National GEAR UP Week
September 23-29, 2018
Dear Educator,

Start the school year with a bang by celebrating National GEAR UP Week Sept. 23-29! It’s a great way to kick-off the year with exciting educational activities that can help build a college-going culture in your school and community.

While GEAR UP schools across the country will be celebrating National GEAR UP Week Sept. 23-29, you can use these materials any time of the year. This packet has materials and ideas for you including flyers about Oklahoma’s colleges, school announcements and other fun activities designed to get the word out about GEAR UP and the importance of going to college. Choose to do all of the activities, some of them, or create your own!

Remember to share photos that can be featured on Oklahoma GEAR UP’s social media sites (Facebook and Twitter)! Use our GEAR UP hashtags - #GEARUP; #GEARUPWorks; #OKGEARUP; #NationalGEARUPWeek. Also, please email pictures to mmcool@osrhe.edu throughout the week to be used on social media and other promotional materials during the year. Have a great National GEAR UP Week!

-Oklahoma GEAR UP Staff
College Gear Day

WHO
Everyone (Administrators, Teachers and Students)

WHAT
Encourage students to wear their favorite college school colors on a particular day. Teachers are encouraged to wear apparel that represent their alma mater. At a chosen time during the school day, take a picture and post to social media.

WHEN
Choose a date that works best for your school during National GEAR UP Week.
WHO
Administrators and Teachers

WHAT
Display individual fact sheets of Oklahoma’s 25 colleges and universities throughout your school so students can learn about the opportunities available to them after graduation. These college fact sheets can be displayed in multiple areas including:

- Bathroom Stalls
- Announcement Boards
- Door Entrances
- Outside of Counselor’s Office

A ream of paper has been provided to you for the use of printing copies of the enclosed college fact sheets.

WHEN
The college fact sheets have been designed so that you can display them throughout the 2018-19 academic year. The information is current for this year alone.
WHO

Student

WHAT

To give students a daily reminder about planning and preparing for college. This is a free way to communicate the message of higher education and it only takes a few minutes each day.

WHEN

Use the announcements found in the resources section about GEAR UP Week and getting ready for college during regular announcements or on other school information tools (school TVs, social media, etc.)
WHO
Student

WHAT
Enable a student to reach out to past school alumni or other prominent individuals in your community to come speak about the importance of going to college after high school and why it is important to the student and community. This will work best with a student assembly. If you have multiple individuals who would be willing to speak, you could host a panel of community members/former students with prepared questions and allow a few minutes for an open question/answer time at the end.

WHEN
Choose a date that works best for your school during National GEAR UP Week.
WHO
Teachers

WHAT
Teachers will quiz students on questions related to Oklahoma’s institutions of higher education. This is an interactive way to inform students about the history, structure and additional facts about individual schools and resources available to them. Questions for college trivia can be found in the resources section of this toolkit.

WHEN
College trivia questions can be given during daily announcements, in homeroom, in a specific class, or throughout the day. Questions could be given on one day or throughout the week.
WHO
Administrators and Teachers

WHAT
Decorate the door of your classroom to represent either your alma mater or Oklahoma’s 25 colleges and universities. This will create a friendly school spirit atmosphere that will open conversations about your time during college. You can also initiate conversations including:
- Your major
- How you prepared for college
- Your involvement in student organizations
- Lessons learned
- Why you went to college

WHEN
Decorate doors at the beginning of National GEAR UP Week so that you have all week to display your school spirit.

Door Decorations
College Application Day

WHO
GEAR UP Site Coordinator and Education Specialist

WHAT
We are celebrating College Application Day during National GEAR UP Week this year! This is a day set apart for seniors to apply to the college(s) of their choice. We will provide a packet of information on how to set up your College Application Day. All seniors are urged to participate in this year’s event.

WHEN
Work with your education specialist to choose a date during National GEAR UP Week/College Application Week.
WHO
Everyone (Administrators, Teachers and Students)

WHAT
Use #OKGEARUP throughout the week to promote the activities your school is hosting to prepare and educate students about higher education. Oklahoma GEAR UP can be found on Facebook and Twitter.

WHEN
This hashtag can used all year long! Oklahoma GEAR UP will be following along to celebrate with you on your successes this academic year.
REAM OF PAPER
Please use this ream of paper to print off the college fact sheets for your school.

