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No-Cost Extension Update

As we get closer and closer to closing out our 2014-2021 grant cycle, we are closely monitoring spending and assessing the feasibility of a no-cost extension (NCE). Though we will not be sure of the possibility until August, we hope this will serve as a reminder regarding what to expect and some general recommendations for how to plan amidst the transition from 1.0 to 2.0.

- We encourage all IHEs and LEAs to spend down GY07 funds to get as many services to our students as possible by July 31st. Let’s end this grant strong!
- Yes, we will serve next year’s 11th and 12th graders (and any 13th graders at GU early college high schools). This is not only allowable, it is required, per the GEAR UP statutes.
- As you are preparing your sequenced service plans and budgets for GY02 (2.0), we recommend an assumption of no additional funds from a NCE to serve high school students.
- Therefore, it is advised that you budget a small portion of GY02 (2.0) funds to serve these students (no more than 25% of your operating budget).
- As we transition to focusing our services back to the middle school, funding at the high school should be allocated to direct services and will not be allowable for equipment (computers, smart boards, iPads, etc.).

We will keep you informed of any updates we can along the way and hope to provide a strategic services plan overview as we approach August. Any questions regarding a NCE can be directed to Corinne (smithmc3@appstate.edu).
**Electronic Services Policy**

In response to the increasing questions regarding the purchase of electronic service site license programs, a document has been developed to describe the procedures for purchasing and tracking usage data for such programs. This process will be implemented going forward and is intended to ensure a strong vetting process while minimizing the risk of a purchase being disallowed. Any questions regarding this new procedure can be directed to Shari (williamsonsl@appstate.edu).

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**Ending the Weekly Effort Forms**

It is with great enthusiasm that we report that due to many schools returning to nearly full time, we no longer need to submit weekly effort forms. The last submission date should be April 9 which can be recorded as spring break for many of you. Thank you for your diligence in completing these forms throughout the pandemic to ensure we remained in compliance with the Department of Education.

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**College Decision Day Content**

We want to share your Decision Day announcements and events on the GEAR UP social media accounts! Please let us know your Decision Day plans so we can highlight your students’ hard work with our partners.

Please add photos to the Google Folder linked below. If you're still thinking of ways to celebrate your students' achievements, view this brainstorming document from last year.

Reach out to Elysee Gibson (gibsonse@appstate.edu) with any questions or to discuss other ways to highlight your students and their college decision day announcements.

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**Summer Camp Opportunity**

Do you have students interested in the Health Services field? Wake Forest is offering Camp Med to provide opportunities to students to explore careers in healthcare. Click the button below for more details.
Marketing & Communications Files

Do you need anything in our GEAR UP Resource Folder personalized? Do you want us to create something similar in your district? We can tweak any resource to fit the needs of your district, and we encourage you to brainstorm any ideas of how our resources can serve your needs! Districts may use any of the resources from this folder at any time. If a district wants to make any edits to an existing item in the folder, they will need to complete the Resource Request form. We will continually add items to this folder, so be sure to check back often. If you would like App State to print a resource in the folder, please allow 30 days for printing and delivery of the materials. Contact Elyssee Gibson (gibsonse@appstate.edu) with any questions.

New items in the folder include GEAR UP Zoom backgrounds, test date reminders, social media posts, GEAR UP services login flyers, survey graphics, and more!

Have Suggestions?

We love to hear your ideas! Do you have suggestions that will help us improve? At any time, please provide your feedback by clicking the button on the left. Thanks for taking the time to help us continuously grow and improve.