

FLORIDA PREPAID BELIEVERS

► *Starting is Believing*



Why Elizabeth and Chad Stevens Believe

Elizabeth and Chad Stevens had never heard of Florida Prepaid College Plans when their first son was born in 2007. By the time Elizabeth looked into buying a Prepaid Plan for his college tuition a year later, plan prices had already started to rise as the result of a new state law allowing universities to charge a Tuition Differential Fee.

“It was just too expensive for us,” she says.

After their second son was born, she looked at plan prices again in 2011 but they remained out of the family's budget range.

So when the Florida Prepaid College Board launched its Open Enrollment period this year with prices at levels not seen since 2007, the Stevens family jumped at the opportunity to secure their boys' college savings.

They bought a 4-Year University Plan for one son, and for the other they bought four of the 1-Year Florida University Plans, which can be combined to cover all four years of college. The 4-Year University Plan prices are half the price they were last year, and the 1-Year Florida University Plan starts at \$43 a month for a newborn.

“I was ecstatic to have this opportunity for my boys,” Elizabeth said. **“I love that the 1-Year allows additional family members to help chip in on a child's education, and what family doesn't want to do that? And I was happy to see that if they have Bright Futures or don't use all their credit hours for some reason, they can use it for grad school.”**

She said she feels a huge relief in knowing her sons' education will be covered.

“You'll hear some people say you could invest differently and come out ahead. But for me, I just wanted the peace of mind of knowing their college tuition is taken care of and that I don't have to worry about it.”

- Elizabeth Stevens

