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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Treasurer's Office Program Helps Nevada Families Save for College**  
*Silver State Matching Grant Program now accepting applications through July 31*

**Carson City**—State Treasurer Kate Marshall and Upromise Investments today announced that April 1<sup>st</sup> marks the 2014 open enrollment period for the *Silver State Matching Grant Program*,\* which helps Nevada families accelerate their college savings by providing up to \$300 in additional matching grant funds each year, up to a total lifetime benefit of \$1,500, to eligible participants. The 2014 enrollment period ends on July 31, 2014.

“As parents, we want our children to dream big; to think about what they want to be when they grow up,” Marshall said. “As the cost of attending college continues to rise, parents are sometimes hard pressed to think how they can help their child reach those dreams. That’s why we created the *Silver State Matching Grant Program*; to specifically assist Nevada families by providing additional funding that will help pave the way for a brighter future.”

This marks the fifth open enrollment period for the *Silver State Matching Grant Program*, which is available to Nevada families with an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of less than \$75,000. Families who meet the eligibility requirements can receive a dollar-for-dollar match of up to \$300 annually in their SSgA Upromise 529 Plan account. Last year, the program distributed over \$67,000 in matching funding to 236 participants. Matching funds come from program manager fees paid to the state; no taxpayer dollars are used.

A study conducted by the Center for Social Development at Washington University in St. Louis<sup>1</sup> found that children with a college savings account are up to seven times more likely to attend college than those without an account. “The study found that no matter what the amount deposited in a college savings account, the dream of pursuing higher education is made concrete with an actual savings plan,” Marshall added.

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<sup>1</sup> Center for Social Development at Washington University in St. Louis: “The Role of Savings and Wealth in Reducing ‘Wilt’ Between Expectations and College Attendance”

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**STATE TREASURER PROGRAMS**  
Millennium Scholarship Program  
Nevada Prepaid Tuition Program  
Unclaimed Property  
SSgA Upromise 529 Plan

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Qualifications for the *Silver State Matching Grant Program* include:

- Both the account owner and the beneficiary must be Nevada residents.
- The beneficiary must be 13 years old or younger when the first matching grant is approved.
- The applicant must have an SSgA Upromise 529 Plan account.
- The applicant's household adjusted gross income (AGI) in the previous year must have been less than \$75,000.

Benefits of saving for college in an SSgA Upromise 529 Plan account include:

- No annual fee for Nevada residents.
- Open an account for as little as \$15.
- Can choose to automate your savings plan by establishing a direct deposit through your bank account.
- Earnings grow federal tax deferred; qualified withdrawals are exempt from federal taxes. \*\*

For more information about the *Silver State Matching Grant Program* or the Nevada College Savings Plans Program, go to <https://NevadaTreasurer.gov> and review the menu under College Savings Plans in the top navigation bar.

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\*Matching grants are subject to availability of funds. There is no guarantee of the continuing operation of the *Silver State Matching Grant Program*.

\*\*Earnings on non-qualified withdrawals are subject to federal income tax and may be subject to a 10% federal tax penalty. The availability of tax and other benefits may be contingent on meeting other requirements.

*For more information about the SSgA Upromise 529 Plan call 1-800-587-7305 or visit [www.ssga.upromise529.com](http://www.ssga.upromise529.com) to obtain a Plan Description and Participation Agreement. Investment objectives, risks, charges, expenses, and other important information are included in the Plan Description; read and consider it carefully before investing. Upromise Investments, Inc., Distributor and Underwriter.*