

PROCLAMATION

The City of Philadelphia strongly believes in the importance of education and lifelong learning for our residents in their quality of life as well as their ability to be able to adapt and find success in the workforce. Education is a fundamental right and a cornerstone for personal and community development. The City is deeply grateful to all individuals and organizations who are making efforts to increase access to education for our youth and adults.

One such entity is the Philadelphia Education Fund, helping to fulfill the vision outlined by Mayor Cherelle L. Parker of a world-class education for Philadelphians of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds. Research supports the needs for college access, with statistics showing that earnings for bachelor's degree holders are 116 percent higher than those who hold only a high school diploma.

However, the college application process may be a barrier to Philadelphia's high school students pursuing postsecondary education due to an absence of information, affordable pathways or support. Fifty-one percent of Philadelphia's high school graduates matriculate to college during the first-fall after high school graduation, and 25 percent go on to graduate on time with a bachelor's degree. Obtaining a postsecondary degree has been linked to higher income, better health, and increased community involvement. Yet only 37.2 percent of Pennsylvania's labor force has a bachelor's degree and is earning wages at or above average salary benchmarks.

Philadelphia and the School District of Philadelphia are working to ensure students are college and career ready as they prepare for the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century. The School District is part of a statewide initiative, Pennsylvania's College Application Campaign, and national initiative, American College Application Campaign, designed to increase the number of students who apply to and enroll in college with a particular focus on first-generation college-going students and students from low-income families.

THEREFORE...

I, Mayor Cherelle L. Parker, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, do hereby proclaim the week of October 25, 2025 to November 11, 2025 to be

COLLEGE APPLICATION CAMPAIGN WEEK

in Philadelphia, and encourage all high school seniors to take advantage of the college fairs, fee waivers, and assistance provided through the College Access and Success Ecosystem and PhillyGoes2College.org powered by the Philadelphia Education Fund.



Cherelle L. Parker

Cherelle L. Parker
Mayor

Given under my hand and the seal of the City of Philadelphia on this twenty-fifth day of October, two thousand and twenty-five