



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Rana Black
303.376.8836**

May 8, 2007

Colorado's CollegeInvest rewards students for planning early for college

Completing pre-collegiate coursework can mean up to \$7,500 for college

Denver, CO – Colorado 7th, 8th and 9th graders have the opportunity to start planning academically and financially for college thanks to the recently renamed CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship.

The program, formerly known as the College in Colorado Scholarship, is offered by CollegeInvest, Colorado's not-for-profit higher education financing resource. Students who previously applied for the College In Colorado Scholarship do not need to re-apply for the CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship.

The CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship encourages students to consider college a realistic and affordable option for their future. It prepares them for college by requiring that participants take pre-collegiate coursework while in high school and graduate with at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA. The scholarship offers students from lower-income families the financial support they need to attend college, as long as they meet all of the scholarship requirements.

Students who qualify financially, take the required coursework, and meet other requirements could qualify for up to \$1,500 in assistance per year for up to five years at a qualifying Colorado college.

“The CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship is a great incentive for students to start planning for college,” said Rana Black of CollegeInvest. “Completing pre-collegiate coursework helps students lay a solid foundation for their future. While college may seem a long way off to these students, now is the time to start preparing.”

To be eligible for the CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship, students must:

- Be legal Colorado resident and qualify for in-state resident tuition.
- Graduate with at least a 2.5 weighted cumulative GPA for all coursework completed in grades 9 through 12.
- Take selected pre-collegiate coursework throughout their high school career.
- Qualify for the Federal Pell Grant upon enrollment in college

The application deadline for current 9th graders is June 1, 2007 – so it is important that 9th graders apply soon! The deadline for 8th graders is June 1, 2008 and 7th graders have

until June 1, 2009 to apply. To download the application, or for further information on rules and requirements, go to www.collegeinvest.org or call 1-800-448-2424.

About CollegeInvest

CollegeInvest is a not-for-profit division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. Since 1979, CollegeInvest has helped more than half a million families break down the financial barriers to college by providing expert information, simple planning tools, scholarships, college savings plans, and low-cost student and parent loans. For more information, visit www.collegeinvest.org or call 1-800-448-2424.

###