



# COLLEGE

It's not a dream, it's a plan.





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Why do we what we do?

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Oregon GEAR UP believes that  
**Victor Alvarez**  
has the potential and determination to  
become a(n)  
**Engineer**  
Awarded on 2-22-17  
The Students. The Community. The Future. **GEAR UP** 

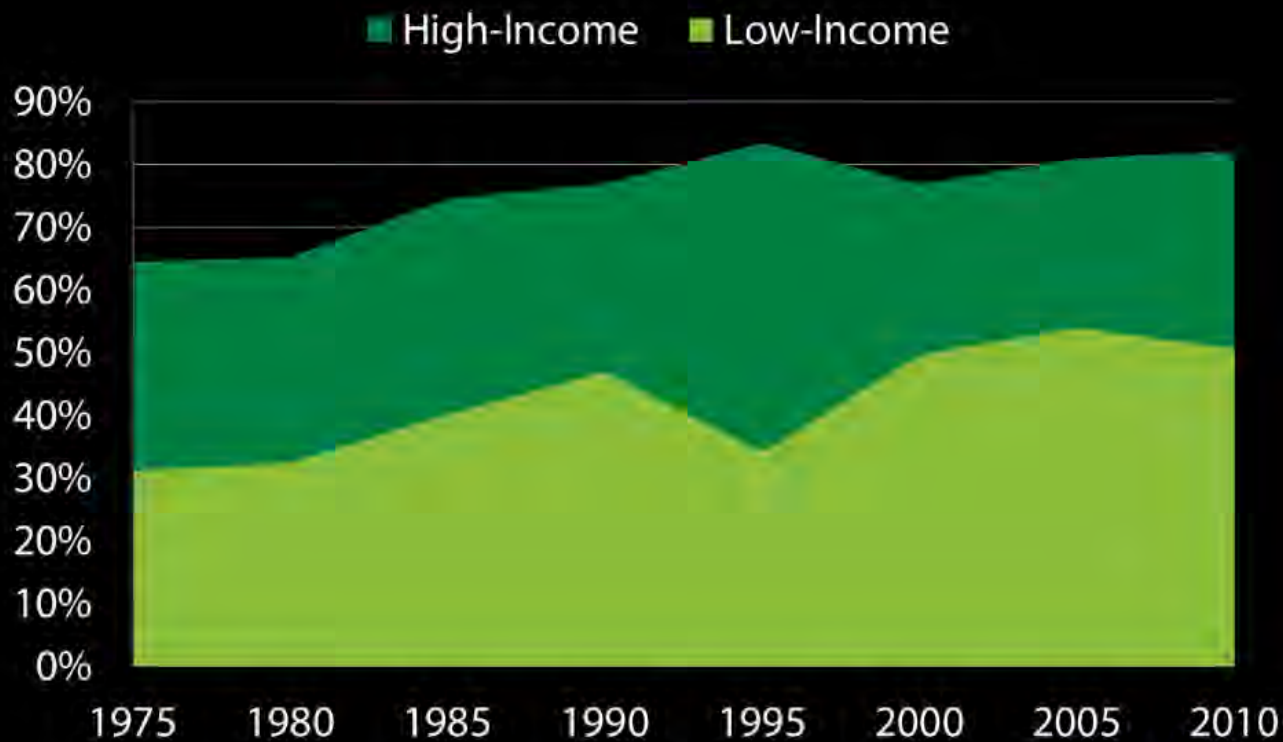
2014-15 GEAR UP Baseline Data



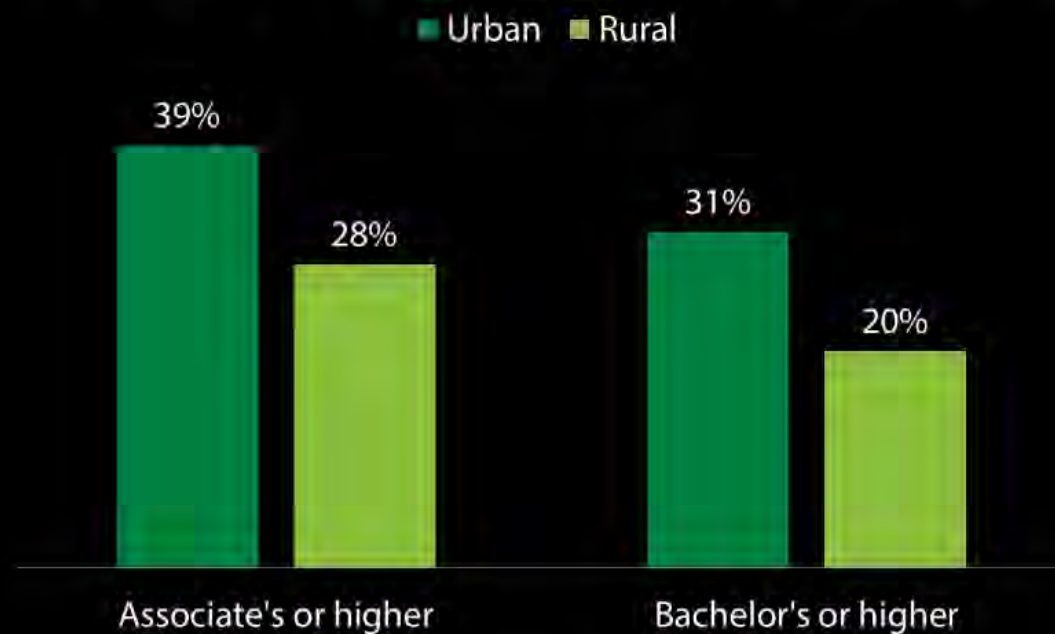
92% of middle and high school students expected to go to college

