Welcome, Dale & Megan!

LEAs & IHEs: We are excited to introduce you to two new team members joining our amazing team. Dale Carter (starting this week) and Megan Kasper (starting next week) will both be joining the GEAR UP team as College Access Impact Specialists and will bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to our programs.

Dale Carter most recently comes from the App State Office of Financial Aid where he served as Senior Assistant Director for Loans and Scholarships Operations, with a large focus on state agency partnerships. For many years, he has been providing direct student and parent FAFSA support in both community college and high school settings across western NC. After having served in various roles in the banking industry and Department of Health and Human Services, Dale has developed a passion for financial literacy and helping families overcome barriers to college and career. He has supported our CAC program since its inception, and he will serve as an incredible financial aid resource for our entire CAP team. He will play a critical role in launching our 2.0 FAFSA campaign and financial literacy services.

Megan Kasper most recently comes from the App State Career Development Center where she served as Assistant Director providing direct career counseling support to students individually and through programs and events. Along with being a former high school teacher, she has also spent a number of years in the RCOE James Center where she was instrumental in developing and implementing student recruitment and retention initiatives for pre-service teachers, including directing the ACES Scholars program. We know Megan will bring great energy and purpose to our GEAR UP student services.
Survey Updates
LEAs: Thank you, GEAR UP coordinators, for helping collect surveys from students and their parents/guardians. Hopefully you've received our weekly report about the survey response rate, but if not please let us know. Till September 9, the student response rate across GU school districts was 9.18% and the family response rate was 1.03%. If you need any assistance with helping to increase the survey response rate, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Please remember that the survey response end date is September 28, 2022 and we will need all surveys collected by then. Thank you again for all your efforts on behalf of GEAR UP!

Calculator Updates
LEAs: Calculator orders are still available. Any requests must be turned in by September 19th. Please include the following information in your request: grade level being served, calculator model or rovers, number requested, and finally the course or class associated with the purchase. Professional learning is encouraged for these purchases so if your district has a need for support please include that within your request. Send all information and questions to Doug Thompson (thompsondm2@appstate.edu). If you'd like to confirm or review your order, please take a look at the following spreadsheet, focus on the 2022 sheet for this year’s orders by district.

Tutor.com Student Access Updated
LEAs: Student accounts have been officially updated in Tutor.com. Special thanks to everyone for submitting rosters and to Hayden for getting everything submitted to Tutor.com. Students will be using the following link to login: www.tutor.com/appstate (password: gearup). I’ve attached digital flyers in English and Spanish to assist you or you can always check the Partners and Promoters page for more free marketing resources. Have questions or would you like to request in-school presentation support? Contact the Academic Innovation Team.

IHE Annual Plans
IHEs: As we kick off the new year, we'd like to remind all IHE Coordinators that any changes to your approved annual plan should be submitted for prior approval to Meg Turner (turnerm5@appstate.edu). Please be sure to provide adequate lead time, and don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.
QCM Reminders

LEAs & IHEs: We're excited to see all of the coordinators again in person for our upcoming QCM next week on September 20th at Appalachian State from 9am to 4pm. Anyone who still needs to confirm their attendance and secure a lunch order from Chipotle needs to do so ASAP. Further details will be sent out through email by Monday the 19th. Additional details are included below:

**Location:** Belk Library and Information Commons (room 421), 218 College Street, Boone, NC 28608

**Parking:** Please park in the Library Parking Deck. As you enter, someone from the App State team will be waiting outside the deck entrance to give you a yellow temporary parking pass.

FAFSA materials and Embark booklets will be distributed on this date at Edwin Duncan. We will share exact logistics during the meeting, but please be prepared to take back posters, flyers, postcards, and booklets to your districts.

[Draft Agenda]

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 below. Thanks for taking the time to help us continuously grow and improve.

[CLICK HERE]