The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) is a federally-funded program designed to increase the number of students who stay in school and succeed in postsecondary education; and

WHEREAS, GEAR UP focuses on students from low income and underserved communities who might be the first person in their family to go to college; and

WHEREAS, Washington GEAR UP serves over 35,000 students in grades six through twelve, and has enabled thousands of students to achieve the dream of going to college as a result of GEAR UP grants awarded since 1999; and

WHEREAS, Washington is committed to providing a quality education for all students, helping them to achieve their highest potential;

NOW, *THEREFORE*, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim September 23 - 27, 2013 as

GEAR UP Week

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

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Signed this 12th day of September, 2013

Governor Jay Inslee