

Get to know GEAR UP NEW JERSEY

Gaining Early Awareness & Readiness for Undergraduate Programs

Created and funded by Congress, GEAR UP is a program that opens doors for students from all backgrounds, especially those from low-income communities.

With funding from the national U.S. Department of Education and the state, GEAR UP NJ helps prepare students in our state for education and training after high school to reach their dream careers.

GEAR UP NJ BY THE NUMBERS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2024

3,600

Students Served
Grades 7-12

90

Schools Supported

98%

Graduated High School

72%

Enrolled in College

30%

Attend 2-Yr College

70%

Attend 4-Yr College

73%

Attend College in New Jersey



SCAN HERE FOR A TOOLKIT TO
HELP SPREAD THE WORD!



NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF

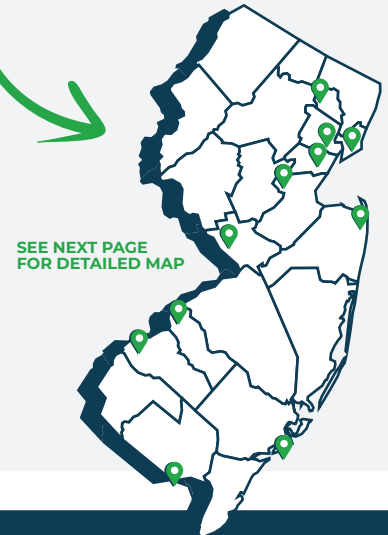
**HIGHER
EDUCATION**



GEAR UP ACROSS THE STATE



GEAR UP programs are found around the country. Here in New Jersey, programs serve students in grades 7-12 across 12 cities – having a presence in 90 middle and high schools.



SEE NEXT PAGE
FOR DETAILED MAP

HOW DOES GEAR UP SUPPORT STUDENTS?

STRENGTHENING ACADEMIC SKILLS

Tutoring, Saturday classes, and 6-week summer programs strengthen knowledge and confidence.

PREPARING FOR COLLEGE-LEVEL WORK

Test prep and dual enrollment build skills for college coursework success.

EXPLORING COLLEGE AND CAREER PATHWAYS

College tours, career fairs, and field trips expose students to future postsecondary and career possibilities.

PROVIDING INDIVIDUALIZED SUPPORT

Mentoring and counseling give one-on-one guidance through challenges.

NAVIGATING COLLEGE AND FINANCIAL AID

Families receive help completing financial aid and college applications.

SUPPORTING THE TRANSITION TO COLLEGE

First-year students receive ongoing GEAR UP support to help them adjust and persist in their postsecondary journey.

EMPOWERING EDUCATORS

Teachers gain training to better prepare GEAR UP students for college readiness.

25 Years Running GEAR UP ACROSS NEW JERSEY



In the course of over two decades, GEAR UP NJ has expanded its reach from 4 to 12 New Jersey cities.

SERVING NEW BRUNSWICK
Rutgers University - New Brunswick
NEW PROGRAM - DATA NOT AVAILABLE

SERVING TRENTON
Mercer County Community College
GEAR UP HIGH SCHOOL GRAD RATE - 100%

SERVING CAMDEN
Rowan University
GEAR UP HIGH SCHOOL GRAD RATE - 97%

SERVING PENNS GROVE - CARNEYS POINT
Salem Community College
GEAR UP HIGH SCHOOL GRAD RATE - 95%

SERVING BRIDGETON
Rowan College of South Jersey
GEAR UP HIGH SCHOOL GRAD RATE - 95%

SERVING PATERSON
Passaic County Community College
GEAR UP HIGH SCHOOL GRAD RATE - 100%

SERVING NEWARK
New Jersey Institute of Technology
GEAR UP HIGH SCHOOL GRAD RATE - 100%

SERVING JERSEY CITY
New Jersey City University
GEAR UP HIGH SCHOOL GRAD RATE - 75%

SERVING ELIZABETH
Kean University
NEW PROGRAM - DATA NOT AVAILABLE

SERVING ASBURY PARK
Brookdale Community College
NEW PROGRAM - DATA NOT AVAILABLE

SERVING ATLANTIC CITY AND PLEASANTVILLE
Stockton University
GEAR UP HIGH SCHOOL GRAD RATE - 100%

By 2031, 68% of jobs in New Jersey will require post-high school education (Georgetown University, 2023).

GEAR UP NJ helps bridge this gap by boosting career and college readiness, strengthening both the workforce and economy.