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS
A sample of daily announcements are included. You may alter to fit your school’s needs.

COLLEGE TRIVIA QUESTIONS
A list of questions and answers have been provided in the resources section for you to use during National GEAR UP Week.

COLLEGE FACT SHEETS
College fact sheets representing the 25 institutions of higher education in Oklahoma have been provided in this section.
MONDAY
Good morning, students - it’s GEAR UP Week! This week will feature college awareness activities to help prepare and educate you about the possibilities following high school graduation. Get involved and ask questions - college is for YOU! Be sure to post photos on Facebook and Twitter of GEAR UP Week activities and check out what other schools are doing by using #OKGEARUP Here is a summary of this week’s activities:
  Monday -
  Tuesday -
  Wednesday -
  Thursday -
  Friday -

TUESDAY
It’s Day 2 of National GEAR UP Week! Today we are (insert Tuesday’s activity). Did you know that there are 25 colleges and universities located in Oklahoma? We have 2 research universities, 10 regional universities, 1 public liberal arts university, and 12 community colleges. You can learn what these types of schools mean by visiting OKcollegestart.org.

WEDNESDAY
We’re halfway through the week and we’ve already had a lot of fun. Don’t forget to participate in ______ that is happening today. Today’s 411 is brought to you by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA for short. This is a FREE application for you to apply for college student aid. There are three types of federal student aid: grants, loans and work-study. Visit fafsa.ed.gov to learn more. Seniors, don’t forget the FAFSA application for college next year will open on October 1.

THURSDAY
Happy Thursday everyone! Today we have lined up ______ for National GEAR UP Week. Still unsure if college is right for you? According to CollegeBoard, bachelor’s degree recipients tend to earn about 66% more during their career life than a high school graduate.

FRIDAY
The end to National GEAR UP Week is here. Thank you for participating in this week’s activities. Congratulations to our ______ seniors who have applied to college this week! As we’re wrapping up, do not forget you can visit OKcollegestart.org to view college planning checklists for 7th - 12th grade to keep you on track for your college goals.
College Trivia Questions
- Questions -

1. In what city is the University of Central Oklahoma located?
2. At what type of college can you earn an associate degree?
3. What is the oldest institution of higher education in Oklahoma?
4. What university has a state of the art animation department that has graduates working with Disney and Pixar films?
5. What is the name of a test you must take to be admitted into college?
6. Which public two-year college is located in El Reno, Okla.?
7. The federal financial aid application a college student completes to receive grants, work study and/or student loans is called the __________.
8. What college did Carrie Underwood graduate from?
9. Name a college that has a rodeo team.
10. What university was once named the Oklahoma Military Academy?
11. What part of a financial aid award must be paid back?
12. What is the mascot for Southeastern Oklahoma State University?
13. Which college in Oklahoma has graduated the most Miss Americas?
14. What is the program that allows 8th, 9th, or 10th grade students from families with an income of $50,000 or less to earn a college tuition scholarship?
15. Which Oklahoma community college has the most students?
16. How many Native American languages are taught at OU?
17. How many public colleges and universities are there in Oklahoma?
18. What date does the FAFSA application open for students?
19. What is Oklahoma’s land grant university?
20. What is the only public liberal arts university in Oklahoma?
21. What is the program that allows juniors and seniors to earn college credit while still in high school?
College Trivia Questions
- Answers -

1. Edmond
2. Community College
3. Bacone College
4. Oklahoma Panhandle State University (OPSU)
5. ACT or SAT
6. Redlands Community College (RCC)
7. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
8. Northeastern State University (NSU)
9. Oklahoma Panhandle State University (OPSU), Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU), Connors State College (CSC), Oklahoma State University (OSU), Western Oklahoma State College (WOSC), Northwestern Oklahoma State University (NWOSU), Southeastern Oklahoma State University (SEOSU), Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College (NEO) - Some other colleges have rodeo student organizations
10. Rogers State University (RSU)
11. Loan
12. Savage Storm
13. Oklahoma City University (Jane Jayroe ’67, Susan Powell ’81, Shawntel Smith ’96)
14. Oklahoma’s Promise
15. Oklahoma City Community College (OCCC)
16. 4 (Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek, Kiowa; More than any other college in the country)
17. 25
18. October 1 (Apply as soon as possible)
19. Oklahoma State University (OSU)
20. University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma (USAO)
21. Concurrent Enrollment
DID YOU KNOW

