



NC ABL PROGRAM

NC ABL PROGRAM

Account Eligibility, Features & Benefits



History of the NC ABLE Program



NC ABLE PROGRAM

December

2014

Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act was signed into federal law by President Obama

August 2015

The **NC ABLE Act** was enacted.

January 2017

NC ABLE Accounts became available.

January 1, 2026

The **ABLE Age Adjustment Act (2022)** goes into effect.

The age of disability onset changes to **46.**

September 2016

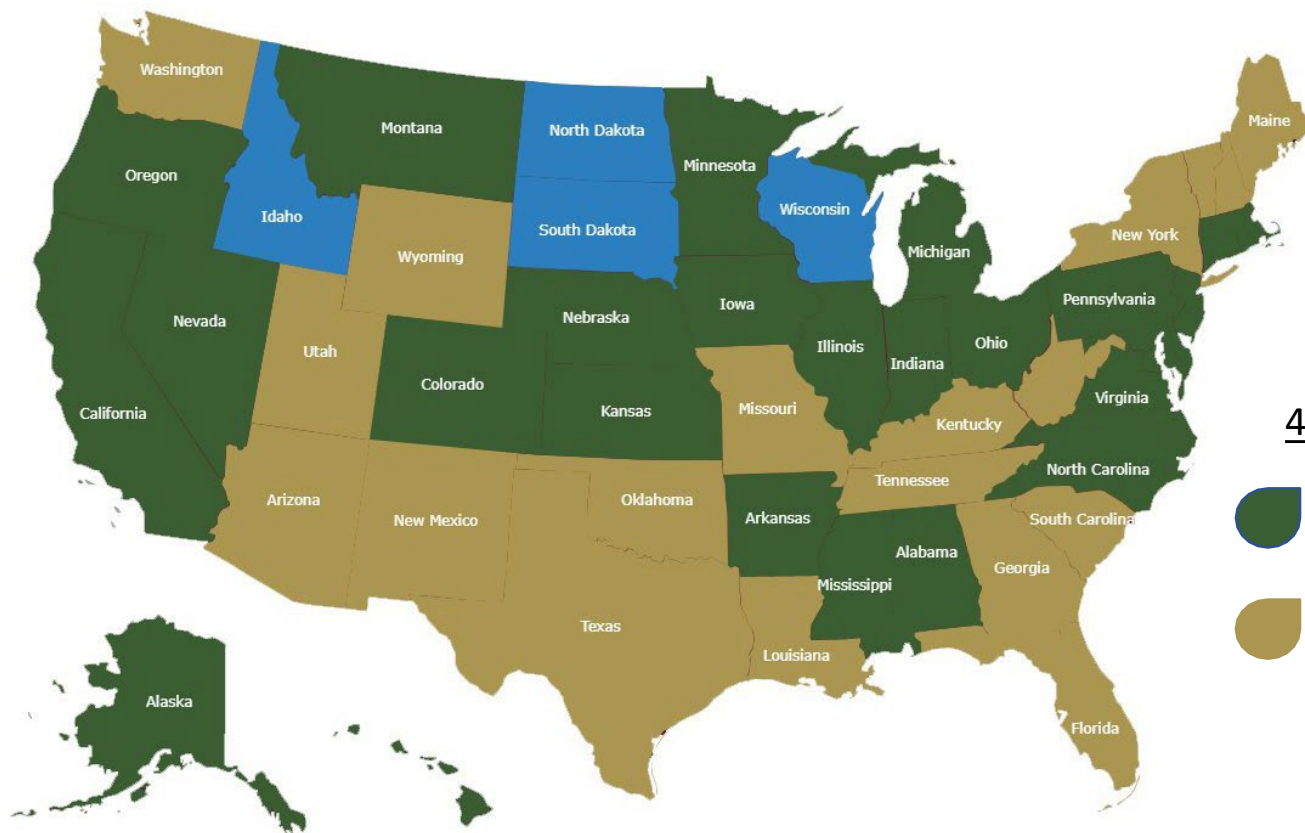
The **NC ABLE Program** joined the National ABLE Alliance (NAA).

