840 for registration information.
Professional Development
Offered by GEAR UP Wyoming

GEAR UP Wyoming offers the following professional development opportunities at no cost to GEAR UP schools. GEAR UP students are 7th through 12th graders who meet income-eligibility requirements and want assistance in graduating high school and enrolling in college. GEAR UP Wyoming welcomes the opportunity to discuss sponsoring other types of professional development beyond what is listed below, providing the training meets the GEAR UP goals and objectives.

aha!Process Workshops

aha!Process is the organization founded by Dr. Ruby Payne who is most well known for her book, A Framework for Understanding Poverty, and work regarding educating students from low-income backgrounds. There are several workshops offered by aha!Process that fit well with the GEAR UP Wyoming mission of helping students graduate from high school and enroll in college. Most of the workshops are six hours in length presented in one day.


ACT, PLAN and EXPLORE Data Interpretative Workshops

In an ACT, PLAN or EXPLORE workshop, staff will learn how to quickly interpret student and school reports to improve student achievement. Workshops are usually 3 hours and include training with your own student data. The workshop can be completely customized to meet the specific training needs of your staff.

Ignition

Ignition is a comprehensive research-based transition to high school and peer mentor program. Students in transition who have a mentor are more academically and socially successful. Upperclassmen and advisors receive the training and curriculum they need to develop a sustainable program that has a positive impact on the entire school.

GEAR UP Wyoming Quantum Learning Site License

Quantum Learning for Teachers (QLT) Levels 1-5 (Each level is a one-day, six-hour workshop)

This professional development program for educators provides proven strategies that motivate students and boost achievement. Under the GEAR UP Wyoming site license, QLT can be offered at any Wyoming school or district where at least 50% of the staff attending are secondary educators. The workshops are delivered by one of the fully certified Wyoming Quantum Learning Facilitators at a rate that is far less than the typical Quantum Learning Network charge. Summer dates are currently available but you are encouraged to book early. GEAR UP Wyoming does not sponsor this workshop but instead coordinates the booking with a Wyoming facilitator so that schools and districts can receive the greatly reduced site license rates.

For more information about workshops sponsored by GEAR UP Wyoming or the Quantum Learning for Teachers workshops, contact Judy Trujillo at (307) 766-6733 or jtrujil7@uwyo.edu. At least thirty days advance booking is required for most workshops. These workshops may be scheduled during school days, staff development days or summer.

GEAR UP Wyoming is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education totaling $3,548,876 annually with an additional $3,548,876 annually provided by in-kind and scholarship contributions.
GEAR UP Wyoming is a statewide program that serves 2,000 7th-12th grade income-eligible students each year. Wyoming’s seven community colleges provide services to these students and encourage them not only to complete high school, but to enter and succeed at a postsecondary institution. The GEAR UP Wyoming program also supports students through their first year of college.

In this Issue

GEAR UP WYOMING Student Services ............... 1
Schools Served by GEAR UP WYOMING, 2011-2012 .... 2
Education Spotlight:
   Dean Morgan Junior High School ................. 3
Scholarships ........................................... 4
Student Resources ................................... 5, 6
GEAR UP WYOMING Professional Development ...... 6, 7

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