

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, "first-generation college student" means, an individual whose parent(s)/guardian(s) did not complete a baccalaureate degree, or in the case of an individual who regularly resided with and received support from only one parent, an individual whose parent/guardian did not complete a baccalaureate degree; and

WHEREAS, first-generation college students may face additional academic, financial, and social challenges that lead to disparate outcomes in college access, completion, and labor market outcomes compared to their peers with parents who have graduated with a degree; and

WHEREAS, 56 percent of all college students nationally currently pursuing degrees are first-generation college students; and

WHEREAS, one third of all community and technical college students identify as first-generation with 12.7 percent attaining an associate's degree and 11.9 percent attaining a certificate from a community or technical college; and

WHEREAS, 57 percent of all public four-year Kansas universities are recognized nationally within the First Scholars Network, a national multiphase model for scaling holistic first-generation student success, coordinated by the Center for First-Generation Student Success an initiative of National Association of Student Personnel Administrators; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, the United States Congress established First-Generation College Celebration Day to recognize the significant role that first-generation college students play in helping to develop the future workforce.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Laura Kelly, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby proclaim, November 8, 2023, as

First-Generation College Celebration Day

in the state of Kansas and I urge all citizens to join in this observation.



DONE: At the Capitol in Topeka under the Great Seal of the State this 27th day of October, A.D. 2023

BY THE GOVERNOR

Secretary of State

Assistant Secretary of State