



Our mission

We advocate for and support Iowans as they explore, finance and complete educational opportunities beyond high school to increase family and community success.

Our motto

Because college changes everything.

Our vision

All Iowans can achieve an education beyond high school.

Our values

- Put students first
- Respect and honor the dignity of each other and all those we serve
- Uphold the public trust
- Create and nurture internal and external partnerships that benefit our customers
- Provide services to our customers that exceed expectations and address their changing needs
- Develop and empower a motivated, compassionate, professional and accountable team
- Utilize evidence-based decision-making
- Strive to improve internal and external communication and increase transparency

December 21, 2016

Iowa College Aid Programs

Iowa College Aid's annual report

Look for Iowa College Aid's annual report for FY 2016 before the end of December. In addition to a roundup of state appropriations, it includes success stories of students who have benefited from Iowa College Aid programs (like Lexis, below). The report will be available [on our website](#) as an interactive PDF or a printer-friendly download.



Success story: Headed for the Fortune 500

Lexis K. Stewart calls her experience with GEAR UP Iowa "a blessing." A 2014 graduate of John F. Kennedy High School in Cedar Rapids, she's now studying economics and finance at Tennessee State University and plans to get a master's degree. "I would like to become a CFA, a certified financial analyst," she says. "It's one of my goals to work with a Fortune 500 company as one of their top financial advisers or analysts."



Before she ever thought about a Fortune 500 career, Lexis credits GEAR UP Iowa with helping her put her own finances in order. "GEAR UP Iowa representatives helped me understand how expensive my college career could be," Lexis says. "I was taught to take advantage of the millions of dollars that were offered in scholarships. I was also informed to stay ahead of my classes and schoolwork because some scholarships have GPA requirements. GEAR UP educated me about how critical it is to fill out the FAFSA every year. As a GEAR UP student, I entered college knowing that I could leave debt-free."

Iowa College Aid holiday hours

Iowa College Aid offices will be closed Monday, December 26, and Monday, January 2.