



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

COLLEGE SAVINGS MONTH

- WHEREAS:** Workforce trends continue to favor applicants who have achieved some level of education beyond high school, while the cost of higher education can pose financial challenges for Georgians seeking a postsecondary credential; and
- WHEREAS:** Georgia understands the increasing value of education beyond high school and prioritizes access to educational opportunities for students through the funding of state grants and scholarship programs; and
- WHEREAS:** The Georgia Student Finance Commission is committed to providing Georgians with the resources to complete a degree or certificate program as financially independent graduates through financial planning, the administration of over twenty state-funded grant programs, and strategic college saving principles; and
- WHEREAS:** Students who enter college with some amount of savings are more likely to graduate with lower or no education-related debt and more likely to enter the workforce as fiscally secure professionals; and
- WHEREAS:** To aid in bridging the gap to higher education, the State of Georgia created the Path2College 529 Plan, which serves as just one component of Georgia's comprehensive financial aid structure. To date, Georgia families have already used over \$1.3 billion from the Path2College 529 Plan to assist with college expenses and has over \$4 billion in assets under management, which will significantly bolster educational opportunities for account recipients; and
- WHEREAS:** During College Savings Month, Georgians are encouraged to start the financial aid planning process for education beyond high school as early as possible, expanding the opportunity for continued education, career stability, and financial independence; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 2021 as COLLEGE SAVINGS MONTH in Georgia

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 26th day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.



B. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Mantua Kipstrick

CHIEF OF STAFF