



Utah Educational
Savings Plan®

News Release

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www.uesp.org/pdfs/PressRelease/2015ValentineGift

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This Valentine's Day, Trade Chocolate for the Gift of Education

(Salt Lake City) To show your loved ones how much you care this Valentine's Day, consider giving the gift of education. The Utah Educational Savings Plan (UESP), Utah's official 529 college savings program, makes giving easy through its Gift Program at gift.uesp.org.

"UESP's Gift Program is an ideal way to show your love for prospective and current college students by giving a gift they'll appreciate long into the future," says Lynne Ward, UESP executive director.

How the UESP Gift Program Works

The UESP Gift Program is easy to use and there is no fee for the service.

To invite family and friends to contribute to a UESP college savings account, a UESP account owner first enrolls in the UESP Gift Program by going to Account Access online at uesp.org and selecting Gift Program. A link to a personal gift page and a unique gift code appear on the screen as soon as an account has been activated for gift giving. An account owner then may share this unique link with family and friends by email or using Facebook or Twitter.

To give a gift, family and friends click on the link to the personal gift page, where they may contribute to the account online, or mail a check with a gift contribution coupon they print from the page that includes the code. Use of the unique gift code ensures streamlined deposit of gift contributions while keeping the account number confidential. UESP notifies the account owner by email when a gift contribution posts to the account.

Another Way to Give

Valentine's Day gift notices are also available at gift.uesp.org. If you have a UESP account owner's information, including account number, and would prefer to send a check by mail to UESP, simply select the gift notice you would like to give and print and fill out the form. Detach the top portion and mail it to UESP with your contribution. Save the bottom portion to present as a gift certificate to the account beneficiary.

Anyone can contribute to a UESP account. However, only the account owner can change the account's investment option or withdraw money from the account. In addition, the account owner alone can claim any tax benefits related to the account, regardless of who contributed. Utah account owners and trusts are eligible for a 5 percent Utah state income tax credit *per qualified beneficiary* on contributions up to

\$1,900, (a maximum tax credit of \$95) for a single filer, and up to \$3,800 (a maximum tax credit of \$190) for joint filers in 2015.

In order for an account owner or trust to claim a tax credit, the beneficiary must have been age 19 or younger when designated as such on the account. If this requirement is met, the account owner or trust may claim the credit each year a contribution is made for the life of the beneficiary's account.

About UESP

UESP, Utah's official nonprofit 529 college savings plan, manages more than \$7.9 billion in assets and is highly ranked by Morningstar Inc. and other financial experts.

It's free to open an account, and UESP requires no minimum deposit or account balance, so families can save a little or a lot, according to their own schedules. UESP's user-friendly website, uesp.org, makes it easy to open, manage, and contribute to an account online.

Earnings on UESP accounts grow tax-deferred, and withdrawals are free from federal and Utah state income taxes when used for qualified higher education expenses such as tuition, fees, certain room-and-board costs, and required books and supplies. Funds may be used at any eligible educational institution that participates in federal financial aid programs for students, not just at institutions in Utah.

To learn more about the Utah Educational Savings Plan Gift Program, visit gift.uesp.org, call UESP toll-free at 800.418.2551, or email info@uesp.org.

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The Utah Educational Savings Plan (UESP) is a Section 529 plan administered and managed by the Utah State Board of Regents and the Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority (UHEAA).

Read the Program Description for more information and consider all investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses before investing. Call 800.418.2551 for a copy of the Program Description or visit uesp.org.

Gifts are not revocable. UESP accounts are controlled by the account owner, who may change the beneficiary, withdraw or transfer funds, or change the account owner as set forth in the Program Description. Contributions to an account by a third party may qualify a Utah resident account owner for a Utah state income tax credit. Under Utah tax law, the giver may not receive a tax credit. Donations may have gift tax consequences. Please consult a tax advisor.

Investments in UESP are not guaranteed by UESP, the Utah State Board of Regents, the Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority (UHEAA), or any other state or federal agency. However, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance is provided for the FDIC-insured accounts. Please read the Program Description to learn about the FDIC-insured accounts. Your investment could lose value.

Non-Utah taxpayers and residents: You should determine whether the state in which you or your beneficiary pays taxes or lives offers a 529 plan that provides state tax or other benefits not otherwise available to you by investing in UESP. You should consider such state tax treatment and benefits, if any, before investing in UESP.