

AGENDA CUYAHOGA COUNTY EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2013 CUYAHOGA COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 1ST FLOOR 3:00 PM

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. ROLL CALL
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO THE AGENDA
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 2, 2013 MEETING

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) <u>R2013-0073</u>: A Resolution amending Resolution No. R2011-0293 dated 10/25/2011, which established a list of certified providers for occupational skills training services for the Individual Training Account System for the period 7/1/2011 - 6/30/2014, to add various providers; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective:
 - 1) Ashland University
 - 2) Bowling Green State University
 - 3) Catholic Charities Community Services Corporation
 - 4) Cleveland State University
 - 5) Institute of Holistic Health Careers
 - 6) New Horizons Computer Learning Centers
 - 7) Trainco, Inc.
- b) <u>O2012-0036</u>: An Ordinance establishing a College Savings Account Program for the purpose of investing in the higher education of Cuyahoga County residents, and declaring the necessity that this Ordinance become immediately effective.

- 6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS
- 7. OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT
- 8. ADJOURNMENT

*In accordance with Ordinance No. O2011-0020, as amended, complimentary parking in the Huntington Park Garage will be available for the public on any day when the Council or any of its committees holds meetings. Please see the Clerk to obtain a parking pass.



MINUTES

CUYAHOGA COUNTY EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2013 CUYAHOGA COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 1ST FLOOR 3:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rogers called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

In accordance with Rule 12F of the County Council Rules, Council President Connally appointed Councilmember Conwell as a Member Pro Tem of the Education, Environment & Sustainability Committee.

Mr. Rogers asked Assistant Deputy Clerk Carter to call the roll. Committee members Rogers, Germana and Conwell were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee members Simon and Connally entered the meeting shortly after the roll call was taken. Committee member Schron was absent from the meeting. Councilmember Greenspan was also in attendance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO THE AGENDA

No public comments were given.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 6, 2013 MEETING

A motion was made by Ms. Connally, seconded by Mr. Germana and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2013 meeting.

- 5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE
 - a) <u>O2012-0036</u>: An Ordinance establishing a College Savings Account Program for the purpose of investing in the higher education of

Cuyahoga County residents, and declaring the necessity that this Ordinance become immediately effective.

Mr. Rogers introduced a proposed substitute to Ordinance No. O2012-0036. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kenneth Surratt, Special Assistant to County Executive FitzGerald, and Mr. Robert Mengerink, Superintendent of the Educational Services Center, addressed the Committee regarding Ordinance No. O2012-0036. Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Surratt and Mr. Mengerink pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

County Executive Ed FitzGerald addressed the Committee regarding Ordinance No. O2012-0036. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Germana and approved by unanimous vote to accept the proposed substitute.

A motion was then made by Ms. Simon, seconded by Mr. Germana and approved by unanimous vote to amend Ordinance No. O2012-0036 by deleting "After five years the program will be evaluated by Council to ensure it is on track to meet its intended outcomes. Metrics to be used for evaluation are provided in the attached Exhibit A" and inserting "At any time after the program is initiated, however no later than five years thereafter, the program shall be evaluated by Council to measure its success in achieving its' intended outcomes and for the purpose of making any modifications, amendments, or changes to the program including but not limited to its expansion or termination" in Section 9 and Exhibit A.

A motion was made by Mr. Germana, seconded by Ms. Conwell and approved by unanimous vote to amend Ordinance No. O2012-0036 by deleting *"to a maximum of five years, or attaining the age of 30"* in Exhibit A.

A motion was then made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Germana and approved by unanimous vote to amend Ordinance No. O2012-0036 by deleting "the Department of Health and Human Services" in Exhibit A.

On a motion by Mr. Rogers with a second by Ms. Conwell, Ordinance No. O2012-0036 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading, as substituted and amended.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

7. OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were given.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Rogers adjourned the meeting at 4:41 p.m., without objection.

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2013-0073

Sponsored by: County Executive	A Resolution amending Resolution No.
FitzGerald/Department of	R2011-0293 dated 10/25/2011, which
Workforce Development, in	established a list of certified providers for
partnership with City of	occupational skills training services for the
Cleveland, as designated Local	Individual Training Account System for
Workforce Investment Area No. 3	the period 7/1/2011 - 6/30/2014, to add
	various providers; and declaring the
	necessity that this Resolution become
	immediately effective.

