

# STATE OF COLORADO



DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
*Colorado Commission on Higher Education*

Bill Ritter, Jr.  
Governor

D. Rico Munn  
Executive Director

## ***NEWS RELEASE***

*For Immediate Release*

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### **GOVERNOR RITTER, HIGHER EDUCATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RICO MUNN CELEBRATE RECIPIENTS OF \$2,500 COLLEGE ACCESS SCHOLARSHIP**

*Governor Ritter, Munn Joined by More Than 50 Scholarship Recipients  
as Part of Governor's Complete College Colorado Effort*

**Denver** – Governor Ritter and Rico Munn, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE), were joined today by more than 50 recipients of a scholarship awarded by the CDHE at a celebration held at St. Catejan's Center on the Auraria Higher Education Center campus.

The scholarship recipients were awarded a \$2,500 College Access Scholarship, which is funded by a \$1.6 million Federal College Access Challenge Grant.

“Today is such a special day for these students, because we get to celebrate their academic accomplishment with their peers and their families” said Ritter. “But it is also very important because we need to make sure that this generation – and students of all ages in Colorado – remember that getting a degree from a two-year, four-year or occupational school is critical not only to their individual success, but also to the future success of our state.”

The scholarship is offered to help positively impact higher education access and retention for Colorado students by encouraging students to apply early for financial aid and providing follow-up assistance as students enter or complete higher education. An additional \$625,000 in College Access Scholarships will be awarded for the 2011-12 academic year.

“These students have shown initiative by seeking out and applying for this scholarship, and starting down that all important path of degree completion,” Munn said. “We are very proud, at the Department of Higher Education, of the resources we provide to Colorado students to prepare them for, and breakdown the financial barriers to, higher education.”

Recipients of the scholarship attend the following colleges and universities:

Aims Community College, Arapahoe Community College, Community College of Aurora, Community College of Denver, Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University, Denver School of Nursing, Front Range Community College, Mesa State College, Metropolitan State College, Morgan Community College, Red Rocks Community College, Regis University, University of Colorado Boulder, University of Colorado Colorado Springs and the University of Colorado Denver.

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