

GEAR UP

GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) helps prepare students for college and the workplace. The Gulf Coast GEAR UP Project was established in fall 2002 with a five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education. School district partners are Aransas Pass, Odem, and Sinton. The cohort of 7th grade students are followed through the duration of the grant and participate in GEAR UP activities over the five year funding period. Activities include online counseling programs, mentoring activities, visits to college and university campuses, the College for Kids summer program at Del Mar Community College, tutoring and academic enrichment programs, field trips to companies, and programs to help students and their parents increase awareness of college and financial aid opportunities. The Gulf Coast GEAR UP Project is administered by Texas A&M University in College Station. Other partners include Del Mar College, the San Patricio County Economic Development Corporation, Verizon, Texas A&M University in Corpus Christi, Texas Cooperative Extension, Junior Achievement, and 36th Judicial District Probation Unit. The web address for our project is www.coe.tamu.edu/gearup.