

from the NEST



➤ Meadowlark Pledge enters 5th year for Nebraska babies.

A MESSAGE FROM THE NEBRASKA STATE TREASURER

As we mark the fifth year of the Meadowlark Savings Pledge, we celebrate a remarkable milestone in supporting Nebraska’s youngest residents on their path toward higher education. Since the program’s inception in 2020, more than 90,000 babies born to Nebraska residents have received the \$50 seed contribution into a NEST 529 account, giving families a head start on saving for their child’s educational journey.

I believe in the importance of starting early when it comes to planning for a child’s future. The Meadowlark Pledge reflects our commitment to ensuring every child has access to opportunities that begin with education. We’re planting the seeds of success by helping get children on the right track early.



Together, let’s help Nebraska’s children reach for their dreams.

The Meadowlark Program is a testament to Nebraska’s forward-thinking approach to education savings. Learn more about how the Meadowlark Pledge is shaping futures by visiting our website at NEST529Advisor.com/Meadowlark or scan the QR code above to see how this program is helping Nebraska families.

Don’t let tax season sneak up on you.

PLAN AHEAD FOR TAX BENEFITS AND REFUNDS

If you’re expecting a tax refund this tax season, it could be an opportunity to boost your beneficiary’s education savings. Consider putting some (or all) of your refund dollars toward their NEST 529 Advisor account. No matter how much of your refund you use, every little bit will help support their future. Plus, any growth in the account is tax-deferred, and withdrawals are tax-free when used for qualified higher education expenses¹, so it’s a great way to make the most of your refund.

Learn more about the tax benefits of your NEST 529 Advisor account at NEST529Advisor.com/TaxBenefits

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Set them up to soar.

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3 tips for Financial Literacy Month.

LESSONS FOR YOUR LOVED ONES THIS APRIL

Dealing with money can seem intimidating or confusing, especially for kids — but it doesn't have to be. April is Financial Literacy Month, and it's a great opportunity to encourage your loved ones to learn the basics about saving. Here are three ways you can teach them that even small steps toward good financial habits are worth it in the long run.

1 } Talk to them about their account

Share why you contribute to their NEST 529 Advisor account. It's a good opportunity to demonstrate discipline and having a purpose for where your money goes. You can even show them the college savings calculator to convey how your contributions are working toward your education savings goal: NEST529Advisor.com/Calculator



2 } Encourage them to save

For younger children, you could have them do chores around the house and provide them an allowance, for example. As they get older, perhaps they can help shovel driveways or pick up leaves in your neighborhood. Ask them to visualize what they could use the money for in the future for an added lesson in goal setting.



3 } Show them how to budget

As your child enters adulthood, knowing how to use their money wisely is going to be critical. Teach them early about the difference between have-to-haves and nice-to-haves — and make sure to convey that you can always set aside money for fun things as long as you budget for it.



Ways you could boost your savings.

NEST 529 ADVISOR INVESTMENT OPTIONS

When you save for higher education with NEST 529 Advisor, you can choose between multiple investment options. Each has their own set of benefits, so you'll want to make sure you're using the right option for you.

- **Age-Based Investment Options are simple.** Your account is placed in a portfolio based on your beneficiary's age. Typically, these investments start more aggressive when they're younger and automatically shift to more conservative investments as they get older (and closer to using the funds).
- **Static Investment Options are more constant.** Your account has a fixed allocation throughout its entire life unless you choose to change it.
- **Individual Fund Options are customizable.** You can combine any of NEST 529 Advisor's 19 Individual Fund Investment Options to design a portfolio that meets your needs, risk tolerance, and investment style.

Visit with your financial advisor and read more about these options at NEST529Advisor.com/Investment

An investor should consider the investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses associated with municipal fund securities before investing. This and other important information is contained in the fund prospectuses and the NEST Advisor College Savings Plan Program Disclosure Statement (issuer's official statement), which can be obtained at NEST529Advisor.com and should be read carefully before investing. You can lose money by investing in an Investment Option. Each of the Investment Options involves investment risks, which are described in the Program Disclosure Statement.

An investor should consider, before investing, whether the investor's or 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. Investors should consult their tax advisor, attorney, and/or other advisor regarding their specific legal, investment, or tax situation.

The NEST Advisor College Savings Plan (the "Plan") is sponsored by the State of Nebraska, administered by the Nebraska State Treasurer, and the Nebraska Investment Council provides investment oversight. Union Bank and Trust Company serves as Program Manager and Northern Trust Securities, Inc. serves as Distributor for the Plan. Union Bank and Trust Company is registered as a municipal advisor with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (MSRB). The Plan offers a series of Investment Options within the Nebraska Educational Savings Plan Trust (the "Trust"), which offers other Investment Options not affiliated with the Plan. The Plan is intended to operate as a qualified tuition program.

Except for any investments made by a Plan participant in the Bank Savings Underlying Investment up to the limit provided by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") insurance, neither the principal contributed to an account, nor earnings thereon, are guaranteed or insured by the State of Nebraska, the Nebraska State Treasurer, the Nebraska Investment Council, the Trust, the Plan, any other state, any agency or instrumentality thereof, Union Bank and Trust Company, Northern Trust Securities, Inc., the FDIC, or any other entity. Investment returns are not guaranteed. Account owners in the Plan assume all investment risk, including the potential loss of principal.

*Withdrawals used to pay for qualified higher education expenses are free from federal and Nebraska state income tax. Qualified higher education expenses include tuition, fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for enrollment or attendance; certain room and board expenses incurred by students who are enrolled at least half-time; the purchase of computer or peripheral equipment, computer software, or Internet access and related services, if used primarily by the beneficiary during any of the years the beneficiary is enrolled at an eligible educational institution; certain expenses for special needs services needed by a special needs beneficiary; apprenticeship program expenses; and payment of principal or interest on any qualified education loan of the Beneficiary or a sibling of the Beneficiary (up to an aggregate lifetime limit of \$10,000 per individual). However, earnings on all other types of withdrawals are generally subject to federal and Nebraska state income taxes, and an additional 10% federal tax. Nebraska law does not treat the following Federal Qualified Higher Education Expenses as Nebraska Qualified Expenses: K-12 Tuition Expenses. If a withdrawal is made for such purposes, although it is a Federal Qualified Withdrawal, it will be treated as a Nebraska Non-Qualified Withdrawal and may result in the recapture of a previously claimed Nebraska state income tax deduction, and the earnings portion will be subject to Nebraska state income tax. Please consult your tax professional about your particular situation.

Not FDIC Insured* / No Bank Guarantee / May Lose Value
(*Except the Bank Savings Underlying Investment)



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