



Alabama - CollegeCounts 529 Fund

Data as of: 04/26/24

The manager for the Alabama CollegeCounts 529 Fund direct-sold savings program changed from Van Kampen to Union Bank and Trust Company in August 2010. It features age-based, static and individual fund portfolio options using mutual funds from multiple fund firms.

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 |
|-------------|-------|----------|-------------|------------------|
| 3.45 | 4.26 | 4.49 | 4.59 | 0.30 |

Investment Options

Age-based/Enrollment Year investment options:

The Age-Based Portfolios 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 based on the age of the beneficiary, and later reassigned to more conservative portfolios as the beneficiary approaches college age.

Static investment options:

Select among 6 multi-fund Target portfolios and 26 Individual-fund portfolios.

Underlying investments:

Vanguard, T. Rowe Price, DFA, PGIM Investments, PIMCO, Fidelity and Dodge & Cox

Taxes and other Benefits

Program match on contributions:

None.

State tax deduction or credit for contributions:

Contributions, including rollover contributions, to an Alabama 529 plan of up to \$5,000 per year by an individual, and up to \$10,000 per year by married taxpayers filing jointly who each make their own contributions, are deductible in computing Alabama taxable income.

State tax recapture provisions:

A nonqualified withdrawal from an Alabama 529, plus 10 percent of the amount of the withdrawal, is included in Alabama taxable income to the extent of prior Alabama tax deductions. Outbound rollovers are also subject to recapture.

State definition of qualified expenses

The state conforms with the federal definition of qualified education expenses, which includes expenses for higher education, apprenticeship programs, interest and/or principal on qualified education loans up to a \$10,000 lifetime cap, and up to \$10,000 per year in tuition in connection with enrollment or attendance at an elementary or secondary public, private, or religious school. Distributions from a 529 account directly to a Roth IRA are considered a qualified expense for state income tax purposes.

State tax treatment of qualified distributions:

Alabama law exempts qualified distributions from an Alabama 529 plan but does not exempt distributions from a non-Alabama 529 plan.

State tax treatment of rollovers:

Inbound rollovers are not subject to Alabama tax. The full amount rolled over can be deducted subject to the \$5,000 or \$10,000 annual maximum. Outbound rollovers are treated as nonqualified withdrawals.

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

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

Yes, CollegeCounts 529 Rewards Visa Card, you can earn 1.529% on your everyday purchases.

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.CollegeCounts529.com> for additional information.

General

Program type:

Savings

How to enroll:

Enroll directly with the program.

Initial year of operation:

2002, but substantially changed in August 2010.

State agency(ies):

Board of Trustees of CollegeCounts 529 Fund, chaired by the State Treasurer

Program manager:

UBT 529 Services, a division of Union Bank & Trust Company

Program distributor:

Union Bank

Contributions

Maximum contributions:

Accepts contributions until all account balances in Alabama 529 plans for the same beneficiary reach \$475,000.

Minimum contributions:

No minimum.

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

This plan offers an online tool to share a gift contribution link with family and friends.

Fees & Expenses

Enrollment or application fee:

None.

Account maintenance fee:

None.

Program management fees:

0.17%

Expenses of the underlying investments:

Ranges from 0.04% to 0.07% (portfolio weighted average) in the age-based and static multi-fund portfolios, and 0.02% to 0.62% in the individual-fund portfolios. None for the Bank Savings Portfolio.

Total asset-based expense ratio:

0.17% - 0.79%javascript:to_today('updated_479')

Contact

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