

# **Maximizing Your ABLE Account:**

Creative Ways to Contribute to Your Account

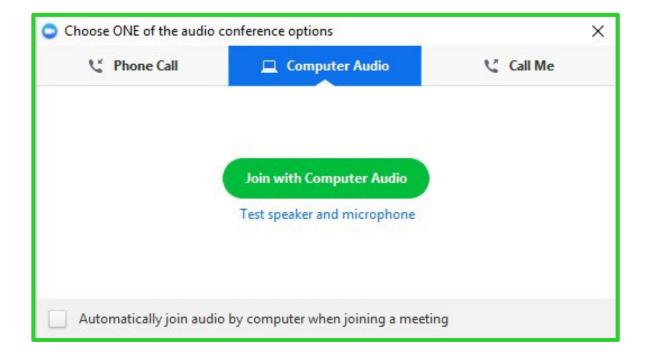
May 14, 2024 | 2 PM ET

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# Today's **Presenters**



Jody Ellis
Director
ABLE National Resource Center



David Bell Vice President Vestwell State Savings

# Agenda

- The Benefits of an ABLE Account
- Maximizing your Contribution Options
  - Standard & ABLE to Work Contributions
  - Automatic Contributions
  - Payroll Direct Deposit
  - Savings Boosters
  - Gifting
  - Creative Contribution Options
- Question & Answer





# **Benefits of ABLE**

# A Tool for Financial Independence

- The Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act allows millions
  of eligible people with disabilities the chance to save and invest
  money without paying taxes on investment earnings.
- Account owners who receive needs-based benefits can save more than the savings limit (usually \$2000) and still get benefits if they need them.
- The savings can be spent on things that help the person stay healthy, independent and have a good life. This includes basic needs like food, transportation and housing.
- Anyone can deposit money in the account.



# Why Save in an ABLE Account?

- ✓ Up to \$100,000 in savings is disregarded as a resource and will <u>NOT</u> affect Supplemental Security Income (SSI).
- ✓ Any amount of ABLE savings up to the plan balance limit, will <u>NOT</u> affect eligibility for other public benefits.
- ✓ Direct contributions into an ABLE account from family, friends, a Special Needs or Pooled Trust or a 529 College Savings Plan rollover, do not count as income by federally funded means-tested benefit programs
- ✓ ABLE account savings can help cover many of the extra costs associated with living with a disability.
- ✓ It can be used as an alternative to a retirement account if you do not have an employer sponsored plan.



#### **ABLE Account Features**

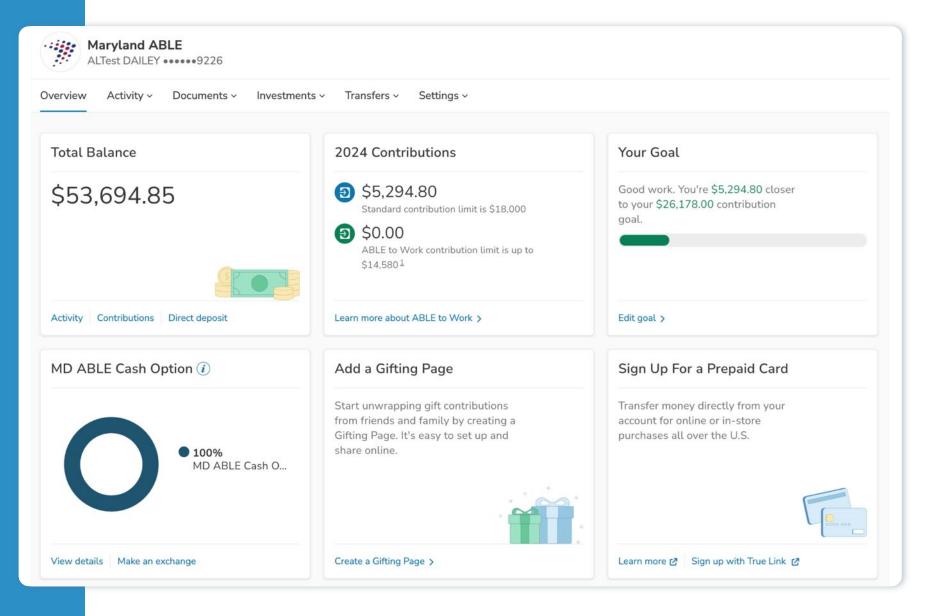
- ✓ Convenience: Accounts can be open virtually 24/7.
- ✓ Fees: Low to no cost to open.
- ✓ Control: The funds are directly controlled by the account owner unless there is an authorized representative (legal or designated)
- ✓ Availability: Nationwide
- ✓ Transferability: Ability to change to a different ABLE plan.
- ✓ Options: Savings, checking, and investment(s).
- ✓ Flexibility: QDE's, all stages of life, various methods to pay for QDE's.



