



Texas College Savings Plan

Data as of: 11/21/18

The Texas College Savings plan, managed by NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC offers two age-based investment options and seven static options using underlying investments managed by Artisan, DFA, Dodge & Cox, Dreyfus, Invesco, T. Rowe Price, TIAA-CREF, and Vanguard.

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
2.75	2.59	3.47	3.20	0.10

Investment Options

Age-based investment options:

Select either the Blended Age-based Portfolios, which offers underlying investments that are both actively and passively managed, or the Index Age-Based Portfolios, which offers passively managed investments. Each option consists of 6 portfolios of underlying investments. Contributions are placed into the portfolio that corresponds to the age of the beneficiary. The portfolios automatically shift to a more conservative investment allocation over time.

Static investment options:

Select among 4 multi-fund portfolios (two of which use only index funds), 2 individual-fund bond portfolios, and the U.S. Government Money Market Portfolio.

Underlying investments:

Mutual funds and investment strategies managed by Artisan, DFA, Dodge & Cox, Dreyfus, Invesco, T. Rowe Price, TIAA-CREF, and Vanguard.

Taxes and other Benefits

Program match on contributions:

None.

State tax deduction or credit for contributions:

Not applicable. Texas does not have a personal income tax.

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:

Not applicable. Texas does not have a personal income tax.

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

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.

General

Program type:

Savings

How to enroll:

Enroll directly with the program.

Initial year of operation:

2002, but substantially changed in November 2007. NorthStar replaced Oppenheimer as plan manager in September 2014.

State agency(ies):

Texas Prepaid Higher Education Tuition Board

Program manager:

NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC

Program distributor:

Northern Lights Distributors, LLC

Contributions

Maximum contributions:

Accepts contributions until all account balances in Texas' 529 plans for the same beneficiary reach \$370,000.

Minimum contributions:

\$25 per portfolio, or \$15 per portfolio with the automatic contribution plan.

Fees & Expenses

Enrollment or application fee:

None.

Account maintenance fee:

None.

Program management fees:

0.535% manager fee (plus 0.0843% state administrative fee); no administrative fee for index portfolios.

Expenses of the underlying investments:

0.0547% to 0.0712% in the Index portfolios; 0.0941% to 0.3694% in the Blended Portfolios; and 0.04% to 0.12% in the Individual Fund Portfolios.

Total asset-based expense ratio:

0.5897% - 0.9887%

Contact

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Plan Portfolios

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