



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rana Black
303.376.8836

May 24, 2007

Deadline nears for up to \$7,500 in college cash from Colorado's CollegeInvest

Early planning plus pre-collegiate course work equals a great scholarship

Colorado 7th, 8th and 9th graders have the opportunity to earn up to \$7,500 in college cash by planning early and taking challenging coursework. But 9th grade students need to act by June 1 to qualify.

The recently renamed CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship, formerly 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 some financial support 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 earn up to \$1,500 in assistance per year for up to five years at a qualifying Colorado college – for a total of \$7,500.

“We hope that the possibility of receiving the CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship will motivate students to do their best in school and adequately prepare for a college education,” said Rana Black of CollegeInvest. “The deadline for ninth graders is approaching rapidly; students should not hesitate to apply to take their first step toward higher education.”

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

- Be a 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 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.

###