June 26, 2025



NC ABLE Account Medicaid "Clawback" Modifications: disallow Medicaid to recover funds from NC ABLE accounts unless required by federal law

Did you know?

ABLE accounts are available in many states, but not all states have the same features and benefits.



46 States sponsor programs

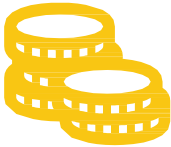
-  Open to residents of all states.
-  Open to state residents only.

Source: NAST

Why NC ABLE?



Membership in the **National ABLE Alliance (NAA)** consortium of states and DC provides the **negotiation** and **buying power** of 19 ABLE programs.



NC ABLE is **transparent with account fees and costs**, which are competitive with similar products.



Partner in advocacy in the **North Carolina General Assembly**.



Benefits of the NC ABLE Program



NC ABLE PROGRAM

NC ABLE allows people living with disabilities to save and invest their money

in a tax-advantaged account for qualified disability expenses, without jeopardizing public, means-tested benefits such as SSI, Medicaid, HUD and others.



You do NOT have to be on public benefits to open up an ABLE account.



Eligibility & Certification



NC ALE PROGRAM

You're generally eligible if your disability was present before the age of 46, and at least ONE of the following is true:



You have a disability with a written diagnosis from a licensed physician that can be produced if requested; OR



You are eligible for SSI or SSDI because of a disability; OR



You have a condition from the
Social Security Administration' Compassionate Allowances
List (<https://www.ssa.gov/compassionateallowances/>)

Note: Self-certification is required at the time of application and every year thereafter. You do NOT have to be on public benefits to open up an ABLE account.



Opening an NC ABLE Account



NC ABLE PROGRAM

Who can open an account?



Account Owner, the person with the disability.



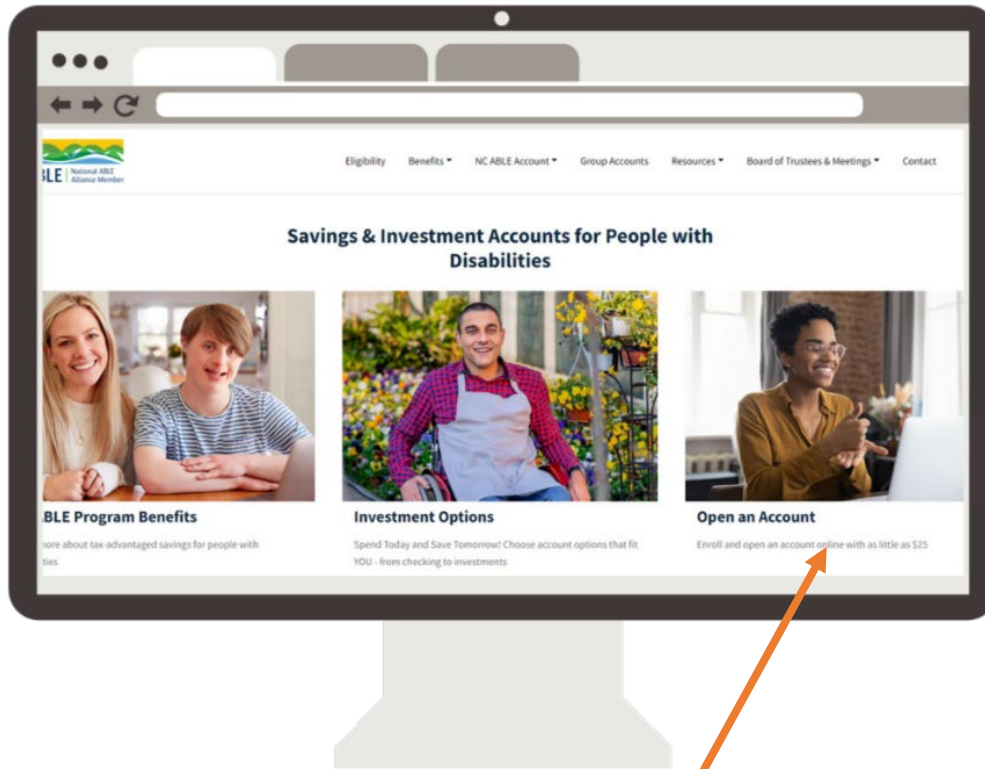
Person with a power of attorney from the eligible Account Owner.