Cameroon University

- 41 majors
- 50 student organizations
- $65 million in scholarships, grants, and financial aid
- 4-year regional university
- cameron.edu/futureaggies

admission tip

Apply early and follow up supporting documents. The admission application opens the door to the college process and allows you to apply for scholarships, register for classes, and attend orientation. Don’t delay, apply today! -Brenda Dally, Director of Admissions
DID YOU KNOW

Carl Albert State College

- $10.9
- 27 majors
- 2-year community college
- 20 student organizations
- carlalbert.edu/admissions
- State of Oklahoma
- Carl Albert State College

Admission Tip:
Be sure to read all instructions on the application and bring required documents when you come to enroll.
DID YOU KNOW

$13.2 million
scholarships, grants, financial aid

Connors State College
Building Futures One At A Time Since 1908

30 majors

2-year community college

connorsstate.edu/aar

10+ student organizations

admission tip
Be proactive to make sure all deadlines are met and all necessary documents are turned in by using the college checklist! Please visit www.connorsstate.edu/recruit for checklist.

-Jamie Shanks, GEAR UP College Liaison
East Central University is an academic-driven university. Be sure to study hard and pay close attention to your ACT test and scores.
Start the admission process by completing the online Admission Application. All necessary admission/enrollment information can be found on Eastern’s website. If you can’t find what you are looking for, contact any member of the staff. We are all here to assist you and help make this a wonderful experience for you.

-Jennifer Labor, Eastern Oklahoma State College
DID YOU KNOW

$31 million

$31 million

31 majors

4-year regional university

langston.edu/future-students

50+ student organizations

admission tip

Before you step onto campus for your first semester, take part in Lion Camp. Lion Camp helps prepare you for college to make the transition from high school to college a positive experience.
Our faculty, staff and administration are all dedicated to ensure that from Murray State College, our students can go anywhere.

-Marilyn Schwarz, Executive Director of Enrollment Services
DID YOU KNOW

$2.4+ million annual scholarships

NEO A&M COLLEGE

northeastern
oklahoma a&m college

40 majors

2-year community college

40+ student organizations

neo.edu/admissions

YOUR NAME, Class of

admission tip

Fill out your FAFSA early, apply to the college early, apply for scholarships early and keep in mind that NEO gives a free dorm room to Oklahoma Promise Students.

-Jana Hayes, NEO A&M College
Attending our two-day orientation program “Rookie Bridge Camp” is one of the best ways to start making friends, get great tips on how to have a successful (and fun!) time in college, and makes it easy for you to get involved on campus. -Kyle Murray, Assistant Director of Recruitment
DID YOU KNOW

$20 million

scholarships, grants, financial aid

NOC

northern oklahoma college

2-year community college

47 majors

2-year community college

30+ student organizations

noc.edu/future-students

YOUR NAME, Class of _____

admission tip

Do not let someone tell you that you aren’t smart enough or financially able to attend college. If you want to get a degree, you can! NOC is an affordable, 2-year college with small class sizes, low costs, and provides a great transition to a 4-year university or right into the workforce. -Terri Sunderland, High School & College Relations Coordinator
DID YOU KNOW

90% students
scholarships, grants, financial aid

Northwestern
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

40+ majors

northwestern
oklahoma state university

4-year regional university

50+ student organizations

nwosu.edu/future-students

YOUR NAME Class of

admission tip
A tip would be to not stress and make decisions based off of one attribute. Picking a college is like buying a new pair of pants, you might like the way they look, but they might not be the right fit for you. Find a school that is the right fit for you. -Olivia Yandel, Admissions Counselor/Recruiter
DID YOU KNOW

$34+ million scholarships, grants, financial aid

61 majors

oklahoma city community college

2-year community college

29 student organizations

occc.edu/future

YOUR NAME Class of

admission tip

Apply and submit your transcripts early so that you can complete your admissions process as soon as possible.

-Carlos Robinson, Assistant Director of Recruitment
admission tip

It’s never too late to enroll in college. Oklahoma Panhandle State University wants to work with you no matter your circumstances.
DID YOU KNOW

$320 million in scholarships, grants, and financial aid.