# Maximize Contributions







## **Standard** Contributions

Standard Contributions can be made by the account owner, Authorized Representative, family or friends

 The current Annual Contribution Limit for Standard Contributions is \$18,000

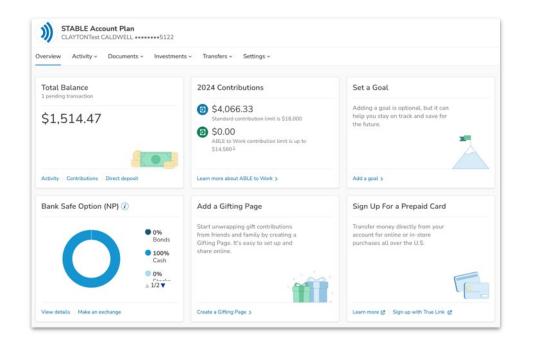




## ABLE to Work Contributions

An ABLE Account Owner who works and does NOT participate in an employer sponsored retirement plan - within that calendar year - may contribute from their earnings up to an additional:

- \$14,580 for the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia
- \$16,770 for Hawaii
- \$18,210 for Alaska

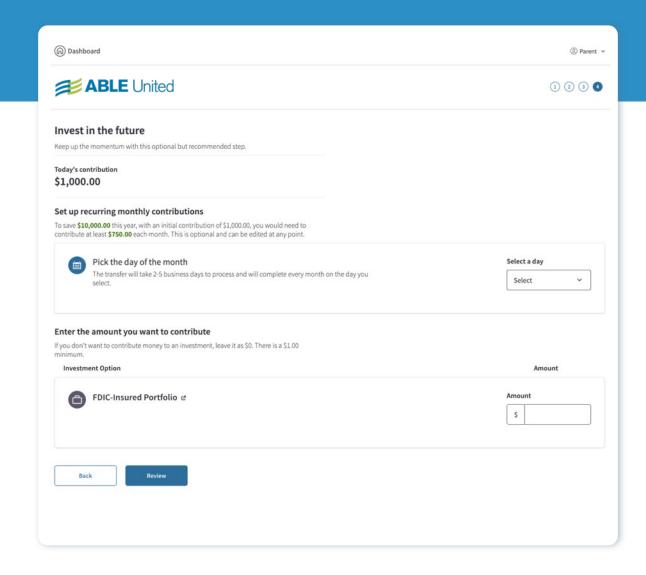


# **Automatic** Contributions

## Set it and forget it! ...

But don't really forget it.

- Set a certain amount to be automatically contributed on a specific day of the month
- Review your Automatic Contribution amount in case you are able to increase the amount

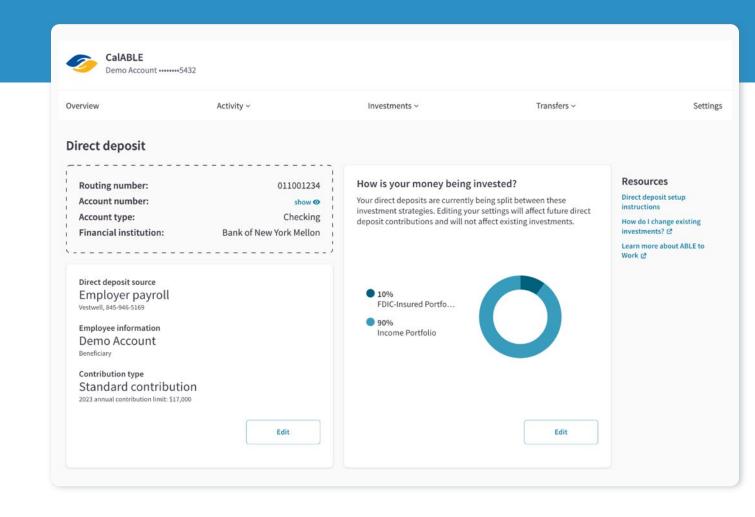




# Payroll Direct Deposit

If you are working, you can direct money straight to your ABLE account from your payroll

