



ACTIVITY CHEAT SHEET

Any activity in your school that serves Montana GEAR UP students and parents and is related to the GEAR UP goals and objectives should be recorded, even if GEAR UP does not fund the activity.

Activity	Definition	Examples (taken from GEARS)
Academic Enrichment	Educational activities that augment and enhance student learning.	Spelling bee, poster contest, essay contest, Kinder help, Lego robotics, Science Olympiad, Academic Bowl, AIBL, portfolios, EXPLORE & PLAN tests, CRT, Missoula Children's Theater, symphony, dinner/movie, geography bee, visiting author, science fair, portfolio presentations
College Visit/College Student Shadowing	An activity that involves an onsite visit to a college campus and/or shadowing a college student on campus in order for students to gain a firsthand view of a college and all its experiences, as well as to build their vision of themselves as future college students.	Campus visits, campus tours
Community Service	An activity in which services are volunteered by GEAR UP students to benefit a community or its institutions – except when it relates to a cultural event (see definition below), e.g., Native American dance performance for senior citizens.	Fundraising, food baskets, memorial dinners, highway cleanup, recycling efforts, snow shoveling, Race for the Cure, service learning projects, Meth walk, Hunters Stew, blood drive, senior lunch
Computer Assisted Lab	A room or building equipped with computers to support academic learning and research. In some small schools the “lab” might be one or two computers.	GEAR UP student survey, PLATO and other computer lab-based educational tools, Smart About College, electronic portfolio development, MCIS career search (not to be confused with a presentation by SAF on using MCIS – that would be a workshop)
Counseling	Activities in which academic, career, college, financial and other (personal growth/social development) services are provided by qualified personnel.	1) College, financial, and career awareness activities: CollegeEd, <i>Kids College Almanac</i> , career units, college bingo, college panel, career speakers, applications, resumes, cover letters, GEAR UP classes/units, Real Game; 2) Personal growth/social development: organizational skills, drugs, alcohol, nutrition, crime, bullying, self-esteem, grief, suicide, addictions, character, health, life skills activities; 3) Academic advising: transition, high school orientation, course options, college prep, EXPLORE & PLAN results, graduation requirements, portfolios
Cultural Event	An activity that relates to or teaches GEAR UP students about a common and distinctive racial, national, religious, linguistic, or ethnic heritage.	Native American Days, Native American Week, Native American Parades, Navidad Celebration, Mexican traditions, Salsa music assembly, traditional foods, beadwork (NOT going to the theater, art museum, or other artistic events)

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Educational Field Trip	An excursion for the purpose of firsthand observation, as to a museum, the woods, or a historic place.	Museum visits, medicine wheel, geology/earth science field trip, shopping trip, visit to legislature/state capitol, tribal council meeting
Family Event	An activity that involves GEAR UP students and their families/guardians or just their parents/guardians	Family fun night, parent involvement dinner, parent survey completion dinners, promotion ceremonies, movies, open house
Job Site Visit/Job Shadowing	An activity that offers students exposure to the workplace in an occupational area of interest and reinforces the link between classroom learning and work requirements. Students witness firsthand the work environment, employability and occupational skills in practice, the value of professional training, and potential career options. <i>(Paris and Mason, 1995)</i>	Visits to local businesses, employers, and agencies to explore different professions; career selections followed by job shadowing
Mentoring	A mentoring program is one in which a caring, adult/peer/college student devotes time to a GEAR UP student in order to help the student achieve his/her potential and discover his/her strengths. A mentoring activity applies only to those activities in which the GEAR UP student is the one being mentored. If there is an activity that involves a GEAR UP student mentoring other students, e.g., KinderCare, then categorize it as an academic enrichment activity.	Boys & Girls Club, school-based mentoring program, challenge and change meeting, math mentoring (In general, mentoring implies a longer term relationship and not a one-time activity)
Summer Program	An academic enrichment, credit recovery, or college prep program/camp that takes place during the summer. Could be a statewide GEAR UP summer camp, a local summer camp funded by GEAR UP, or another camp attended by a GEAR UP student that supports the GEAR UP mission.	Statewide GEAR UP summer camp, a local summer camp funded by GEAR UP, or another camp attended by a GEAR UP student that supports the GEAR UP mission
Tutoring/Homework Assistance	An activity in which a GEAR UP student receives additional, special, or remedial instruction or assistance.	Group or individual tutoring, drop-in tutoring, after school tutoring, study hall, CRT Superlearners, test prep, GEAR UP tutor, lunch tutoring, homework tutoring
Workshop	A session where students learn and practice the knowledge and skills that is the workshop's focus; education imparted in a series of lessons or class meetings; an educational seminar emphasizing interaction and exchange of information among students.	MCIS presentation by SAF, Cory's financial aid presentation, AIBL conference, Expanding Your Horizons, MIEA, MBI Youth Days