WHEREAS, the County Executive/Department of Workforce Development, in partnership with City of Cleveland, as designated Local Workforce Investment Area No. 3 has recommended to amend Resolution No. R2011-0293 dated 10/25/2011, which established a list of certified providers for occupational skills training services for the Individual Training Account System for the period 7/1/2011 - 6/30/2014 by adding the following training providers:

- a) Ashland University
- b) Bowling Green State University
- c) Catholic Charities Community Services Corporation
- d) Cleveland State University
- e) Institute of Holistic Health Careers
- f) New Horizons Computer Learning Centers
- g) Trainco, Inc.; and,

WHEREAS, this project is funded 100% by the federal Workforce Investment Act; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue and to provide for the usual, daily operation of a County entity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. That the Cuyahoga County Council hereby approves an amendment to Resolution No. R2011-0293 dated 10/25/2011, which established a list of certified providers for occupational skills training services for the Individual Training Account System for the period 7/1/2011 - 6/30/2014 by adding the following training providers:

a) Ashland University
b) Bowling Green State University
c) Catholic Charities Community Services Corporation
d) Cleveland State University
e) Institute of Holistic Health Careers
f) New Horizons Computer Learning Centers
g) Trainco, Inc.

SECTION 2. That the remainder of Resolution No. R2011-0293 remains in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County and the reasons set forth in the preamble. Provided that this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of at least eight members of Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon the earliest occurrence of any of the following: (1) its approval by the County Executive through signature, (2) the expiration of the time during which it may be disapproved by the County Executive under Section 3.10(6) of the Cuyahoga County Charter, or (3) its passage by at least eight members of Council after disapproval pursuant to Section 3.10(7) of the Cuyahoga County Charter. Otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

SECTION 4. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

On a motion by	, seconded by	, the foregoing Resolution was
duly adopted.		

Yeas:

Nays:

County Council President

Date

County Executive

Date

Clerk of Council

Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: <u>April 9, 2013</u> Committee(s) Assigned: <u>Education, Environment & Sustainability</u>

Journal _____, 20___

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Ordinance No. O2012-0036

Sponsored by: County Executive	An Ordinance establishing a College
FitzGerald and Councilmember	Savings Account Program for the purpose
Rogers	of investing in the higher education of
	Cuyahoga County residents, and declaring
	the necessity that this Ordinance become
	immediately effective.

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 7.01 of the Cuyahoga County Charter provides that "The County shall have as a primary responsibility the promotion and enhancement of the economic well-being and prosperity of the County and all of its residents. In furtherance of that purpose, the County shall, as authorized by the Constitution of Ohio, general law, and this Charter and enactments pursuant thereto, develop and implement policies, programs, and activities for the expansion and enhancement of economic activity in the County so as to create and preserve jobs and employment opportunities for and available to residents of the County;" and,

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 3.09 of the Cuyahoga County Charter provides that the County may, through legislation, "establish and provide for the administration of a program to provide scholarships, loans, grants and other forms of financial assistance for residents of the County that will enable them to participate in post-secondary education, including vocational education and job training and retraining;" and,

WHEREAS, the County wishes to promote a culture of academic achievement and college success within Cuyahoga County; and,

WHEREAS, the County wishes to establish the Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program to invest in the post-secondary education of Cuyahoga County residents; and,

WHEREAS, the County through the Executive's office will administer the Program, and select one or more financial institution partners to provide the financial savings product and other programmatic support; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue and to provide for the usual, daily operation of a County agency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. There is hereby created the Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program to be known as the "Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program."

SECTION 2. The Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program shall include the following:

- a) An agreement with a qualified entity to administer the County College Savings Account Program, which administration may be subsidized by the County;
- b) College savings accounts automatically established for each County resident upon entering kindergarten, where the County is the custodial owner of the account and the student is the beneficiary, to be used for qualifying postsecondary education expenses;
- c) An initial deposit of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of County funds into each college savings account;
- d) An opportunity for families who do not wish to participate to opt-out of the Program
- e) Growth of the accounts through family, student, and other outside private or public contributions;
- f) "Benchmark" incentives to promote educational success and sound savings habits, such as savings matches and donor deposits from other sources;
- g) Opportunities for families and students to increase financial literacy; and
- h) Opportunities for families and students to establish banking relationships.

