



GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) offers the students, families, educators, and communities of selected SC middle and high schools services that promote academic achievement and college awareness.

Participating Schools:

Beaufort County

Battery Creek High, Whale Branch High

Charleston County

Military Magnet, St. Johns High

Clarendon County

Scott's Branch High

Colleton County

Colleton County High

Darlington County

Darlington High, Lamar High

Dillon County

Dillon High

Dorchester County

Woodland High

Florence County

Wilson High

Hampton County

Estill High

Horry County

Loris High

Jasper County

Ridgeland Hardeeville High

Lee County

Lee Central High

Marion County

Creek Bridge High, Marion High, Mullins High

Orangeburg County

Edisto High

Williamsburg County

C.E. Murray High, Hemingway High,
Kingstree High

www.scgearup.org

**What South Carolina
Counselors are Saying...**

"The on-line discussions were most valuable because I gained new ideas from others that could really benefit in my work. Some of the articles I found to be really good to use with students and parents."

-Spring 2014 Module 3 Participant

"As a classroom teacher, I enjoyed looking at the workings of a school through the eyes of guidance counselors. There is a huge difference in those two perspectives."

-Spring 2014 Module 1 Participant

"It made me find data at my school that I may not have disaggregated otherwise. It helped me to find critical groups at my school that need extra interventions to help increase their academic performance, in hopes to increase their career and college success. I also appreciated the blog entries from everyone since so many great ideas and interventions were shared."

-Spring 2014 Module 2 Participant

"I was very satisfied with the way the workshop was facilitated."

-Spring 2014 Module 1 Participant



Training materials developed by the
SREB Go Alliance.



Sponsored by:
SC Commission on Higher Education
1122 Lady Street, Suite 300
Columbia, South Carolina 29201



Recertification Courses

for **GEAR UP Graduation and Career Coaches** and other education professionals in Career and Academic counseling.

Building a College-Going Culture for All Students



Register online at:

<http://sccango.org/collaborative-counselor-training-initiative>



SOUTH CAROLINA
can go to college

sccango.org

Module One – Building a College-Going Culture for All Students

40 Renewal Credits (SC Department of Education)

This module includes an orientation and four sessions: introduction to the counselor’s role in student career and academic planning; creating a college-going mission; understanding and working with diverse populations; and communicating effectively with diverse student populations. These sessions are designed for school counselors to develop an understanding of their role in developing a college-going mission for all students, particularly students in poverty or facing other barriers in postsecondary planning. Additionally, the sessions help counselors develop approaches for communicating and working with high-poverty students and diverse populations to remove barriers to high aspirations and achievement.

During this module, counselors will learn to:

- understand and communicate the role of the school counselor across all areas to gain faculty and administrator support for the counseling program.
- advocate for the improvement of student school success and remove barriers to high aspirations and achievement.
- promote a “college-going” mission across the total school landscape.
- identify and understand how the diversity of the school cultural landscape impacts college access and success.
- develop strategies and approaches for communicating and working with diverse student and parent population.

Module Two – Early Career Awareness and Planning

40 Renewal Credits (SC Department of Education)

This module includes four sessions: engaging students in early career awareness and planning; using data to guide academic planning; helping students understand the importance of course selections and grades; and the importance of postsecondary choices and finding the right postsecondary fit. Participants will be engaged in building knowledge and skill in each of these areas, and they will engage in constructive discussions in a learning community with their colleagues during each session.

During this module, counselors will learn to:

- engage students in career awareness and planning
- guide students in academic planning to align high school courses with career interest and college planning
- use data to analyze student progress toward their career and academic goals
- guide students to discover their “best fit” and to make appropriate postsecondary and college choices

	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3
Fall 2014		•	
Spring 2015			•
Summer 2015	•		
Fall 2015	•		

Register online for each module at:

<http://sccango.org/collaborative-counselor-training-initiative>

Module Three – Financial Aid and the College Admissions Process

40 Renewal Credits (SC Department of Education)

This module includes four sessions which address financial literacy, financial aid, completing the FAFSA and preparing college applications. Parents and students need assistance in navigating the complexities of financial aid and the college admission process. The school counselor, in collaboration with principals and teachers, can guide parents and students through these processes to increase student access to college and postsecondary training. This module focuses on the counselor’s role in counseling parents and students in accessing financial aid and successful preparation and application for college admission.

During this module, counselors will learn to:

- prepare students from high-need areas and from families without prior college access for college application and success
- help parents and students overcome barriers to college access and success
- communicate the intricacies of financial aid, including terminology, to parents and students
- assist students and their parents in completing the FAFSA
- help parents and students understand the total cost of college as well as the variety of financial aid available to them
- collaborate with teachers and parents to prepare students for college admission tests
- help eligible students apply for waivers for admission tests and college application fees

FAQs

What kinds of learning materials are being used for the training?

The courses are being offered in an online format that allows counseling professionals to participate on their own schedule. Each course includes practical reading assignments, on-line & off-line activities, virtual counselor scenarios, assistance in building a resource bank that counselors can incorporate immediately into their work with students, and a culminating project appropriate for use in resumes.

How can we be sure the course content is what we need and practical to use?

In addition to the instructional design firm, the course was developed by a team of leading counseling faculty from postsecondary institutions, practicing middle and high school counselors—including the American School Counselor Association National Counselor of the Year—curriculum specialists, and other content experts.

What are the requirements?

Participants are required to complete all assigned products in this module and to participate in the each of the discussions.

Can other educators take these modules?

Yes, other educators are encouraged to review the course content to determine usefulness.

What is the cost to participate?

There is no cost for counselors to participate.*

*The courses are available free of charge to school counselors, while funds are available. The SC Commission on Higher Education reserves the right to cancel this program at any time.

QUESTIONS?

Contact:

SC Commission on Higher Education

Pre-College Youth

Office: 803-737-9758 Fax: 803-737-3610

The College Access for All Students courses were developed through the Southern Regional Education Board’s Go Alliance in cooperation with the Education Development Center, Inc. (www.edc.org) and the College Access Challenge Grant (CACG) project. The following agencies worked collaboratively to develop these modules: the Alabama Department of Education, the Delaware Higher Education Commission, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. **All renewal credits are approved by the South Carolina Department of Education.**

College Access for All Students courses were developed under a grant from the Department of Education. However, these courses do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.