

College Bound

Volume 1; March 2014

The News Nevadans Need to Deliver College Dreams

In This Issue....

- College Kick Start Program Expands Statewide
- CKS Classroom Kits Available
- Teacher Incentive Program
- Staff Ready to Assist at College Savings Night Events
- CKS Navigators Needed to Serve as "Boots on the Ground"
- Prefilled Application Process Simplifies Opening Separate 529 Account



College Kick Start Program Expands Statewide

State Treasurer Kate Marshall and the Board of Trustees of the College Savings Plans of Nevada have succeeded in the statewide launch of the [Nevada College Kick Start Program](#), which has established \$50 college savings accounts for all Nevada 2013-2014 public school kindergarten students.

Approximately 35,000 accounts have now been opened in the first year of the program, which is intended to support a college bound culture in Nevada, resulting in more college graduates in the Silver State.

"This is an incredible accomplishment; to begin the Nevada College Kick Start Program just a few short months ago and now to see it go statewide is extremely exciting," Marshall said. "This program has the potential to be a game-changer in our state by teaching students and parents the value of beginning to plan ahead for the cost of higher education, which could be a university or technical college degree."

The Nevada College Kick Start Program is using a portion of program manager fees paid to the Treasurer's Office, not taxpayer dollars, to open the college savings accounts.

Treasurer Kate Marshall speaks to students at Anderson Elementary in Washoe County



Piggy Bank Campaign Kits

The Nevada College Kick Start Program is sending specially-designed kits to classrooms across Nevada that include a host of materials that will help classroom teachers inspire their kindergarten students and their parents to begin planning today for tomorrow's college expenses.

Save for College Piggy Bank kits include CKS piggy banks, a storybook, pencils, and t-shirts for students in your kindergarten classroom

Due to budget restrictions, not all classrooms across the state will receive the piggy bank kits. Information on these materials is being sent to your district office. If you're interested in purchasing items for your school or classroom, please contact Alex Smith at asmith@nevadatreasurer.gov or at (775) 684-5768.

Teacher Incentive Program

As a way of demonstrating our gratitude for the time and effort classroom kindergarten teachers are devoting to the Nevada College Kick Start Program, the Treasurer's Office is sponsoring a Facebook contest. Kindergarten teachers who "Like" us and share stories or photos on our Nevada College Kick Start Program Facebook page will be entered into a drawing to win a \$100 gift card that can be used to buy supplies for their classroom. In all, 25 \$100 gift cards will be awarded.

Entries must be received by no later than April 28, 2014. Winners will be selected via a random drawing, with gift cards mailed directly to the winning teachers by no later than May 2, 2014.



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Nevada State Treasurer Kate Marshall



Staff Ready to Assist at College Savings Night Events

The Treasurer's Office staff is here to help in any way we can! Staff will come out and assist with College Savings events hosted by school districts or at individual schools, depending on availability.

Our offices and limited staff are located in Carson City and Las Vegas. College Savings Night events in Carson City, Clark, Churchill, Douglas, Lyon, Nye, Storey, and Washoe counties can easily be arranged. For Elko, Esmeralda, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lincoln, Mineral, Pershing, and White Pine counties, we ask that you work together to set up an event which will pull in multiple schools.

Please contact Alex Smith at asmith@nevadatreasurer.gov or at (775) 684-5768 to discuss scheduling our staff to attend a College Savings event in your area.



CKS Navigators Needed to Serve as "Boots on the Ground"

Now that the program has launched statewide, one of the most important next steps is to find local people in your community—parents, PTA members, retirees, school administrators, etc.—to serve as Navigators for the Nevada College Kick Start Program. We need your help in recruiting volunteers who will serve as the program's "boots on the ground," so to speak.

Navigators will receive training from staff on how to assist parents with the enrollment process, how to coordinate College Savings Night events, and learn how they can help spread the word in your community about the Nevada College Kick Start Program.



This is a vital and critical role in the long-term success of the program. If you know of someone who is interested in serving as a program Navigator, please have them contact our office at asmith@nevadatreasurer.gov or by calling (775) 684-5768

Treasurer Marshall visits Northside Early Learning Center in Fallon.



Treasurer Kate Marshall and Nye County School District Superintendent Dale Norton, along with District Principals at an event last fall.

Prefilled Application Process Simplifies Opening Separate 529 Account

As of March 1, 2014, parents of students in the Nevada College Kick Start Program can easily open their own separate SSgA Upromise college savings account. All participants for whom we have an email address will receive an email with a link to a pre-filled application to open this separate account, which remains under the control of the account holder parent(s). Accounts can be set up in just minutes.

As you may recall, Nevada families can now open an SSgA Upromise 529 account for as little as \$15; not just kindergarten students, but for all their children.

To open an account, visit www.Nevadas529.com.



Lovelock Elementary School students, teachers, and staff supporting the College Kick Start Program.