



## WHAT IS ABLE?

The Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act of 2014 created savings and investment accounts for individuals with disabilities

Save money <u>without impacting</u> eligibility for certain means-tested benefits

SSI

Medicaid



# WHAT IS ABLE?

**ABLE** accounts have hybrid functionality

**529 College Savings** 

**Checking Account** 

**Special Needs Trust** 



# WHAT IS ABLE Utah?

- Utah's ABLE Savings Plan
- Administered by Utah Department of Workforce Services
- Launched September 1, 2021
- Offered to Utah residents through partnership with the Ohio STABLE Plan





# **BENEFITS** OF STABLE ACCOUNTS

#### **OWNERSHIP**

Account is owned by the individual with the disability

# FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE

Eliminate spend-down and increase the amount of short-term and / or long-term savings

### **TAX BENEFITS**

May qualify for multiple tax benefits each year





To see who qualifies for a STABLE account, take our eligibility quiz at <u>ableUT.com</u>

# An individual with a disability that occurred prior to age 26

### PLUS <u>ONE</u> OF THE FOLLOWING:

Eligible to receive SSI or SSDI due to disability; or

Condition listed on SSA's "List of Compassionate Allowances Conditions"; or

Self-certification



# WHAT IS **SELF-CERTIFICATION?**

Need diagnosis of a physical or mental impairment that causes "marked and severe functional limitations"

Condition has lasted or is expected to last for at least 1 year

Do not need to send in written diagnosis, but must have on hand



# **ENROLLMENT**

Free online enrollment at ableUT.com

Quick & easy process

\$25 minimum opening deposit



### ENROLLMENT Can be completed by:

Individual with a disability (Accountholder)

OR

### **Authorized Legal Representative (ALR)** ☐ Agent under a Power of Attorney

- Conservator / Legal Guardian
- Spouse
- Parent
- Sibling
- Grandparent
- Social Security Representative Payee

... in that order, and that there is no other willing and able person with a higher priority as listed above to establish the ABLE account.



# **ENTITY ALR**

Simplifies processes for those overseeing more than one account

Levels of oversight can accommodate organization's management of accounts

Reporting and recordkeeping is provided within the portal



**EFT** (Electronic Funds Transfer)

Check

Payroll Direct Deposit



# PAYROLL DIRECT DEPOSIT

#### **INCLUSION**

Benefits for your Company

- Adds a no-cost benefit for your company and employees
- Provides every employee the opportunity to save and invest in their future
- Promotes inclusion and brings financial parity to your workforce

#### **EMPOWERMENT**

Benefits for your Employees

- Employees with disabilities can now save more money while keeping public benefits
- Easily set up payroll direct deposit for themselves or family members with disabilities
- Diverse savings and investment opportunities through STABLE account



### IF NOT EMPLOYED

\$18,000 per year from all sources

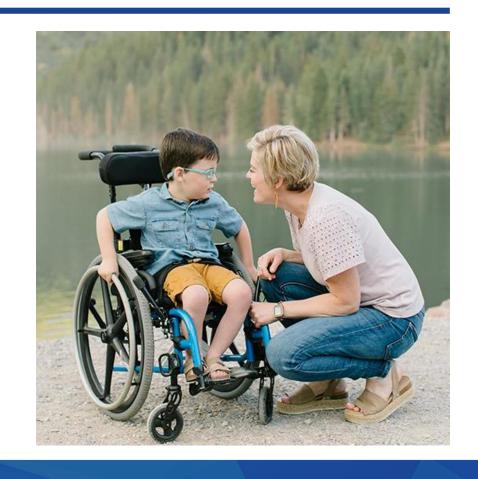
### IF EMPLOYED

Up to \$32,580 per year

### LIFETIME LIMIT

\$541,000 balance limit\*

System automatically rejects excess contributions \*Exception for SSI Recipients





### IF NOT EMPLOYED

\$18,000 per year from all sources

System automatically rejects excess contributions



### IF EMPLOYED

Up to \$32,580 per year

\$18,000 + wages up to an additional \$14,580

System automatically rejects excess contributions



### LIFETIME LIMIT

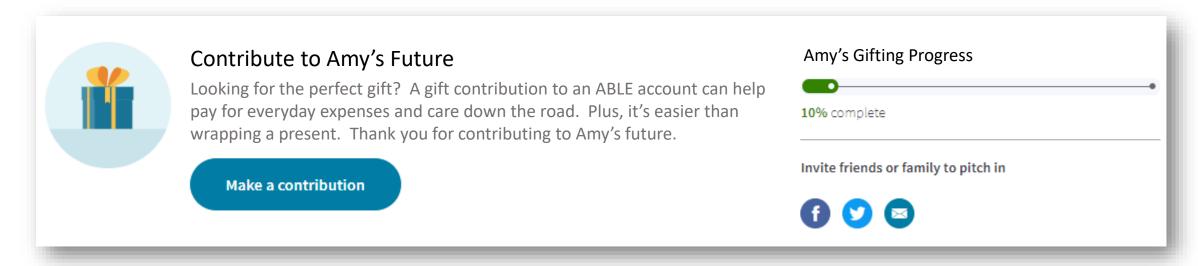
\$541,000 balance limit\*

System automatically rejects excess contributions
\* Exception for SSI Recipients



