

HBS/ASC
10/15/07

VINELAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION

GEAR UP SCHOLARSHIP POLICY (Eligibility and Removal)

The GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) Program, shall be administered, by the Vineland School District in conjunction with the Vineland Education Foundation, to determine continued participation in and eligibility for scholarship awards from the Program, consistent with the criteria set forth below.

I. ELIGIBILITY

In order for a Vineland School District student to be eligible for a GEAR UP scholarship, the student must satisfy the following requirements:

1. Enrollment for GEAR UP in Seventh or Eighth grade; subject to federal regulations, transfer students in grades 9 through 12 are not eligible.

2. Maintain a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0, as of the end of the third marking period in the senior year. GPA shall be calculated annually and students shall be advised as to their progress toward the required GPA.

3. Have no more than twelve (12) latenesses per year in high school (grades 9 through 12), consistent, however, with applicable school policy student may continue to be eligible if he/she subsequently demonstrates acceptable punctuality as of the end of the third marking period in the senior year.

4. Have no more than twelve (12) unexcused absences per year in high school consistent, however, with applicable school policy student may continue to be eligible if he/she subsequently demonstrates acceptable attendance as of the end of the third marking period in the senior year.

5. Have no more than one (1) discipline infraction per year at the level of out-of-school suspensions in high school.

6. Maintain involvement in the high school community, as demonstrated by participation in at least one (1) extra curricular activity per year in school and community service as satisfactorily demonstrated.

7. Graduating seniors must provide a letter of acceptance from a two or four-year institution of higher learning (college/technical school).

8. Fill out applicable financial aid forms in twelfth grade so that Vineland School District can determine amount of award of scholarship, which shall be determined upon a sliding economic scale.

9. Maintain continuous enrollment in Vineland School District; students who transfer out of the Vineland School District shall not be eligible for scholarship.

10. Students who are not performing satisfactorily or adhering to the requirements set forth in paragraphs two through six hereinabove, may continue in GEAR UP, but shall be deemed to be on probation. No student who continues on probation, as of the end of the third marking period in the senior year, shall be eligible for a GEAR UP scholarship.

11. Student eligibility shall be reviewed annually, consistent with the criteria set forth hereinabove. Students who are not making satisfactory progress to comply with the GEAR UP eligibility requirements are subject to removal from GEAR UP.

II. REMOVAL (FROM SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY)

Removal from GEAR UP scholarship eligibility shall occur whenever a student fails to satisfy the eligibility criteria set forth above, subject to the criteria and procedures set forth below:

1. The Superintendent or his/her designee, after consultation with the School Principal and School Guidance Counselor, shall provide to the student and his/her parent/guardian written notice of intent to remove the student thirty (30) calendar days from the date of notice.

2. The student and his/her parent/guardian and/or representative may, no later than ten (10) days after receipt of notice from the Superintendent or his/her designee, provide a written statement of reasons why he/she should not be removed from scholarship eligibility and may in writing request a conference with the Superintendent or his/her designee and Principal, which conference shall be held within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of request. The student and/or his/her parent/guardian and/or representative may produce whatever information (in writing, computer or verbal) is deemed appropriate, which information shall be considered by the Superintendent or his/her designee and Principal.

3. No later than thirty (30) calendar days following the provision of notice to remove, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall advise in writing the student and/or his/her parent/guardian that he/she has been removed or that the notice to remove has been rescinded.

4. Within ten (10) calendar days following removal from scholarship eligibility, the student and/or his/her parent/guardian and/or representative may appeal the removal to the Superintendent, who shall himself or through his designee, the Assistant Superintendent for Administration, affirm or rescind the removal and provide written

notice of such action within thirty (30) calendar days following receipt of an appeal. As part of the appeal process the student and/or his/her parent/guardian and/or representative may request and be granted a conference with the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent and provide whatever information (in writing, computer or verbal) is deemed appropriate.

5. The Superintendent or his designee may rescind removal from scholarship eligibility under extenuating circumstances, which may occur no more than one time in the case of any student.

6. Removal from scholarship eligibility shall not restrict the student from participation in any and all other components if the GEAR UP Program.

Adopted 10/15/07