



**SCOTT MEACHAM
OKLAHOMA STATE TREASURER**

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**Treasurer Meacham Asks Public to Vote for
Favorite Girl Scout Cookie**

Oklahoma College Savings Plan and Oklahoma Girl Scouts Partner

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK – This year’s race for Oklahoma’s favorite Girl Scout cookie could turn into a runoff between Thin Mints® and Samoas®, the top two cookies from last year’s election. As thousands of Girl Scouts across Oklahoma begin their much-anticipated annual cookie sales drive, State Treasurer Scott Meacham is asking the public to vote for Oklahoma’s favorite Girl Scout Cookie again in 2010. The [Oklahoma College Savings Plan](#) (OCSP) is partnering with the Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma and Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma Councils on the “Vote for Oklahoma’s Favorite Girl Scout Cookie” promotion.

On January 23, sales of Thin Mints®, Tagalongs® and other enticing cookie flavors begin in western Oklahoma. Cookie booth sales begin for Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma on February 12. On January 16, residents can begin casting their vote for Oklahoma’s Favorite Girl Scout Cookie by visiting the Oklahoma College Savings Plan website at www.ok4saving.org. The troop garnering the most cookie votes, will win \$529. See official rules for details.

Treasurer Meacham said the statewide Vote for Oklahoma’s Favorite Cookie promotion is designed to promote the Girls Scouts organization and encourage parents to learn more about saving for their child’s college education when they go online to vote for their favorite cookie.

“This promotion between the Oklahoma College Savings Plan and the Girl Scouts is a natural partnership,” said State Treasurer Meacham, Chairman of the Oklahoma College Savings Plan. “Girl Scouts helps young women develop the character and skills to succeed in the real world and the chances for success of these young women increase exponentially when combined with a plan to save for their college through the Oklahoma College Savings Plan.”

Oklahomans, age 18 or older, have until March 31, 2010 to cast their vote on the Oklahoma College Savings Plan website, www.ok4saving.org. The winning cookie will be announced in early April in a ceremony at the State Capitol. The Girl Scout who sells the most cookies in Oklahoma will win \$1,529 towards an Oklahoma College Savings Plan. The sales contest ends on March 31, 2010*.

“We really appreciate the opportunity to, once again, partner with the Oklahoma College Savings Plan,” said Cathy Stackpole, CEO for Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma. “And, we really appreciate the Oklahoma College Savings Plan offering the \$1,529 OCSP account to the top cookie salesperson. It’s a terrific way to encourage these young girls to test their

entrepreneurial, leadership and public speaking skills and it reminds them of a very important goal – planning for college.”

“Everyone has their favorite Girl Scout Cookie and we think this will be another tough competition for Oklahoma as a state to choose its favorite,” said Meacham. “I encourage everyone to vote for their favorite cookie and also help their local Girl Scout troops who depend on the cookie sales to support their programs including attending summer camps, doing community service projects and a lot more that benefits our state.”

Voting starts January 16 and will end March 31. Visit www.ok4saving.org to cast your vote today.

Contributions made by April 15 by Oklahoma taxpayers to their OCSP Account are eligible for a 2009 Oklahoma income tax deduction. 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 or to open an account, visit the website at www.ok4saving.org or call 1-877-654-7284. For more information about Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma, including locating a cookie booth near you, visit www.gswestok.org or call toll free 800-698-0022.

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 \$332 million in total assets and almost 42,000 accounts, as of December 31, 2009.

** The cookie sales contest is open to registered Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma and Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma Councils. No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited. Go to www.ok4saving.org for official rules.*

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Consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing in the Oklahoma College Savings Plan. Please call toll-free 1-877-654-7284 for a Disclosure Booklet containing this information. Read it carefully.

Before investing in a 529 plan, you should consider whether the state you or your designated beneficiary reside in or have taxable income in 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 tax information contained in this material is not intended to be used, and cannot be used by any taxpayer, for the purpose of avoiding tax penalties that may be imposed on the taxpayer. It was written to support the promotion of the products and services offered by the Oklahoma College Savings Plan. Taxpayers should seek advice based on their own particular circumstances from an independent tax advisor.

Non-qualified withdrawals are subject to income taxes and the federal additional 10% tax.

Account value in the Investment Options is not guaranteed and will fluctuate based upon a number of factors, including general market conditions.

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