44% of seniors enrolled in college at any time

# College Enrollment By Income



# Educational Attainment

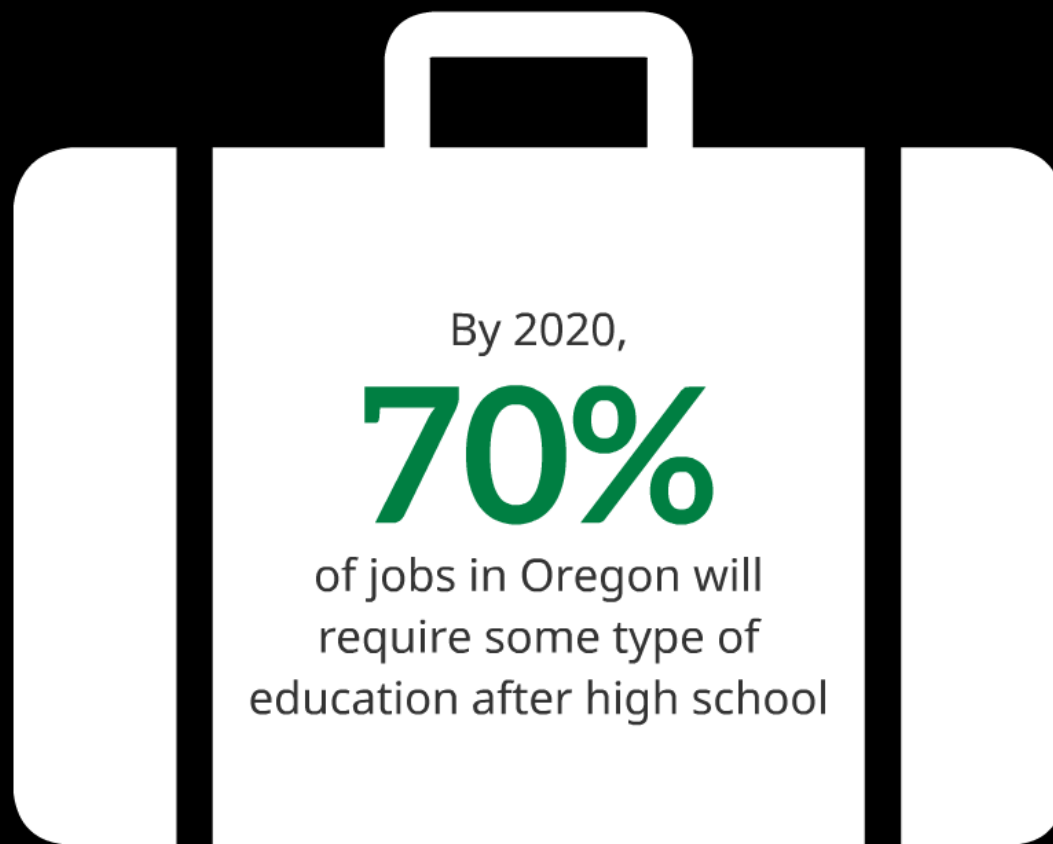




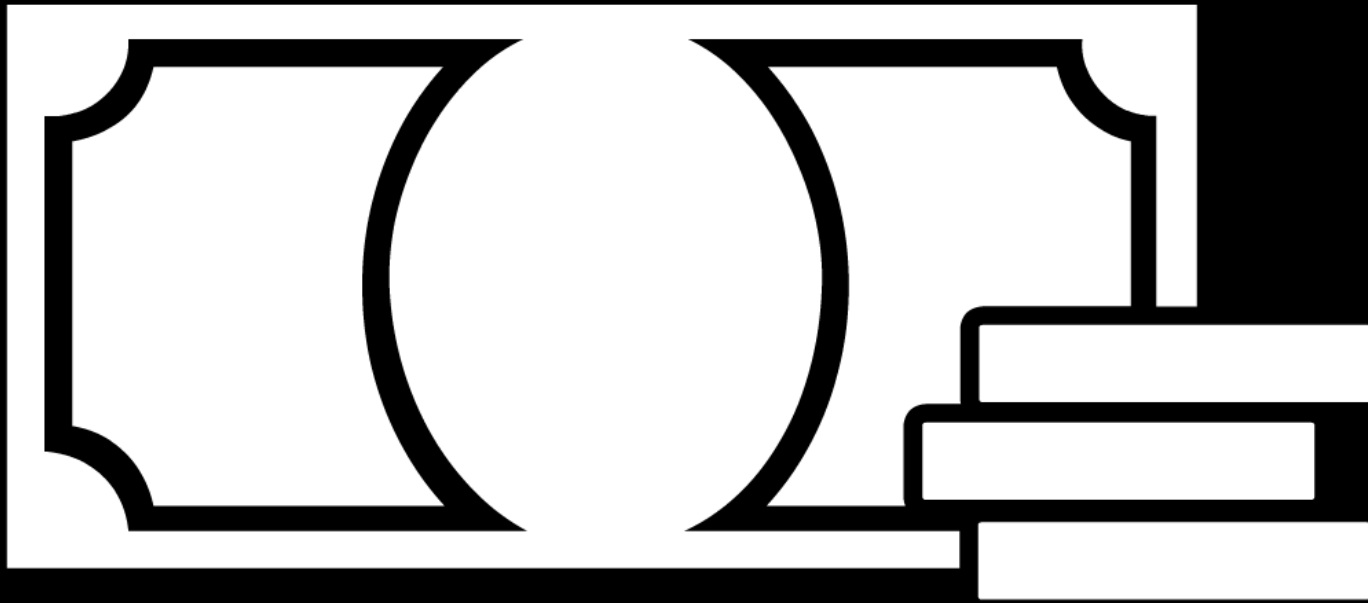
Why is college\* so important?

