



West Virginia College Prepaid Tuition and Savings Program

A Program of the State of West Virginia - Administered by the Office of the West Virginia State Treasurer

Quarterly Status Report Period Ending March 31, 2021



Ex Officio Members:

WV State Treasurer – Riley Moore, Chair, or designee

State Superintendent of Schools, W. Clayton Burch, or designee

WV Higher Education Policy Commission - Colleges & Universities, Brian Weingart

Council for Community and Technical Colleges, Dr. Bonny Copenhagen

Four members appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate:

Two private citizens not employed by, or an officer of, the state or any political subdivision of the state.

Phyllis Arnold

Patrick Smith

Two members representing the interests of private institutions of higher education from one or more nominees of the West Virginia Independent Colleges and Universities.

Dr. Daniel Anderson

Terri Underhill-Rader



Susan Basile, Deputy Treasurer

Amy Hamilton, Executive Director of Customer Relations

Greg Curry, Financial Director - Dave Thomas, Accounting Assistant

Lynda King, Board Secretary/Administrative Manager

Lindsay Marchio, Legal Counsel

Per W. Va. Code §18-30-10, the West Virginia College Prepaid Tuition and Savings Program is herewith submitting the quarterly report on the status of the program, including the trust funds and the administrative account, to the West Virginia Legislative Librarian.

Savings Plan Trust Fund

During the quarter, the SMART529 Savings Plan added 2,045 accounts ending the period with 116,116 active nationwide accounts. The assets are valued at \$3,070,641,084.08.

Of the nationwide accounts, 36,570 are West Virginia resident accounts with a total value of \$719,073,410.94.

Prepaid Tuition Trust Fund

The 2021 West Virginia Legislature terminated the Prepaid Tuition Trust Fund as continued operation was infeasible due to the rising administrative costs. On or about September 30, 2021, a lump sum final payment will be issued for any units, or fractional units, in the remaining accounts at the rate of \$4,808 per unit. This amount was calculated based on the 2019-2020 highest tuition rate of all eligible West Virginia public higher education institutions, which was adjusted with an annual 3.5% inflation rate based on actuarial analysis.

The West Virginia Prepaid Tuition Plan ended this period with 597 active accounts with assets valued at \$3,510,711. During the quarter, there were \$116,283 in qualified tuition benefit distributions. Prepaid Tuition Trust Fund investments earned \$732 during the quarter.

Prepaid Tuition Trust Fund Escrow Account

In March 2003, the West Virginia Legislature created the Prepaid Tuition Trust Escrow Account, to guarantee payment of Prepaid Tuition Plan contracts, and suspended further enrollments in the Plan.

	Last Quarter	This Quarter	Fiscal Year to Date
Market Value	\$27,787,573	\$27,857,432	\$27,857,432
Change from previous quarter/year	\$ 28,062	\$69,859	\$2,200,741

Administrative Account

The Administrative Account established in the State Treasurer’s Office is used for the purpose of implementing, operating, and maintaining the Trust Funds and the Program. It may receive funds from a variety of sources including fees, charges, and penalties collected by the Board.

Beginning balance	\$ 3,087,913
Receipts from Savings Plan Trust (WV Administrative Charge)	\$412,967
Expense Disbursements	<u>\$ (266,322)</u>
Ending Balance	\$3,234,558

Community Outreach

In January, SMART529 celebrated assets reaching the \$3 billion mark. Sponsorship opportunities included Inquire Within, a year-long collaboration among SMART529, West Virginia Public Broadcasting and Cabell County Public Library to increase early childhood literacy. SMART529 sponsored West Virginia University basketball including the “play of the game”, digital and banner ads. SMART529 sponsored the Gazette-Mail Regional Spelling Bee on March 20th. Due to a tie, the winner will be chosen at a spell-off in April. Marketing included social media posts and digital advertising.

The 14th annual *When I Grow Up Essay Contest* was kicked off in January. New this year was electronic submission. Final count for student entries totaled 2,339. Thirty-three teachers entered the Teacher Essay Contest.

Information contained herein is provided by Hartford Funds, the West Virginia Board of Treasury Investments, Intuition Systems and WVOASIS and has not been audited by an independent certified public accounting firm.