



gear up iowa  
Iowa College Aid

#### Our Mission

We advocate for and help Iowa students and their families as they explore, finance and complete educational opportunities beyond high school.



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# GEAR UP Iowa Scholarship



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[GEARUPiowa.gov](http://GEARUPiowa.gov)

## GEAR UP Iowa Scholarship

The GEAR UP Iowa Scholarship provides awards of up to \$2,600 per year (\$1,300/semester) to full-time students who are part of the GEAR UP Iowa cohort. Scholarship funds can be used to pay costs included in the college's official cost of attendance, including:

- Tuition/fees
- Room/board
- Books/supplies
- Personal/living expenses
- Transportation

### Scholarship requirements Include:

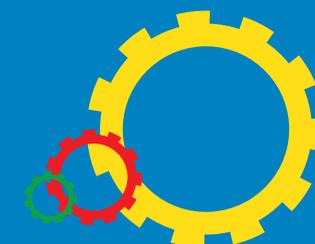
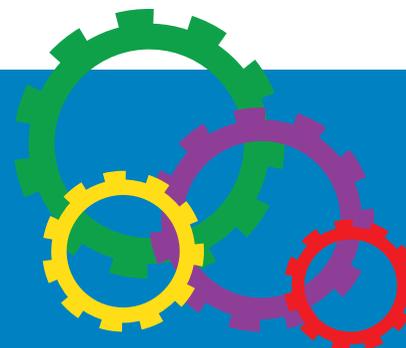
- Complete a high school diploma, GED or home school diploma
- Be a GEAR UP Iowa Program participant, as certified by GEAR UP Iowa staff at Iowa College Aid
- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen as defined by the FAFSA
- Attend a Title IV college/university\* either in Iowa or out-of-state
- Be under the age of 22 the first year the scholarship is received
- Complete a FAFSA
- Enroll in at least three semester hours (or trimester or quarter equivalent) in an eligible Title IV undergraduate program of study\*\*

\*A Title IV college/university is one that participates in Federal Student Aid programs. You can search for Title IV institutions on the FAFSA website, [www.FAFSA.ed.gov](http://www.FAFSA.ed.gov), by entering information about the college (state, city and/or name.)

\*\*A Title IV program is one that is eligible to receive Federal Student Aid funds. You can find out if the program you plan to enroll in is a Title IV program by contacting the college's financial aid office and speaking with a financial aid advisor.



430 East Grand Avenue, FL 3  
Des Moines, IA 50309-1920  
877-272-4456 or 515-725-3400  
Fax: 515-725-3401  
[www.IowaCollegeAid.gov](http://www.IowaCollegeAid.gov)  
[www.GEARUPiowa.gov](http://www.GEARUPiowa.gov)



# GEAR UP IOWA SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

1. You must apply for and gain admission to an eligible college or university.
2. You must enroll in an eligible Title IV undergraduate program of study.
3. Iowa College Aid will send your scholarship funds to the college you list first on your FAFSA. If you decide to attend a different college, please notify Iowa College Aid by calling 877-272-4456, option two or emailing [grants@iowacollegeaid.gov](mailto:grants@iowacollegeaid.gov) and use the subject line "GEAR UP Scholarship".
4. You must file a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and provide your college financial aid office with all requested documents.
5. Once Iowa College Aid receives your FAFSA results AND verifies that you are a GEAR UP Iowa student, you will receive a confirmation e-mail at the e-mail address listed on your FAFSA. The earliest you will receive an e-mail confirmation is April 2014.
6. Iowa College Aid will work with your college during the spring and summer months to ensure funds are available for disbursement in the fall. Your scholarship funds will be sent directly to the college once Iowa College Aid receives confirmation from your college that you are attending.



## OTHER SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

- Ask your school counselor about local opportunities and organizations that have awarded scholarships to prior graduates.

- Use web-based scholarship searches such as:

- o [www.IHaveAPlanIowa.gov](http://www.IHaveAPlanIowa.gov)
- o [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- o <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>
- o <http://scholarshipamerica.org>
- o <http://www.collegegreenlight.com/>
- o [www.IowaCollegeAid.gov](http://www.IowaCollegeAid.gov) (select the Featured Scholarships button)

- Contact the college or postsecondary institution you plan to attend and ask for information about any scholarship for which you may qualify.

- For state scholarship opportunities, complete the Iowa Financial Aid Application at [www.iowacollegeaid.gov](http://www.iowacollegeaid.gov).

## SUBSEQUENT YEARS AWARDING CRITERIA:

The GEAR UP Iowa Scholarship can be renewed to fund subsequent years of undergraduate enrollment as long as:

- Funding allows
- You meet Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements at your College/University
- You complete a FAFSA annually (If you live out of state, you also need to complete a paper scholarship application annually)



For more information on the GEAR UP Iowa Scholarship, contact [gearup@iowa.gov](mailto:gearup@iowa.gov) or call 877-272-4456 and press two to speak with a GEAR UP representative.