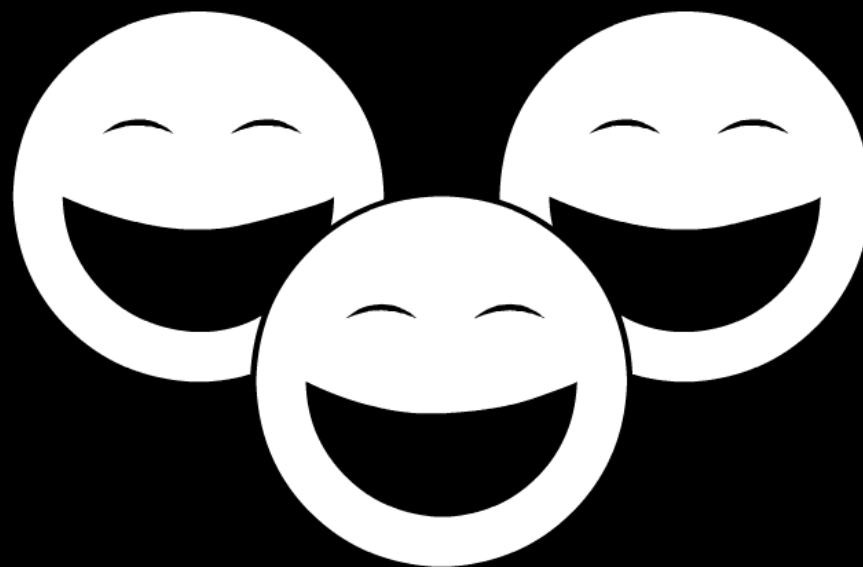


When we say "college", we mean any type of education or training after high school - not just a 2-year or 4-year degree.



The **more** education, the **greater** the earnings.





College graduates have **greater**  
career satisfaction and are  
**more likely** to view their work  
as important.



College graduates are also **more likely** to **vote, volunteer, give blood,** and **be healthy and exercise.**

# OREGON GEARUP





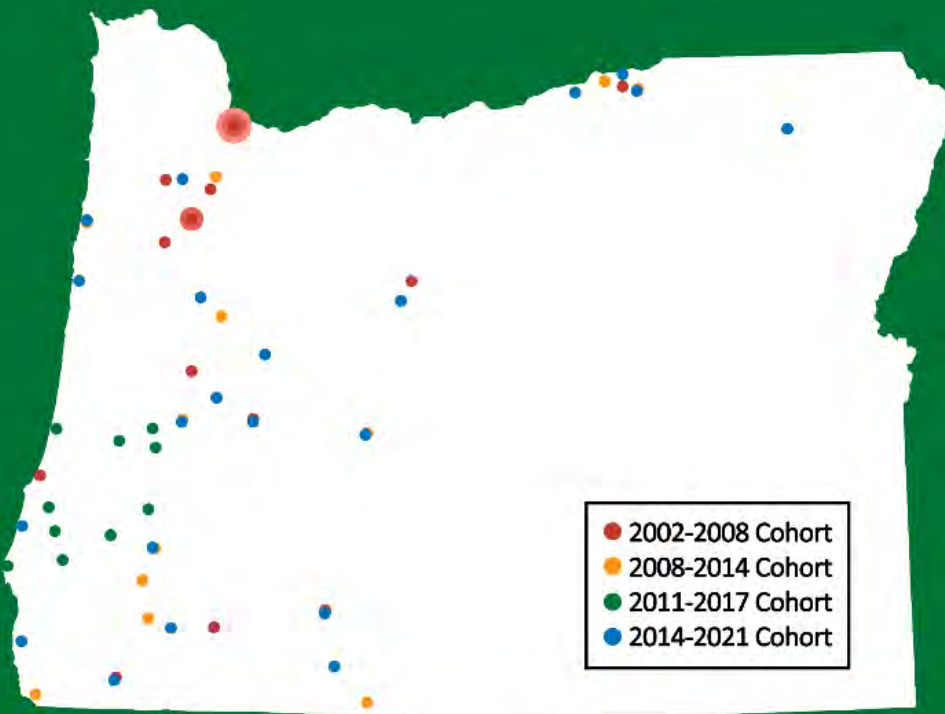
GEAR UP stands for  
Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness  
for Undergraduate Programs



## Our Goal

To increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary programs.





