

## GEAR UP locations & advisors

The main GEAR UP office is located in room #156 at **East Boston High School, 86 White Street, East Boston, MA 02128, 617\_785\_0854.**

To apply, students and parents should talk to a **GEAR UP Education Advisor** at their school:



**Sharon Lee**  
617\_823\_4528;  
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**Tanner Senter**  
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**Mario Umana Academy**  
**Maria Paredes**  
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For more information, please contact: **Grace Ajayi**, GEAR UP Program Manager, at 617\_521\_6286 or gajayi@asa.org.

*Due to federal guidelines, household income and parental information is required for the completed application. Eligibility criteria is established by the U.S. Department of Education.*



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American Student Assistance® (ASA) works with the statewide GEAR UP program to support Mario Umana Academy and East Boston High School students in graduating from high school and obtaining a higher education credential.

Navigating the road to college and career after high school can be hard, especially if you don't have anyone to guide you. GEAR UP can give you a head start on planning your next step through activities and workshops that focus on college and career readiness, financial aid, standardized testing, and scholarship opportunities.

GEAR UP



@gu\_eastboston

# WHAT IS THE BENEFIT TO YOU?

## How we work with you

GEAR UP students receive one-on-one advising to help them succeed in school and plan for college and career. Program participants can take advantage of services including:

**College admissions assistance**

**Scholarship opportunities**

**Financial aid application assistance**

**Career exploration activities**

**Interactive classroom workshops**

**Personal responsibility skills development**

**Fee waivers**

**Academic and attendance intervention and support**

**Post-secondary preparation**

**College tours and information sessions**

*\*All services are free of charge.*

## Who may participate?

7th and 8th grade students from Mario Umana Academy and high school students from East Boston High School are eligible to apply for the GEAR UP program.

**The application process includes:**

1. Meeting with a GEAR UP Education Advisor
2. Completing the application

*Participants may be eligible to receive the GEAR UP Scholarship, a last-dollar award, upon enrolling in an accredited, post-secondary institution of higher education in Massachusetts.*

**96%** 

**of our students successfully graduated high school or progressed to the next grade level.**

**Our job is to make sure YOU have every opportunity to succeed in life.**

**“GEAR UP genuinely wants to see students prosper... It was touching for GEAR UP to reach out and create workshops for not only students, but also their families.”**

–Student, East Boston High School

## Get in on the fun!

We host multiple events each year designed to help bring students together. Some of our previous educational and entertaining events include:

**Field trips to seven colleges**

**College information night**

**Financial aid night**

**Classroom workshops**

**College application celebrations**

**Decision day celebrations**

**Essay workshops**

## Parents get involved too!

Students and their families can learn together. Attend workshops to receive assistance in completing college and financial aid applications, help in choosing a school, and access to resources.



Students on a summer outing.