# GIFTING PAGE

Allows anyone to give financial gifts...directly into the STABLE account



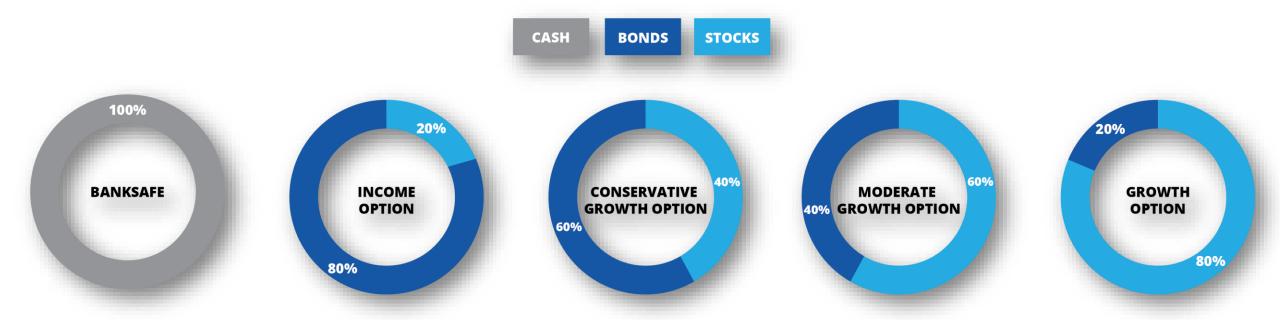
### Does **NOT** count as a RESOURCE or INCOME



# INVESTMENT OPTIONS

#### **Choose From**

- Four Vanguard mutual funds ranging from aggressive to conservative
- One principal-protected FDIC-Insured option





# SPENDING YOUR FUNDS

Withdrawals should be used on "Qualified Disability Expenses"

### Must help maintain or improve health, independence, or quality of life























# **SPENDING** FROM YOUR ACCOUNT

### **CHECKING & SAVINGS**

Transfer to personal checking or savings

### **CHECK WITHDRAWAL**

Send to home address or Third-Party

### THE STABLE VISA CARD

Transfer onto STABLE Visa Card



# STABLE VISA CARD



The STABLE Visa Card is a loadable card that can be used anywhere Visa is accepted

### **LOADABLE**

Provides controlled access to spending

### TRACKS EXPENSES

Online spending records with ability to add notes

### **PROTECTIONS**

No overdraft, no cash access, able to limit merchants and types of expenses

### **ALERTS**

Notifications to monitor spending and low balances



## **SSI** CONSIDERATIONS

**Supplemental Security Income** 

Balances over \$100,000 count as a resource – but SSI merely suspended, not terminated

If you hold on to the money from one calendar month to the next, then housing expenditures count as resources

Accountholder's own wages still count as income even if contributed to a STABLE account



# IF ACCOUNTHOLDER PASSES AWAY

### Account will pass to the accountholder's estate

The estate administrator notifies STABLE Account Customer Service and can take over account access

The account will go through normal probate process



# MEDICAID SERVICES

Money in a STABLE account is better protected from Medicaid payback than money in other accounts

Medicaid can ask for payback in some cases, but there are protections:

### **LIMITATIONS**

Medicaid Payback is only from date the account was opened

### **OUTSTANDING BILLS**

Pay any outstanding bills for QDEs

### **DEDUCTIONS**

Deduct Medicaid Buy-In premiums you paid

#### **FUNERAL EXPENSES**

Pay for funeral and burial expenses



# ACCOUNT COST

There is a minimal cost for owning a STABLE account

**Monthly Maintenance Fees** 

\$27.00 per year (\$6.75 charged to your account quarterly)

**Asset-Based Fees** 

**Between 0.19% and 0.33%** 



# ABLE ACCOUNT & SPECIAL NEEDS TRUSTS

# Complementary tools that can be used together

- ✓ Trusts can make distributions to ABLE accounts
- ✓ Trusts can accept unlimited cash and noncash assets

### **Unique ABLE Account benefits**

- ✓ Broader spending power (i.e. housing and food)
- ✓ <u>Utah State 5% tax credit on contributions</u>
- ✓ No federal or state income tax on earnings
- ✓ Can be established, administered and owned by an individual with a disability



# **WE'RE HERE TO HELP!**

CUSTOMER SERVICE INFORMATION



**1-800-439-1653** Monday - Friday (7 am - 6 pm MST)



**Customer Service: team@stableaccount.com** 

ABLE Utah Contact: jwyler@utah.gov



AbleUT.com