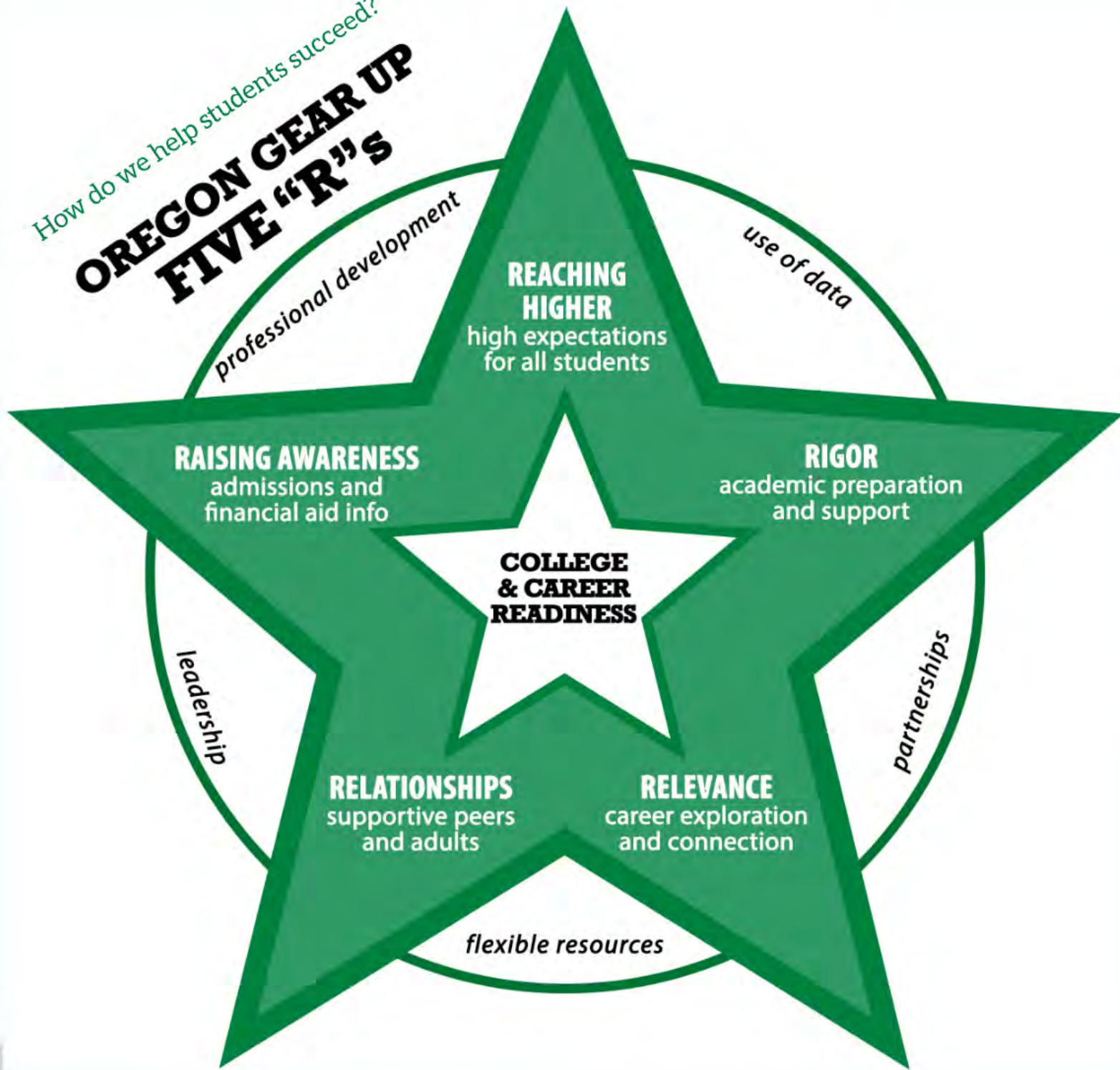
## Our Reach

GEAR UP works with selected middle and high schools across the state, providing funding and assistance to create a college-going culture.

How do we help students succeed?

# **OREGON GEAR UP FIVE “R”s**

How do we help students succeed?  
**OREGON GEAR UP  
FIVE "R"'S**



ment

**REACHING  
HIGHER**  
high expectations  
for all students

When teachers have high expectations for students, students build self-esteem, increase confidence and improve academic performance.



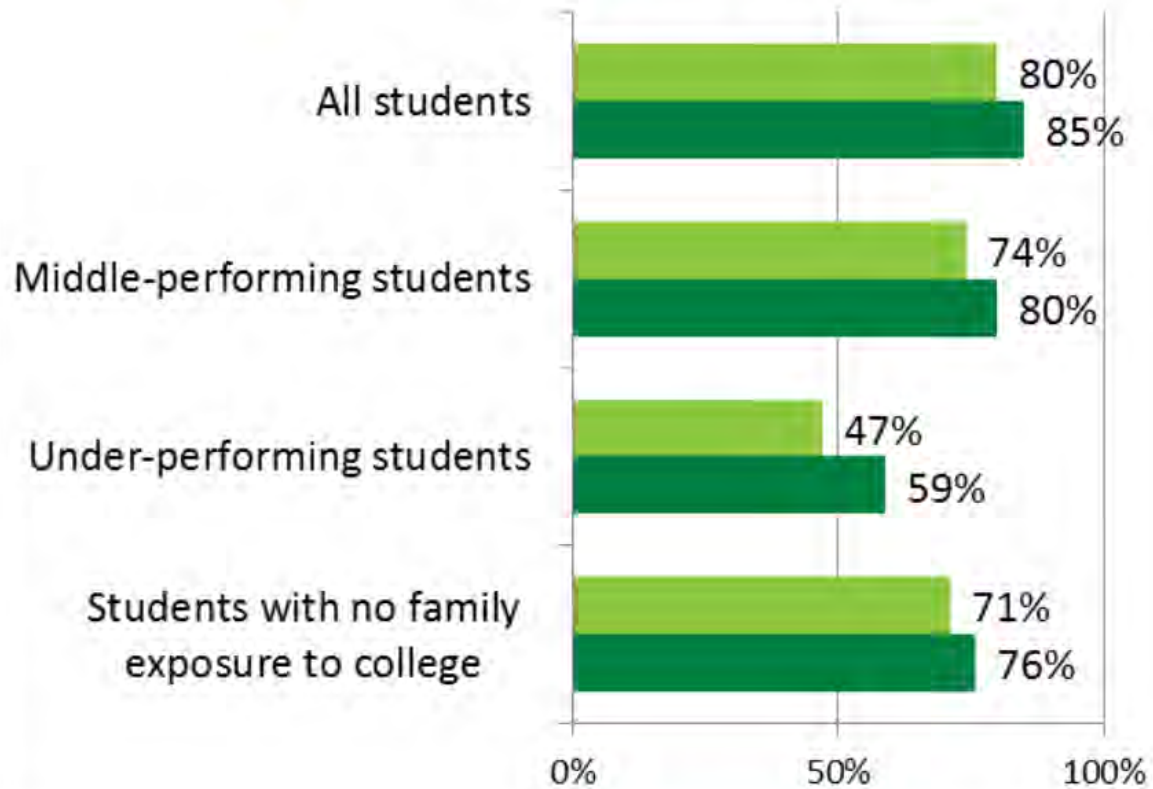


## Sample Activities

- Prominently display postsecondary plans of all graduating seniors.
- Prepare all educators to coach students to take the right classes necessary for their postsecondary goals.
- Host college student/alumni panels to discuss obstacles faced in accessing postsecondary education and how to overcome barriers.

### (FORD) Percentage of students who expect to complete a 2-year or 4-year degree

■ Year 1: 2011-12 ■ Year 5: 2015-16



"I think for a lot of kids, they don't think college is an option but **GEAR UP helps them see that it is within their reach.**"

