

# **ABLE United**

Florida's Qualified ABLE Program







### **ABLE Accounts**

### What can ABLE United do for you?

#### Save like never before.

- Save while maintaining federal benefits
- Save with the help from family and friends
- Save tax-free for future expenses
- Various investment options including a FDIC-insured savings fund to give you peace of mind
- Gifting page to allow others to support you in reaching your savings goals
- Administered by the state of Florida, managed under the Florida Prepaid College Board



### Why an ABLE Account?

#### To help maintain or improve health, independence or a quality of life

Qualified disability expenses, which include "living expenses," are not required to be medically necessary or to be limited for the sole benefit of the individual with a disability.





### How ABLE Works with Government Benefits

Supplemental Security Income – Some additional rules

Medicaid – Not counted as a resource

Other Federal Programs – Not counted as a resource



### What if I am Receiving SSI?

Save for the future without losing Supplemental Security Income.

Generally, funds in (or withdrawn from) an ABLE account are disregarded when determining eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

- The first \$100,000 in an ABLE account does not count as a resource.
- All housing and non-qualified expenses withdrawn, but not spent, in the same month count as a resource.

For more information, visit the Social Security POMS website at: <a href="https://secure.ssa.gov/apps10/poms.nsf/lnx/0501130740">https://secure.ssa.gov/apps10/poms.nsf/lnx/0501130740</a>



### What if individual is receiving Medicaid?

#### Save for the future without losing Medicaid.

- Funds in (or withdrawn from) an ABLE account are disregarded when determining eligibility for Medicaid.
- Generally, after all outstanding qualified disability expenses have been paid, leftover funds would go to the beneficiary's estate.
- Recent Florida law states Medicaid may not file a claim on an ABLE account.
- Death of Beneficiary form available on website







**Who Can Open an Account?** 

## **ABLE United Eligibility**

What is required to open an account?

Eligible individuals are allowed one ABLE account nationwide and must also:

- Be a Florida resident
- Have a disability with onset prior to age 26
- Have a disability that is "severe"

If an individual is not receiving SSI or SSDI, then self-certify is an option, and that individual must:

- Have a diagnosis of a physical or mental impairment prior to age 26
- Be "marked and severe with functional limitations"
- Be expected to last for at least 12 months



### Ownership

The individual with a disability is the owner of the ABLE account.

Another person may assist in opening or maintaining the ABLE account (e.g., parent, legal guardian, power of attorney, etc.) When opening an account, they must have:

Proof of authority (if other than a parent of a minor)

All paperwork can be accessed through secure our website with the intent of opening an account for the benefit of the individual with a disability.







### **How it Works**

### **Enroll**

Open an ABLE account at ableunited.com

Here's what you'll need to open an account:

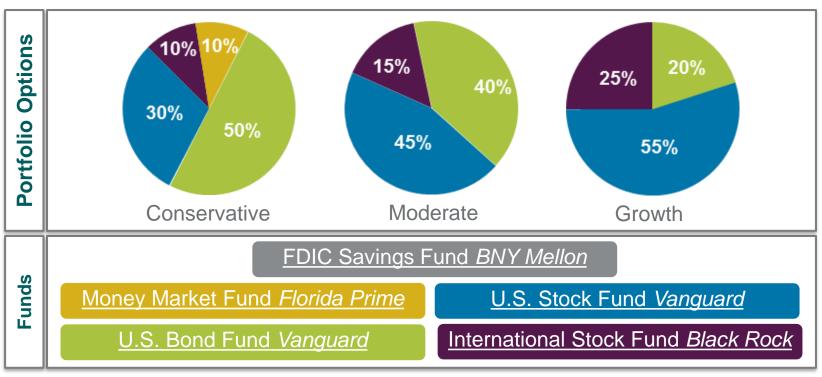
- The date of birth, address and Social Security Number for the individuals (beneficiary and/or account administrator) on the account
- Documentation of Power of Attorney or Legal Guardianship for an adult beneficiary (if applicable)
- Banking information and a minimum \$25 contribution to the account
- Investment selections



### Select Investments

#### Choose as time of contribution, change invested funds twice a year.

Three predesigned portfolios to meet the needs of most investors or five individual funds to build a custom portfolio for those with more investment experience:





### Contribute

Anyone can contribute to the account.

