



Sierra E. Fleenor
Director of College Access and Success
Colorado GEAR UP
303-866-4742
Sierra.fleenor@dhe.state.co.us
ColoradoGEARUP.org

Colorado GEAR UP's Early Remediation Project

How the Early Remediation Project Works

Colorado GEAR UP students in our partner middle and high schools participate in online, self-paced courses that mirror the content of the remedial courses offered in state colleges and universities. These classes are supervised by licensed teachers and are a part of the regular school day.

How do these classes benefit students?

Students work their way through the typical sequence of college remedial courses. As students complete these classes, they receive a college transcript documenting their completion of the courses. The importance of the college transcript Colorado GEAR UP partnered with Adams State University in Alamosa to create the courses and ensure our students meet the requirements of mastering the classes. When students complete the classes, they receive an Adams State transcript. GEAR UP students can then use these transcripts to enroll in college-level classes as early as grade 10.

How big is the Early Remediation Project?

Colorado GEAR UP began its early remediation pilot in the fall of 2011 in two middle schools in the Adams 14 School District. We started with 54 8th-graders in math courses. In 2013-14, we expect up to 1,300 students in grades 8, 9 and 10 will enroll in remedial math and English (reading and writing) courses in more than a dozen middle and high schools.

Results of the Early Remediation Project

In the 2012-13 school year, 692 eighth- and ninth-graders participated in 799 courses. The majority of students will pick up in their classes in the fall where they left off in the spring. More than 100 students successfully finished their first remedial class and moved into their second while one student moved into his third remedial class.

What happens next?

Colorado GEAR UP will continue to expand its remedial math courses in its partner middle and high schools. In January 2013, the pilot also added reading and writing remedial classes at three partner schools.

The bottom line

We know the students we serve—low-income and minority—are the most likely to need remediation when they enter college and the least likely to earn a degree. Our Early Remediation Project has the potential to reduce our students' remedial needs to zero while allowing them to build their college credits before graduating high school. It is the only program of its kind in the country and our outcomes are being studied by a consortium of researchers from Harvard, Stanford, Vanderbilt and the universities of Colorado, Michigan, Northern Colorado and Southern California.