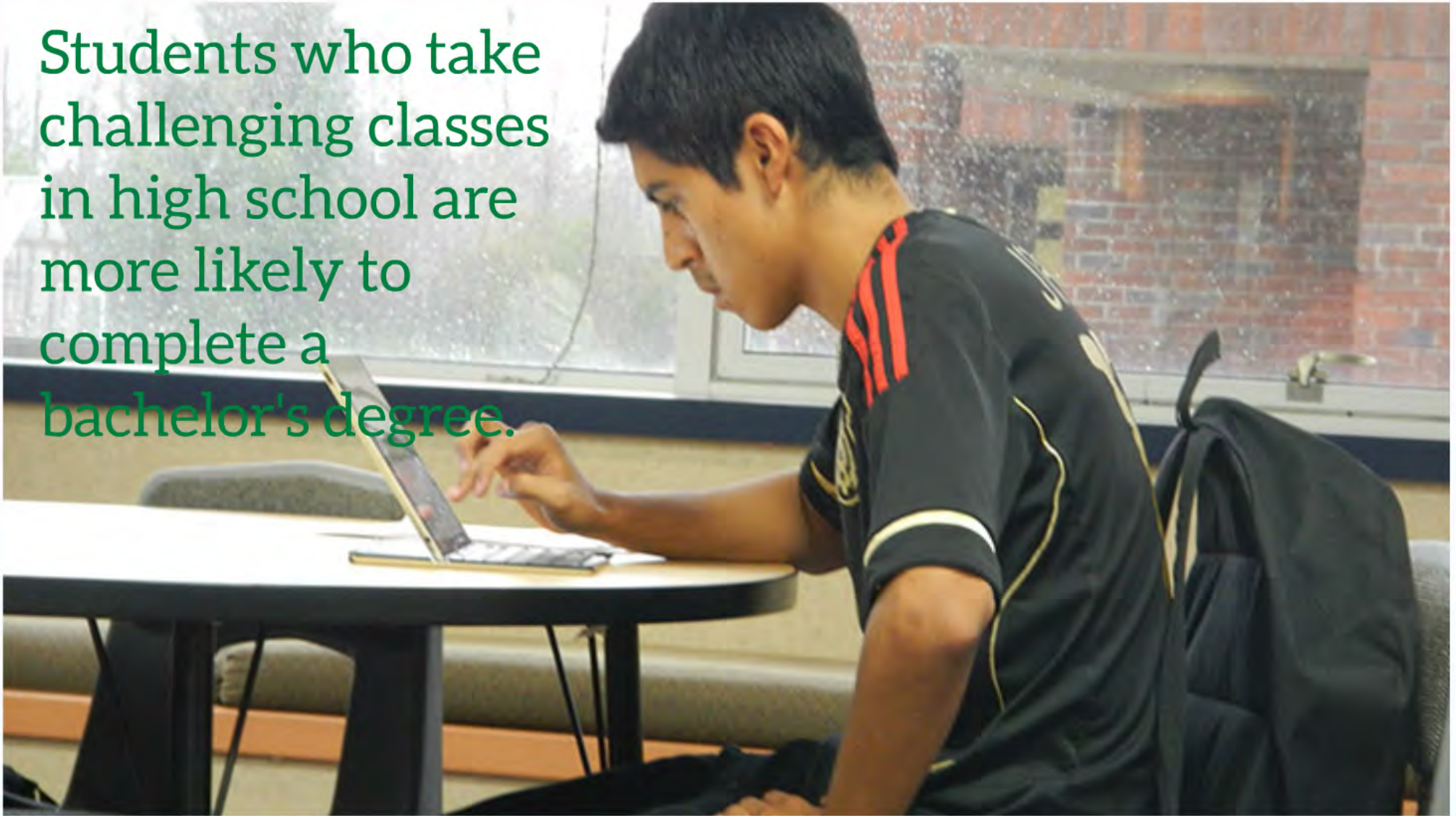
*Parent, Pacific High School*



# **RIGOR**

academic preparation  
and support

Students who take challenging classes in high school are more likely to complete a bachelor's degree.

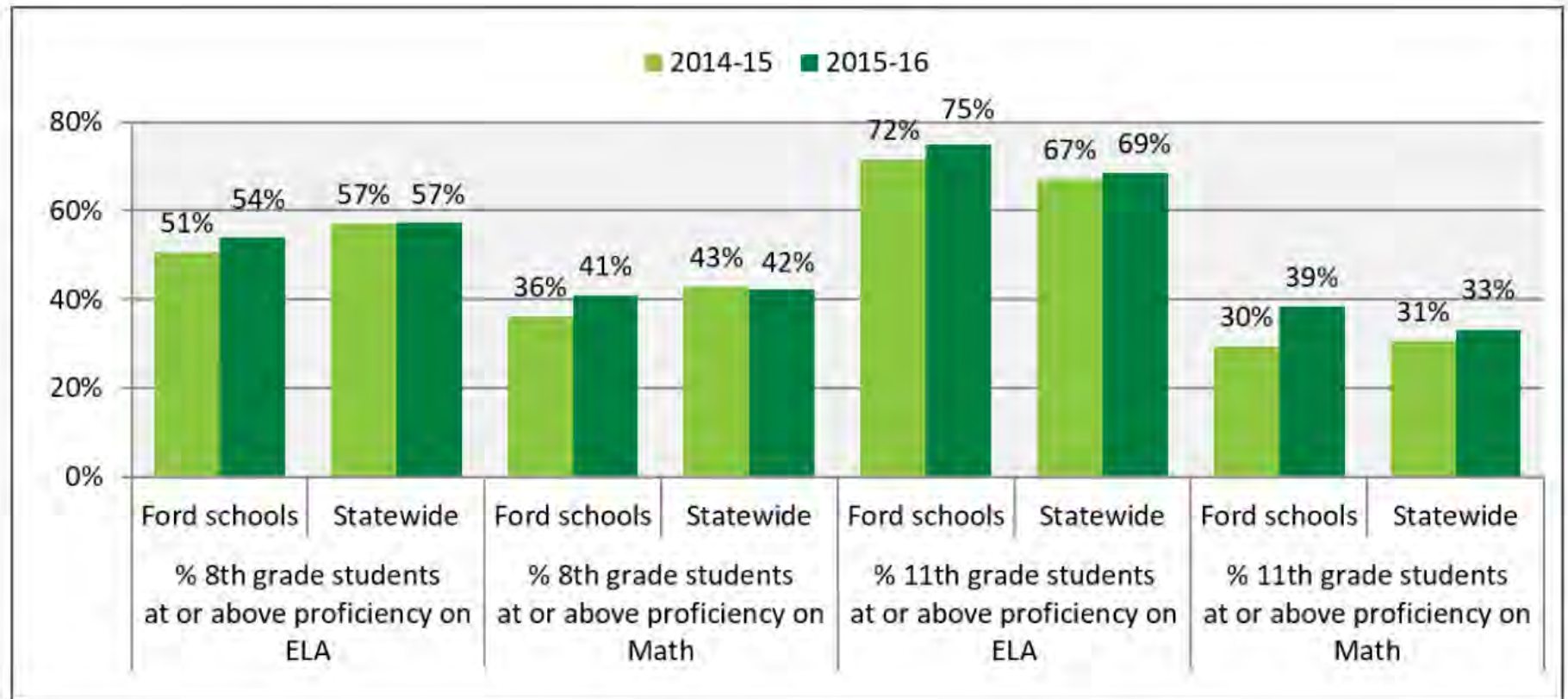




## Sample Activities

- Offer dual credit and AP classes for all students
- Provide additional tutoring and academic support
- Provide professional development for teachers

