Region 1 was able to take fifteen youth to a leadership camp this summer! Region 5 staff hosted the camp at Newman University in Wichita. Over 68 youths in Grades 8-12 across the State of Kansas attended.

**CoolSpeak: The Youth Engagement Company** reached out to the Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP Youths and Staff to help them reflect on their personal goals, challenges for tomorrow, dreams for the future, and put the motivation back into their education.

This three-day camp provided students the opportunity to be on a college campus while meeting new friends. This was a humbling experience for all, big or small, in finding their passion, sharing their story, finding their voice to rise up, and most importantly to hold themselves to a higher standard of excellence as future leaders.

**NEWS FLASH !**

**FAFSA …** Students can start filling out the 2020-2021 FAFSA after **OCTOBER 1st.**

You can apply and get more information by checking out the **FREE website:** [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)

Please contact your GEAR UP Representative if you need assistance.

**Fall 2019**

**SAVE THE DATES...**

- **September 10**  
  **Senior Day @ Labette County Community College**

- **September 25**  
  **National GEAR UP DAY @ Wichita, Century II**

- **October 5**  
  **Rumble in the Jungle @ Pittsburg State University**

- **November 7**  
  **Senior Day @ Fort Scott Community College**

- **November 9**  
  **Discovery Day @ Coffeyville Community College, Technical Center**

*Don’t Miss Out...*  
Be sure and contact your **GEAR UP representative** to sign up!
Missouri Southern State University @ Joplin. In June, youths visited the beautiful campus of MSSU plus educational tours at Neosho Fish Hatchery, Art Spiva Gallery and George Washington Carver National Park.

Missouri State University @ Springfield. In June, youths visited the beautiful campus of MSU plus educational tours at Bass Pro Shop Aquarium and Wildlife Wonders exhibits. It was a great experience!

Washburn Institute of Technology @ Topeka. In July, youths will visit the campus plus educational tour at the State of Kansas Capitol building.

Johnson County Community College @ Springfield. In July, youths will visit the campus of JCCC plus educational tour at Prairie Fire Museum.

Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College @ Miami. In July, youths will visit the campus of NEO plus educational tour at Har-Ber Village Museum in Grove.

What do you want to do after high school?

I know, that is a deep and profound question to consider; one that will require work, thought and experience. What if you took just a little bit of time today to begin the exploration process?

Many of you may have or not tried this in Middle or High School – that is ok! Now that you are in a different space, intellectually and experientially, chances are you may find this to be more interesting and reflective of your current goals. GEAR UP Staff can help you assess your interests, values, skills, as well as recommend career options, post-secondary programs or career paths that may be a fit for you.

Consider spending some time with your GEAR UP Adviser.
Preparing for College: Junior and Senior Checklist

1. Register for the ACT, if you haven’t taken it as a junior, or if you aren’t satisfied with your score and want to take it again.

2. Locate an ASPIRE testing location if ACT is not on your radar

3. Visit with your school counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate and fulfill college admission requirements.

4. Take every opportunity to get to know colleges, meeting with college representatives who visit your high schools, visit campuses (if possible).

5. Complete GEAR UP’s Financial Literacy Modules for the KKGU Scholarship!

6. Contact your GEAR UP Advisor or Mentor for assistance!

ACT Dates for 2019-2020

Here are the dates for your college entrance exams this year. The test can be taken your junior or senior year of high school. For students interested in community colleges, you can also look into the Aspire Test at your college instead of taking the ACT.

All test days are Saturday mornings.

To verify testing site dates check www.act.org. Not all sites will accommodate all testing dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Date</th>
<th>Registration Deadline</th>
<th>(Late Registration Deadline)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 14, 2019</td>
<td>August 16, 2019</td>
<td>August 17-30, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 26, 2019</td>
<td>September 20, 2019</td>
<td>September 21-October 4, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 14, 2019</td>
<td>November 8, 2019</td>
<td>November 9-22, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 8, 2020</td>
<td>January 10, 2020</td>
<td>January 11-17, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 4, 2020</td>
<td>February 28, 2020</td>
<td>February 29-March 13, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 13, 2020</td>
<td>May 8, 2020</td>
<td>May 9-22, 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

February 25, 2020 — Kansas Statewide ACT Testing for Juniors

“Don’t forget you’re human. It’s okay to have a meltdown, just don’t unpack and live there.

Cry it out and then refocus on where you are headed.” — Author Unknown
GEARING UP for the Future!

Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP is here to assist you with your career and college academic planning.

GEAR UP Region 1 – Pittsburg Office & Staff

Pittsburg Office located in the State of Kansas DCF (Department for Children and Families) building
320 S. Broadway
Pittsburg, KS 66762

Mainline: 620-231-5300
Fax: 620-231-1921

Website => www.KKGU.org OR WSU's GEAR UP Region 1

Meet our Region 1 Staff

Brenda Armstrong, Regional Coordinator Ext. 220
Jim Fryer College Access Advisor Ext. 218
Susan Hill College Access Advisor

Based @ Parsons High School, 620-421-3660, Ext. 221

Lori Woods College Access Advisor Ext. 301
Sarah Cass Database Assistant Ext. 224

Gear UP Southeast Kansas

Notice of Nondiscrimination: Wichita State University does not discriminate in its employment practices, educational programs or activities on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, political affiliation, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a veteran. Retaliation against an individual filing or cooperating in a complaint process is also prohibited. Sexual misconduct, relationship violence, and stalking are forms of sex discrimination and are prohibited under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972. Complaints or concerns related to alleged discrimination may be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity or the Title IX Coordinator, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita KS 67260-0138; telephone (316) 978-3187. Offers of employment are contingent upon completion of a satisfactory criminal background check as required by Board of Regents policy.

“Diversity is the one true thing we have in common. Celebrate it every day.” —Anonymous
Counties Served by Us

Do you know who we serve? Where? Why?
Let’s explore these questions.

Region 1 served foster youth in the following Southeast Counties of Allen, Anderson, Bourbon, Cherokee, Crawford, Linn, Labette, Montgomery, Neosho, Wilson and Woodson. Our Region office is located in Pittsburg and the Central Office is located on the Wichita State University’s Campus.

Please call us today on how we can serve foster youth in your area.

Mission Statement: The mission of Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP is to increase the number of students, with foster children as priority, graduating from high school and prepared for enrollment in post-secondary education, thereby enabling children to reach their full potential and consequently improving educational and social outcomes.

Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP is a state-wide, 50% federally funded program hosted by WSU

Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP; Region 1
Wichita State University
320 S Broadway
Pittsburg, KS 66762

To Current / Future College Student