



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 7th 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 more than 6,000 tenth-grade students in 28 counties across the state of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Education is committed to providing a quality education for all students, using GEAR UP to help them achieve their highest potential:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim the week of September 21 through 25, 2026, as

GEAR UP Week

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 10th day of September 2026.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor