

NEWS from **COLLEGE FOR FINANCIAL PLANNING**

8000 East Maplewood Ave., Suite 200, Greenwood Village, CO. 80111

TO: Editors
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Contact: Maaria Asif, 303-220-4815

COLLEGE FOR FINANCIAL PLANNING CONGRATULATES 100,000TH GRADUATE

The College for Financial Planning is proud to announce that Jennifer Smiljanich of Pittsford, New York is the 100,000th person to graduate from the College since the school was established in 1972. Ms. Smiljanich is Director of Wealth Management Services for AM&M Financial Services in Pittsford. With prior experience in the banking industry, she is seeking the CFP® certification “because it adds such a large measure of credibility” to her work as a fee-based financial planner.

Graduate 99,999 is Candice Walton, a paraplanner for Chris Unfug CFP of Ameriprise Financial, Grand Junction, Colorado. Ms. Walton, a graduate of Kansas State University, said the CFP® certification is “an important credential that clients look for” and equally important, one she could obtain while continuing to work full time. Both graduates will be recognized at the College’s Denver Live Review in October, where they will be preparing for the Certified Financial Planner™ exam.

The College for Financial Planning was founded after a December, 1969 meeting of a dozen financial services professionals. Those individuals determined there was a reason to formalize financial planning, set high standards, and establish a rigorous certification process. P. Kemp Fain of Knoxville, Tennessee, one of the founders, was the first person to enroll in the initial class of 42 people, and David Allard of Carmel, California was the College’s first graduate in 1973.

The College initiated a Master’s degree program in 1988, and received accreditation by the North Central Association in 1994. The Apollo Group acquired the College from the National Endowment for Financial Education in 1997.

The College’s largest-ever graduating class of financial planning students was 4,770 in 1987; however, the largest graduating class in the College’s history was 6,127 in FY 2006, reflecting the broad range of educational programs now offered by the College.

Vice President of Operations Ginger Current, who has been with the College for 27 years, says the internet is the biggest innovation the school has seen.

The internet has resulted in testing online and students receiving their results immediately, in the availability of study materials on line, and in the creation of the Mentor program that gives students an interactive classroom experience.

Current says “The quality of the College for Financial Planning study materials remains uncompromised at the upper baccalaureate or graduate level, with the result that our graduates pass the national certification examination at a rate 20 percentage points or more above our competitors.”

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The College for Financial Planning is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association. Our distance learning courses for adults are provided in self-study and on-line instructor-led formats.

Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards Inc. owns the marks CFP[®], CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER[™], and the federally registered CFP (with flame design)[®] in the U.S., which it awards to individuals who successfully complete initial and ongoing certification requirements.