

Dalton Allen is a first-generation college graduate from rural Vermont whose career has focused on college access and first-generation student success. He earned a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Vermont, a master's degree in social and cultural studies in education from the University of Kansas and is currently pursuing a doctorate in higher education administration at KU.

Throughout his career, Dalton has created opportunities within educational systems to support first-gen students. His leadership spans programs including GEAR UP, TSCORE-LIFT at KU Medical Center, and KU TRIO SES & STEM, and recently leading KU's first-generation student equity initiatives. He shares his expertise as a first-gen success consultant to educational organizations, co-authoring CoolTools College Guide with CoolSpeak, a leading youth engagement company.

Now serving as the Lead Site Coordinator for GEAR UP in Kansas City, MO, Allen is excited to work with a new cohort of students to achieve their college and career aspirations and bring his experience to ensure the impact of GEAR UP.