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## ***Utah Educational Savings Plan Marks 20 Years Helping Families Save for College***

*Celebration at Utah State Capitol will honor landmark legislation that set up UESP*

**(Salt Lake City)** Legislators, educators, Utah Educational Savings Plan (UESP) officials, and the public will gather at the Utah State Capitol on February 19, 2016, to celebrate UESP's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary as Utah's official and only 529 college savings plan.

The celebration will be held in the Centennial Room of the Utah State Capitol from 10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Speakers will be former Rep. Doug Peterson, original sponsor of the bill to establish UESP; David Buhler, commissioner of Higher Education; and Lynne Ward, UESP executive director.

The Utah Legislature established UESP in 1996 to help families save for their children's future college costs. Since UESP began, the number of accounts under its management has grown to more than 300,000. Assets managed by the nonprofit plan exceeded \$8.4 billion at the close of 2015. Over its lifetime, UESP has been consistently ranked at the top of 529 plans for its innovative investment options and low fees.

"Because of the foresight of Utah lawmakers and the support of four governors, more Utah students are able to afford higher education and are coming out of college with less debt than they otherwise would have had. By any measure, UESP is a success," said Ward, who has led UESP since 2005.

### **About UESP**

UESP, Utah's official nonprofit 529 college savings plan, is highly ranked by Morningstar Inc., *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* magazine, *Money* magazine, CBS MoneyWatch.com, and consumer expert Clark Howard for its low fees and industry innovations such as its customized allocation investment options.

Accounts are free to open, and UESP requires no minimum deposit or account balance. UESP's user-friendly website, [uesp.org](http://uesp.org), makes it easy to open, manage, and contribute to an account online.

To learn more about the Utah Educational Savings Plan, visit [uesp.org](http://uesp.org), call UESP toll-free at 800.418.2551, or send an email to [info@uesp.org](mailto:info@uesp.org).

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*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](http://uesp.org).*

*Investments in UESP are not guaranteed by UESP, the Utah State Board of Regents, the Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority 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.*

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