

## PART 693 [RESERVED]

PART 694—GAINING EARLY  
AWARENESS AND READINESS  
FOR UNDERGRADUATE PRO-  
GRAMS (GEAR UP)

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AUTHORITY: 20 U.S.C. 1070a–21 to 1070a–28.

SOURCE: 65 FR 24760, Apr. 27, 2000, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 694.1 What is the maximum amount that the Secretary may award each fiscal year to a Partnership or a State under this program?**

(a) *Partnership grants.* The maximum amount that the Secretary may award each fiscal year for a GEAR UP Partnership grant is calculated by multiplying—

(1) \$800; by

(2) The number of students the Partnership proposes to serve that year, as stated in the Partnership's plan.

(b) *State grants.* The Secretary establishes the maximum amount that may be awarded each fiscal year for a GEAR UP State grant in a notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a–23)

**§ 694.2 Which students must a Partnership, or a State that chooses to use the cohort approach in its project, serve under the program's early intervention component?**

A Partnership, or a State that chooses to use a cohort approach in its GEAR UP early intervention component, must, except as provided in § 694.4—

(a) Provide services to at least one entire grade level (cohort) of students (subject to § 694.3(b)) beginning not later than the 7th grade;

(b) Ensure that supplemental appropriate services are targeted to the students with the greatest needs; and

(c) Ensure that services are provided through the 12th grade to those students.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a–22)

**§ 694.3 What are the requirements for a cohort?**

(a) *In general.* Each cohort to be served by a Partnership or State must be from a participating school—

(1) That has a 7th grade; and

(2) In which at least 50 percent of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch under the National School Lunch Act; or

(b) *Public housing exception.* If the Partnership or State determines it would promote program effectiveness, a cohort may consist of all of the students in a particular grade level at one or more participating schools who reside in public housing, as defined in

#### § 694.4

section 3(b)(1) of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-22)

#### § 694.4 Which students must a State or Partnership serve when there are changes in the cohort?

(a) *At the school where the cohort began.* A Partnership or State must serve, as part of the cohort, any additional students who—

(1) Are at the grade level of the students in the cohort; and

(2) Begin attending the participating school at which the cohort began to receive GEAR UP services.

(b) *At a subsequent participating school.* If not all of the students in the cohort attend the same school after the cohort completes the last grade level offered by the school at which the cohort began to receive GEAR UP services, a Partnership or a State—

(1) May continue to provide GEAR UP services to all students in the cohort; and

(2) Must continue to provide GEAR UP services to at least those students in the cohort that attend participating schools that enroll a substantial majority of the students in the cohort.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-22)

#### § 694.5 What requirements must be met by a Partnership or State that chooses to provide services to private school students under the program's early intervention component?

(a) *Secular, neutral, and nonideological services or benefits.* Educational services or other benefits, including materials and equipment, provided under GEAR UP by a Partnership or State that chooses to provide those services or benefits to students attending private schools, must be secular, neutral, and nonideological.

(b) *Control of funds.* In the case of a Partnership or State that chooses to provide services under GEAR UP to students attending private schools, the fiscal agent (in the case of a Partnership) or a State agency (in the case of a State) must—

(1) Control the funds used to provide services under GEAR UP to those students;

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(2) Hold title to materials, equipment, and property purchased with GEAR UP funds for GEAR UP program uses and purposes related to those students; and

(3) Administer those GEAR UP funds and property.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-21 to 1070a-28)

#### § 694.6 Who may provide GEAR UP services to students attending private schools?

(a) GEAR UP services to students attending private schools must be provided—

(1) By employees of a public agency; or

(2) Through contract by the public agency with an individual, association, agency, or organization.

(b) In providing GEAR UP services to students attending private schools, the employee, individual, association, agency, or organization must be independent of the private school that the students attend, and of any religious organization affiliated with the school, and that employment or contract must be under the control and supervision of the public agency.

(c) Federal funds used to provide GEAR UP services to students attending private schools may not be commingled with non-Federal funds.

(Authority: 1070a-21 to 1070a-28)

#### § 694.7 What are the matching requirements for a GEAR UP Partnership?

(a) *In general.* A Partnership must—

(1) State in its application the percentage of the cost of the GEAR UP project the Partnership will provide for each year from non-Federal funds, subject to the requirements in paragraph (b) of this section; and

(2) Comply with the matching percentage stated in its application for each year of the project period.

(b) *Matching requirements.* (1) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, the non-Federal share of the cost of the GEAR UP project must be not less than 50 percent of the total cost over the project period.

(2) A Partnership that has three or fewer institutions of higher education as members may provide less than 50 percent, but not less than 30 percent, of