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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Maryland Prepaid College Trust's 2008 - 2009 Enrollment Period opens December 1st and continues through April 6, 2009. The Maryland College Investment Plan remains open for enrollment year-round.

BALTIMORE (December 1, 2008) – The College Savings Plans of Maryland (CSPM) today announced that the *Maryland Prepaid College Trust* (MPCT) will open its 2008 - 2009 enrollment period on December 1st and will continue enrollment through April 6, 2009. The MPCT is one of two Section 529 plans offered by the CSPM that give families an opportunity to help hedge against tuition inflation by locking in tomorrow's tuition at today's prices and is backed by the security of a Maryland Legislative Guarantee. Prices for the MPCT University Plans have increased by only 1.1% over last year, due primarily to no tuition increase at most Maryland public 4-year colleges for the 2008 – 2009 academic year. Prices for the Community College Plans have remained the same.

The CSPM, an independent State Agency, also administers another tax-advantaged 529 plan – the *Maryland College Investment Plan* (MCIP), managed and distributed by T. Rowe Price. Recognized for the second year in a row as one of the “best 529 college savings plans” in the country by *Morningstar**, the MCIP offers a variety of investment options, with no sales commissions, loads or enrollment fee, and enrollment is open year-round.

Both plans offer generous federal and Maryland State tax benefits and may be used at nearly any accredited college in the country.

“We continue to be pleased that more families are starting to save for college by choosing one or both of our affordable plans and we are eagerly anticipating the start of our 11th enrollment period in the Prepaid College Trust,” said Joan Marshall, Executive Director of the CSPM. “In these volatile economic times, the Trust provides a measure of comfort to families by allowing them to lock into fixed payments that are based in part on the cost of college today for the assurance of future tuition benefits that may be used at nearly any college in the country.”

Please carefully read the Enrollment Kit available online 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. Also, if you or your beneficiary live outside of Maryland, you should consider before investing whether your

state or your beneficiary's state offers state tax or other benefits for investing in its 529 plan.

**Morningstar, Inc. April 2008 based on diversification of underlying investments, seasoned investment managers, low fees, and flexibility to suit an individual's investor's risk tolerance and time horizon.*