

# GEAR UP WYOMING

JANUARY 2017

# Matters

**GAINING EARLY AWARENESS AND READINESS FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS**

## LCCC Expands the GEAR UP Career Exploration Program

With funding from the John P. Ellbogen Foundation, Laramie County Community College (LCCC) has been able to expand their GEAR UP career exploration program. Adam Keizer, program manager of LCCC GEAR UP, hired Jasmine Varios to focus on career exploration and the transition from high school to post-secondary training and education. Jasmine designs and implements career exploration events for middle school and high school students as well as recruits and manages a large group of community volunteers and stakeholders.

Job site visits are a major part of career exploration. During the summer of 2016, students chose disciplines from multimedia, law, medical, and fine arts. They were able to visit relevant job sites and meet with professionals in the field. This showed students the many options they had in the career field. According to Adam, "When students become excited about a potential career, they realize they must pursue academics to reach their goal."

**"What matters is finding a way to reach these kids and give them opportunities and advantages that otherwise wouldn't exist for them."**

Site visits to Cheyenne Regional Medical Center are popular with students. Not only are they exposed to medical jobs, but they learn about the other supporting jobs within hospitals such as dietetics, counseling, and administration. This shows the students just how many options and specialties there are in the medical field.



Students on a practice oil derrick at Wyoming Contractors Association Regional Training Center.

Experiences provided to students are not limited to Cheyenne, however. Career exploration has taken place at the Laramie River Power Station in Wheatland as well as the Contractors Association Regional Training Center in Casper.

Adam explains the program in this way, "We try to expose students to a large variety of careers. What matters is finding a way to reach these kids and give them opportunities and advantages that otherwise wouldn't exist for them." 

## Did you know?

Wyoming GEAR UP students scored on average more than one point higher on the ACT® than students eligible for GEAR UP who did not participate in the program.

## EWC GEAR UP Students Say No to Bullying

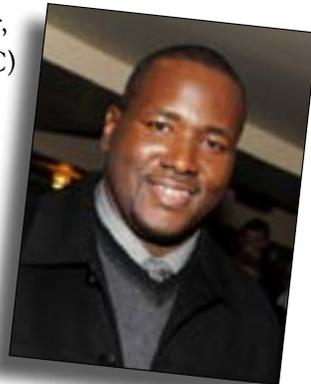
For the month of November, Eastern Wyoming College (EWC) GEAR UP students developed an anti-bullying program with displays and activities throughout the month.

The highlight was an anti-bullying presentation by Quinton Aaron, the actor who portrayed Big Mike in the film "The Blind Side."

He told stories from his youth about the unrelenting bullying that he experienced. He also reminded the audience of the importance of respecting one another.

In 2012, Quinton started The Quinton Aaron Foundation to fight against bullying. The foundation "supports anti-bullying efforts to reduce serious and life-threatening effects that bullying has on kids and teens at school and in the community."

The presentation was very successful with the students. As one student said, "I got to meet, talk with, and take pictures with him. As someone who was severely bullied all of my school life, to listen to him talk just melted my heart! I feel truly blessed to have been a part of this." 🌀



Quinton Aaron

## After School Program Cooks up More than Food

While many of the community college GEAR UP programs offer after school snacks, Casper College has taken it a step further. With an understanding of the importance of cooking and nutrition, Casper College GEAR UP has invested in a number of cooking appliances. They have purchased a countertop oven, crockpot, griddle, and a hot plate. Using these tools, they are able to make heartier snacks for their students. The students help cook, serve, and wash the dishes. Not only does this teach them a life skill, but studies have shown that students do better academically when they receive proper nourishment.

The students have learned to cook a variety of dishes including pizza, quesadillas, tacos, lasagna, and fruit and yogurt parfaits. In addition, the GEAR UP staff makes sure a fruit or vegetable is available every day. The students enjoy the snacks, but they also are taking ownership of the process and the clean up. 🌀



Cooking at Casper College

## ACT® College Entrance Exam Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
February 11, 2017	January 13, 2017	January 14-20, 2017
April 8, 2017	March 3, 2017	March 4-17, 2017
June 10 2017	May 5, 2017	May 6-19 2017
September 9, 2017	to be announced	to be announced

All Wyoming eleventh-grade students will take the ACT® in April 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](http://www.actstudent.org/regist/dates.html)

## SAT® College Entrance Exam Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration*
January 21, 2017	December 21, 2017	January 10, 2017
March 11, 2017	February 10, 2017	February 28, 2017
May 6 2017	April 7, 2017	April 25 2017
June 3, 2017	May 9, 2017	May 24, 2017

The late registration deadline is one week earlier if you are registering by mail. For locations, visit: [collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/find-test-centers](http://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/find-test-centers)

The SAT® also meets the Hathaway Scholarship awarding requirements.