SECTION 3. "Post-secondary education" as used in this ordinance includes post-secondary education, including but not limited to vocational education and any two or four-year degree program from an accredited educational institution.

SECTION 4. "Qualifying Post-secondary education expenses" as used in this ordinance includes but is not limited to tuition, mandatory fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for enrollment or attendance, or for any other necessary cost of attending school, including travel to and from school. If a student has special needs, distributions can be used to pay for any accommodations that are required to make it possible for the student to attend school. To assist students in gaining access to post-secondary education, funds are able to be used for post-secondary school application

fees and fees for the ACT, SAT and AP college entrance and placement exams prior to high school graduation.

SECTION 5. If a student does not use these funds for a qualified expense, any non-program funds contributed to a student account will be returned to their source. Any funds contributed by the County or donated to the County for the benefit of the Program will remain in the sole possession of the County.

SECTION 6. "Non-program funds" as used in this ordinance includes any funds deposited directly into a student account by a student, parent, guardian or other private source for the benefit of a particular student.

SECTION 7. The Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program shall be administered as provided in the attached Exhibit A.

SECTION 8. The program shall include a board consisting of members who shall provide advice, support, and fundraising services to advance its mission as provided in the attached Exhibit A.

SECTION 9. Performance monitoring of the Program will be conducted by the Administration annually. At any time after the program is initiated, however no later than five years thereafter, the program shall be evaluated by Council to measure its success in achieving its intended outcomes and for the purpose of making any modifications, amendments or changes to the program including but not limited to its expansion or termination.

SECTION 10. It is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County and the reasons set forth in the preamble. Provided that this Ordinance receives the affirmative vote of at least eight members of Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon the earliest occurrence of any of the following: (1) its approval by the County Executive through signature, (2) the expiration of the time during which it may be disapproved by the County Executive under Section 3.10(6) of the Cuyahoga County Charter, or (3) its passage by at least eight members of Council after disapproval pursuant to Section 3.10(7) of the Cuyahoga County Charter. Otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

SECTION 11. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

On a motion by _____, seconded by _____, the foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted.

Yeas:

Nays:

County Council President	Date
County Executive	Date
Clerk of Council	Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: <u>December 11, 2012</u> Committee(s) Assigned: <u>Environment & Sustainability</u>

Committee Report/Second Reading/Referred to Committee: <u>April 9, 2013</u> Committee(s) Assigned: <u>Education, Environment & Sustainability</u>

Journal _____, 20___

Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program

Overview

Section 3.09 of the Cuyahoga County Charter provides that the County may, through legislation "establish and provide for the administration of a program to provide scholarships, loans, grants, and other forms of financial assistance for residents of the County that will enable them to participate in post-secondary education, including vocational education and job training and retraining." In the fall of 2012, County Executive Ed FitzGerald announced the establishment of a college savings plan as part of the charter commitment. The County intends to create the Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program whereby the County will establish the expectation that all County children will attend college or get an advanced education by seeding accounts with \$100 in the name of all County children entering kindergarten in fall of 2013. This approach changes community perceptions about making college an achievable goal. The scale, approximately 15,000 students, and scope of this initiative as well as the role of the County are unprecedented.

The creation of the Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program is primarily designed to increase college and vocational school graduation rates for County residents. The County will achieve this by first creating the expectation that post-secondary education is obtainable for all residents and secondly by providing a modest financial incentive to offset growing post-secondary costs with incentives for additional saving. While these are the primary goals, there are other benefits which are expected to be realized:

- <u>Banking the unbanked.</u> In a 2011 report from the FDIC, an estimated 8.5 percent of Cleveland area households were unbanked, a 2.2 percent (23,000 households) increase from 2009. This is compared to an increase of 0.6 percent to 8.2 percent of households across the nation. An additional benefit of the College Savings Account Program could be to change the banking behavior of our residents and increase savings and investment.
- Increasing financial literacy and knowledge of residents. Increased knowledge will lead to better financial decisions that will also lead to in increased savings and investment. Banking the unbanked is an important first step. There exists the opportunity for our banking partners, schools and other community partners to use this program as a vehicle to educate residents on becoming better stewards of money, money that can be reinvested back into our community.
- <u>Creating a future workforce that has the knowledge and skills to make our County stronger.</u>
 Postsecondary opportunities will increase the knowledge and skills of our residents thus making them more employable and ready to contribute to the social and economic growth of the region.

