



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, in 2017, the Council for Opportunity in Education and FirstGen Forward launched the inaugural First-Generation College Celebration to recognize the achievements of first-generation college students and graduates nationwide; and

WHEREAS, first-generation college students—those whose parents or guardians did not complete a four-year degree—break down generational barriers to create opportunities for their families and communities; and

WHEREAS, Alabama is home to the second largest percentage of such individuals in the United States—with 64 percent of its undergraduates being first-generation college students; and

WHEREAS, education is the cornerstone of economic mobility, and the decision to pursue post-secondary education plays a vital role in both the success of our young people and the competitiveness of our state's workforce; and

WHEREAS, the First-Generation College Celebration occurs annually on November 8 to commemorate the signing of the Higher Education Act of 1965, which increased access to higher education for low-income and first-generation college students; and

WHEREAS, all citizens are called upon to celebrate the contributions of the first-generation community and learn about the programs our community organizations, colleges and employers have created to drive their success:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim November 8, 2025, as

First-Generation College Celebration Day

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 27th day of October 2026.*

Kay Ivey
Kay Ivey, Governor