

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contacts:

Abby Berman Cohen Maggie Beaudouin 646.695.7044 646.695.7050

abby@rosengrouppr.com maggie@rosengrouppr.com

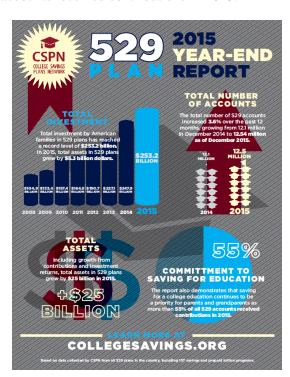
## New College Savings Plans Network Report Reveals 529 Plan Activity in 2015

- Total investments grow to \$253 billion with more than 12.5 million accounts nationwide -

**LEXINGTON, KY.** (March 15, 2016) – The <u>College Savings Plans Network (CSPN)</u>, the nation's leading objective source about Section 529 college savings and prepaid tuition plans, today released its *529 Year-End Report* for 2015. The results conclude a record level of total college savings investments.

Based on data collected by CSPN from 108 savings and prepaid tuition programs across the country, major findings of the 2015 *529 Year-End Report* include:

- Total investment by American families in 529 plans has reached a record level of \$253.2 billion. In 2015, total assets in 529 plans grew by \$5.3 billion dollars.
- The total number of 529 accounts increased 3.6% over the past 12 months, growing from 12.1 million in December 2014 to 12.5 million as of December 2015.
- Contributions grew by \$25 billion in 2015.
- More than 55% of all 529 accounts received contributions in 2015.



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"College savings plans showed continual growth in 2015 despite the performance of the financial markets," said Treasurer Young Boozer, Chair of the College Savings Plans Network. "No amount is too small in which to start or contribute to a 529 plan. In fact, more than 6.8 million accounts received contributions this year, confirming no matter how big or small the contributions, families are committed to making college savings a priority."

Currently, 49 states and the District of Columbia offer 529 plans. CSPN collects data biannually to examine 529 plan assets, contributions and distributions.

A downloadable copy of the report is available <u>here</u>. For more information on the CSPN 2015 *Year-End 529 Report*, plus resources and tools families can use to make informed decisions about saving for college, visit CollegeSavings.org.

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## About College Savings Plans Network (CSPN)

Founded in 1991, the College Savings Plans Network (CSPN) is a national non-profit association and the leading objective source of information about Section 529 College Savings Plans and Prepaid Tuition Plans—popular, convenient and tax-advantaged ways to save for college. An affiliate of the National Association of State Treasurers (NAST), CSPN brings together administrators of 529 savings and prepaid plans from across the country, as well as their private sector partners, to offer convenient tools and objective, unbiased information to help families make informed decisions about saving for college. For more information, visit the CSPN website at <a href="CollegeSavings.org">CollegeSavings.org</a>; and follow CSPN on Twitter and Facebook.