For an Account Owner **without legal capacity**, the following (in order of priority):

- Agent under a power of attorney
- Guardian of the estate / General guardian / Conservator
- Spouse
- Parent
- Sibling
- Grandparent
- SSA-appointed representative payee

Opening an NC ABLE account



Enroll online at NCABLE.org

Enrollment Forms



NC ABLE Enrollment Form (pdf)

Use this Enrollment form to open an account.



NC ABLE Enrollment Form

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT OPENING A NEW ACCOUNT.

We are required by federal law to obtain from each person or Entity who opens an Account certain personal information — including name, street address, and date of birth, among other information — that will be used to verify their identity. All required information must be provided in order to verify identity and open the Account.

- You can open an Account online at NCABLE.org.
- An individual may only have one ABLE account nationwide.
- The Account may only be opened for an Eligible Individual.
- The Plan Disclosure Booklet contains important information about the NC ABLE Plan including, among other information, the objectives, risks, fees and restrictions associated with opening an Account and investing in the NC ABLE Plan.
- Capitalized terms used in this **Enrollment Form**, but not defined in this form, have the meanings provided in the Plan Disclosure Booklet.
- Accounts that are opened and not funded within 90 days will be permanently closed.
- Before investing, check with your home state to determine if it offers tax or other benefits for investing in its plan.
- Type or print clearly, printing in capital letters and black ink. Please mail or fax the form to:
- All sections of this form must be completed unless indicated otherwise.

Forms can be downloaded from our website at **NCABLE.org**, or you can call Customer Service assistance in completing this form — at **1.888.627.7503** any business day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A box containing contact information for NCABLE.org. It includes a phone number (1.888.627.7503), a fax number (1.617.559.8925), the website (NCABLE.org), and an email address (nc.clientservice@savewithable.com). It also mentions a regular mailing address.

Paper
enrollment
form available
to print or
mail.

Account Support



Interested Party

- The person who qualifies for an ABLÉ account can get help from an **Interested Party**.
- An *Interested Party* can access information about the account, but they can not do things like move money within the account.

Examples of an Interested Party may include:

- ✓ Financial Advisor
- ✓ Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- ✓ Legal Counsel



Authorized Individuals

- An **Authorized Individual** is a person who can assist the ABLÉ account owner, or they can manage and transact on the Account on behalf of the Account Owner.

Examples of an Authorized Individuals may include:

- ✓ Parent
- ✓ Guardian
- ✓ Sibling
- ✓ SSA Representative Payee

Authorized Individuals Documentation



Parent

Birth Certificate



Legal Guardian / Conservator

Appointment Document from the Court (Guardian of the Estate, General Guardian, or Conservator)



Agent

under Power of Attorney (POA)

Power of Attorney



Sibling

NC ABLE Affidavit



Spouse

Marriage certificate



Grandparent

NC ABLE Affidavit



SSA-Appointed Rep Payee

SSA Letter



Contribution Sources & Limits



Contribution Sources

Account Owner



Friends & Family, Employers



Rollovers from a 529 Plan



Limits



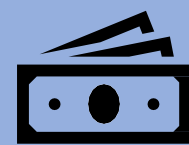
\$20k

\$20,000 per year
contribution & rollover limit



\$100k

Up to \$100,000
is excluded from the calculation
of the resource limit for SSI



\$550k

Maximum account balance
ranges from
\$300,000 to \$500,000+
by state



\$20,000 per year
contribution & rollover limit for
all NC ABLE account owners

ABLE to Work



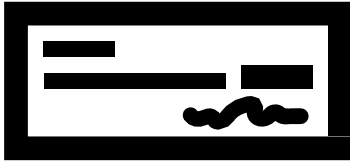
Contribution limit may increase
by the lesser of:

the amount of the account owner's
earned income

or

the one-person poverty level
for the prior year (\$15,650-2025)

