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### **DreamAhead retains Bronze Medal rating by Morningstar, Inc.**

**Olympia** — For the second consecutive year, DreamAhead, Washington state’s 529 college investment plan, has been recognized by Morningstar, Inc. as one of the top 529 savings plans in the nation, earning bronze medal status in its recent Morningstar Analyst Ratings.

DreamAhead is again one of 32 best-in-class 529 plans, or “medalists”, identified by Morningstar. In their annual assessment Morningstar measures four key pillars: Process, People, Parent, and Price.

Morningstar touted a diversified lineup, flexible glide-path options and reasonable fees as strengths for the DreamAhead plan. “This plan offers savers a straightforward investment lineup built on low-cost, passive funds,” stated Morningstar in its analysis of DreamAhead. “With its attractive fees and flexible menu design, Washington residents have a compelling option worth considering.”

“We are delighted to see DreamAhead recognized again as one of the top 529 plans in the country,” said Luke Minor, Director of Washington’s College Savings Plans. “Our team continues to work diligently to solidify DreamAhead as a best-in-class college savings option. Together with the Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET) program, Washingtonians have two stellar options for planning for future education needs.”

DreamAhead opened in 2018 and is one of two 529 plans offered by the state of Washington to help families prepare for higher education costs. Washington also offers the GET 529 prepaid tuition program, which opened in 1998. Funds in a 529 account can be used to cover a wide range of educational expenses, including tuition, fees, books, supplies, computers and some living expenses. In addition to college, funds in a 529 can be used for K-12 tuition, trade school, technical training, apprenticeships, or even to pay down existing student loans.

Washington’s College Savings Plans’ website ([wastate529.wa.gov](http://wastate529.wa.gov)) offers details, charts, planning tools and answers to questions that families may have about the program. Accounts can be opened online year-round, and the DreamAhead Customer Service Center is ready to help at (844) 529-5845 from 6am - 5pm Pacific Time.

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Washington College Savings Plans (WA529) offers two 529 college savings programs to Washingtonians: the Guaranteed Education Tuition Program (GET) and the DreamAhead College Investment Plan. Both programs offer individuals and families tax-advantaged options to save for higher education. The Committee on Advanced Tuition Payment and College Savings, commonly referred to as the WA529 Committee, provides oversight and sets program policies. The Washington Student Achievement Council supports and helps administer the programs, based on the Committee’s direction. The five-member committee consists of the executive director of the Washington Student Achievement Council, the State Treasurer, the director of the Office of Financial Management, and two citizen representatives. The State Actuary and GET’s State Investment Board liaison provide expertise and advise the committee as needed.