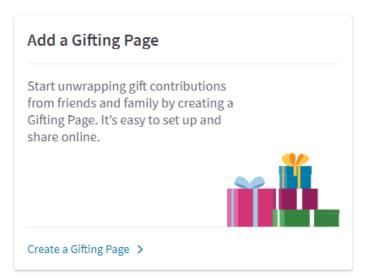
Generally, contributions are considered gifts (not income) to the individual with a disability. Contribution considerations include:

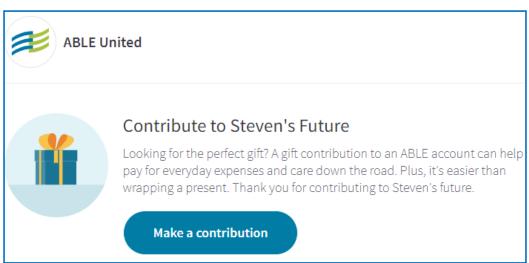
- A total of \$15,000 can be contribution per calendar year
- ABLE to Work allows working beneficiary not saving for retirement can contribute above \$15,000
- Opportunity to rollover funds from 529 college savings plan
- No federal income tax-deduction
- Individual putting earned income into account, still counts as earned income



### Contribute

#### Anyone can contribute to the account.







### Withdraw

Money may be withdrawn for any reason – you are in control!

All withdrawals must be made by electronic transfer (a written request is required for a check withdrawal). Earnings are tax-free if withdrawals are used for qualified disability expenses.

Choose which investment to withdrawal from – allows to separate savings from investing

Other considerations include:

- Keep documentation for the IRS
- SSA may evaluate the use of a withdrawal for SSI recipients



### How Much Does it Cost?

No cost to open and maintain an account.

ABLE United offers the best value for Florida residents as there are no fees associated with opening an account:

- No application fee
- No monthly account maintenance fee
- \$25 minimum contribution
- Annual fee of \$10 for paper (OPTIONAL)
- Investment administration fee ranges from 0.00% to 0.290% (annualized) of the account balance
  - FDIC investment option has no fees



### Common Questions about ABLE

#### Who owns the ABLE United account?

The beneficiary, the individual with a disability, is the owner, but another individual can be the account administrator.

# Can the individual with a disability put their own money in their ABLE United account?

Yes – anybody can contribute to an ABLE account, up to \$15,000/year from all sources. Individuals working may be able to contribute above \$15,000/year limit.



### Common Questions about ABLE

If I move out of state, do I have to close my ABLE United account and open an ABLE account in that state?

No, it just fine to keep your ABLE United account as it is all managed online – however, that state's ABLE program might have unique benefits for its residents, in the same way that ABLE United is the best value for Floridians.

How often can I move invested funds in between investment options? Federal law only allows two invested fund changes per calendar year.



### Common Questions about ABLE

#### Is an ABLE account similar to a Special Needs Trust (SNT)?

No, ABLE is an additional tool to your financial tool belt and can often work together as a third party SNT can fund an ABLE account. SNT are setup by attorneys and must be overseen by a trustee. They can also hold a variety of non-cash assets.

ABLE is setup online and can be managed by individual or third party. Limited to \$15,000 in annual contributions but can grow tax-free.



## Is an ABLE United Account Right for You?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, an ABLE United account might be beneficial for you:

- Are you looking for a way to save money without losing your government benefits for basic living expenses like housing, transportation and education?
- Are you looking for a way for your money to potentially earn interest tax-free?
- Do you have family and friends that would like to assist you financially, but do not want to compromise the benefits you currently receive, or may receive in the future?
- Do you find yourself spending down money each month in order to get below \$2,000 in assets?







### Questions

Visit ableunited.com for more information about ABLE United.

Call Toll Free –

1-888-524-ABLE (2253) (Monday – Friday, 9am – 6 pm ET) 1-844-888-2253 TTY (Monday – Friday, 9 am – 8 pm ET)

Live Chat -

Look for icon on bottom right

