

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Colorado's CollegeInvest offers \$250,000 in student loan forgiveness for teachers of nursing
\$64,000 committed to forgive student loan debt for nursing teachers in 2007

CollegeInvest, Colorado's not-for-profit higher education financing resource, is giving teachers of nursing the opportunity to qualify to have up to \$20,000 of their student loan debt forgiven through the Loan Incentive for Teachers of Nursing Program (LIFT Nursing).

A total of \$250,000 in student loan forgiveness is available through LIFT Nursing, which helps to address the shortage of nursing teachers in Colorado. Qualified teachers can receive up to \$4,000 in student loan forgiveness each year for five years, meaning that a qualified nursing teacher can receive up to \$20,000 in student loan forgiveness in all.

CollegeInvest announced that four Colorado nursing teachers received \$16,000 in student loan forgiveness in 2007 and will receive an additional \$48,000 over the next 3 years to help repay their student loans. The recipients include two nursing teachers from Pikes Peak Community College, one from the University of Colorado Denver School of Nursing and one from Mesa State College.

"We are excited to help reduce the burden of student loan debt for these deserving teachers," said Kathryn Powell of CollegeInvest. "There is currently a shortage of nursing teachers in the state, so LIFT Nursing provides generous student loan forgiveness to encourage qualified nurses to teach."

To qualify for LIFT Nursing, teachers must be:

- Nursing teachers with a master's or doctoral degree in nursing from a public or participating private Colorado college or university.
- Colorado nursing teachers who are working full-time for a public or participating private institution of higher education to teach classes required to earn a degree or certificate in nursing.
- Borrowers with qualified loans including federal loans and private/alternative education loans.

New recipients will be chosen next year and qualified teachers are encouraged to apply.

For more information on LIFT Nursing including an application and instructions, visit www.collegeinvest.org/LIFTNursing.

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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