



# HIGHER EDUCATION DAY

## ADVOCATING FOR ALABAMA'S 14 PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Higher Education Day provides a perfect opportunity to remind Alabama's political leaders of the need to improve university appropriations. Higher Education Day is one of Montgomery's largest annual advocacy events. The universities let legislators know that they are not only concerned about the funding of higher education, but remind them that universities develop future leaders of the state. From research to economic development, universities make a difference. Students, faculty, staff and other supporters will utilize this day to show support for higher education.

### QUICK FACTS

- ★ Every **\$1,000 increase** in higher education funding produces **\$1.8 million in total per capita income**.
- ★ Alabama's funding for higher education **ranks 11th** out of the **16 southeastern states**. Trailing in this category results in a greater dependence on tuition and fees.
- ★ Alabama's **14 public universities** provide a **\$20 billion total annual economic impact**.
- ★ Only **26 percent** of Alabama's workforce has a 4-year degree, whereas the **national average is 33 percent**. Investing in higher education can help expand access to 4-year degrees for Alabamians.
- ★ A bachelor's degree increases lifetime earnings by **\$1 million**, with a master's degree increasing to **\$1.5 million** and a **PhD to \$3 million**.
- ★ Alabama is ranked **46th in per capita income**. Higher education increases income, therefore Alabama **must invest in higher education** in order to grow our economy.

### CONTACT

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