GEAR UP WYOMING students may contact their GEAR UP coordinator to obtain an ACT® or SAT® test fee waiver. (GEAR UP WYOMING cannot pay for or waive late fees.) Also, GEAR UP WYOMING students have free access to college preparation programs. Contact your GEAR UP coordinator to learn more.

## GEAR UP WYOMING Professional Development

GEAR UP WYOMING executed a “Regional ACT® Workshop” in September at the Union University Building in Casper, Wyoming. The workshop featured a series of roundtable sessions conducted by educators from throughout the state of Wyoming. These educators presented on various practices/strategies they implement in their classrooms or districts for successful ACT® prep with their students. The content of the roundtable sessions featured:

- ACT® Prep Foundational Overview of Math, Science, and Reading
- Using ACT® in the Classroom (individual sessions), Science, Reading, English, and Math
- Data Visualization & Telling a Story with Data
- From the Administrators Point of View: How to use Data to Drive Classroom Instruction and Implement Strategies
- ACT® Prep Overview, Test Taking/Test Tutoring

Due to the positive feedback and overall success of the workshop, GEAR UP WYOMING will be offering another “ACT Regional Workshop” for educators and Administrators in fall 2017. Please reference the GEAR UP professional development calendar on the University of Wyoming website for the future posting of those dates. 

### Minimum Test Scores Required for Hathaway Scholarship Levels

	ACT®	SAT® Equivalent
<b>Provisional*</b>	17	900
<b>Opportunity</b>	19	980
<b>Performance</b>	21	1060
<b>Honors</b>	25	1200

SAT® scores equivalent to the ACT® as determined on The College Board conversion tables are allowed.

\* Provisional also accepts a WORKKEYS score of 12.

## Hathaway Scholarship Provisional Opportunity

The Hathaway Scholarship Provisional Opportunity Award must initially be used at a Wyoming community college. It pays \$840/semester for four, full-time semesters and may be used for any certificate or degree program.

To receive the additional four, full-time semesters at a Wyoming community college, a student must first earn a **certificate** at a community college with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25.

To receive the additional four, full-time semesters at the University of Wyoming, a student must earn a **degree** at the community college with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25.

The information below contains the requirements to qualify for the award. 

### Hathaway Scholarship, Provisional Opportunity

\$840 per semester

Must meet Hathaway graduation requirements:

- Math: current high school graduation requirements
- Must include two of the three: algebra 1, algebra 2, or geometry
- Language Arts: current high school graduation requirements
- Science: current high school graduation requirements
- Social Studies: current high school graduation requirements

Additionally:

- Two years of fine and performing arts OR
- Two years of sequenced foreign language OR
- Two years of career-vocational education

Must have a minimum, unweighted high school GPA of 2.5 (or GED score of 500)

Must have a minimum ACT® score of 17, a minimum SAT® score of 900, or a 12 on WORKKEYS

**Follow GEAR UP WYOMING on:**



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Remember deadlines for scholarships and awards!  
Remember to check your email!

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GEAR UP WYOMING is administered by the office of Student Educational Opportunity (SEO) in the Division of Student Affairs at the University of Wyoming.

**GEAR UP Wyoming Partners:**

Casper College, Central Wyoming College, Eastern Wyoming College, Laramie County Community College, Northern Wyoming Community College District, Northwest College, Western Wyoming Community College, University of Wyoming, Wyoming Department of Education

“Don’t miss out on something that could be great just because it could also be difficult. You can do difficult and hard things!”

“Believe, and you **WILL** achieve!”

“You deserve your dream!”

“Never, never give up.  
This is something you can do!”

GEAR UP WYOMING Matters is a publication for GEAR UP students and their families offering news and tips to help prepare students for college.

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. GEAR UP WYOMING also supports students through their first year of college.

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.