Contribution Methods



Check



Payroll, SSI
Deposits



Electronic Funds Transfer
(EFT)



Ugift
ugiftable.com



Investment Options



NC ABLE PROGRAM



Checking Account Option

- Interest bearing
- FDIC insurance up to \$250,000
- Debit card with no card issuance fees
- Check writing
- ATM Access
- No overdraft fees

VMRXX

Vanguard Cash Reserves Federal
Money Market Fund Admiral
Shares

Money Market Option

Management style

Active

Category

Taxable Money
Market

[Expense ratio](#)

0.10%

as of 12/20/2024

Investment minimum

\$3,000

as of 12/03/2025

Asset class

Money Market

Risk / reward scale



[7 day SEC yield](#)

3.91% C

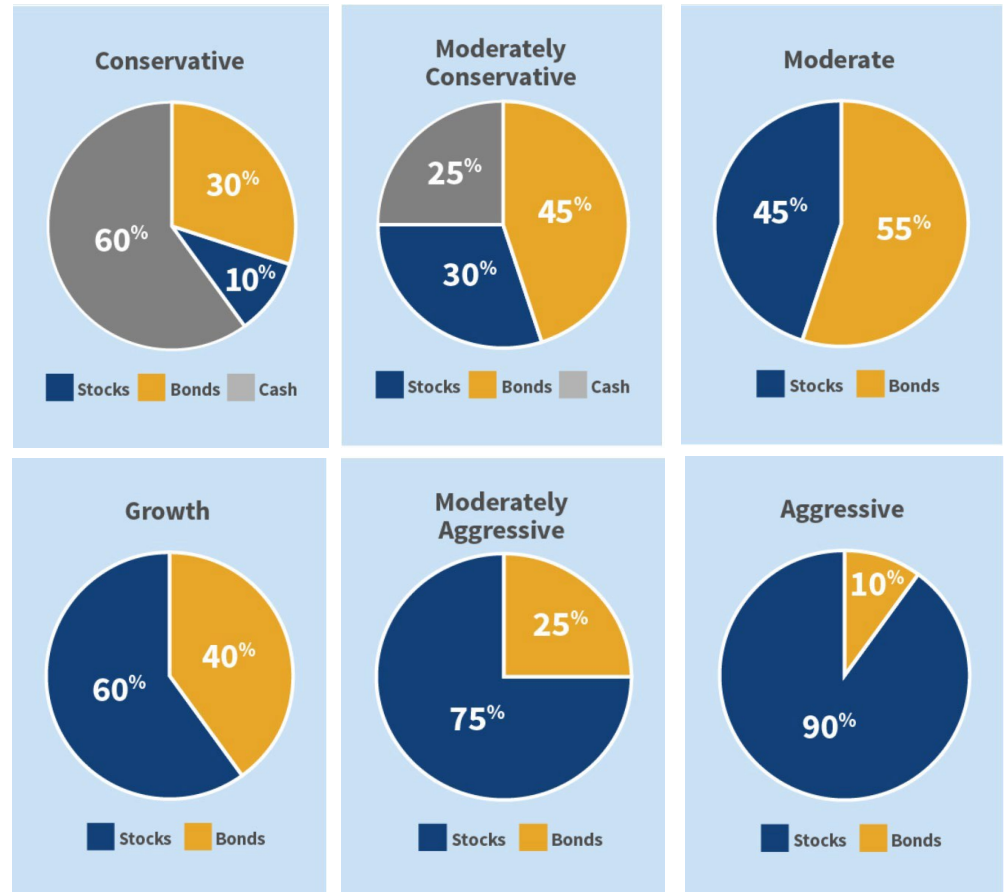
as of 12/03/2025

NAV price

\$1.00

as of 12/03/2025

- Range of investment options
- Options based on risk level/comfort
- Money could grow over time
- NOT insured and it's possible to lose money
- Performance is not guaranteed





