



### **What School Districts can expect from the GEAR UP program:**

- \$25,000-\$75,000/ year for seven years with flexibility on how the budget is allocated at the local level;
- Access to a wide variety of free or low cost quality personalized professional development opportunities offered virtually, regionally, and/or on site;
- Technical assistance from GEAR UP staff to implement a college-going culture in school;
- Grant-writing support for other initiatives related to creating a college-going culture;
- Facilitation of college access team;
- On-site coaching for leadership and educational development;
- Follow-up with students during the first year of their post college experience;
- Up to \$5000 to support a district parent liaison each year.

### **What is expected from GEAR UP schools:**

- College access team with members representing grades 7-12, including at least one administrator from each building, as well as guidance, faculty, and personnel from other college access initiatives, such as MELMAC, Upward Bound, JMG, etc.;
- Attendance of college access team at GEAR UP semi-annual planning sessions held regionally;
- Attendance of at least one team member at quarterly MELMAC/GEAR UP peer learnings;
- Yearly comprehensive college access plans that are data informed and include a schedule/ plan of college and career access activities, both in and out of the classroom, designed for students and families at each grade level, identification of college access goals and action steps, and identification of ongoing data collection and analyses.;

- Educator participation in professional development opportunities designed to increase and enhance engaging teaching and learning;
- Identification and support of a parent facilitator and his/her coordination of college access activities and information distribution.
- Data collection as required by federal regulations:
  - The district technology coordinator will work with our database administrator to ensure accurate and efficient transfer of required data such as: student course enrollment and grades, attendance, graduation rates, and test scores;
  - Student participation in college access activities and distribution of surveys as needed.
- Monthly principal briefings, to occur in building, with Maine State GEAR UP staff that includes leadership development for college access and engaged learning;
- In-kind match (see attached match Q&A).

**Statewide initiatives:**

- Professional development relevant to GEAR UP objectives;
- Leveraging the resources of the educational communities in Maine, including the Maine Principals Associations (MPA), Maine Parent Federation (MPF), Maine School Management Association (MSMA), State Parent Teacher Association, State Board of Education, Maine College Access Network (MaineCAN), Maine Education Association (MEA), Maine School Counselor Association (MESCA), Maine Administrators of Services for Children with Disabilities (MADSEC);
- Dissemination of information of best practices in college access;
- Building off Maine's existing learning technology initiative to further the use of technology in education to enhance instruction, engage students, and promote the development of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology Learning Skills.

