



Office of the Arizona State Treasurer
Hon. Kimberly Yee, Treasurer
1700 W Washington St #102
Phoenix, AZ 85007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 15, 2023

CONTACT: Alyssa Koury
Public Information Officer
alyssak@aztreasury.gov
(602) 542-7843

AZ529, Arizona's Education Savings Plan Helps Bring Dreams to Life with Creative Photo Contest

*Summer "Picture-Perfect Career" Photo Contest Offers Arizona K-12th Graders Opportunity
to Win \$529 Towards Education and Career Goals*

AZ529, Arizona's Education Savings Plan and the Arizona State Treasurer's Office are inviting Kindergarten through 12th grade students across the state to take a creative photo of their future dream job for the "My Picture-Perfect Career" Photo Contest. Summer vacation is an ideal time for families to talk with children about what they'd like to be when they grow up and explore potential career interests with trips to Arizona libraries, museums and other local hands-on learning resources. Taking and sharing pictures while discussing job aspirations is the goal of this summer's "My Picture-Perfect Career" Photo Contest which launches today and is open to K-12 students across Arizona.

Arizona students are encouraged to take or pose for a photo representing themselves in their dream job. They can take a selfie, pose for a picture, invite friends and family into the shot or come up with their own creative ideas. The final photo just needs to visually communicate their vision of a dream job – whether the participant is in front of or behind the camera! A total of 10 winners will be selected across the state and receive \$529 towards opening a new or existing AZ529 Education Savings Plan. Winners will be selected from across Arizona's 15 counties including students at district, charter, private, tribal schools and homeschools.

The goal of the photo contest is to increase awareness of the AZ529 Plan and pave a path for another generation of students to achieve their post-secondary dreams through proper savings. Winners will be honored by Treasurer Kimberly Yee during a special ceremony at the State Capitol in September. Please be advised that by submitting photos to this contest, you acknowledge and agree that the photo may be publicly displayed, including on our website and social media channels.

In total, \$5,290 will be distributed to 10 students to assist in saving for their educational plans beyond high school. Parents or guardians of the winners will be responsible for setting up an AZ529 account if an account does not already exist. **All entries must be submitted starting Monday, May 15 to <http://www.az529.gov/photocontest> Entries must be received by Sunday, July 9, at 11:59 p.m. (MST).**

"This photo contest allows students to share about their future dream job and start thinking about what it takes get there, starting with a plan for education," said Arizona Treasurer Kimberly Yee. "It's never too early and it's certainly never too late for families to start planning for their child's future, especially when it comes to saving for their future education. An AZ529 Education Savings Plan is a perfect place to start. We are excited to bring this student photo contest across our great state and encourage families to engage in these important conversations about education and savings throughout the summer."

The AZ529 Education Savings Plan offers a tax-free approach to setting money aside for college, community college, vocational training, trade school and other educational avenues for high school graduates. Arizona residents can receive a dollar-for-dollar state tax deduction for contributions made to an AZ529 account each year, of up to \$2,000 per beneficiary or \$4,000 per beneficiary depending on filing status. Funds earned over time will remain tax-free when used for a wide variety of covered educational expenses. Additionally, friends and family members may add to a child's AZ529 Plan at any time and earn the same tax benefits for themselves.

For more information about AZ529, visit <http://www.az529.gov>. For complete contest details and rules, visit <http://www.az529.gov/photocontest>.

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