



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Kathryn Powell  
303.376.8829**

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## **CollegeInvest forgives \$147,092 in student loans in Denver Metro Area**

### ***LIFT program helps Colorado teachers reduce student loan debt***

Denver, CO – CollegeInvest, Colorado’s not-for-profit higher education financing resource, has helped Colorado teachers in tough-to-fill jobs repay over \$320,000 in student loans in 2006 with the Loan Incentive For Teachers (LIFT) program. Denver area teachers received \$147,092 in loan forgiveness through the LIFT program.

LIFT helps teachers in high-demand disciplines or those who serve in rural districts repay their student loans. Qualified teachers can get up to \$2,000 a year toward loan repayment for up to four years, meaning that an eligible teacher may receive up an \$8,000 reduction in their student loan debt.

“CollegeInvest recognizes the importance of recruiting and retaining great teachers in Colorado classrooms,” said Kathryn Powell of CollegeInvest. “Teachers in high demand disciplines are needed across the state and CollegeInvest is proud to provide additional incentives to make sure teachers can continue to make a difference in the schools and areas of study that need them most.”

Teachers may register now through April 15 to benefit from the 2007 LIFT program. To qualify for the LIFT program, teachers must be:

- Graduates of Colorado colleges and universities.
- Colorado teachers who are working full-time in mathematics, science, special education, linguistically diverse education or teaching in a high-poverty rural elementary school where 28% or more students qualify for the federal free lunch program.
- Borrowers with a CollegeInvest loan or a Stafford loan through a LIFT participating lender including: US Bank, Citibank, ASAP/Union Bank & Trust, and Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU).

“Repaying student loans can be stressful but thanks to LIFT, these teachers can have some of their burden alleviated,” said Powell. “Qualifying teachers should not hesitate to apply for the program and take advantage of these great benefits.”

For more information on the program, please contact CollegeInvest at 1-888-900-COLLEGE or visit [collegeinvest.org/LIFT](http://collegeinvest.org/LIFT).

**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, 529 college savings plans, and low-cost student and parent loans. For more information, visit [www.collegeinvest.org](http://www.collegeinvest.org) or call 1-888-900-COLLEGE.

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