In essence, the County is NOT giving its residents a fish; it is giving them the necessary information and tools to become able to fish.

Definition of Eligible Student

- A new kindergarten student who resides in Cuyahoga County, regardless of where they attend school. A census will occur as of October 31st each year. Students that repeat kindergarten are not eligible after the start of the program.
- Students in other grades or kindergarten students who move to the County after the cutoff date each year are not eligible for the Program.
- For any year the student does not live in the County, the student account will remain active and open for use by the student and their parent/guardian but will not be eligible for match or incentive deposits from the Program. All other program rules will still apply.

Bank Accounts

- The County will establish a master custodial account in partnership with one or more area financial institutions. The Educational Services Center of Cuyahoga County will provide the banking partner(s) with a list of eligible students as defined above. Parents and guardians will have the opportunity to opt out and not participate by completing an opt out form.
- A student sub-account of the custodial account would then be established for all children except those whose parents opt out.
- \$100 from the County's custodial account will be shown as a credit in each student account (actual cash will remain in the custodial account).
- Student accounts will be deposit-only accounts until a participating student meets the requirements for a qualified withdrawal, as discussed below.

Eligible Uses and Withdrawal of Funds

- Withdrawals may be made for qualified post-secondary education expenses including but not limited to tuition, mandatory fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for enrollment or attendance, or for any other *necessary* cost of attending school, including travel to and from school. If a student has special needs, distributions can be used to pay for any accommodations that are required to make it possible for the student to attend school.
- Similar to a 529 college savings plan, funds can be used at any eligible educational institution. This includes any college, university, vocational school or other post-secondary institution eligible to participate in a student aid program administered by the U.S. Department of Education (nearly all accredited public, non-profit and privately owned post-secondary institutions).
- To assist students in gaining access to post-secondary education, students funds are able to be used for post-secondary school application fees and fees for the ACT, SAT and AP college entrance and placement exams.
- Withdrawals must be made prior to the student attaining the age of 25. For students that serve in a national service program (such as the US Military or Peace Corps), each year of service may increase the maturity date by one year.
- If a student does not use these funds for a qualified expense, any non-program funds contributed to a student account will be returned to their source. Any funds contributed by the County or donated to the County for the benefit of the Program will remain in the sole

possession of the County. Non-program funds include any funds deposited directly into a student account by a student, parent, guardian or other private source for the benefit of a particular student.

In the case of an emergency or unforeseen circumstance, the student and/or parent/guardian
may submit a non-qualified use withdrawal request to the County administration team for
review. If approved, only non-program funds (those deposited by student, parent, guardian or
other private source for the benefit of the student) can be withdrawn. Any funds contributed by
the County or donated to the Program by a third party will continue to remain in the sole
possession of the County.

Administration of Program

- This program will be administered by Cuyahoga County staff within the Executive's Office.
- County administration will provide a policy and procedures manual to the County Council prior to the implementation of the program.
- County Council shall be notified of all future changes, additions or subtractions to the aforementioned policy and procedures manual.
- County administrative staff will accept, review and make recommendations of approval of eligible students and qualified use of funds.
- Performance monitoring of the Program will be conducted by the Administration annually. At any time after the program is initiated, however no later than five years thereafter, the program shall be evaluated by Council to measure its success in achieving its intended outcomes and for the purpose of making any modifications, amendments or changes to the program including but not limited to its expansion or termination.