Withdrawals & Qualified Disability Expenses



NC ABLE PROGRAM

The ABLE Act allows account owners to withdraw their money, tax-free, when it is used for a **Qualifying Disability Expense (QDE)**.

A QDE is any expense related to the account owner's disability that can be used for the benefit of the account owner in maintaining or improving their health, independence or quality of life, such as:



Education

such as tuition, special education services
including tutors



Health

including prevention and wellness



Housing

such as food, mortgage, rent, taxes and
utilities



Transportation

such as public or customized, accessible
vehicles



Legal

such as legal fees



Financial

including management and administrative
services



Technology

assistive technology and related services,
including cellphones



Funeral Expenses

funeral and burial expenses

- Qualified Disability Expenses (QDEs) are defined by Federal law
- There is no comprehensive list of goods and services that are always QDEs
- NC ABLE *does not* make the determination on what is a QDE
- Other agencies are responsible for determining whether a purchase is a QDE:



QDE Recordkeeping

- Review your NC ABLE account online at least monthly
- Keep your receipts
- Check your receipts against the withdrawals from your account
- Keep your tax forms 5498-QA (for contributions) and 1099-QA (for withdrawals)



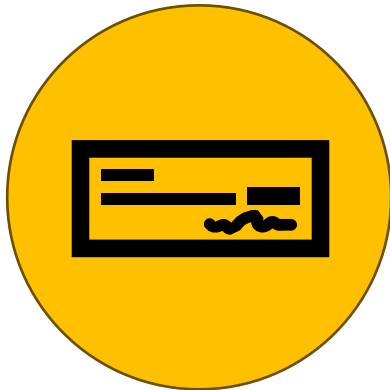
Withdrawal Methods



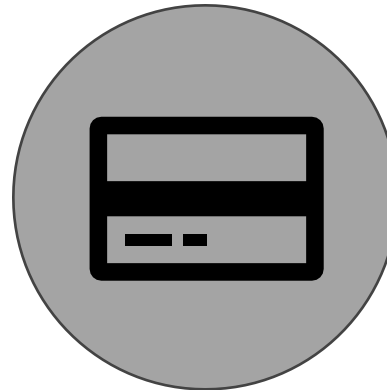
ATM Withdrawals



Electronic Funds
Transfer



Check



Debit Card



Fees



Account Fees

- Each Account is charged an account maintenance fee: **\$31.00 / Year (\$56 for paper stmts)**
- Investment Accounts : Range is **.28 -.34%** (i.e., \$2.80 – \$3.40 per \$1,000, annually)
- Checking Account Fee: **\$2 per month**

* If average daily account balance is \$250 or more,
OR if electronic delivery of statements is elected

Fee is \$0



Entity Account Management





Multiple ABLE accounts, one login: **Introducing the Entity Management Dashboard**



Who is this for?

- State or Government Organizations
- Non-Profit Organizations
- For-Profit Organizations

Effortlessly open and manage multiple ABLE Accounts all in one place

Small non-profits providing residential or healthcare services, law firms acting as guardians, large government agencies managing cases, and more benefit from the ability to manage their ABLE Accounts — be it 5, 500, or more — with one log in.

