



# *Proclamation*

## *By the Governor of Alabama*

*WHEREAS, the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) is a federally funded, competitive grant program designed to increase college and career pathway awareness and prepare students for the workforce; and*

*WHEREAS, GEAR UP serves students and their families from varied communities who might be the first person in their family to go to college; and*

*WHEREAS, GEAR UP provides six- or seven-year grants to states or partnerships to deliver support and resources to students and their families, starting no later than the 7<sup>th</sup> grade (middle school), through high school, and onward to gain a head start on planning for their futures and preparing to be contributing members of their communities; and*

*WHEREAS, GEAR UP includes interventions such as tutoring, mentoring, rigorous academic preparation, financial education and college scholarships to improve access to postsecondary education for students and their families; and*

*WHEREAS, GEAR UP is built around public-private partnerships, enlisting the formidable resources of government, business and community groups to support students as they prepare to enter and succeed in college, build career readiness skills and enhance overall workforce development; and*

*WHEREAS, GEAR UP Achieve is a partnership of Auburn University serving 6,500 ninth-grade students in 28 counties across the state of Alabama; and*

*WHEREAS, Alabama is committed to providing a quality education for all students, helping them to achieve their highest potential;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim September 22 through September 26, 2025, as*

# *GEAR UP Week*

*in the state of Alabama, and I urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.*

*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 18<sup>th</sup> day of September 2025.*

*Kay Ivey*  
Kay Ivey, Governor

