



What is ABLE?

- The ABLE Act (The Stephen Beck, Jr. Achieving a Better Life Experience Act) passed the U.S. Congress in December 2014 and was enacted in New Mexico in March 2016.
- It allows eligible individuals with disabilities to open ABLE investment accounts.
 - Hybrid of 529 college savings accounts, checking accounts, and Special Needs Trusts.
 - Funds can be used for qualifying disability-related expenses (education, housing and transportation, healthcare, assistive technology, and employment training and support)
 - Will not interfere with Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income, and Supplemental Security Disability Income eligibility unless account exceeds \$100,000.
 - *ABLE New Mexico*, administered by the State Treasurer's Office, will begin January 18, 2018.

Benefits of ABLE New Mexico Accounts

- The account is owned by the person with the disability; one account per person.
- Provides financial independence for individuals with disabilities; contributions can be made by friends and family.
- Provides a new investment opportunity and tax-free earnings.
- It dramatically increases their ability to save:
 - Before ABLE, individuals could save approximately \$2,000 of their own money before risking the loss of healthcare and other benefits (SSI and SSDI).

Eligibility

- Individuals whose disability developed before their 26th birthday.
- Who have been living with the disability for at least one year, or expect the disability to last at least one year.
- Who are entitled to SSI and/or SSDI due to their disability.

Things to Consider

- Account contributions are limited to \$15,000 per year.
- If funds exceed \$100,000, SSI benefits will be suspended.
- If account holder passes away, Medicaid can request reimbursement from the ABLE account for assistance provided since inception of the account.
- Don't want to wait? Open an account with Ohio today at <https://www.stableaccount.com/>. Your account will automatically become part of the New Mexico program on January 18, 2018.



New Mexico State Treasurer's Office—Tim Eichenberg, Treasurer
PO Box 5135, Santa Fe, NM, 87502

505.955.1120

www.nmsto.gov