



# PRESS RELEASE

From the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## April 26 is GEAR UP Day in Louisiana

BATON ROUGE- Governor John Bel Edwards has proclaimed April 26, 2017, as GEAR UP Day in Louisiana.

On that day, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the State Capitol Rotunda, members of the Louisiana Legislature will have the opportunity to meet a number of the outstanding students that will share their opportunities and information they learned this academic year thanks to the efforts of Louisiana GEAR UP.

GEAR UP, or Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, is a federal college access initiative providing students and families the support and resources they need for college success. GEAR UP has improved educational outcomes for millions of low-income, minority and disadvantaged students from underserved communities who might be the first in their family to go to college.

To date, LA GEAR UP, administered by the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA), A program under the Board of Regents, has supported over 20,000 Louisiana students in 75 schools in 22 school districts through college and career readiness interventions such as tutoring, mentoring, financial literacy, college scholarships, and campus trips. Currently, LA GEAR UP serves over 7,500 students in 49 schools in 16 school districts.

In the Proclamation, Governor Edwards states, "Whereas GEAR UP is sustained by enlisting formidable resources of the government, business and community to support students as they prepare to enter and succeed in college; and Whereas the State of Louisiana is committed to providing a college education for all students, helping them to achieve their highest potential, I, John Bel Edwards, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim April 26, 2017, as GEAR UP Day in the State of Louisiana."

For more information, contact LOSFA at 1-800-259-5626 or visit us online at [www.osfa.la.gov](http://www.osfa.la.gov).

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