# Gains in Academic Performance




“As a result [of the growth mindset training], I have changed the way I instruct students with varying needs. In the end, **more students are able to master the skills being taught.**”

*Educator*

# RELEVANCE

career exploration  
and connection

A young woman with blonde hair, wearing a blue shirt, is looking intently at a clear plastic container filled with water and several colorful crayfish. A hand from another person is visible, holding a pipette over the container. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people in a laboratory or classroom setting.

High school graduates who expect they will need a college degree for the career they are interested in are more than six times as likely to earn their bachelor's degrees.



## Sample Activities

- Partner with community businesses and professionals to offer a career fair or guest speaker series.
- Offer service-learning and work-based learning opportunities.



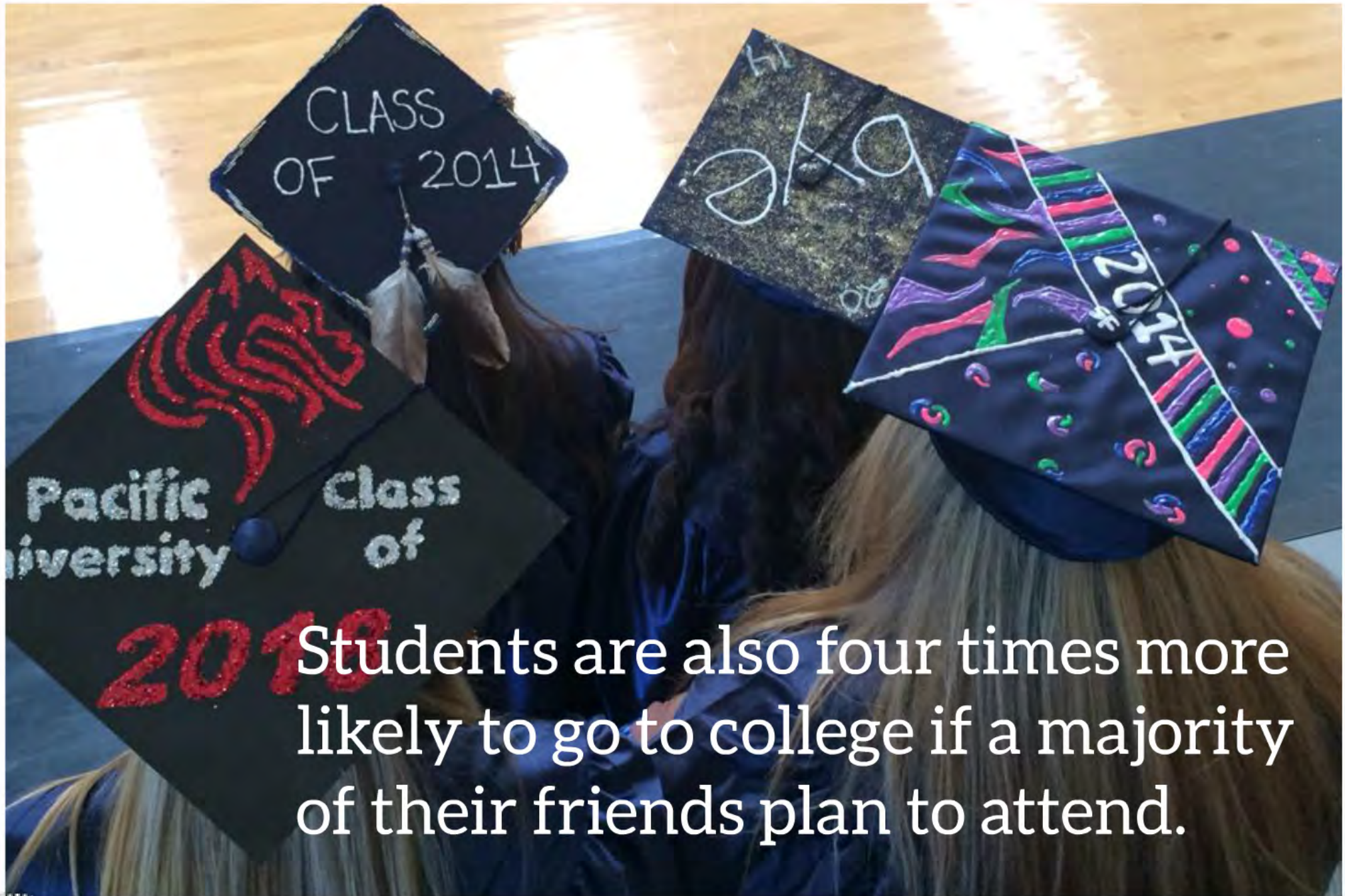
"There's been a lot more connections in the community than in the past...bringing industry partners to really change the mindset of the kids, so **they can see how this connects to the outside world and possible career opportunities.**"

*Educator, Dayton High School*

# RELATIONSHIPS

supportive peers  
and adults

Students whose parents support and encourage them to go to college are more likely to attend.



Students are also four times more likely to go to college if a majority of their friends plan to attend.

