

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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## **Deadline nears for up to \$1,500 in college cash from Colorado's CollegeInvest Scholarship rewards students for early college planning**

Colorado seventh, eighth and ninth graders have the opportunity to start preparing academically and financially for college thanks to the CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship. But ninth grade students need to act by June 1 to qualify.

The CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship encourages students to work toward college as a realistic and important building block for their future. It prepares them for college by requiring students to graduate with at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA.

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.

"It's never too early to start thinking about college," said Janet Gullickson of CollegeInvest. "The CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship is a great incentive for students to focus on school and pursue higher education."

For three decades, CollegeInvest has served as Colorado's not-for-profit higher education financing resource, helping families across the state pay for college through scholarships, matching grants, student loan forgiveness, college savings plans, outreach programs and planning tools.

As a not-for-profit division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education, CollegeInvest's sole focus is helping Colorado families overcome the financial barriers to college.

Families can access valuable information on paying for higher education at [www.collegeinvest.org](http://www.collegeinvest.org).

To be eligible for the CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship, students must follow these guidelines as well as additional requirements listed on the CollegeInvest website:

- Be a legal Colorado resident and qualify for in-state resident tuition.
- 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, 2010 and seventh graders have until June 1, 2011 to apply. To download the application, or for further information on rules and requirements, go to [www.collegeinvest.org](http://www.collegeinvest.org) 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](http://www.collegeinvest.org) or call 1-800-448-2424 or contact your financial advisor.

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