

# Media & Public Awareness Fact Sheet



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## Overview

GEAR UP Iowa is a state program administered by the Iowa College Student Aid Commission (Iowa College Aid) and funded through the U.S. Department of Education to increase the number of Iowa students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary educational opportunities.

## Program Objectives

- ⚙️ Increase student academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education.
- ⚙️ Increase the rate of high school graduation and enrollment in postsecondary education.
- ⚙️ Increase student and family knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparation and financing.

## Key Facts

- ⚙️ GEAR UP stands for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs.
- ⚙️ GEAR UP Iowa is administered by the Iowa College Student Aid Commission (Iowa College Aid).
- ⚙️ GEAR UP Iowa is a long-term partnership between Iowa College Aid, 12 partner school districts and nearly 40 partnering institutions for higher education and community-based organizations.
- ⚙️ Federal funding for GEAR UP Iowa is for 2014 – 2021 and is following a cohort of over 7,000 students beginning in the 7th grade into their first year of postsecondary education.
- ⚙️ School districts were selected based on participation in the state's first grant (2008-2014) and by having 50% or more of their student body on free and reduced-price lunch.
- ⚙️ Students and their parents receive a variety of services aimed at preparing them academically, financially and inspirationally to enroll and succeed in college.

## For Students:

Key services provided include tutoring, mentoring, college visits, career exploration, ACT/SAT test preparation and financial aid education.

Upon enrollment in college, GEAR UP Iowa students will receive a modest scholarship for up to four years to help pay their higher education costs.

## For Parents:

GEAR UP Iowa not only works with students, but also the people who are there to support them, including their parents and guardians. GEAR UP Iowa offers services, information and activities designed specifically for family members so that they learn about college together and can become more involved in helping their students succeed.

**Funded through the U.S. Department of Education  
Administered by the Iowa College Student Aid Commission (Iowa College Aid)**

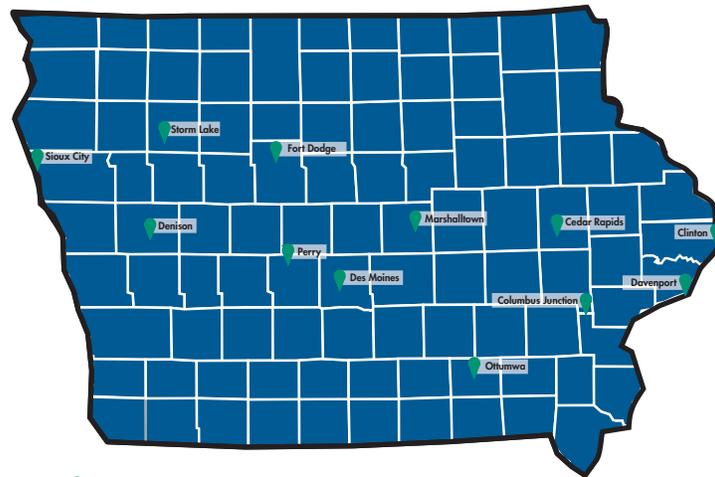
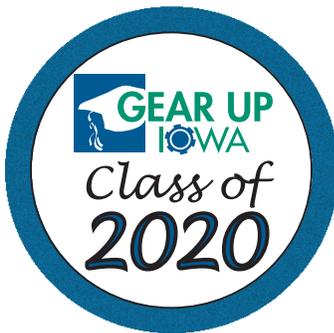
# Participating Schools and Districts



Cedar Rapids  
Clinton  
Columbus Junction  
Davenport

Denison  
Des Moines  
Fort Dodge  
Marshalltown

Ottumwa  
Perry  
Sioux City  
Storm Lake



GEAR UP Iowa Partner District

## Cedar Rapids

McKinley Middle School  
Roosevelt Middle School  
Wilson Middle School

## Clinton

Clinton Middle School

## Columbus Junction

Columbus Junction Middle School

## Davenport

Wood Intermediate School  
Frank L. Smart Intermediate School  
Sudlow Intermediate School  
Williams Intermediate School  
JB Young Intermediate School

## Denison

Denison Middle School

## Des Moines

Brody Middle School  
Callanan Middle School  
Goodrell Middle School  
Harding Middle School  
Hiatt Middle School  
Hoyt Middle School  
McCombs Middle School  
Meredith Middle School  
Weeks Middle School

## Fort Dodge

Fort Dodge Middle School

## Marshalltown

Miller Middle School

## Ottumwa

Evans Middle School

## Perry

Perry Middle School

## Sioux City

East Middle School  
North Middle School  
West Middle School

## Storm Lake

Storm Lake Middle School



[IowaCollegeAid.gov](http://IowaCollegeAid.gov)  
Because College Changes Everything