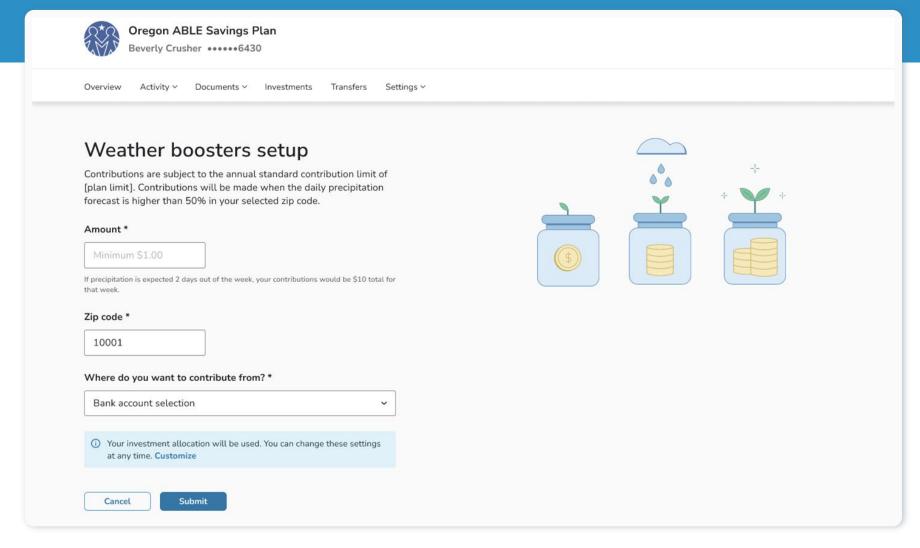
- Easy to set up
- Simple to manage
- You can increase the amount at any time





# **Savings** Boosters

Find the unique saving features of your ABLE plan

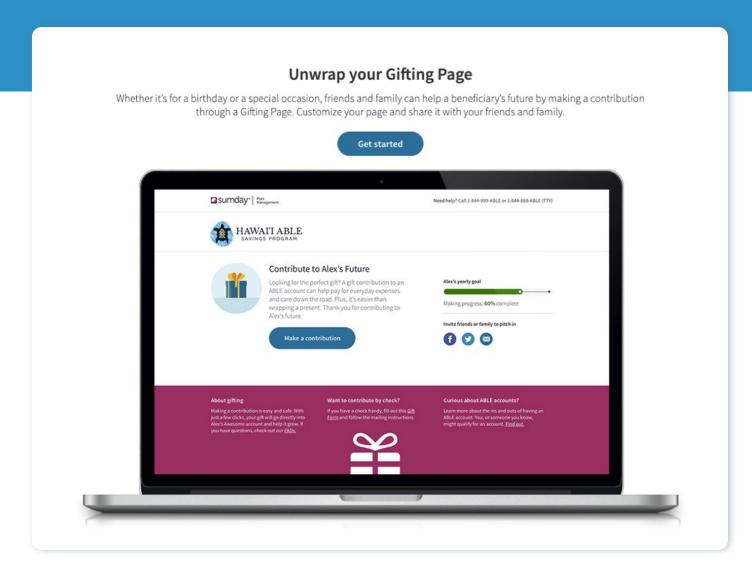




# Gifting

Allow family and friends to help with your saving goals by setting up a Gifting Page

- Simple to set up and manage
- Set a gifting goal
- Easy way for family and friends to contribute





# **Creative** Contribution Options

## Get creative with your contribution options

- There are federal tax credits that you could use to fund your ABLE account
  - Earned Income Tax Credit
  - Savers Credit
- Some states have credits or deductions on contributions to an ABLE account.
- You might have recently received a tax refund that can be placed into your ABLE account



# Questions?



#### **ABLE National Resource Center Website**

#### Visit our website at **ablenrc.org** for:

- ABLE FAQs
- ABLE Decision Guides
- ABLE Programs by State
- ABLE Informational Flyer
- Meet our ABLE Ambassadors
- ABLE to Save Podcast
- ABLE Webinars
- AchievABLE Newsletters



#### **Connect!**

- Please share information about ABLE accounts with friends, family and community groups!
- Subscribe to receive our <u>AchievABLE</u> newsletter and receive important ABLE-related updates.
- Connect with us on social media: <u>Facebook</u>, Instagram, Threads and LinkedIn, @theABLENRC.

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# Thank You!

