

Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE)

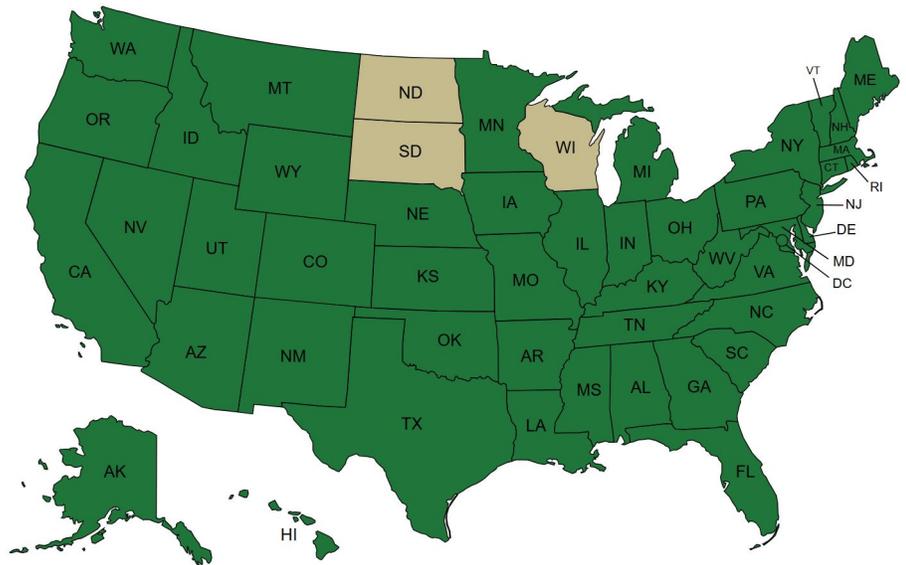
Section 529A of the Internal Revenue Code

Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) accounts allow people with disabilities and their families to establish tax-advantaged savings and investment accounts without putting federal means-tested benefits at risk. Withdrawals from ABLE accounts are tax-free when used to cover qualified disability expenses such as medical care, education, housing, and transportation.

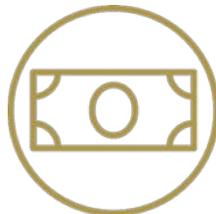
47 STATES and Washington, D.C. offer ABLE Plans

Map Key

-  - States with an ABLE program
-  - Residents can join another state's ABLE program



234,000+
ABLE accounts
open nationwide



\$3 billion
saved in ABLE accounts
nationally



\$13,000
average ABLE
account balance

"This step forward financially offers a sense of freedom beyond my physical limits. And feeling less limited in one small area is something I will celebrate any day."

– **Laura Robb**, Virginia ABLEnow customer

"Having an ABLE account now means financial security. I just put a down payment on an accessible vehicle with the money I saved in my ABLE account. I don't know what I would do without ABLE."

– **Wendy Settles**, Illinois ABLE customer

The National Association of State Treasurer (NAST)'s ABLE Savings Plans Network (ASPN) calls on Congress to pass the **ABLE Employment Flexibility Act**: The ABLE EFA allows employers to make contributions into an employee's ABLE account in lieu of a retirement account **and** exempts those contributions from counting as income in federal disability benefit programs. The bill provides an opportunity for working ABLE savers to receive employer contributions just like their non-disabled workplace colleagues who participate in an employer-sponsored retirement plan.

ASPN also views the following enhancements to the ABLE Act as critical to enhancing long-term choice and affordability, and to achieving self-sustainability of ABLE programs:

- **Eliminate the authority of Medicaid to claim assets from a deceased ABLE saver's account.**
- **Make ABLE accounts more flexible and useful by allowing lump-sum contributions in certain circumstances and eliminating the requirement that a beneficiary may have only one account.**

Legislative Enhancement of Section 529A Will Achieve:

- Greater independence and self-reliance for people with disabilities
- More individuals with disabilities and their families saving for their financial well-being
- Possible reduction in account fees as ABLE programs continue to grow
- A greater ability for states to repay state general fund loans made for ABLE start-up costs
- Continued commitment to, and investment in, ABLE

“Our family has big goals for our baby Alex who has Down Syndrome. We don’t want Alex’s future needs to be a financial burden to our two bigger kids. With his ABLE account we understand that we are truly investing for his future.”

—Parent of a child with an IL ABLE account



ABLE SAVINGS PLANS NETWORK

A Network of the National Association of State Treasurers

The ABLE Savings Plans Network (ASPN), made up of State Treasurers, state ABLE administrators and program managers from across the country, provides leadership on federal legislative and regulatory issues that impact ABLE plans. The Committee engages in outreach to federal agencies and national disability organizations to promote access to and awareness of ABLE programs. The Committee also provides ABLE-related education and awareness and fosters ongoing dialogue to further interstate collaboration and to strengthen ABLE programs nationwide.

The National Association of State Treasurers (NAST) provides advocacy and support that enables member states to pursue and administer sound financial policies and programs benefiting the citizens of the nation.

For more information visit: www.nast.org/able-advocacy/, ABLEtoday.org or call 202.630.0810