

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 3, 2008

Coloradans save more than \$1.1 billion through college savings plans *Colorado contributions to CollegenInvest's 529 plans grow by 25%*

Colorado families are increasingly taking matters into their own hands when it comes to planning for higher education expenses, with their contributions to college savings plans up substantially over the past year.

Contributions by Coloradans to college savings plans sponsored by CollegenInvest, Colorado's not-for-profit higher education financing resource, totaled nearly \$318 million in 2007, a 25 percent increase over the previous year.

This increase pushed CollegenInvest's total Colorado assets under management in its 529 college savings plans to more than \$1.1 billion as of December 31, 2007. Total contributions to CollegenInvest's 529 plans reached \$698 million in 2007, compared to \$629 million in 2006. This helped increase CollegenInvest's total assets under management to more than \$3.3 billion as of Dec. 31. Investments from Colorado residents represent about one third of total assets in CollegenInvest's college savings plans

As a division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education, CollegenInvest offers the only 529 college savings plans that provide a Colorado state income tax deduction for all contributions.

"Families are making saving for college a high priority, and that's a smart move," said Jennifer Robinson of CollegenInvest, "We see an increase in contributions to our savings plans each year, which is great for the future of Colorado's youth."

CollegenInvest offers three different 529 savings plans to meet the individual needs of families saving for college. CollegenInvest's savings plans are expertly managed to provide families some of the best options for saving for college.

- CollegenInvest Direct Portfolio College Savings Plan offers investments managed by The Vanguard Group. These investment options are available directly through CollegenInvest. The Vanguard Group is the second largest mutual fund company in the nation and is well known for its low-cost, broadly diversified index funds, some of which are the basis of many of CollegenInvest's options.
- The Scholars Choice[®] College Savings Program offers a range of investment options including age-based, automatically adjusted allocations, and set allocations, managed by ClearBridge Advisors, LLC., a Legg Mason affiliated company. This program is exclusively available through financial advisors.
- The Stable Value Plus College Savings Plan which offers a 100 percent fixed income investment option. The plan is guaranteed by The MetLife Insurance Company and offers the comfort of a

guaranteed minimum rate of return to protect the principal investment. This option is also available directly through CollegenInvest.

Money saved through CollegenInvest's college savings plans 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.

"When it comes to saving for higher education, the sooner you can open a 529 college savings plan, the better," added Robinson.

For more information about how to open a 529 college savings plan visit www.collegeinvest.org, call 1-800-448-2424, or contact your financial advisor.

About CollegenInvest

CollegenInvest is a not-for-profit division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. Since 1979, CollegenInvest 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 CollegenInvest'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. Administered and Issued by CollegenInvest.

Capacity of Dealer and Other Parties

CollegenInvest is the issuer of plan securities and is the trustee of the plans in accordance with Colorado law. CollegenInvest also oversees the Managers' activities and provides certain administrative services, such as marketing, audit, and financial statements, in connection with the plans.

Vanguard and Upromise

Upromise Investments, Inc., serves as Plan Manager for the CollegenInvest Direct Portfolio College Savings Plan and has overall responsibility for the day-to-day operations, including effecting transactions. The Vanguard Group, Inc., serves as Plan Manager and Investment Manager for the CollegenInvest Direct Portfolio College Savings Plan. Vanguard Marketing Corporation, an affiliate of The Vanguard Group, Inc., assists CollegenInvest with marketing and distributing the CollegenInvest Direct Portfolio College Savings Plan.

MetLife Insurance Company

The MetLife Insurance Company serves as the Investment Manager for the CollegenInvest Stable Value Plus College Savings Plan.

ClearBridge Advisors, LLC

ClearBridge Advisors, LLC, the manager and Legg Mason Investor Services, LLC, the primary distributor

for the product are affiliates of Legg Mason Inc. Legg Mason, Inc., a holding company, with its subsidiaries is a global asset management firm. The firm is headquartered in Baltimore.

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