



National Council for Community and Education Partnerships

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February 10, 2025

Ms. Melissa López
Administrator
Office of College, Career and Life Readiness
Region One Education Service Center
1900 W. Schunior
Edinburg, TX 78541

Dear Ms. López:

I am writing to provide an overview of the services that the National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP) provides for the Region One Education Service Center (ESC) Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) grantees.

As the national association for the federally funded GEAR UP programs, NCCEP is in a unique position to provide support in areas of professional development, evaluation, and programming.

For over a decade, NCCEP has partnered with Region One ESC GEAR UP grantees to provide quality professional development for Region One ESC administrators and educators affiliated with their GEAR UP grants. These convenings, known as the Building Leadership Institutes (BLI), require that NCCEP work closely with the Region One ESC GEAR UP leadership team to establish an agenda and plan for each convening, including identifying and securing workshop speakers and facilitators that align with grant goals and objectives.

Another service that Region One ESC GEAR UP grantees secured is participation in NCCEP's College and Career Readiness Evaluation Consortium (CCREC), a collaboration of GEAR UP grantees and national not-for-profit organizations seeking to examine the relationship between GEAR UP interventions on key secondary and postsecondary outcomes. CCREC can serve as a catalyst for improving a GEAR UP grant's research and evaluation processes.

In addition, CCREC offers an innovative learning community focused on data and evaluation. Members gain deeper knowledge on how to effectively organize, manage, and analyze data. Members learn from each other, design potential solutions to challenging issues, and lead the effort to sustain and advance GEAR UP nationally. Of note, CCREC does not provide a dollar-for-dollar in-kind match but provides a variable in-kind match annually that is distributed equally between participating members. At present, that in-kind is estimated at \$2,000.

National Council for Community and Education Partnerships – Services for Region One

Service	Description	Grant	Unit of Measure	Price	Match
Education & Training Consulting	Building Leadership Institute	GEAR UP: Choosing College, Changing Lives	2 days (6/16/2025; 6/17/2025)	\$26,919	\$26,400
Education & Training Consulting	Building Leadership Institute	Pathways to the Future	4 days (11/12/24; 3/27/2025; 6/16/2025; 6/17/2025)	\$56,187	\$59,760
Education & Training Consulting	CCREC	College Now – Career Connected	1-year (10/01/24 to 9/30/25)	\$23,450	\$2,000
Education & Training Consulting	CCREC	College Ready, Career Set!	1-year (10/01/24 to 9/30/25)	\$7,645	\$2,000

NCEP values the ongoing collaboration with Region One ESC GEAR UP grantees. For any additional information, please contact me at betty_paughortiz@edpartnerships.org.

Sincerely,



Betty Paugh Ortiz
 Vice President of Programs
 National Council for Community and Education Partnership
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 Washington DC, 20005