



**Erick Russell**  
CONNECTICUT STATE TREASURER



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE // TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2023

**Media Contacts:**

Office of the Treasurer: Tyler Van Buren: [tyler.vanburen@ct.gov](mailto:tyler.vanburen@ct.gov) | (959) 529-2468

Dream Big!: Amanda Savio: [asavio@mintz-hoke.com](mailto:asavio@mintz-hoke.com) | (860) 543-3865

## CHET DREAM BIG! COMPETITION NOVEMBER 6 ENTRY DEADLINE APPROACHING

*K-12 STUDENTS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO WIN UP TO  
\$20,000 TOWARDS HIGHER EDUCATION*

**HARTFORD, CT** – K-12 students still have time to enter the Connecticut Higher Education Trust (CHET) Dream Big! Competition! The deadline to enter is 5:00 p.m. ET on November 6, 2023. The Competition was announced by Connecticut Treasurer Erick Russell, Trustee of CHET, on August 1. Dream Big! is open to all Connecticut residents in grades K-12. Visit [chetdreambig.com](http://chetdreambig.com) for information and to enter.

“There’s still time for Connecticut students to participate in this year’s Competition with the chance to win some incredible contributions towards their future education,” said Treasurer Russell. “This is a great opportunity to get kids thinking about their role in their community and what they want their future to look like. I’m looking forward to seeing their creative and thoughtful entries and celebrating alongside the winners.”

As part of the Dream Big! Competition, more than \$450,000 in CHET 529 College Savings Plan – Direct Plan account contributions will be awarded to students in grades K-12 along with technology prizes to schools across Connecticut. Three students will be awarded \$20,000 prizes, 24 will be awarded \$6,000 prizes and 336 will be awarded \$500 prizes.

In addition, each school in Connecticut that has at least one student entry will be eligible for a random drawing where a total of ten schools will win a technology prize each valued at \$7,500. Please see the 2023 competition [official rules](#) for more information on prize structure and awards.

This year’s Competition asks younger students to answer a question about improving their communities and the lives of others. Older students will be asked to describe a

lesson they've learned and how it will influence their future. Submissions must be uploaded by 5:00 p.m. ET on November 6, 2023.

Entry instructions, official rules and additional details can also be found at [chetedreambig.com](http://chetedreambig.com). No purchase is necessary to enter or win.

### **About the Office of the Treasurer**

The Office of the Treasurer is charged with safeguarding Connecticut's financial resources through prudent cash and debt management, with the State Treasurer serving as principal fiduciary for six state pension and nine state trust funds. Additionally, the Office enhances the state's fiscal stability through programs promoting financial literacy and college savings, and it leverages business partnerships to support the advancement of Connecticut's social and policy priorities, including combating gun violence and protecting our environment. The Office of the Treasurer is led by State Treasurer Erick Russell, the only Black elected state treasurer in the country. To learn more, visit [portal.ct.gov/ott](http://portal.ct.gov/ott).

### **About CHET**

The Connecticut Higher Education Trust (CHET) direct-sold college savings plan was established in 1997 and has grown to more than \$4.2 billion in assets and 161,000 accounts. Over \$2.1 billion has been withdrawn from CHET accounts to help more than 57,000 students pay for college expenses. The State of Connecticut offers CHET to help families save for future higher education costs. Funds deposited into a CHET account offer tax advantages and can be used at accredited colleges and universities across the country, including vocational and technical schools, and some colleges abroad. Connecticut residents are allowed to deduct 529 contributions from their state income taxes – up to \$5,000 for an individual or up to \$10,000 for a married couple filing jointly. Investment earnings are exempt from state and federal taxes if used for qualified educational expenses.

For more information, visit [AboutCHET.com](http://AboutCHET.com). Find us on Facebook ([facebook.com/CHET529](https://facebook.com/CHET529)), follow us on Twitter (@CHET529) or on Instagram (@CHET529).

### **About Fidelity Investments**

Fidelity's mission is to strengthen the financial well-being of our customers and deliver better outcomes for the clients and businesses we serve. With assets under administration of \$11.5 trillion, including discretionary assets of \$4.4 trillion as of September 30, 2023, we focus on meeting the unique needs of a diverse set of customers. Privately held for over 75 years, Fidelity employs over 73,000 associates who are focused on the long-term success of our customers. For more information about Fidelity Investments, visit <https://www.fidelity.com/about-fidelity/our-company>.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Void where prohibited. Open to legal U.S. residents, residing in Connecticut, who are at least 18 years old and are the parents or legal guardians of a student currently enrolled in a Connecticut school Grades K-12 as of 8/1/23. Competition begins 9:00 a.m. ET on 8/1/23; ends 5:00 p.m. ET on 11/06/23. Entrant prizes will be a contribution to an eligible CHET 529 Direct Plan Account established for the benefit of the child whose parent submitted a winning entry. For Official Rules and eligibility, visit [chetedreambig.com](http://chetedreambig.com). Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC.

**The Connecticut Higher Education Trust (CHET) 529 College Savings Plan - Direct Plan is offered by the Treasurer of the state of Connecticut and managed by Fidelity Investments. If you or the designated beneficiary is not a Connecticut resident, you may want to consider, before investing, whether your state or the beneficiary's home state offers its residents a plan with alternate state tax advantages or other state benefits such as financial aid, scholarship funds and protection from creditors.**

**Please carefully consider the plan's investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses before investing. For this and other information on any 529 college savings plan managed by Fidelity, contact Fidelity for a free Fact Kit or view one online. Read it carefully before you invest or send money.**

**Units of the portfolios are municipal securities and may be subject to market volatility and fluctuation.**

**The Fidelity Investments and pyramid design logo is a registered service mark of FMR LLC.**

###

Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC, Member NYSE, SIPC  
900 Salem Street, Smithfield, RI 02917

Fidelity Distributors Company LLC  
500 Salem Street, Smithfield, RI 02917

National Financial Services LLC, Member NYSE, SIPC  
245 Summer Street, Boston, MA 0211

1112462.1.0

© 2023 FMR LLC. All rights reserved.