

MOST - Missouri's 529 Education Plan (Direct-sold)

Data as of: 04/26/24

Missouri's 529 Education Plan (Direct-sold), managed by Ascensus College Savings, features three-age based options and 16 static portfolios with funds from Vanguard and Dimensional Fund Advisors. Accounts can be linked to the Upromise rewards service.

5-Cap Rating

Resident:



Non-Resident:



Savingforcollege.com's 5-Cap Ratings provides an evaluation and comparison of 529 plans, utilizing a formula that examines dozens of factors grouped into the following categories. (Scale 0 to 5; 5 is highest)

Performance	Costs	Features	Reliability	Resident Upgrade
2.33	4.42	4.74	4.45	0.10

Investment Options

Age-based/Enrollment Year investment options:

The Age-Based option is offered in 3 different risk levels (Aggressive, Moderate, and Conservative) each containing 9 portfolios of underlying mutual funds. Contributions are placed into the portfolio corresponding to the risk level selected and the number of years to expected enrollment, and later reassigned to more conservative portfolios as the beneficiary approaches college age.

Static investment options:

Select among 6 multi-fund portfolios and 10 individual-fund portfolios.

Underlying investments:

Vanguard and Dimensional Fund Advisors funds

Taxes and other Benefits

Program match on contributions:

The MOST Matching Grant Program has been discontinued.

State tax deduction or credit for contributions:

Contributions to Missouri AND non-Missouri 529 plans of up to \$8,000 per year by an individual, and up to \$16,000 per year by a married couple filing jointly, are deductible in computing Missouri taxable income. Rollover contributions are not deductible. Contribution deadline is December 31 postmark.

State tax recapture provisions:

The principal portion of nonqualified withdrawals from this plan are included in Missouri taxable income to the extent of prior Missouri tax deductions.

State definition of qualified expenses

MO passed state legislation that ensures that the MO 529 state legislation will mirror federal 529 legislation. Therefore all federal 529 qualified withdrawal types are applicable to the MOST program.

State tax treatment of qualified distributions:

Qualified distributions from Missouri and non-Missouri 529 plans are exempt.

State tax treatment of rollovers:

Missouri follows federal tax-free treatment for rollovers.

Does the sponsoring state exclude the value of an account for state financial aid purposes?

Yes

Does participation in the program provide beneficiaries with any advantages in qualifying for resident tuition status at state institutions?

No

Is there a rewards program or outside scholarship program that works with this program?

Yes, Yes, the MOST program is fully integrated with the Upromise Rewards program. MOST accounts can be linked to Upromise. Upromise Rewards is free to join and offers members cash back for college.

General

Program type:

Savings

How to enroll:

Enroll directly with the program.

Initial year of operation:

1999, but substantially changed in June 2006

State agency(ies):

Missouri Education Program Board

Program manager:

Ascensus College Savings

Program distributor:

Ascensus College Savings

Contributions

Maximum contributions:

Accepts contributions until all account balances in Missouri's 529 plans for the same beneficiary reach \$550,000.

Minimum contributions:

No minimum.

Does the program offer an e-gifting platform for receiving gift contributions?

This plan offers a robust gifting platform that allows gift-givers to save their own profile for recurring or future contributions.

Fees & Expenses

Enrollment or application fee:

None

Account maintenance fee:

None

Program management fees:

0.15%

Expenses of the underlying investments:

0.02% - 0.27%

Total asset-based expense ratio:

0.17% - 0.42%

Contact

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Plan Portfolios

There is no investment data available for this plan. Please visit <http://www.missourimost.org> for additional information.