



Oregon GEAR UP
Oregon State University • Office of Precollege Programs
110 Snell Hall • Corvallis, OR 97331
oregongearup.org

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Oregon GEAR UP has hired Metis Associates to assist in the evaluation of the Oregon GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) project in your child's school. **GEAR UP helps students in grades 7-12 prepare for school and college and explore career options.** If you would like to learn more about Oregon GEAR UP, please visit www.oregongearup.org. We would like to find out how the program is working in schools and how it can better serve your child(ren). As a parent or guardian of a student in GEAR UP, we would like your consent in having your child participate in this study, which will take place through 2022.

Each year, we will ask GEAR UP students to complete a survey about his or her education goals, school activities, and career and college awareness. Some students may also be invited to participate in a focus group to talk about their plans for the future and the extent to which they have participated in GEAR UP activities. We will also get information from the school districts and the Oregon Department of Education, such as basic student information, attendance, grades, and state test scores. All data received will be kept confidential. We will not share individual student data or responses with anyone. We will also ask you as a parent/guardian of a GEAR UP student to complete a survey each year and you also may be invited to participate in a focus group.

Participation in the evaluation is voluntary and there are no known risks from being a part of this study. You and your child never have to answer any questions you do not want to answer. You and your child can decide not to participate in the study at any point. If you and your child decide not to participate, he or she can still be part of GEAR UP. Your child's answers will not directly affect the services you and your child receive from GEAR UP or your child's grades. We hope that your child will participate in the study so that GEAR UP can improve the services offered to students and parents. **You do not need to return this form if you approve of your child's participation.**

If you want more information about the evaluation of the Oregon GEAR UP project, please contact me at our toll-free number – (877) 638-4568. If you have questions about the rights of human subjects related to the evaluation, please contact Michael Scuello at mscuello@metisassoc.com or (877) 638-4568. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Julia Alemany, Senior Associate, Metis Associates

If you do NOT approve of your child's participation, please complete this form and return it to the main office at your child's school.

- I approve – My child may participate in the GEAR UP evaluation. **(You do not need to return this form)**
- I do NOT approve – My child may not participate in the GEAR UP evaluation.

Student's Name (print): _____ School: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____