

# STATE OF NEBRASKA



## Proclamation

WHEREAS,

*The State of Nebraska is positioned to compete in the global economy and to ensure that high-quality, great-paying jobs are available in our state for our young people; and*

WHEREAS,

*We recognize the challenges ahead as we strive to make sure that our children have the education, knowledge, and skills needed to excel and to become contributing members of our state's strong, vibrant workforce; and*

WHEREAS,

*The State of Nebraska recognizes the value of educated citizens engaged in fulfilling work and actively participating in the life of the community through volunteerism and leadership roles in business, civic organizations, and elected office; and*

WHEREAS,

*The State of Nebraska also recognizes that rising costs of higher education and increased student loan debt make it necessary for parents and grandparents to plan early for their children's and grandchildren's education beyond high school and to look for creative and responsible ways to save; and*

WHEREAS,

*The State of Nebraska believes that despite the increasing costs of higher education, the reasons are compelling for children to seek education beyond high school, including higher lifetime earnings, job security and advancement, job satisfaction, and a lower unemployment rate; and*

WHEREAS,

*It is in the best interest of the State of Nebraska that access to post-secondary education, including community colleges and technical schools, be available for all our children. Encouraging parents to save for their children's education promotes that public purpose; and*

WHEREAS,

*The State of Nebraska provides an excellent college savings program, the Nebraska Educational Savings Trust (NEST 529), as a Section 529 Qualified State Tuition and Savings Plan through duly enacted laws passed by the Nebraska Legislature, including state tax incentives such as a Nebraska state income tax deduction up to \$10,000 for a couple filing jointly or a single filer, as recognition of the value of higher education; and*

WHEREAS,

*The State of Nebraska is committed to helping families save by offering convenient tools and valuable information to assist them in making wise decisions about saving for college, whether that be a four-year college or university, a community college, a technical school, or a graduate program.*

NOW, THEREFORE,

*I, Pete Ricketts, Governor of the State of Nebraska, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the month of September, 2021 as*

### COLLEGE SAVINGS MONTH

*in Nebraska, and I do hereby urge families and employers throughout the state to celebrate the benefits of higher education, and I urge Nebraska families to begin saving for their children's education through the Nebraska Educational Savings Trust.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this First day of September, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-one.*



Attest:

Secretary of State

Governor