



## **SD GEAR UP Honors Program 2010**

### **Cohort 17**

*June 5, 2010-July 18, 2010*

#### **South Dakota GEAR UP HONORS PROGRAM NEW STUDENT APPLICATION**

The South Dakota Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs Summer Honors Program is a six-week, residential, pre-college enrichment program designed for High School students who desire to succeed in higher education.

**ELIGIBILITY** – All students **currently in the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) grade** that demonstrate a desire for academic achievement are eligible. The SD GEAR UP Honors Program and the Oceti Sakowin Education Consortium prohibit discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, disability, and political beliefs.

***Students selected to participate in the program will be required to live in a residential, higher education setting for the entire six-week period, over four consecutive summers. SD GEAR UP summer honors program is contingent based upon annual funding from the US Department of Education.***

**PLEASE NOTE:** Participants selected are expected to commit to all aspects and requirements of the programs. Students and parents please understand that all students are required to complete any and all missed assignments and/or projects that have been assigned to them regardless of the reason they have missed days. Parents/guardians of students selected to the SD GEAR UP Honors Program who are participating or supporting family in spiritual/religious ceremonies or family events are asked to notify staff when their students will be gone during the summer registration process. During the academic year in order to continue participating in the SD GEAR UP Honors Summer Program, participants will be required to maintain a high level of academic achievement, participate in middle-to-high school mentoring activities, and complete rigorous college readiness coursework. **COST** – Student instructional costs, room and board, books and supplies will be provided.

#### **APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

- The student shall have thoroughly completed all sections of the application, including personal information, questions 1-21 and the medical release information on the final page. **Incomplete applications will NOT be reviewed.** Neatness of the application is important.
- A student's core teachers [English, Math, Science and Social Studies] **MUST** complete at least one of the recommendation forms. No exceptions. Counselors, principal, etc. can complete other recommendation forms. Recommenders should seal recommendation in envelope and sign sealed area.
- Student selection will be based upon writing ability and a desire to prepare for higher education demonstrated in questions 15-22 (32%), academic performance and attendance record (30%), and two recommendations (30%), and parental/guardian commitment form (8%).

**APPLICATION DEADLINE** – Applications must be postmarked by **MARCH 26, 2010**. Applications postmarked after this date will **not** be reviewed. Applicants will be notified during the middle of April about the status of their application. For questions please contact Cassie Brewer at 605-209-8665 or email: [cassiebrewer@gmail.com](mailto:cassiebrewer@gmail.com) or Leslie Heathershaw at 605-441-1636 or email [leslieheathershaw@gmail.com](mailto:leslieheathershaw@gmail.com)  
Applications should be mailed to:

SD GEAR UP Honors Program  
Oceti Sakowin Education Consortium  
P.O. Box 731  
Kyle, SD 57752

*The SD GEAR UP Honors Program is made possible through a grant from the United States Department of Education sponsored in cooperation with the State of South Dakota, South Dakota Department of Education and Oceti Sakowin Education Consortium.*

**Application for new students to enter 2010 SD GEAR UP Summer Honors Program**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Present Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Point Average (GPA) as reported on your most recent grade report: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Telephone Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Gender: Male Female Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Education Level of Parents/Guardian (Please circle one for each parent/guardian; *this is not used as an admissions requirement for the SD GEAR UP Honors Program*).

Mother/Female Guardian: Less than H.S. H.S./GED A.A Degree Bachelor's or Higher

Father/Male Guardian: Less than H.S. H.S./GED A.A Degree Bachelor's or Higher

8. Ethnicity: Amer. Ind. White Black Hispanic Asian/Pacific

List Tribal Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

*If applicable, please include a copy of your Degree Of Indian Blood. (This is not used as an admissions requirement for the SD GEAR UP Honors Program).*

9. School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

10. School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

11. School Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Guidance Counselor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

13. Do you currently qualify for your school's Free or Reduced Lunch Program (*This is not used as an admission requirement for the SD GEAR UP Honors Program*)?

Yes No

14. Have you ever participated in any other GEAR UP activities? Circle all that apply:

Summer Program 2007 Summer Program 2008 Summer Program 2009 After School Tutoring

School Mentoring College Visits Other Gear Up Activities (list) \_\_\_\_\_

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APPLICANT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**For the remaining questions please use additional paper. Be sure to write your name and the question number on each of the additional sheets and submit them with your application.**

15. In what two subjects in school do you feel you do your best work? Explain why.

a. \_\_\_\_\_ b. \_\_\_\_\_

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16. Please list any extra-curricular activities, academic organizations and activities you participate in; for example, sports, student organizations, cultural activities (language, dancing, drum groups), or community volunteerism.


17. Please list any awards and/or recognition you have received and the date. (honor rolls, science fairs, most valuable player, etc.)


18. Discuss leadership positions you have taken in your school, community, church, athletics, with your friends, etc. How and why did you become a leader in this area?

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APPLICANT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

19. Please provide a brief description of your background.

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20. How will the math and science courses you take in high school prepare you for success in college?

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21. In relation to college and a career, what are your short term and long-term goals? Discuss the steps you will need to complete in order to achieve these goals. How do you think your participation in this program will benefit you as you pursue these goals?

