

FACT SHEET

FLORIDA COLLEGE SAVINGS PLANS

Adapted from Florida Prepaid College Board

Families are offered two ways to save for their children and grandchildren's college education:

FLORIDA PREPAID COLLEGE PLAN

Families are able to lock in today's plan prices and prepay the cost of tuition, required fees and dormitory housing at Florida's 12 state universities and 28 Florida Colleges. The plan's value may be transferred to the majority of private colleges in Florida, technical schools and out-of-state colleges. The Florida Prepaid College Plan is financially guaranteed by the State of Florida, Section 1009.98(7), Florida Statutes.

FLORIDA 529 SAVINGS PLAN (formerly known as the Florida College Investment Plan)

Families can choose from five investment options. They may start with a minimum contribution of \$25 a month or \$250, and then decide how much and how often to save for college. The Florida 529 Savings Plan can be used at colleges throughout the country to pay for tuition, fees, housing, food, books, supplies and computers required by the college or university, and even graduate or professional school.

Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code authorizes both plans, so earnings on withdrawals for qualified college expenses are tax-free.

FLORIDA PREPAID COLLEGE PLAN

The 2-Year Florida College Plan (formerly Community College Plan)

Consists of 60 lower division hours of tuition, registration fees and local fees at a Florida College. This plan allows students to earn an associate's degree or learn a trade to quickly launch their careers.

Florida's 28 Colleges are expanding to reflect a broader mission and many now offer workforce-related bachelor's degrees in areas such as teaching and nursing. Reflecting the expansion and the demand for these degrees, the 4-Year Florida College Plan prepays the tuition, registration fees and local fees for 60 lower division as well as 60 upper division hours at a Florida College. To help manage costs, many students start their education with two years at a Florida College, (formerly known as a community college) before finishing at a university. The 2+2 Florida Plan provides 60 lower division semester hours of tuition, registration fees and local fees at a Florida College and 60 undergraduate semester hours of tuition, registration fees, tuition differential fee and local fees at a Florida state university.

The 4-Year Florida University Plan

Prepays tuition, registration fees, the tuition differential fee and local fees for 120 semester hours at any of the 12 state universities in Florida.

FLORIDA 529 SAVINGS PLAN

Families are able to save tax-exempt for college at their own rate with a flexible investment plan.

Many people use money saved in the Florida 529 Savings Plan for other qualified higher education expenses not covered by a Florida Prepaid College Plan. Such qualified expenses include off-campus housing, food, textbooks and computers required by the college or university, and graduate school. The Florida 529 Savings Plan can also be used to cover tuition, tuition differential fee, local fees and dormitory housing.

With a \$25 a month automatic bank withdrawal or a single \$250 contribution, families can start a Florida 529 Savings Plan* account. Families then decide how much and how often to increase their college savings, whether the goal is to pay for enrollment at a college, a four-year university or medical school. Different accounts may be opened for the same child.

Families can choose from the five different investment options available through the Florida 529 Savings Plan. Families may select one or a combination of investment options, and each option varies in strategy and level of risk.
