

Partnership School Districts

Allen Stonewall
Byng Tupelo
Milburn Vanoss
Pickett-Center Wapanucka
Roff

Business, Community and Educational Partners

East Central University
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
Ada Area Chamber of Commerce
First United Bank (Ada)
First American Bank (Stonewall)
Tri-County Indian Nation CDC
Robert S. Kerr Environmental Research Laboratory
East Central Credit Union
Pontotoc Technology Center
Farmers State Bank (Allen)
Valley View Regional Hospital
Chickasaw Nation

If you are interested in becoming a
TEAM GEAR UP partner, call
580.310.5773.

TEAM GEAR UP Staff



Pictured left to right: Jillian Faulkner, Vince Johnson, Cindy Sue Cooper and Tandy Bowerman.

TEAM GEAR UP

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Compliance / Cost Statement

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East Central University's mission is to foster a learning environment in which students, faculty, staff and community interact to educate students for life in a rapidly changing and culturally diverse society. Within its service area, East Central University provides leadership for economic and cultural enhancement.



TEAM GEAR UP
East Central
UNIVERSITY

**Gaining Early Awareness
and Readiness for
Undergraduate Programs**

**Funded by the U.S.
Department of Education**

WHAT IS GEAR UP?

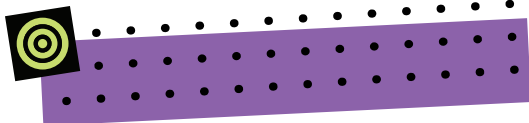
GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) was created in 1998 as part of the Higher Education Act to encourage young people to have high expectations, stay in school, take the right courses, study hard and go to college.

East Central University's TEAM GEAR UP received a 6 year grant from the U.S. Department of Education to provide services to students in nine rural school districts in Coal, Johnston and Pontotoc counties. The program began in September 2005 with a group of cohort 7th grade students and will follow them through graduation in May 2011.

TEAM GEAR UP

OUR MISSION and PURPOSE

The mission of East Central University's TEAM GEAR UP program is to prepare students to achieve their aspirations of higher education. The purpose of TEAM GEAR UP is to form partnerships with businesses, community organizations and educational entities to assist in equipping students with the academic skills, encouragement, information, and resources necessary to enter and succeed in post-secondary education.



TEAM GEAR UP OBJECTIVES

- Strengthen and encourage academic achievement;
- Expand career awareness of cohort students;
- Provide mentoring services and activities to cohort students;
- Provide students with information and assistance to prepare, register and to take college entrance exams;
- Inform, assist and enroll students in postsecondary education;
- Educate students and parents of the types and availability of financial aid and provide assistance with applying for financial aid;
- Provide professional development opportunities for partner school staff;
- Promote parental involvement in GEAR UP activities and to increase their knowledge of academic preparation for college and financial aid availability.



GEAR UP PROVIDES:

- Academic Counseling
- Tutoring
- Mentoring
- Cultural Activities
- College Campus Visits
- Career Development Activities
- Career Field Trips
- College Planning Activities
- College Admissions and Financial Aid seminars for students/parents
- Summer Programs
- Professional Development for Teachers

Programs such as Character Counts, Honor Above All, and The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens will be implemented with the students in each partnership school.



PROGRAM SERVICES ARE
FREE
TO PARTICIPATING
STUDENTS, PARENTS AND
TEACHERS.