Region 4 has various events planned for GEAR UP students this Spring. Some are studious and some are fun. For details contact our office at 620-805-8628.

Campus visits are a great way to explore colleges and universities to get a feel for the next step after high school graduation. Discover large and small campuses, rural and urban campuses and what extras each one offers like a great sports program, a theater arts program or research.

The Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP (KKGU) after-school programs focus on improving study skills, career planning, college exploration, gaining social and life skills and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) studies. KKGU also prepares students for the ACT.

Some KKGU activities involve traveling to historic places like the Santa Fe Trail Museum, which brings a sense of reality to past events. Others focus on science-related careers, like job shadowing Park Rangers at the Maxwell Wildlife Refuge or the math and philosophy involved in building the S.P. Dinesmoor House and art in the Garden of Eden in Lucas.
Counties Served:


Office

1312 North 7th
Garden City, KS  67846
Phone: 620-805-8628
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Toll Free: 1-866-815-5404

Joe Gonzales, College Access Advisor

Websites:  
1) kkgu.org  
2) www.wichita.edu/gearup

Working out of the Garden City Office, Joe has been with Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP for ten years serving students and assisting them with high school graduation, entrance in to college and improving their skills.
Like people, colleges and universities are diverse. Each one has unique features. This is great news for a student trying to find the right fit. Think about the following questions to have a better idea of where and what to consider when selecting your top seven choices.

1) **Major.** Some students already know which major to pursue but many do not. An undeclared major is not a deal-breaker when choosing a university. Part of what college is all about is trying different interests to see what fits.

2) **Location.** Do you like large cities, small towns, rural locations? Do you like the mountains, the desert, the beach, or a place that reminds you of home?

3) **Weather.** Do you like all four seasons or even temperatures year round? Do you prefer warmer or cooler climates? Do you like sun or rain? Check towns online for their typical climate.

4) **Public or Private.** Religious colleges are usually private. Public state universities are sometimes cheaper. Before deciding, check with each school and see what kind of financial package they will offer.

5) **Personality.** There are people who like to jump in with both feet and those that want to test the water with their toes first. Students who don’t like to leap, may want to begin their college career at a local community college, and then transfer their credits to a four-year university. Check the policy on credit transfers before enrolling.

6) **Size.** Do you like being around many people with many activities or do you like smaller classes and less interaction with people? Do you want to know your professors and fellow students or be one among many?

7) **Housing.** First discover the college’s requirements. Are first year students required live in the dorms? Is the housing coed or are there single-sex dorms? Does the college have wellness dorms that prohibit smoking and drinking? Are there dorms for students with common interests like science, art or business?

8) **Extra activities.** What do you like to do outside of school? Do you like to play or watch sports? Is there a theater group, orchestra or choir? Is there debate team? Are there opportunities to go overseas? Is there a T.V. station?
Major Career Areas to Consider
Check the box in each career group that indicates your interest.

Human Resources/Services
Law, Public Services: Legal Services, Security, Emergency & Fire
Human Services: Counselling, Family/Community Services, Early Childhood Education/Training: Administration, Teaching, Professional Support

Industrial & Engineering Systems
Manufacturing: Production, Process Development, Logistics, Sales, Transportation, Warehousing
Architecture: Construction, Design
Science/Technology/Mathematics: Engineering, Investigative Science
Transportation: Maintenance, Health/Safety, Logistics, Environmental Management, Infrastructure

Agriculture, Food, Natural Resources
Agribusiness, Animals
Environmental Services, Plants
Power, Structural, Technical Systems

Health Science/Medicine
Diagnostic or Therapeutic Services
Nurse, Doctor, Dentist
Biotechnology Research, Health Information

Business Marketing/Management
Finance: Banking, Investing, Insurance
Hospitality: Lodging, Travel/Tourism, Restaurants, Recreation, Attractions
Management & Administration: Business Analysis, Financial Management, Human Resources
Marketing & Sales: e-Marketing, Buying, Logistics, Entrepreneurship, Communications and Promotion

Arts, Communication, Information
Information Technology: Support/Service, Interactive Media, Network Systems, Software Development
Arts, Audio/Visual, Communications: Journalism/Broadcasting, Performing Arts, Printing Techniques, Telecommunications, Visual Arts, Audio/Video Techniques
GEAR UP Would Like to Say Thank You to Our Partners!

- 16th Judicial Juvenile Services
- 20th Judicial District Juvenile Services
- Barton County Academy/ESDACK
- Barton County Youth Care
- Barton County YMCA
- Dodge City Alternative Education
- Dodge City High School
- Garden City Public Schools
- Millie Burris
- Shafer Art Gallery
- St. Francis Community Services
- USD 428 - Great Bend
- USD 489 - Hays