



## GEAR UP Idaho Scholarship Overview

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### GEAR UP Award Calendar

- November 15th-March 1 (Application Open)
- April (Verification by School Officials)
- May (Award Notifications Sent)

### Eligible Applicants

- The GEAR UP Idaho Scholarship is available to students who participated in the GEAR UP program and will graduate in the years 2017 and 2018.
- Applicants **must** be less than 22 years old at the time they receive their first scholarship award.
- Applicants **must** possess a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent.
- Applicants **must** complete and submit the initial scholarship application **prior** to graduating from high school.
- Applicants **must** complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA priority deadline is on or before February 15 of the student's graduation year.
- Applicants **must** be enrolled or accepted for full-time (or part-time) enrollment in a program of undergraduate instruction at an eligible institution of higher education that is located within Idaho's boundaries. Accepted institutions include any Idaho public, regionally accredited institution under the general supervision and governance of the Idaho State Board of Education and any private, non-profit, regionally accredited institution, as listed.
  - *North Idaho College*
  - *Lewis-Clark State College*
  - *College of Southern Idaho*
  - *College of Eastern Idaho*
  - *University of Idaho*
  - *Boise State University*
  - *Idaho State University*
  - *College of Western Idaho*
  - *College of Idaho*
  - *Northwest Nazarene University*
  - *Idaho State University*
  - *BYU Idaho*

### GEAR UP Scholarship Amounts

- Awards for year one of the scholarship will equal the minimum Pell Grant award for the school year (Currently \$588). Amount is subject to change with Pell Award amounts.
- Scholarship amounts after year one of the scholarship will be subject to availability of funding and the number of eligible applicants.
- Awards will be distributed in two payments (each semester) to the institution of the student's choice as enrollment is confirmed.

### GEAR UP Continuing Eligibility

- GEAR UP scholarships will be available to applicants for **four academic years immediately following graduation from high school**. Scholarships can be applied to undergraduate or graduate work within those four academic years.
- Awards may be prorated for students enrolled in an eligible institution part time.
- Students who take leave from their postsecondary program may reapply for the next award cycle to receive additional awards within the four academic year window.
- GEAR UP scholarship awards can be renewed annually, for no more than four academic years immediately following graduation.
- GEAR UP scholarship recipients must maintain satisfactory academic progress (as determined by the institution) to obtain a scholarship renewal.



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- GEAR UP Scholarship recipients must complete and submit a FAFSA and the annual scholarship application to obtain a scholarship renewal. Scholarship applications deadlines will be posted on the GEAR UP website.
- Scholarship recipients who transfer to any other eligible Idaho postsecondary institution remain eligible for scholarship renewal.

### GEAR UP Scholarship Application Process

- Applicants must complete the general Idaho state scholarship application online on or before March 1 of their graduation year at the Idaho State Board of Education website: [www.boardofed.idaho.gov](http://www.boardofed.idaho.gov)
- Scholarship timelines:
  - First GEAR UP 2 Cohort (Graduating in SY 2016-2017)
    - First scholarships will be awarded in the 2017 fall semester
    - Final scholarship will be awarded in the 2021 spring semester
  - Second GEAR UP 2 Cohort (Graduating in SY 2017-2018)
    - First scholarships will be awarded in the 2018 fall semester
    - Final scholarship will be awarded in the 2022 spring semester
- Minimum scholarship award amounts will be posted on the GEAR UP website at the close of the scholarship application window for each year.
- After receiving the award offer from the State Board of Education, applicants must complete the award acceptance survey and upload a new FAFSA release form to the scholarship portal. Failure to do so will result in a non-award for the year.

### Potential Year 5 Scholarship Opportunity

- In the case that unused scholarship funds remain after the 4 academic years immediately following each cohort's graduation, a 5<sup>th</sup> year award opportunity will be opened.
- These funds may be used by eligible GEAR UP students at eligible postsecondary institutions in Idaho for undergraduate and graduate courses.
- Information regarding the 5<sup>th</sup> year award opportunity, application process, deadlines and available funds will be posted on the GEAR UP website (<http://www.sde.idaho.gov/student-engagement/gear-up>).

The scholarship application is currently open! Apply online ASAP. To apply, go to the link below and select the GEAR UP 2 application.

<https://boardofed.idaho.gov/scholarships>