



The investment menu in Ohio's 529 Plan, CollegeAdvantage features 3 age-based options and 5 risk-based options using Vanguard funds, a college enrollment-based option and 13 static investment options using Vanguard and DFA funds, and 2 types of FDIC-insured deposit accounts through Fifth Third Bank. Accounts can be linked to the Upromise rewards service.

5-Cap Rating

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)

Non-Resident: 

Performance	Costs	Features	Reliability	Resident Upgrade
5.00	4.75	5.00	4.99	0.40

Investment Options

Age-based investment options:

2 separate age-based options are offered. The Vanguard Age-Based Option offers a choice among 3 different risk levels (Aggressive, Moderate, and Conservative). Contributions are placed into one of 9 mutual-fund portfolios corresponding to the selected risk level and age of the beneficiary, and reassigned to more conservative portfolios as the beneficiary approaches college age. The Advantage Age-Based Option invests in 10 enrollment-based portfolios invested in funds from Vanguard and DFA.

Static investment options:

The Vanguard investment options consist of 5 multi-fund portfolios and 11 individual-fund portfolios. The Fifth Third Bank options consist of certificates of deposit and a savings account. The remaining options include an equity fund and a bond fund from DFA.

Underlying investments:

Vanguard and DFA mutual funds; certificates of deposit and savings accounts from Fifth Third Bank.

Taxes and other Benefits

Program match on contributions:

None.

State tax deduction or credit for contributions:

Contributions, including rollover contributions, to a Ohio 529 plan of up to \$4,000 per beneficiary per year (any filing status) are deductible in computing Ohio taxable income, with an unlimited carryforward of excess contributions. Contribution deadline is December 30.

State tax recapture provisions:

The principal portion of nonqualified withdrawals from this plan are included in Ohio taxable income to the extent of prior Ohio tax deductions. Nonqualified withdrawals for this purpose do not include withdrawals made as the result of the beneficiary's death or disability, withdrawals made on account of the beneficiary's receipt of a scholarship. Offering materials indicate that distributions subsequently rolled over to another 529 plan are subject to Ohio tax recapture; whether or not "trustee to trustee" rollovers are subject to recapture appears unclear.

State definition of qualified expenses

The state conforms with the federal definition of qualified education expenses, which includes expenses for higher education, as well as up to \$10,000 per year in tuition in connection with enrollment or attendance at an elementary or secondary public, private, or religious school.

State tax treatment of qualified distributions:

Qualified distributions from Ohio and non-Ohio 529 plans are exempt. Ohio also exempts distributions from a Ohio 529 plan attributable to the beneficiary's death, disability, or receipt of a scholarship.

State tax treatment of rollovers:

Ohio follows federal tax-free treatment except that outbound rollovers appear subject to the recapture of prior state tax deductions.

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

No

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

No

Does the program have a formal agreement with a rewards program or outside scholarship program?

Yes, the Upromise Rewards program can be linked to any 529 college savings plan. Upromise Rewards is free to join and offers members cash back for college.

Plan Portfolios

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

General

Program type:

Savings

How to enroll:

Enroll directly with the program.

Initial year of operation:

2000

State agency(ies):

Ohio Tuition Trust Authority, an office within the Ohio Department of Higher Education

Program manager:

Ohio Tuition Trust Authority

Program distributor:

Ohio Tuition Trust Authority

Contributions

Maximum contributions:

Accepts contributions until all 529 account balances in Ohio's 529 plans for the same beneficiary reach \$468,000.

Minimum contributions:

\$25 (\$500 for the Fifth Third CD option).

Fees & Expenses

Enrollment or application fee:

None.

Account maintenance fee:

None.

Program management fees:

0.13% manager fee plus 0.02% fee to the state.

Fifth Third options: No fees.

Expenses of the underlying investments:

Age-based and static portfolios: 0.0356% to 0.17%
Individual fund portfolios: 0.02% to 0.38%
Fifth Third options: None

Total asset-based expense ratio:

0.17% - 0.53%. None for Fifth Third options.

Contact

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