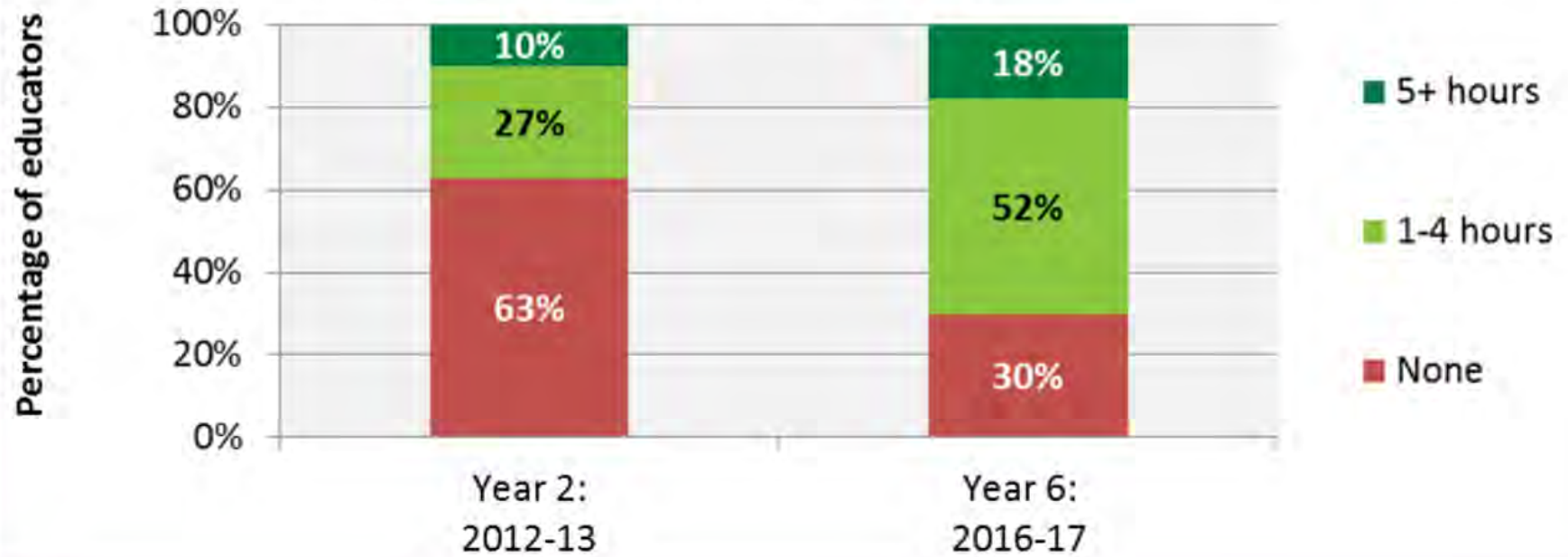


## Sample Activities

- Develop student organizations focused on academics and college attendance.
- Create mentoring programs using adults, college students or high school students as mentors.
- Engage families in college access activities.

### EDUCATOR INVOLVEMENT (FORD SCHOOLS)

*On average, how many hours do you spend each month in college and career readiness activities?*



**"I feel really well supported [by GEAR UP].**

I think starting in middle school  
was a great idea."


*Parent, La Pine High School*

p1

# RAISING AWARENESS

admissions and  
financial aid info



A photograph of a woman with short brown hair, wearing a brown top, sitting in a classroom and talking to a man in a red and white plaid shirt. The man is sitting at a desk with a green folder and has his hand to his chin, listening. Other students are visible in the background, some wearing orange lanyards. The text "Informing and assisting students and families with the college application and financial aid process increases college enrollment." is overlaid on the image in white font.

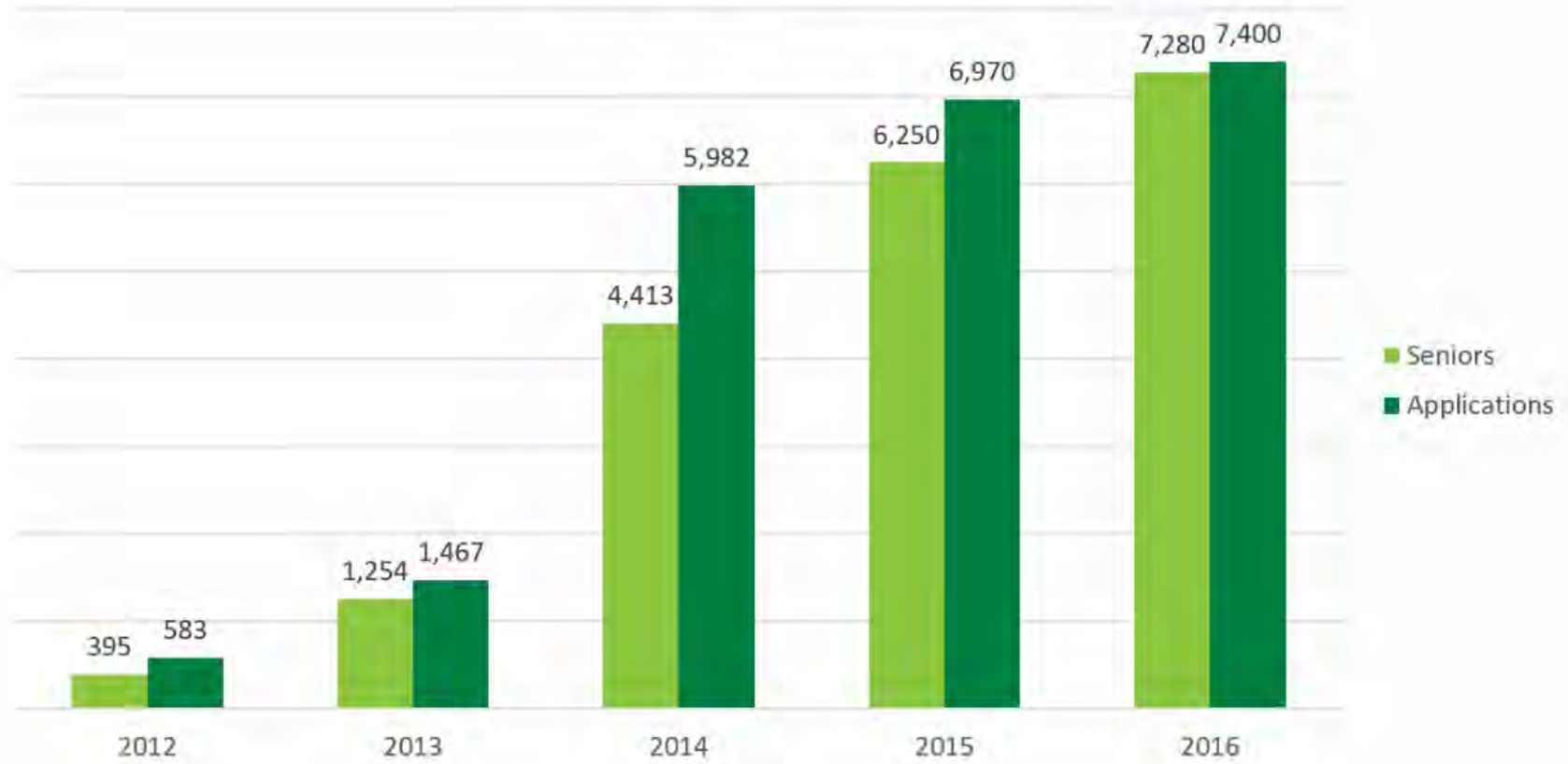
Informing and assisting students and families with the college application and financial aid process increases college enrollment.



