



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, as the state of Alabama is committed to competing in the global economy and supporting our state's ever-growing industries, our citizens must recognize the challenges ahead and provide their children with the education and skills that will enable them to compete successfully; and

WHEREAS, the rising cost of higher education has out-paced inflation and the growth in family income, all of which pose a serious threat to the ability of our citizens to ensure their children's access to post-secondary education; and

WHEREAS, the amount of student loan debt is at historic levels, leaving college graduates with the ever-increasing burden of paying for their college education long after they have completed their education; and

WHEREAS, it is in Alabama's interest to encourage families to save for their children's education; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, I established the Success Plus postsecondary education attainment goal of adding 500,000 additional credentialed Alabamians to the potential workforce by 2025. It is in the best interest of Alabama employers to ensure a well-educated workforce; and

WHEREAS, the state of Alabama provides an IRS Section 529 Qualified State Tuition and Savings Plan, known as CollegeCounts, which recognizes Alabama taxpayers valuing higher education with state tax deductions up to \$5,000 for single filers and \$10,000 for those married filing jointly; and

WHEREAS, I urge families and employers throughout the state to recognize the benefit of attaining a higher education and urge the citizens of Alabama to begin saving for their children's education;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim September 2023, as

College Savings Month

in the state of Alabama.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 16th day of August 2023.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor