



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

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 opportunity for their families and communities; and

WHEREAS, 17 New Jersey's colleges have demonstrated their commitment to transforming the first-generation college student experience by joining the FirstGen Forward Network—a national model for scaling this population's holistic success; 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, 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 New Jerseyans 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, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

NOVEMBER 8, 2025

AS

FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE CELEBRATION DAY

in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this sixth day of October in the year two thousand twenty-five, the two hundred fiftieth year of the Independence of the United States.


Lt. GOVERNOR


GOVERNOR