

CALIFORNIA GEAR UP

Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness
for Undergraduate Programs

Connected.
Prepared.
Unstoppable.



Purpose

The purpose of California GEAR UP is to develop and sustain the capacity of feeder sets of middle and high schools to prepare all students for the most number of postsecondary options through a comprehensive network of support for students, families, school and district staff.

Student Success Team

The California GEAR UP Student Success Team is on campus to provide direct, consistent support to the student cohort, Class of 2031, while collaborating closely with schools, communities, and families. The Student Success Team includes a School Coordinator and near-peer college students.

We Follow Three Core Components

College Preparedness

This component focuses on improving academic performance, graduation rates, and college eligibility through high-impact instructional practices, access to rigorous coursework, and targeted interventions.

College-Going Readiness

This component focuses on increasing students' and families' knowledge of career and college opportunities, financial aid, and postsecondary enrollment and success.

High Academic Expectation School Environment

This component focuses on fostering an environment of high expectations for ALL students through enhancing parental engagement, supporting the reduction of chronic absenteeism, and fostering student academic learning identities.

Advising/Mentoring

Tutoring/
Homework Assistance

Student Workshop

Financial Aid Advising

College Visit

Educational Field Trip

Job Site Visit

Summer Programs

Services We Provide

Student Services

Advising/Mentoring

We support students with decision making, goal setting, and problem solving while helping them explore college and career options, plan coursework, and understand assessments.

Tutoring/Homework Assistance

We provide tutoring and homework assistance to help students improve academically, offered one-on-one or in small groups before, during, or after school.

Student Workshop

We offer interactive workshops on leadership, career exploration, college awareness, and essential skills like time management, goal setting, study strategies, and more.

Financial Aid Advising

We help students navigate financial aid by supporting FAFSA and scholarship applications, financial literacy, and understanding award letters.

College Visit

We organize and lead college visits where students experience campus life, tours, and presentations from admissions and other departments.

Educational Field Trip

We provide field trips that connect to learning, including museums, cultural experiences, and academic activities that enhance classroom instruction.

Job Site Visits

We expose students to real workplaces so they can explore careers, understand job expectations, and see the connection between school and future opportunities.

Summer Programs

We offer summer programs and experiences that support learning, build skills, and help students stay engaged between school years.



Family Services

Family Workshops

We provide interactive workshops for families that support student success, including navigating the K-12 system, understanding college and career pathways, and preparing for financial aid. Topics include college applications, admissions requirements, financial literacy, and career readiness.

Family College Visits

We organize and facilitate college visits for families and their child where they can explore campuses, learn about admissions, and hear from different college departments. Visits may be in-person or virtual and are designed to help families better understand the college experience.

Family Events

We host and support family events that build connections between families, students, and schools. These events provide opportunities to learn, engage with staff, and stay involved in students' academic and postsecondary journeys in a welcoming, informal setting.