



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Lt. Gov. Lynne to visit Colorado Mountain College for scholarship award presentation**

DENVER – August 9, 2016: Lt. Gov. Donna Lynne will visit Colorado Mountain College (CMC) in Breckenridge for a check presentation on behalf of the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative's award of more than \$118,000 to Colorado Mountain College Foundation on behalf of Chafee, Eagle, Jackson, Lake, Routt, and Summit counties and CMC.

**WHO:** Lt. Gov. Donna Lynne, Colorado Department of Higher Education and Colorado Mountain College Leadership, Legislators, Other Dignitaries  
**WHAT:** Colorado Opportunity Scholarship check presentation to Colorado Mountain College Foundation  
**WHEN:** Thursday, Aug. 11 at 1:45 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Colorado Mountain College, 107 Denison Placer Road, Breckenridge

"Colorado Mountain College is a true example of how legislation envisioned this program working," said Shelley Banker, deputy director of the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative.

Through a partnership called the Mountain Futures Fund, CMC and partners have combined program grants and scholarship matching dollars to provide access and affordability for district students. In 2014, the college and foundation were awarded \$400,000 in program grants to build capacity for student supports. On Aug. 11, the state will award the foundation a check of more than \$118,000 on behalf of CMC and the counties mentioned above. That money will be matched 1:1, providing \$236,252 in new scholarship dollars for participants of the Mountain Futures Fund.

**Distribution by county:**

- Chaffee County - \$11,153
- Eagle County - \$38,886
- Grand County - \$8,858
- Jackson County - \$1,728
- Lake County - \$11,108
- Routt County - \$12,190
- Summit County - \$15,375
- Colorado Mountain College - \$18,828

**About the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship initiative:**

The Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative (Scholarship Initiative) was created to increase the attainment of postsecondary credentials and degrees for underserved students in Colorado. The project addresses this challenge in two ways: accessibility and affordability. To increase accessibility, the Scholarship Initiative funds programs that will help prepare students for postsecondary education, as well as support them through

completion. To increase affordability, the Scholarship Initiative will provide tuition support via matching funds for community scholarships.

The Colorado Department of Higher Education is committed to reducing the “attainment gap,” which is the gap between Coloradans who traditionally go to college and Coloradans who are historically less likely to go to college. The Department of Higher Education is working toward that goal through a variety of ways, including addressing college affordability through programs like the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative.

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