[Register Your Entity](#)

What you can do:

- At a glance view of all accounts
- Ability to open new accounts
- Single sign-on access
- Add and remove others on your team who help manage accounts

The screenshot shows the 'Account Management' dashboard of the NC ABLE Program. On the left is a sidebar with navigation links: ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT, TEAM MEMBERS, HELP CENTER, and PROFILE SETTINGS. Below these is a 'Need help?' section with contact information and a 'Download Plan Forms' link. The main content area features a table of accounts with columns for NAME, ACCOUNT NUMBER, SSN, STATUS, and BALANCE. A search bar and an 'Add New Account' button are at the top right. A red alert banner at the top of the main area states: 'An account that has failed Plan review Please call Client Services at (123) 456-7890, M-F, 8am-5pm ET for next step.' The table lists several accounts, including Jane Smith (Failed Plan Review), Zaniyah Ponce (In Plan Review), Demetrius Faulkner (In Plan Review), Iyana Knox (Upload Documentation), Jaylyn Schroeder (Complete Enrollment), and several 'Active' accounts with balances.

NAME	ACCOUNT NUMBER	SSN	STATUS	BALANCE
Jane Smith	123456789-00	****3235	Failed Plan Review As of 00/00/0000	\$0.00
Zaniyah Ponce	123456789-01	****9934	In Plan Review As of 00/00/0000	\$0.00
Demetrius Faulkner	123456789-02	****8602	In Plan Review As of 00/00/0000	\$0.00
Iyana Knox	123456789-03	****7201	Upload Documentation As of 00/00/0000	\$0.00
Jaylyn Schroeder	123456789-04	****3351	Complete Enrollment As of 00/00/0000	\$0.00
Hayden Dyer	123456789-05	****0074	Active As of 00/00/0000	\$7389.00
Eliza Pearson	123456789-06	****5353	Active As of 00/00/0000	\$40300.00
Zavier Hanson	123456789-07	****4635	Active As of 00/00/0000	\$100368.00
Arjun Herman	123456789-07	****5444	Active As of 00/00/0000	\$3000.00
Randall Kerr	123456789-07	****9086	Active As of 00/00/0000	\$6400.00



ABLE and Special Needs Trusts



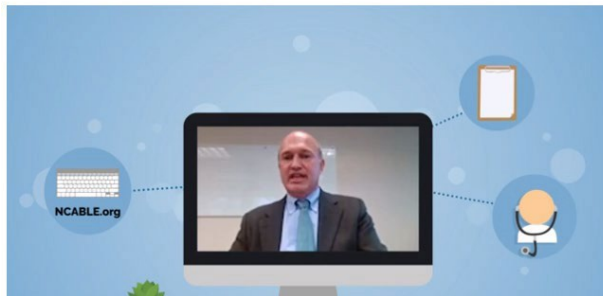
ABLE and Special Needs Trusts

- Can be used in conjunction with a Special Needs Trusts (SNTs)
- Choice depends upon the beneficiary's specific needs and financial goals
- Encourage meeting with a SNT attorney for further information



Webinars & Videos

NC ABLE Accounts & Special Needs Trusts



NC ABLE webinars and videos are under the Resources tab. To register for live events, visit the events page. **NCABLE.org**



Death of an Account Owner



A full-page background image of a sunset over the ocean. The sun is a bright yellow orb on the horizon, casting a long, shimmering reflection across the calm water. The sky is a mix of soft pinks, oranges, and blues, with a few wispy clouds. The water transitions from a deep blue to a lighter, golden hue near the horizon.

Funds in an ABLÉ account go to:

- Final Qualified Disability Expenses
- Account Owner's Estate or Successor Account Owner if applicable



NC ABLE Resources





Savings & Investment Accounts for People with Disabilities



NC ABLE Program Benefits

Learn more about tax-advantaged savings for people with disabilities



Investment Options

Spend Today and Save Tomorrow! Choose account options that fit YOU - from checking to investments



Open an Account

Enroll and open an account online with as little as \$25

NCABLE.org

888-627-7503



NC ABLE Program



@NCABLEProgram



NC ABLE Program

ABLE | NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER

ABLENRC.org

202-683-6094



Thank you.



North Carolina
Retirement Systems