



**SCOTT MEACHAM
OKLAHOMA STATE TREASURER**

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**Oklahoma College Savings Plan to award \$5,529 toward
College Savings for a Baby Born in 2010**

*Volunteer Auxiliaries at Oklahoma Hospital Association member hospitals to Participate in
Newborn Sweepstakes*

OKLAHOMA CITY -- The Oklahoma College Savings Plan (OCSP), with the help of hospital volunteers across the state, is going to jump start the college savings plan of one lucky Oklahoma baby born in 2010. State Treasurer Scott Meacham today announced the kick off of the Oklahoma College Savings Plan Newborn Sweepstakes. The promotion offers the chance for the parent or grandparent of one child born in Oklahoma in 2010 to win \$5,529 towards an OCSP account on behalf of the newborn.

“Next to saving for retirement, saving for a child’s higher education is among the top financial goals for most families,” said State Treasurer Meacham, Chairman of the Oklahoma College Savings Plan. “The best time to start saving for your child’s college education is when he or she is born.”

Meacham said the OCSP Newborn Sweepstakes is open to parents or grandparents who have a child born at a participating Oklahoma hospital during 2010. As part of the promotion, the OCSP, Oklahoma’s 529 college savings plan, will include information about the sweepstakes in the “mommy bags” distributed at all Oklahoma Hospital Association member hospitals with a participating volunteer auxiliary. New parents or grandparents can go to the OCSP website, www.ok4saving.org, to enter for a chance to win. Parents or grandparents of a child born in 2010 will have until April 15, 2011 to enter. Details and official rules can be found on the OCSP web site.

The winner will be announced in May of 2011. The winning child will receive \$5,529 towards an OCSP account and the volunteer auxiliary at the Oklahoma hospital where the child was born will receive \$1,529.

“We want to help new parents learn about the tremendous benefits of higher education and the importance of saving early to help provide their children with the means to pay for college,” said Meacham. “We appreciate all the Oklahoma hospital auxiliaries that are participating in the OCSP Newborn Sweepstakes and helping us spread the word to parents and grandparents about Oklahoma’s 529 college savings plan.”

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“Oklahoma hospital volunteers are committed to helping people in our communities and we are so pleased to be a part of a program that will help children in Oklahoma receive the education they need,” said Nancy Logsdon, state auxiliary leader. Participating volunteer auxiliaries will work to ensure parents of newborn babies receive information about the sweepstakes.

Contributions made each year by April 15 by Oklahoma taxpayers to an OCSP Account are eligible for an Oklahoma income tax deduction in the prior year. Limitations apply. All contributions and any earnings to an OCSP account are federal and Oklahoma income tax-deferred, and distributions are also federal and Oklahoma income tax-free when qualified withdrawals are made to fund an array of student expenses at most institutions of higher learning (See Disclosure Book for details). Funds may be used at virtually any private or public college nationwide, and the savings can be applied to tuition as well as other qualified expenses including fees, books, supplies and certain room and board costs.

For more information about the Oklahoma College Savings Plan, to open an account, or to view a list of participating hospitals, visit the website at www.ok4saving.org or call 1-877-654-7284.

The Oklahoma College Savings Plan is a state-sponsored, tax-advantaged 529 college savings plan managed by TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing Inc. Introduced in April 2000, the Oklahoma College Savings Plan currently has more than \$350 million in total assets and more than 42,000 accounts, as of March 25, 2010.

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