# Sample Activities

- Take students and their families on college visits.
- Provide help with college applications, financial aid forms, and applying for scholarships.

## College Application Week

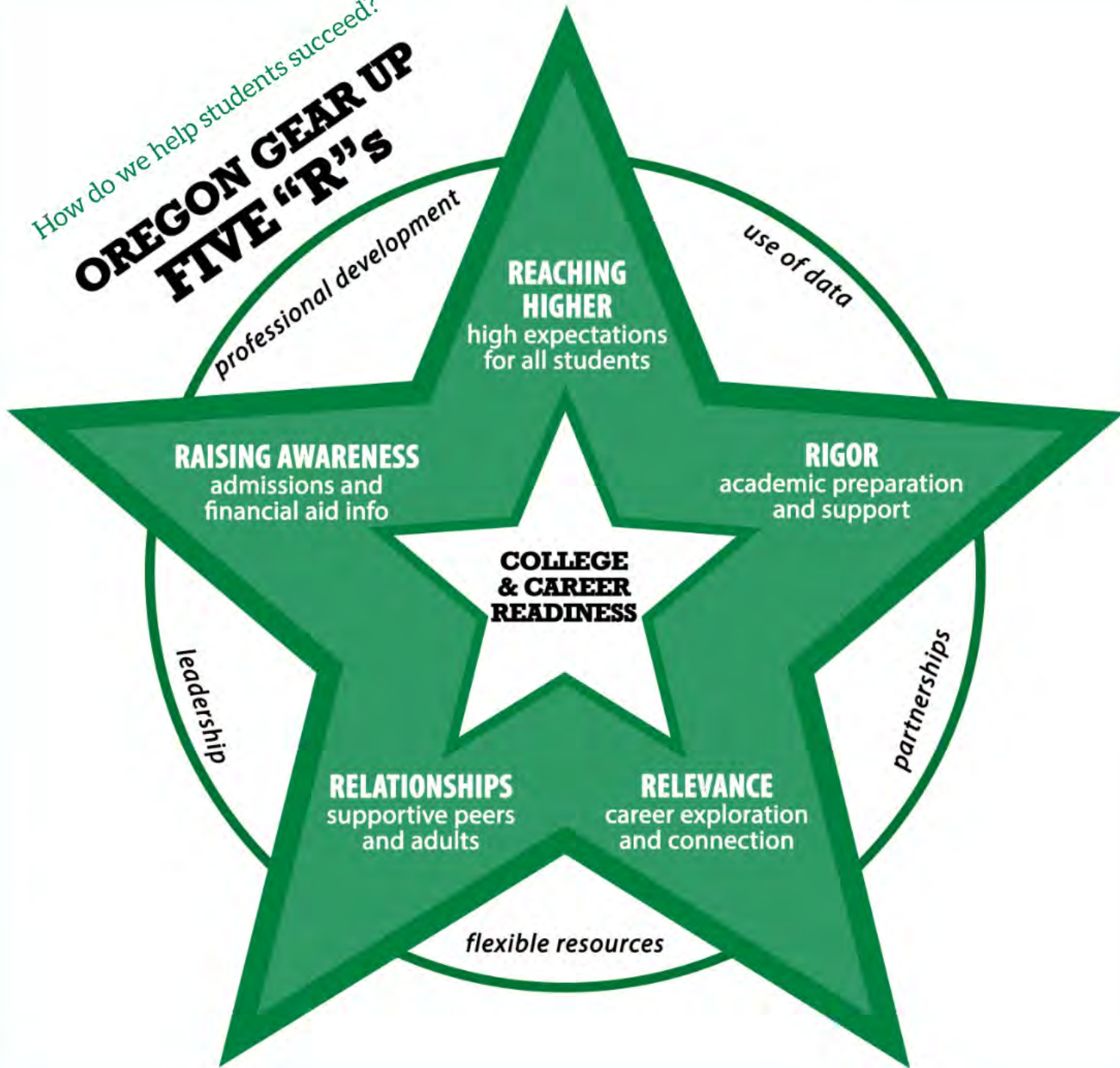


"I'm going to Oregon State. With GEAR UP I got to see the campus and **that really helped me figure out if that was where I really wanted to go.**"

*Student, Yoncalla High School*

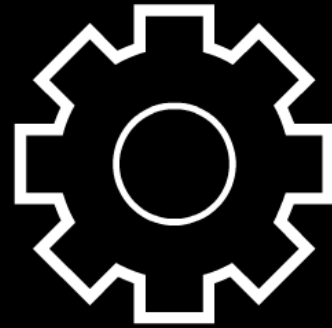


How do we help students succeed?  
**OREGON GEAR UP  
FIVE "R" S**





YouTube



# Statewide Resources

- Weekly newsletter
- Toolkits and publications
- Oregon Goes To College



## Future Goals

- Maintain bipartisan national support
- Scale GEAR UP to more schools





oregongearup.org

oregongoestocollege.org



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