

TREASURER SHAWN T. WOODEN

TREASURER WOODEN LAUNCHES NATIONAL COLLEGE SAVINGS MONTH WITH SPECIAL CHET OFFER FOR SEPTEMBER

NEW AND EXISTING CHET SAVINGS ACCOUNTS ELIGIBLE FOR \$50 BONUS

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HARTFORD, CT – As students across Connecticut head back to school, Connecticut State Treasurer and <u>Connecticut Higher Education Trust</u> (CHET) trustee Shawn T. Wooden kicked off **National College Savings Month** with a special offer for the month of September.

September is National College Savings Month, a time to raise public awareness about ways to save for college, including Connecticut's direct-sold 529 college savings program (CHET.)

Throughout September, individuals who open a CHET 529 college savings account with \$500 or more will receive a \$50 bonus from CHET for National College Savings Month. And for the first time ever, current CHET account holders who contribute \$500 to their accounts during the month of September will also receive the \$50 bonus from CHET.

"Every new school year is a new opportunity to learn and grow—in the classroom and beyond," said **State Treasurer Shawn T. Wooden.** "September is the perfect time to learn more about CHET and start growing savings for the future college student in your life with the incentive being offered this month."

The State of Connecticut offers CHET to help families save for future college costs. Funds deposited into a CHET account have tax advantages and can be used at accredited colleges and universities across the country, including vocational and technical schools, and some colleges abroad.

As of July 2019, the CHET college savings program has grown to more than \$3.3 billion in assets and more than 128,700 accounts. Nearly \$2.1 billion has been withdrawn from CHET accounts to help more than 65,000 students pay for college expenses.

About CHET



The Connecticut Higher Education Trust (CHET) directsold college savings plan was established in 1997. Connecticut residents can deduct 529 contributions from their state income taxes – up to \$10,000 for a married couple filing jointly or up to \$5,000 for an individual. Investment earnings are exempt from state and federal taxes if used for qualified educational expenses.

The CHET direct-sold plan is managed by TIAA Tuition Financing, Inc. For more information about CHET, visit <u>www.aboutchet.com</u> or call the customer service center at (866) 314-3939. Find us on Facebook (<u>facebook.com/CHETcollegesavings</u>) or follow us on Twitter (<u>Twitter.com/CHET529</u>).

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