After five years the program will be evaluated by Council to ensure it is on track to meet its intended outcomes. The following metrics will be reviewed and reported to Council annually:

Participation

- Total # of participants each year (actual incoming K students in the Program)
- o Total number of families opting out each year

<u>Financial</u>

- o Total number of participant deposits each year
- o Total amount of participant deposits each year
- Percentage of participants that made a deposit within the past twelve months
- \circ \quad Total number of new bank accounts opened for those previously unbanked

Financial Literacy

• Total number of participant families that received financial training from bank or community partner

Qualitative

o Survey of student feelings about college attendance

Program Committee (Board)

- The Program Committee will be an unpaid group of 12 members that serves three purposes:
 - Provide content knowledge, perspective, and advice in banking, education and financial literacy to the Administration.
 - Rule on appeals of decisions made by the Administration for eligibility and qualified use of funds.
 - Fundraising support to create pool of funds for financial incentives
- Committee will be made up of the following:
 - o Statutory
 - The CEO of the banking partner or their designee
 - CEO of the Educational Services Center of Cuyahoga County or their designee
 - CEO of Cleveland Metropolitan School District or their designee
 - President of Greater Cleveland School Superintendents' Association or their designee
 - A Senior Leader within the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland
 - CEO of Greater Cleveland Partnership or their designee
 - A representative of a Higher Education institution located within Cuyahoga County, selected by the Administration
 - A member of the Foundation and Non-Profit Community, selected by the Administration
 - Council shall appoint two (2) members one of which must be a parent of a student that resides in Cuyahoga County
 - Administration shall appoint two (2) members one of which must be a parent of a student that resides in Cuyahoga County
 - The Council and Administration appointments will serve a four (4) year term to commence at _____
 - Council and Administration appointments shall not serve beyond their four (4) year term unless reappointed
 - If there is a vacancy in the membership, it shall be filled in the same manner as the person vacated.

[PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE ORDINANCE]

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Ordinance No. O2012-0036

Sponsored by: County Executive	An Ordinance establishing a College
FitzGerald and Councilmember	Savings Account Program and a College
Rogers	Savings Account Program Committee for
	the purpose of investing in the higher
	education of Cuyahoga County residents,
	and declaring the necessity that this
	Ordinance become immediately effective.

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 7.01 of the Cuyahoga County Charter provides that "The County shall have as a primary responsibility the promotion and enhancement of the economic well-being and prosperity of the County and all of its residents. In furtherance of that purpose, the County shall, as authorized by the Constitution of Ohio, general law, and this Charter and enactments pursuant thereto, develop and implement policies, programs, and activities for the expansion and enhancement of economic activity in the County so as to create and preserve jobs and employment opportunities for and available to residents of the County;" and,

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 3.09 of the Cuyahoga County Charter provides that the County may, through legislation, "establish and provide for the administration of a program to provide scholarships, loans, grants and other forms of financial assistance for residents of the County that will enable them to participate in post-secondary education, including vocational education and job training and retraining;" and,

WHEREAS, the County wishes to promote a culture of academic achievement and college success within Cuyahoga County; and,

WHEREAS, the County wishes to establish the Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program to invest in the post-secondary education of Cuyahoga County residents; and,

WHEREAS, the County through the Executive's office will administer the Program, and select one or more financial institution partners to provide the financial savings product and other programmatic support; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue and to provide for the usual, daily operation of a County agency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. Section 204.03(E) and Section 804.02 of the Cuyahoga County Code are hereby enacted as follows:

Section 204.03(E): College Savings Account Program Committee

(A) There is hereby created the College Savings Account Program Committee to support the College Savings Account Program. The Committee shall provide fundraising support as well as advice on banking, education, and financial literacy. The Committee will also rule on appeals from decisions by the Administration on eligibility and qualified use of funds.

(B) The Committee shall consist of the following members:

(1) The CEO of the banking partner or designee;

(2) The CEO of the Educational Services Center of Cuyahoga County or designee;

(3) The CEO of the Cleveland Metropolitan School District or designee;

(4) The President of the Greater Cleveland School Superintendents' Association or designee;

(5) Superintendent of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland or designee;

(6) The CEO of the Greater Cleveland Partnership or designee;

(7) A representative of a higher education institution located within Cuyahoga County, selected by the Administration;

(8) A member of the foundation and non-profit community, selected by the Administration;

(9) Both Council and the Administration shall appoint two additional members each. One appointee from each body must be a parent of a student residing in Cuyahoga County. These four appointees shall serve a four-year term commencing on June 1st, and shall not serve beyond their four-year terms unless reappointed.

(C) Each vacancy in membership shall be filled in the same manner it was originally filled.

