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**September 12, 2019**

**States Around the Country Are Celebrating College Savings Month**  
*State Treasurers are incentivizing and promoting 529 college savings plans*

Washington, DC – From Tennessee to Idaho to Washington, students are acclimating back to school and State Treasurers around the country are celebrating College Savings Month with 529 college savings plans incentives, events, and social media. Leading this initiative is the [College Savings Plans Network \(CSPN\)](#) members, a network of the [National Association of State Treasurers \(NAST\)](#), which promotes the benefits of 529 college savings plans year-round, but September’s College Savings Month is an especially good time to inform and remind parents, grandparents, and relatives that a 529 plan is the easiest way to save for a child’s higher education.

“Saving for college can be daunting but opening up a 529 college savings account allows parents to make smaller tax-advantaged investments in college for their children, that makes higher education more attainable,” says Jim DiUlio, CSPN Chairman. “Everyone should know about these plans, so CSPN is making it a priority to encourage people to open or continue to invest in these accounts this College Savings Month.”

CSPN has made College Savings Month state activities available on its website so that people from around the country can find the best 529 College Savings Plan for their family. A sampling of celebrations includes:

- Tennessee Stars College Savings 529 Program is giving away \$529 scholarships to three Tennessean children.
- Idaho is bringing [Daniel Tiger](#) around the state for [meet-and-greets](#) to promote College Savings Month and is also matching the dollar amounts for the first 100 new accounts that make a recurring contribution of \$25.
- Washington is conducting a month-long contest on Facebook: [@WA529](#), to recognize College Savings Month and promote GET Newborn Enrollment.

CSPN has provided the full list of state activities at [www.collegesavings.org/college-savings-month/](http://www.collegesavings.org/college-savings-month/) and is proud to support states’ 529 college savings programs throughout September (College Savings Month), and the year, by providing free resources at [www.CollegeSavings.org](http://www.CollegeSavings.org), its Congressional advocacy to increase the accessibility of 529 college savings plans, and its public promotions of college savings plans.

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### **About College Savings Plans Network (CSPN)**

Founded in 1991, the College Savings Plans Network (CSPN) is a 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 state officials who administer 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 higher education. For more information, visit the CSPN website at [CollegeSavings.org](http://CollegeSavings.org) and follow CSPN on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#).

### **About 529 College Savings Accounts**

A [529 plan](#) is a tax-advantaged investment plan designed to help families save for a beneficiary's (typically one's child or grandchild) future higher education expenses and in some states; K-12 and certain technical and career college programs. While commonly referred to as 529 plans, they are formally known as "Qualified Tuition Programs," as defined in Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code, and are administered by state agencies.

Savings in a 529 plan grow free from federal income tax, and withdrawals remain tax-free when used for qualified education expenses. Additionally, many states mirror the federal 529 plan tax advantages by offering state tax-deferred growth and tax-free withdrawals for qualified education expenses. 529 plans are offered in 49 states and the District of Columbia. Check with your home state to see if it offers tax or other benefits such as financial aid, scholarship funds or protection from creditors for investing in its own 529 plan.

### **About National Association of State Treasurers**

The National Association of State Treasurers seeks to provide advocacy and support that enables member states to pursue and administer sound financial policies and programs benefiting the citizens of the nation. Membership is composed of all state treasurers or state finance officials with comparable responsibilities from the United States, its commonwealths, territories, and the District of Columbia. The private sector is represented through the Corporate Affiliate Program that was established to build professional relationships and foster cooperation between the public and private sectors. The association serves its members through educational conferences and webinars, a variety of working groups, policy advocacy, and publications that provide information about developments in public finance. For more information, visit [www.nast.org](http://www.nast.org).