Support During Stay-at-Home Order

We hope that you are all staying safe and taking care of yourselves and your loved ones. Our GEAR UP grants continue to function, and the president signed the bill that gives GEAR UP grant holders flexibility (although the Dept. of Ed has not defined what that means at this point). The goal is to meet the needs of our students and educators in these different and challenging times.

The Appalachian GEAR UP team is set up and working from home, continuing to process packets, answer questions, brainstorm ideas, and generally support districts. Reimbursement payments for salaries, services, and supplies/equipment continue as always.

We continue to rely on the district teams to help us during this time and our District Coordinators will play an important role even as they work from home. Thank you for the fruitful conversation on Zoom this past week. As we all get situated and positioned to work from home, we will explore together how we might efficiently and effectively apply new strategies. Of course, GEAR UP will continue to ensure that Coordinators are paid as usual.

Know that as the work of the GEAR UP grants continues, we are thinking about you all every day. Above all else, stay safe and ensure that your families are safe.
Data Corner
In February 2020, our students completed 747 individual student sessions on Tutor.com. We are monitoring this usage as remote learning increases, and we look forward to reporting these findings in upcoming bulletins. A user satisfaction survey by Tutor.com indicates student experiences this academic year through February. After each tutoring session, students were asked the 5 questions in Graph 1. For this Data Corner, we have averaged the individual surveys for each student (disregarding null answers) and compared their answers to their average Tutor.com usage during this academic year. A total of 593 students completed the survey. The results are quite encouraging! Students have a very positive outlook on Tutor.com, with 99.5% of respondents indicating they are glad they are being offered this service (Graph 1). In general, students that use Tutor.com more tend to have a more favorable opinion of this service and vice versa (Graph 2). In fact, students who responded that Tutor.com was not helping them be more confident about their school work had, on average, used it for only 18 minutes during the entire first semester.

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.

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.