

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Colorado college savings plans offer great gift alternatives
Contributions to CollegeInvest 529 plans expected to surge in December

Families who don't want to brave the cold weather and long lines tracking down the hottest new toy for the holiday season have another option – making an investment in a child's future through a 529 college savings plan.

Colorado's CollegeInvest, a not-for-profit division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education, offers college savings plans that can fit virtually any budget. Plans can be opened with as little as \$25.

Those looking to benefit from the tax advantages or looking for a unique holiday season gift often look to college savings plans as the year ends. In December of last year, Colorado contributions to CollegeInvest 529 savings plans and new accounts more than doubled the monthly average.

"December is a month for giving and Colorado families demonstrate the importance of saving for college each year around this time," said Jennifer Robinson of CollegeInvest. "Anybody who wants to give a meaningful gift can contribute or open a 529 college savings plan for a child. Unlike the trendy new toy or video game, the gift of higher education can last a lifetime."

As a division of the state, CollegeInvest offers the only college savings plans that also provide a Colorado income tax deduction for all contributions. Families looking to benefit from the state income tax deduction for 529 college savings plans contributions must invest by Dec. 31 to receive a deduction from their 2007 Colorado taxable income.

To open a CollegeInvest 529 college savings plan:

- Visit www.collegeinvest.org or call 1-800-448-2424 for more information

or

- Contact your financial advisor

Money saved through college savings plans offered by CollegeInvest can be used nationwide at any eligible public or private college, university or vocational school for a variety of qualified higher education expenses such as tuition, fees, certain room and board, and required supplies.

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 or contact your financial advisor.

Important Considerations

To learn about ColleeInvest's 529 program, its objectives, risks, charges, limitations, restrictions and qualifications regarding the Plans' benefits and potential tax advantages, please read the Program Disclosure Statements (PDS) available at www.collegeinvest.org. Also, check with your home state to learn if it offers tax or other benefits for investing in its own plan. ColleeInvest and the ColleeInvest logo are registered trademarks. Administered and Issued by ColleeInvest.

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