

Oregon College Savings Plan
Program Manager Selection Process

The Oregon 529 College Savings Board voted at its January 22, 2009, board meeting to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Program Manager for the Oregon College Savings Plan. The Program Manager offers a number of critical services in relation to the State's 529 program, including investment management, record keeping, customer call center, customer statements, and account servicing. The contract for the current Program Manager, OppenheimerFunds, expires on December 31, 2009.

An RFP was issued on April 1, 2009, and closed on May 5, 2009. The State received responses from six firms: College Savings Bank, Fidelity, TIAA-CREF, Union Bank & Trust Company, UPromise/Vanguard, and ValMark Advisers.

An evaluation committee, which is an advisory committee to the Oregon 529 College Savings Board, will evaluate and score the responses based on the criteria and questions listed in the RFP. Committee members include Office of the State Treasurer Staff, a Board member, the Board's investment consultant, and a representative of the public.

Criteria for selection includes the applicants' investment management performance, administration, account servicing capabilities, plan materials and promotion, transition planning (moving the participant records and money from one Program Manager to another), and fees.

It is the intent of the evaluation committee to present finalists to the Board and for the Board to make a final selection in July.

After a final selection is made, the Board will negotiate a contract with the selected firm and begin the transition from OppenheimerFunds. As we get further into the transition process, we will inform investors of a final transition date.

All college savings assets are held in trust by the State. Under the supervision of the Board, OppenheimerFunds will continue to invest the funds and manage the Plan during the orderly transition. Investors are not required to do anything with their accounts during the transition. Investors can continue to make contributions to and withdrawals from their accounts, open new accounts, and conduct business as usual. Investors will experience no disruption in service and incur no additional cost as a result of the transition.

Please continue to check our website at www.oregon529network.com for updates and information regarding the Program Manager selection process.