Section 804.02: Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program

(A) There is hereby created the Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program that shall include the following:

(1) An agreement with a qualified entity to administer the County College Savings Account Program, which administration may be subsidized by the County; (2) College savings accounts automatically established for each eligible student upon entering kindergarten, where the County is the custodial owner of the account and the student is the beneficiary, to be used for qualifying postsecondary education expenses;

(3) An initial deposit of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of County funds into each college savings account;

(4) An opportunity for families who do not wish to participate to opt-out of the Program;

(5) Growth of the accounts through family, student, and other outside private or public contributions;

(6) "Benchmark" incentives to promote educational success and sound savings habits, such as savings matches and donor deposits from other sources;

(7) Opportunities for families and students to increase financial literacy; and

(8) Opportunities for families and students to establish banking relationships.

(B) An "eligible student," as used in this ordinance, is a resident of Cuyahoga County who is a new kindergarten student as of a census occurring on October 31st of each year. Students in other grades, students that repeat kindergarten after the start of the Program, and kindergarten students who move into the County after the cutoff date each year, are not eligible. For any year a student does not live in the County, the student account will remain active and open for use by the student and his/her parent or guardian but will not be eligible for match or incentive deposits from the Program.

(C) "Post-secondary education," as used in this ordinance, includes a college, university, vocational school, and any two or four-year degree program from an accredited educational institution.

(D) "Qualifying post-secondary education expenses," as used in this ordinance, include but are not limited to tuition, mandatory fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for enrollment or attendance, or for any other necessary cost of attending school, including travel to and from school. If a student has special needs, distributions can be used to pay for any accommodations that are required to make it possible for the student to attend school. To assist students in gaining access to post-secondary education, funds may be used for post-secondary school application fees and fees for the ACT, SAT and AP college entrance and placement exams prior to high school graduation.

(E) Withdrawals from a student account must be made prior to the student attaining the age of twenty five. For students who serve in a national service program (such as

the United States Military or Peace Corps), each year of service may increase the maturity date by one year.

(F) If a student does not use all funds in a student account for a qualified expense, any non-Program funds contributed to the student account will be returned to their source. Any funds contributed by the County or donated to the County for the benefit of the Program will remain in the sole possession of the County.

(G) In the case of an emergency or unforeseen circumstance, the student and/or parent/guardian may submit a non-qualified use withdrawal request to the County administration team for review. If approved, only non-Program funds may be withdrawn.

(H) "Non-Program funds," as used in this ordinance, include any funds deposited directly into a student account by a student, parent, guardian or other private source for the benefit of a particular student.

(I) The Program will be administered by staff in the Executive's Office, who will accept, review, and make recommendations for approval of eligible students and qualified use of funds.

(J) County administration will provide a policy and procedures manual to the County Council prior to the implementation of the program.

(K) County Council shall be notified of all future changes, additions or subtractions to the aforementioned policy and procedures manual.

(L) A College Savings Account Program Committee shall provide advice and fundraising support to the Administration and rule on appeals from Administration decisions on eligibility and qualified use of funds.

(M) The Administration shall perform annual performance monitoring of the Program. At any time after the Program is initiated, however no later than five years thereafter, the Program shall be evaluated by Council to measure its success in achieving its intended outcomes and for the purpose of making any modifications, amendments, or changes to the Program, including but not limited to, its expansion or termination.

SECTION 2. It is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County and the reasons set forth in the preamble. Provided that this Ordinance receives the affirmative vote of at least eight members of Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon the earliest occurrence of any of the following: (1) its approval by the County Executive through signature, (2) the expiration of the time during which it may be disapproved by the County Executive under Section 3.10(6) of the Cuyahoga County Charter, or (3) its passage by at least eight members of Council after disapproval pursuant to Section

3.10(7) of the Cuyahoga County Charter. Otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

SECTION 3. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

On a motion by	, seconded by	, the foregoing Ordinance was
duly adopted.		

Yeas:

Nays:

County Council President	Date
County Executive	Date
Clerk of Council	Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: <u>December 11, 2012</u> Committee(s) Assigned: <u>Environment & Sustainability</u>

Committee Report/Second Reading/Referred to Committee: <u>April 9, 2013</u> Committee(s) Assigned: <u>Education, Environment & Sustainability</u>

Journal _____, 20___