

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



May 19, 2008

Deadline approaching to apply for up to \$2,500 in free matching college money from Colorado's CollegeInvest

Families have until May 31 to be preapproved for matching grants in 2008

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 2008.

The Matching Grant Program matches contributions to CollegeInvest's college savings plans dollar-for-dollar, 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.

"Families who qualify should be sure to take advantage of this great opportunity to make their college savings dollars go further" said Brea Olson of CollegeInvest, which is a division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. "This program truly helps families make their higher education goals a reality."

Here's how the program works:

- Colorado Families with a household income of less than \$65,000 a year as reported on your 2007 tax return should visit www.collegeinvest.org/matchinggrant for a complete income guideline qualification chart.
- Contributions made to a new or existing CollegeInvest account must be for a child 12 or younger who can be claimed as a dependent for tax purposes.
- Applications for preapproval must be received by May 31 and the matching grant will be awarded dollar-for-dollar, up to \$500 per child (subject to availability of funds), for contributions made in 2008. The matching funds will be awarded in early 2009.

For more information about CollegeInvest's Matching Grant Program please visit www.collegeinvest.org/matchinggrant or call 800.478.5651.

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.

About ColleeInvest

ColleeInvest is a not-for-profit division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. Since 1979, ColleeInvest 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.colleeinvest.org or call 1-800-448-2424 or contact your financial advisor.

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Important Considerations

To learn about ColleeInvest'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.colleeinvest.org. Also, check with your home state to learn if it offers tax or other benefits for investing in its own plan. ColleeInvest and the ColleeInvest logo are registered trademarks. Administered and Issued by ColleeInvest.