



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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May 21, 2007

Up to \$2,500 in free matching college money still available to Colorado families from CollegeInvest

This year's deadline looms to apply for Matching Grant Program

Denver, CO – CollegeInvest, Colorado's not-for-profit higher education financing resource, is offering middle- to lower-income families up to \$2,500 in matching funds for their children's higher education.

Families must apply for the Matching Grant Program by May 31 to be pre-approved to receive matching grants on contributions they make to CollegeInvest 529 college savings plans in 2007.

The Matching Grant Program matches contributions to CollegeInvest's college savings plans dollar-for-dollar for qualifying middle- to lower-income Colorado families, providing up to \$500 in matching funds annually. Families may qualify for up to five consecutive years – meaning that one family could turn an investment of \$2,500 into \$5,000.

“The Matching Grant program makes saving for college a little easier for qualifying families,” said Jennifer Robinson, chief marketing officer of CollegeInvest, which is a division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. “The application deadline is just around the corner; families could be missing out if they don't take advantage of this chance to make their college savings dollars go further.”

CollegeInvest offers the only college savings plans that combine federal tax advantages with a Colorado income tax deduction for all contributions. Money saved through these 529 plans can be used nationwide at any eligible public or private college, university or vocational school.

The program is open to Colorado residents whose child is 12 years old or younger when they first apply. Qualifying families' incomes must be no more than 200 percent of the 2005 federal poverty level. Visit CollegeInvest.org/MatchingGrant for a complete income guideline qualification chart. You may also call 1-800-478-5651 for more information.

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.

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