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22. How do you think your participation in the SD GEAR UP Honors Program will benefit you in preparation for college and in relation to achieving your goals?

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## Parental/Guardian Survey and Commitment Form

The Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) is a program funded by the United States Department of Education to the South Dakota Department of Education. **The goal of the SD GEAR UP Program is to increase the number of students that are prepared to graduate from college.** SD GEARUP Program seeks to accomplish this goal by collaborating with twenty-four middle schools and fourteen high schools, most of which are on Native American reservations in South Dakota. A specific focus of SD GEAR UP is to increase the number of Native American students that achieve success in South Dakota Board of Regents (BOR) institutions.

SD GEAR UP is an innovative, cohort-oriented program that focuses on providing students and their families pathways and information that lead to success in college. SD GEAR UP Honors is a modified version of a residential pre-college enrichment summer program that has targeted students in grades 9-12 since 1992. Students who have completed four years of the high school Honors Program have historically had a 100% graduation rate from high school and a college entrance rate of 85%.

Data collected since 1992 indicates that students who complete the full four-year commitment in the high school summer program have the best chances for success in college. The format of the SD GEAR UP Honors Program builds upon each successive year and students add more knowledge and experiences that will guide them to success in college. SD GEAR UP provides a proven road map to success in higher education for those students that participate. Information, experiences, and opportunities are provided to students, but the support of families and the dedication of our students has been the foundation for the success of this program. The program format is only a vehicle that can take students to graduate from college; the true drivers and navigators of a student's college education are the parents/guardians.

It is important to note that SD GEAR UP Honors only places students into the program the summer after their eighth grade school year. If a student attends his or her first summer, but does not attend the second, third, or fourth summer, then the student's spot is not refilled. Each year over half of the students who apply but do not make it into the program are placed on alternate lists, but most of these do not ever get a chance to be in the program. If your student gets into the program and then does not return each year, a slot is wasted. Please encourage and help your students to understand that it does take a long-term commitment to participate in the program, but the long-term benefits of participation are substantial.

I understand that \_\_\_\_\_ (student's name) is applying to the SD GEAR UP Honors Summer residential program. As the parent/guardian of a student applying for the SD GEAR UP Honors Program, I realize that both my student and I have commitments, such as ensuring transportation to the summer sessions, completing required documents, and completing program and school requirements. These commitments will be requested from my student and me during the summer and academic year over the next four years. My signature indicates that I will do all I can do to support and encourage my student in his or her path to higher education. This includes working with my student during the school year to make sure they enroll in college preparatory courses and completing any documentation that will be needed to continue monitoring my student's progress.

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Phone Numbers \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Work Mobile

Parent/Guardian Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street or Box Number City State Zip Code

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## SD GEAR UP Honors Program Student RECOMMENDATION FORM

❖ Two recommendation forms are required.

**Recommender:** Please answer the following questions about the SD GEAR UP Honors Program applicant, as you know them. At least one recommendation must be from a core teacher (i.e. math, science, social studies, English) and the other recommendation can be from a teacher, counselor, principal, or other person. Please seal the completed recommendation in an envelope and sign the sealed area before returning to applicant.

Recommender Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position/Content area \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

1. What are the student's academic strengths in comparison with peers? Please rate their academic performance.

<b>BELOW AVERAGE</b>	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>ABOVE AVERAGE</b>	<b>VERY GOOD</b>	<b>EXTRAORDINARY</b>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please explain:

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2. Has the student shown interest in learning more about leadership and taking on leadership roles formally or informally? Does the student seem confident in handling new situations or challenges?

<b>BELOW AVERAGE</b>	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>ABOVE AVERAGE</b>	<b>VERY GOOD</b>	<b>EXTRAORDINARY</b>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please explain:

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Recommender Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position/Content area \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

1. What are the student's academic strengths in comparison with peers? Please rate their academic performance.

**BELOW AVERAGE      AVERAGE      ABOVE AVERAGE      VERY GOOD      EXTRAORDINARY**  
                                                                                       

Please explain:

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2. Has the student shown interest in learning more about leadership and taking on leadership roles formally or informally? Does the student seem confident in handling new situations or challenges?

**BELOW AVERAGE      AVERAGE      ABOVE AVERAGE      VERY GOOD      EXTRAORDINARY**  
                                                                                       

Please explain:

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3. Does the student set realistic long-term and short-term goals and manage steps to attain them?

Does the student take advantage of personal strengths and try to improve areas of weakness?

<b>BELOW AVERAGE</b>	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>ABOVE AVERAGE</b>	<b>VERY GOOD</b>	<b>EXTRAORDINARY</b>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please Explain:

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4. Has the student shown a desire to serve others and contribute to the community? Has the student been involved in or taken progressively more responsibility in the community, employment, extracurricular activity, or leadership activity?

<b>BELOW AVERAGE</b>	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>ABOVE AVERAGE</b>	<b>VERY GOOD</b>	<b>EXTRAORDINARY</b>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please explain:

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5. Please provide the most compelling reason you believe the student should be selected for the SD GEAR UP Honors Program.

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Recommender  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_