

PROJECT ABSTRACT

GEAR UP Kentucky

The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE), the applicant organization for GEAR UP Kentucky (GUK), requests **\$24,500,000** over a seven-year funding cycle to implement Kentucky’s fourth statewide project to increase the number of low-income students who graduate from high school and enroll in postsecondary education. GUK has twelve objectives that align with the three GEAR UP national goals:

National #1 Increase academic performance & preparation for postsecondary education.

Objective 1: Improve individual student performance on college readiness assessments.

Objective 2: Improve cohort performance on college readiness assessments.

Objective 3: Improve systemic performance on college readiness assessments.

Objective 4: Reduce the need for remediation in postsecondary education.

Objective 5: Increase participation in individualized student advising.

National #2 Increase high school graduation and participation in college.

Objective 6: Increase successful completion of ninth grade.

Objective 7: Improve completion of 9th, 10th, and 11th grade math.

Objective 8: Improve high school graduation rate.

Objective 9: Improve college-going rate.

National #3 Increase student/family knowledge of options, preparation & financing.

Objective 10: Improve financial literacy.

Objective 11: Improve educational aspirations and expectations.

Objective 12: Improve knowledge of college options, preparation and financing.

Using a hybrid cohort/priority student model, GUK will serve a minimum of 10,000 students in seven cohorts over the project period. GUK will provide three categories of services: *direct services for students and parents*, *school support services*, and *statewide and community services*. Services are strategically aligned to the *Four Pillars of Student Success*, a theoretical framework designed to engage, develop, and mobilize students and their key influencers.

Pillar: Self	Pillar: Family	Pillar: Institution	Pillar: Community
Curriculum	Curriculum	Technology & Assessments	Communication Campaign
Advising & Assessments	Advising & Support	Peer Learning Community	Statewide Institute
Campus Experiences	Campus Experiences	Professional Development	Partnership Development
Leadership Development	Leadership Development	Leadership Development	Leadership Development

Key partnerships include: Kentucky Department of Education, Kentucky Broadcasters’ Association, Kentucky Postsecondary Institutions, Texas Instruments, Kentucky Adult Education, Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, College Equipped Readiness Assessment (CERT), KnowHow2GOKy, Dave Ramsey Solutions, and Dr. Deborah Gilboa.