

# Growing the Dream

A College Savings Quarterly, Summer 2006

## State Treasurer Message

You have taken a great step in opening your OCSP 529 account. Here are changes to the program worth noting:

Legislation has recently passed that will move the contribution deadline to receive your 2006 OCSP tax deduction from December 31, 2006 until April 15, 2007.

This summer, we will be increasing the number of investment options available to you in the OCSP program. Keep an eye out for details.

I hope you enjoy this issue of Growing the Dream.

—*Scott Meacham*

## In The Community

A warm thanks to all OCSP account owners who joined us on April 30th at the amazing [Sam Noble event](#). Children of OCSP account owners enjoyed free admission to the museum with every paid adult admission. If you had your photo taken at the OCSP event table, don't forget to retrieve your photo with your claim number at [www.ok4saving.org](http://www.ok4saving.org).



## Account Login Links

[Make a Contribution](#)

[Start/Change Automatic Contribution Plan](#)

[Update Personal Information](#)

[Check Current Investment Performance](#)

## Services & Forms Links

[Account Forms](#)

[Make a Withdrawal](#)

[Update Personal Information](#)

## Account Login

## Services & Forms

## Calculator

Welcome to *Growing the Dream*, a new and improved quarterly update for Oklahoma College Savings Plan account owners. In it you'll find information that can help your child prepare for college, links that allow you to log on and access your account, and links to other useful and informative web sites.

### Automatic Contribution Plan

It's an easy way to make regular automatic contributions to your OCSP account through direct fund transfers from your bank account. To sign up or to increase your automatic contributions either [print the form](#) to mail in, or go [online](#).



## This issue's featured articles



### Countdown to College: Running the Numbers

Daunted by the numbers? The cost of sending your child to school may not be as overwhelming as you've come to expect: According to the College Board, over 70 percent of students attending four-year colleges pay less than \$8,000 per year. So how much do you really need? Obviously, it depends on where your undergraduate is heading – and when they're going. Try TIAA-CREF's 529 [College Savings Tool](#) to get an estimate. The site's useful slider tools also make it easy to see how adjustments to contributions, savings and inflation impact your final results.

### Withdrawing for College

For many of you, it's time to put your hard earned savings to work for that special purpose. [Click here](#) for a withdrawal form that you can print, fill out, sign, date, and mail in for processing.



### Family Trips Without the Scary Fares

Do you love the action of a biking or boating adventure? Or do you prefer a quiet afternoon on horseback? Do you want to explore the city or become a kid again at a water park? Whatever your tastes, many world-class getaways are a short drive away for Oklahomans – great news for families with college-bound kids. To explore what's available, including attractions, hotels, packages and more, visit the [Oklahoma tourism site](#).



[Rollover Form](#)

[Calculator Link](#)

[College Savings Calculator](#)

[Additional Useful Links](#)

[OK State Regents For Higher Ed.](#)

[College Board](#)

[College Parents of America](#)

[College Planning Network](#)

[Mapping Your Future](#)

[OCSP Investment Results](#)

[TIAA-CREF](#)

[Treasurer's Office](#)

[US Department of Education](#)

[US Department of Education - Think College](#)



## Make Summer Productive

Whether it's the ABCs, the multiplication tables or advanced calculus, your student has probably mastered at least one major milestone this year. But with summer upon us, it will be a while before those books are cracked again. How do you keep them from having to start over in September? Check out the [Family Education Network's Summer Learning](#) site for great games, tips and ideas on how to stop the summer brain drain. And for families with high school students, summer is also the perfect time to broaden experience by volunteering. Experts say that college admissions officers are most impressed by volunteer work that really demonstrates an applicant's interests and passions. So it's worth taking the time to find something that your student can really get into. Volunteer service that's related to potential career interests is always a good idea, too. A number of sites, including [Idealist](#) and [Do Something](#) can help with suggestions.



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If you have inquiries or comments, please write to us at the Oklahoma College Savings Plan,  
Attention: Kevin Seaman, 730 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017.**

**Consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing in the Oklahoma College Savings Plan. Please visit [ok4saving.org](#) for a [Disclosure Booklet](#) containing this information. Read it carefully.**

**The tax information contained in this letter is not intended to be used, and cannot be used, by any taxpayer for the purpose of avoiding tax penalties. It was written to support the promotion of the OCSP. Taxpayers should seek advice based on their own particular circumstances from an independent tax advisor.**

**Before investing in a 529 plan, you should consider whether the state you or your designated beneficiary reside in or have taxable income has a 529 plan that offers favorable state income tax or other benefits that are only available if you invest in that state's 529 plan.**

The State of Oklahoma, its agencies, TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc., Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America and its affiliates do not insure any account or guarantee its principal or investment return except for TIAA-CREF Life Insurance Company's guarantee to the Oklahoma College Savings Plan under the funding agreement for the Guaranteed Option. Account value will fluctuate based upon a number of factors, including general market conditions.

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