

## Northwest College GEAR UP

Dear Parents and Students,

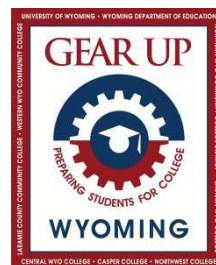
**Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)** is a federally-funded, statewide grant in Wyoming that provides services to 2,000 seventh through twelfth grade, income-eligible students each year. Eligibility for the GEAR UP Program requires that you qualify for free or reduced lunch prices at your school. The goal of GEAR UP Wyoming is to provide academic support to increase the number of students who graduate from high school and are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. Free services are provided to students and parents by GEAR UP staff located at all Wyoming community colleges. Services include:

- academic support and tutoring through high school
- ACT preparation and fee waivers
- career services
- assistance in college selection and completion of college/scholarship applications
- opportunities to attend college visits, educational field trips, and summer academies
- help in understanding federal financial aid and loans
- family services on college preparation and financial aid
- support services for first-year college students within Wyoming

GEAR UP services can help provide positive, exciting opportunities for you and your child. Please feel free to contact us with any questions. You can also return the signed application packet to the address below and we will contact you as soon as possible. I appreciate your willingness to consider this opportunity for your child.

Sincerely,

Callee Erickson  
231 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Powell, WY  
82435  
307-754-7822



### Student

WISER Number (if known):

Current Grade Level in School:

7th 8th 9th 10th 11th 12th

School:

Expected Graduation Date:

Name (exactly as it appears on your school transcript):

First

Middle

Last

Nickname

Mailing Address:

Street # / PO Box

City

State

Zip Code

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

Email:

May we text or email you about GEAR UP?

Yes

No

Sex:

Male

Female

Date of Birth:

Are you in an English Language Learner (ELL/ESL) Program?

Yes

No

Are you Hispanic or Latino/a?

Yes

No

Race:

American Indian or  
Alaska Native

Asian

Two or  
more races

Native Hawaiian or  
Pacific Islander

White

Unknown

Black or African American

No answer

Do you have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)?

Yes

No

Are you in foster care?

Yes

No

Are you experiencing homelessness?

Yes

No

Do you participate in Upward Bound, Educational Opportunity  
Centers, or Educational Talent Search?

Yes

No

Primary language spoken at home:

### Guardian

#### Guardian Contact Information #1

Name

Relationship

Home/Cell Phone

Work Phone

Email Address

Address (if different from student)

City

State

Zip Code

#### Guardian Contact Information #2

Name

Relationship

Home/Cell Phone

Work Phone

Email Address

Address (if different from student)

City

State

Zip Code

### Release of Information

I authorize the release of my confidential student information (including via fax and email), which may include, but is not limited to, contact information, secondary and post-secondary academic transcripts, financial aid award information from post-secondary institutions, FAFSA completion data, IEPs, standardized test scores, and free/reduced lunch status to GEAR UP Wyoming staff. I also understand that this information may be used by GEAR UP Wyoming staff for the purpose of referral to other state/federal educational programs and services for which I am likely eligible, including college-level student success services.

Student Signature

Date

I, as the guardian, authorize the release of the information described above as required for the student to receive GEAR UP Wyoming services and participate in program activities. To the best of my knowledge, I certify that the above student and guardian information is true and correct.

Guardian Signature

Date

Photographs and videos may be taken of GEAR UP Wyoming participants during activities and may be used for promotional purposes. All photographs and videos are property of GEAR UP Wyoming.

I grant GEAR UP Wyoming permission to photograph my student.

I DO NOT grant GEAR UP Wyoming permission to photograph my student.

Northwest College GEAR UP  
231 West 6th Street  
Powell, WY 82435



## Free/ Reduced Lunch Verification From School/Agency staff

### Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines July 1, 2025– June 30, 2026\*

Income Eligibility	
Household Size	Annual Income
1	\$28,953
2	\$39,128
3	\$49,303
4	\$59,478
5	\$69,653
6	\$79,828
7	\$90,003
8	\$100,178
For each additional family member, add	\$10,175

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
School/ Agency staff Name                      School/ Agency staff Title                      School

hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

**qualifies for the Free/Reduced lunch program based on the 2025-2026 guidelines; is a member of a household receiving assistance under SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations); or is a student identified as a Foster child, Migrant child or disconnected youth. I certify that this information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\* This information was taken from the USDA Eligibility Guidance for School Meals Manual and can be found at the USDA website, <http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/income-eligibility-guidelines>.

\* Documentation and/or proof of any information reported on this form may be requested for verification at any time during the school year.

GEAR UP Wyoming is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education totaling \$4,019,424 annually with an additional \$4,019,424 annually provided by in-kind and scholarship contributions.

**GU Office Use Only:**

DOB:

School:

Application date: \_\_\_\_\_



## GEAR UP Wyoming Participant Agreement



*Welcome to GEAR UP Wyoming! By working together, academic success and college completion are within your reach.*

### What can you expect from GEAR UP Wyoming?

- ❖ Academic support through high school graduation and your first year of college (within Wyoming)
- ❖ A plan for high school graduation and completion of the Hathaway Success Curriculum
- ❖ Support in maximizing ACT scores
- ❖ Opportunities for college visits
- ❖ Assistance in understanding and completing college applications, financial aid forms, (including the FAFSA) and scholarship applications
- ❖ Family events
- ❖ Opportunities to gain leadership skills and have new, exciting experiences!
- ❖ All services provided free of charge

### What does GEAR UP Wyoming expect of you and your family?

- ❖ A desire to attend an accredited 2- or 4-year college, trade school or university and the willingness to work toward this goal
- ❖ Open communication about your education goals and college, trade school, or university plans.
- ❖ Maintaining a GPA of 2.5 is suggested to ensure college acceptance & academic success. GEAR UP Participant will meet with GEAR UP staff if GPA falls below 2.5 to discuss opportunities to improve GPA.
- ❖ Participation in GEAR UP Wyoming events:
  - Attend at least two GEAR UP activities per semester, in addition to any required meetings
  - Meet individually with GEAR UP staff at least twice per semester
  - Take one practice ACT test prior to January of your junior year. GEAR UP can provide ACT support
  - Attend one academic enrichment academy and one college visit before high school graduation to earn points towards GEAR UP Scholarships.
  - Submit the FAFSA during your senior year and during your first year in college
- ❖ Take classes as outlined in the Hathaway Success Curriculum
- ❖ Complete a GEAR UP survey when required
- ❖ A parent/guardian will attend at least 2 events per year
- ❖ Always demonstrate kindness and respect to GEAR UP participants, staff, and volunteers!

**It is important that we are all active, engaged members of GEAR UP Wyoming. Therefore, participation in GEAR UP events and services is mandatory and failure to meet participation requirements may result in being released from the program.**

### I have read and understand the GEAR UP program expectations:

GEAR UP Participant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

GEAR UP Staff Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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