200+ majors

4-year research university

500+ student organizations

admissions.okstate.edu

YOUR NAME, Class of

admission tip

At Oklahoma State University, we encourage all students to apply. Through our comprehensive review process, we look beyond your GPA and test score to see what experiences have shaped you and what drives you to be successful. We consider many factors: essay responses, leadership experiences, community involvement, letters of recommendation, the creative supplement, GPA, and test score. Tell us about yourself and don’t ever count yourself out. The road to being a Cowboy starts with applying!
DID YOU KNOW

19 majors

2-year community college

11 student organizations

$3 million non-federal aid given to students

redlands community college

redlandscc.edu/admissions

YOUR NAME, Class of __________

admission tip

Apply now and enroll early – get the classes you want with the best schedule for your lifestyle.

-Marcia Shottenkirk, College Communications Liaison
DID YOU KNOW

- **$30.4 million**
  scholarships, grants, financial aid

- **Rogers State University**

- **71** majors

- **35** student organizations

- **rsu.edu/admissions**

- **YOUR NAME, Class of _____**

- **4-year regional university**

**admission tip**

Take the ACT early and learn how to study.
**DID YOU KNOW**

400+ scholarships

ROSE STATE COLLEGE

2-year community college

60+ majors

rose.state.college

40 student organizations

rose.edu/content/admissions-aid

YOUR NAME, Class of _____

**admission tip**

Know yourself and know your schedule. Know what days and times you can make classes and think of what careers you might be interested in pursuing after college. Help us help you by being as prepared as possible!

-Kris Chavis, GEAR UP College Liaison
Did You Know

- $10.5 million in scholarships, grants, financial aid
- 24 majors
- 2-year community college
- 10 student organizations
- seminole state college
- sscok.edu/Admissions
- YOUR NAME Class of

Admission Tip

Students should always be aware of important administrative dates, especially for drop and withdraw dates in addition to enrollment deadlines.

-Jessica Pospisil, Admissions Clerk
DID YOU KNOW

Southeastern Oklahoma State University

- 60 majors
- 70 student organizations
- $4+ million in scholarships, grants, financial aid

4-year regional university

se.edu/future-students

YOUR NAME, Class of _____

admission tip

Don’t hesitate to ask questions concerning the admission process.
- Jeremy Rowland, Assistant Registrar
Did You Know

Southwestern Oklahoma State University

- 90 majors
- 90 student organizations
- $70 million in scholarships, grants, financial aid
- 4-year regional university

Admission Tip

Apply early. Be sure to send in your updated transcripts/ACT scores as they become available. Be aware of scholarship deadlines. And, be sure to check your email inbox often for information concerning your admissions & enrollment.

-Brian Adler, VP of Public Relations & Marketing
DID YOU KNOW

- 100+ majors
- 60+ student organizations
- $62 million in scholarships, grants, financial aid
- 2-year community college

Your Name, Class of ___
tulsacc.edu/admissions-aid

Admission Tip
Know when scholarship deadlines are so that you can prioritize which ones to fill out first.
-Sarah Cruz, Admission Counselor
DID YOU KNOW

- $214 million scholarships, grants, financial aid
- 170+ majors
- 400+ student organizations
- 4-year research university
- ou.edu/content/admissions

Academics is important so show up and participate in every class. Also, get involved in student organizations to meet new people and gain new skills.
DID YOU KNOW

$101.5 million

University of Central Oklahoma

116 majors

UCO

4-year regional university

uco.edu/admissions-aid

200+ student organizations

admission tip

There are many resources on campus to help you be successful: Financial Aid, Tutoring, Testing Services, Disability Support Services, Wellness, and Career Services to name a few.
If you have questions or concerns about college, talk with your academic counselor when they arise. They can help you earlier before the problem gets bigger.
DID YOU KNOW

- $5.8 million scholarships, grants, financial aid
- 20 majors
- 20 student organizations
- 2-year community college
- Western Oklahoma State College
- wosc.edu/admissions
- Your Name, Class of ______

**admission tip**

At Western Oklahoma State College, there is not an application fee charged to you until you enroll in classes. Don’t hesitate to apply to WOSC because it’s free to apply!