

COLLEGE SAVINGS

PLANS OF MARYLAND

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Maryland College Investment Plan Named One of the Five Best 529 College Savings Plans in the Nation by Morningstar Inc.*

Morningstar, Inc. cites the Plan's "Thoughtful Management" as a Key Factor in its "Top" Rating.

BALTIMORE (October 27, 2010) – The [College Savings Plans of Maryland](#) today announced that the [Maryland College Investment Plan](#), managed and distributed by T. Rowe Price, has been recognized as [one of the five best 529 College Savings Plans in the nation by Morningstar, Inc.](#) This year's [study](#) was enhanced with a complete evaluation and analysis of over 50 of the nation's largest 529 plans.

This distinguished recognition places the College Investment Plan in the top tier based in part on T. Rowe Price's thoughtful management team that oversees the Maryland direct sold plan. According to Morningstar, the College Investment Plan is one "...of the few direct-sold 529 plans that emphasize actively managed funds, rather than index funds. As a result, college savers pay more than they would for an indexed-only plan, but they're getting a strong set of funds run by experienced managers."

Treasurer Nancy K. Kopp, Board Chair of the College Savings Plans of Maryland, commented, "We are proud of the fact that we offer a college savings plan that is considered one of the best in the nation. This past year T. Rowe Price made a concerted effort to reduce the fees to participants in order to continue to make the Plan affordable and flexible. We feel this step, along with the latest recognition of well-managed portfolios, makes the College Investment Plan one of the best 529 choices in the country to help families save for college."

The College Savings Plans of Maryland also offers the [Maryland Prepaid College Trust](#), another Maryland 529 plan that gives families an opportunity to lock in tomorrow's tuition at today's prices and is backed by the security of a Maryland Legislative Guarantee. Prepaid tuition plans like the Prepaid College Trust were not included in Morningstar's analysis.

Both plans offer attractive federal and Maryland State tax benefits and can be used at nearly any accredited college in the country. Enrollment for the Prepaid College Trust opens again on December 1, 2010, while enrollment in the College Investment Plan is open all year.

Please carefully read the Enrollment Kit which describes the investment objectives, risks, expenses, and other important information that you should consider before you invest in the College Savings Plans of Maryland. The Enrollment Kit is available at www.collegesavingsmd.org or by calling 1-888-4MD-GRAD. Also, if you or your beneficiary live outside of Maryland, you should consider before investing whether your state or your beneficiary's state offer state tax or other benefits for investing in its 529 plan.

*College Savings Plans of Maryland, Administrator and Issuer
T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc., Program Manager and Investment Advisor
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