Dear <parent name>,

Congratulations on the arrival of <baby's name>!

You may remember receiving a congratulations card at the hospital or in the mail to let you know that <baby name> has been awarded a $500 Alfond Grant! We’re writing now to share some additional information about the Alfond Grant:

- Harold Alfond created this gift of the $500 Alfond Grant as a way to help families begin to prepare for higher education from the very start of a child’s life.

- The Alfond Grant is intended to be used at eligible higher education institutions. These include colleges, universities, community colleges, and vocational schools, in Maine and beyond, that are eligible to participate in federal financial aid programs.

- The Alfond Scholarship Foundation has invested a $500 grant for your child. If you want to save for your child’s future education, you need to open your own college savings account.

- With your child’s Alfond Grant, you can open a NextGen 529™ account without making an initial contribution. When you open a NextGen 529 account, you, your family and friends can make contributions! With a NextGen 529 account, you can take advantage of other grants for Maine residents¹ (if eligible). Get started today at NextGenforME.com.

The enclosed flyer tells you a little more about MyAlfondGrant.org and shows a sample Alfond Grant Update. You’ll receive this Update quarterly until <baby name> is about 18 years old. **If you have opened a NextGen 529 account, you will receive a different version that also includes information about any contributions you make to your NextGen 529 account and any NextGen 529 matching grants awarded.**

The Alfond Grant Update provides important information about your child’s grant. Help us keep in touch with you by completing and returning the enclosed card. For more information and Alfond Grant Guidelines please visit NextGenforME.com/AlfondGuidelines.

Congratulations once again on your new baby! We wish you all the best.

Sincerely,

Colleen J. Quint  
President & CEO, ASF

Bruce Wagner  
Chief Executive Officer, FAME

To receive electronic Alfond Grant Updates, start at MyAlfondGrant.org/digital to access a website administered by FAME. Opt out of communications about the Alfond Grant by calling FAME at 800-228-3734.

See reverse for important information about NextGen 529, including grants. Alfond Scholarship Foundation is not an authorized distributor of NextGen 529.
Alfond Scholarship Foundation (ASF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a goal of increasing Maine’s educational attainment through increased college savings. ASF was created in 2008, when the Harold Alfond Foundation made a commitment to provide $500 for college to every Maine resident baby.

MyAlfondGrant.org provides information to parents as their children grow. Using MyAlfondGrant.org as a starting point, families can track the value of the Alfond Grant over time – and see it online – on a website administered by FAME. MyAlfondGrant.org also offers information, tips and resources from the Alfond Scholarship Foundation for kids and parents alike starting at birth and carrying through high school.

Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) is a quasi-independent state agency that expands business and educational opportunities to help Maine people and businesses succeed. FAME offers a suite of programs and services to help Mainers meet their educational goals no matter where they are in life. FAME is the administrator of NextGen 529™, Maine’s Section 529 plan. 529 plans are designed to help families prepare for college. FAME also helps to administer the Alfond Grant program. FAME operates NextGenForME.com, a website dedicated to sharing information about NextGen 529.

1 Grants are linked to eligible Maine accounts. Upon withdrawal, grants are paid only to institutions of higher education. See Terms & Conditions of Maine Grant Programs for other conditions and restrictions that apply at NextGenforME.com.

NextGen is a Section 529 plan administered by the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME). Before you invest in NextGen, request a NextGen Program Description from your Merrill Lynch Financial Advisor or Maine Distribution Agent or call Merrill Edge at 1-877-463-9843 and read it carefully. The Program Description contains more complete information, including investment objectives, charges, expenses and risks of investing in NextGen, which you should carefully consider before investing. You also should consider whether your or your designated beneficiary’s home state offers any state tax or other state benefits such as financial aid, scholarship funds, and protection from creditors that are only available for investments in such state’s 529 plan. Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, a registered broker-dealer, member SIPC, is the program manager and underwriter.