

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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June 1 deadline looms for up to \$1,500 for college from Colorado's CollegeInvest *Planning for college early can mean college cash*

Colorado 9th graders should act quickly to apply for up to \$1,500 each year for up to five years for college from Colorado's CollegeInvest. The June 1 deadline to apply for the CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship is just around the corner.

Colorado 7th, 8th and 9th graders who plan early and maintain their GPA have the opportunity to earn up to \$7,500 for college through the CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship.

The program is offered by CollegeInvest, a division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education that serves as the state's not-for-profit higher education financing resource.

The CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship encourages students to work toward college as a realistic and important building block for their future. It rewards students for planning for college if they graduate with at least a 2.5 cumulative, weighted GPA. The scholarship offers students from families demonstrating financial need support to attend college as long as they meet the scholarship requirements.

Students who qualify financially and meet other requirements could earn up to \$1,500 in assistance per year for up to five years at a qualifying Colorado college.

"Ninth graders can take their first step toward higher education with the CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship," said Janet Gullickson of CollegeInvest. "Apply soon, the June 1 deadline is right around the corner."

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

- Be a legal Colorado resident and qualify for in-state resident tuition.
- Apply for the College Opportunity Fund (COF) at www.collegeincolorado.org.
- Graduate with at least a 2.5 weighted cumulative GPA for all coursework completed in grades nine through 12.
- Qualify for the Federal Pell Grant upon enrollment in college.

The deadline for eighth graders is June 1, 2009, and seventh graders have until June 1, 2010 to apply. To download the application, or for further information on rules and requirements, go to www.collegeinvest.org/achievers 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 or contact your financial advisor.

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