



Fresno Unified School District
Office of Communications
2309 Tulare Street, Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 457-3733

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Diana Diaz, Director of Communications
Diana.Diaz@fresnounified.org
Office: (559) 457-3816 Cell: (559) 803-9599

Contact: Gloria Ponce-Rodriguez, Manager of the HBCU Step-Up Program
Gloria.Ponce-Rodriguez@fresnounified.org
Office: (559) 248-7467

MEDIA RELEASE

Celebration for Seniors in HBCU Step-Up Dual Enrollment Program

What: Recognizing seniors successfully completing the HBCU Step-Up program

When: Thursday, May 22, 2025
6 p.m.

Where: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Fresno Convention Center
2233 Cesar Chavez Blvd. (93721)

Fresno Unified's [HBCU Step-Up](#) program will honor this year's cohort of successful dual enrollment graduating seniors at a celebration ceremony. The students have earned 33 high

school credits while simultaneously completing 10 college credits that are transferable to most institutions nationwide. The program features virtual dual enrollment classes with professors at Benedict College. Speakers will include Superintendent Misty Her and award-winning actress Malinda Williams, who is also a passionate advocate for education and youth empowerment.

The program, launched in 2022, included a nine-day tour this year to historically black colleges and universities (HBCU) and other universities in the eastern United States, providing students with firsthand exposure to higher education opportunities and campus life.

The dual enrollment initiative has proven instrumental in helping students:

- Earn transferable college credits at no cost
- Gain early exposure to college-level coursework
- Develop critical college navigation skills
- Build confidence in their academic abilities
- Create connections with higher education institutions

“I’m excited to celebrate our second cohort of graduating seniors from the Step-Up program. This initiative demonstrates our commitment to creating clear pathways to higher education for our students,” said Superintendent Misty Her.