



The NJ GEAR UP State Project  
Administered by the New Jersey  
Commission on Higher Education  
in collaboration with the College Bound  
Grant Program



### **Program goal**

Increase the number of New Jersey low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education.

### **Key facts**

- September 2008 will mark the beginning of Year 4 of a 6-year grant cycle
- Over 2000 students annually
- Grades 6-12
- 28 middle and high schools
- Newark, Jersey City, Paterson, Trenton, Camden
- Federally funded with dollar for dollar match

### **Basic services**

- During- and after-school tutoring
- Saturday classes in core subjects
- 6-week summer programs (classes supplemented with hands-on activities and field trips)
- Mentoring
- Academic/personal counseling
- Guidance toward rigorous classes (Algebra I/II, Chemistry, Physics)
- College field trips
- Career fairs
- Parent workshops
- Test preparation
- Financial aid information
- Assistance with applying for financial aid
- Assistance with college applications
- Professional development in math and other topics for teachers in the target schools
- College scholarships

### **Examples of optional services offered in some cities**

- Hands-on science learning at the Environmental Center (Camden)
- Finance Workshop (Newark)
- Engineering Institute (Newark)
- Nutrition program (Newark)
- Extensive teacher professional development (Paterson)
- Tiger Woods' *Start Something* curriculum for student leadership (Trenton)

### **Documented successes**

- Increased proficiency on the SAT and state-mandated tests in math, science, language arts literacy
- High rate of student graduation from high school (>97%)
- High rate of college enrollment within six months of high school graduation (>75%)
- Comprehensive model of intense, early intervention with >300 hours of service each year