

from the NEST



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Watch the video series at NEST529.com/AskPenny

In this episode, Penny shows you how to estimate future education costs.



Set them up to soar.

888.993.3746
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➤ Meadowlark Pledge enters 4th year for Nebraska babies.

A MESSAGE FROM THE NEBRASKA STATE TREASURER

Securing a strong future for younger generations starts at day one. For the fourth year in a row, the Meadowlark Savings Pledge will give Nebraska newborns a one-time \$50 seed contribution to potentially cover some of the rising costs of higher education.

The Meadowlark Program is designed to encourage children to soar toward their educational dreams. Directed by the Meadowlark Act, eligible children born in 2023 will automatically receive the funds in a Meadowlark account. Since 2020, the program has deposited more than \$3 million into accounts, preparing the way for close to 70,000 children to pursue higher education. Meadowlark funds can be used for future educational expenses at Nebraska colleges and universities, as well as trade, technical, and vocational schools. Learn more about the Meadowlark Program at NEST529.com/Meadowlark.



Meadowlark
SAVINGS PLEDGE

“encouraging loved ones to meet their educational dreams”

Plan for 2024 tax benefits.

Start planning for 2024 tax benefits. Contribute to your account to take advantage of the Nebraska state income tax deduction for contributions to the plan up to \$10,000 (\$5,000 if married, filing separately).¹



If you are receiving a refund on your 2023 taxes, consider investing a portion of it in your loved one’s future by contributing to their NEST 529 account.

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Little lessons make a big difference.

HOW TO TEACH KIDS ABOUT MONEY THIS SPRING

Spring weather is finally here. That means more time outdoors and more opportunities to teach your kids a valuable lesson: when you have extra money, do you save it or spend it? To help build healthy financial habits, encourage your loved one to take on one or more of these three challenges. Then, talk with them about the best ways to use those dollars. It's a great way to show them the power of thinking long-term — just like how you're planning for their future education!



Host a Spring Cleaning Sale with Old Toys

Teach them how to let go of unused things.



Help the Neighbors with Yard Work

Teach them about gardening and long-term thinking.



Bake and Sell Cookies for Friends and Family

Teach them about the cost of ingredients and pricing items.

Take the right steps for you and make every dollar count.

THREE 529 INVESTMENT OPTIONS TO CONSIDER

Choosing the right investment strategy isn't just about making your money go further. It's about how involved in the investment process you'd like to be. NEST 529 plans offer three Investment Options:

- ▶ **Age-Based Investment Options:** This option automatically invests your dollars based on the child's age. When they're younger, investments are more aggressive and focused on growth. As they get older, the investments become more conservative and focused on steady saving.
- ▶ **Static Investment Options:** A pre-set investment portfolio based on your risk tolerance. The investment allocation stays the same over time.
- ▶ **Individual Fund Investment Options:** Designed for hands-on investors. Instead of a pre-built portfolio, investment options can be freely combined and customized.

Review these options online at [NEST529.com/Investment](https://www.nest529.com/Investment) to determine the best approach for you.

An investor should consider the investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses associated with municipal fund securities before investing. This and other important information is contained in the fund prospectuses and the NEST College Savings Plan Program Disclosure Statement (issuer's official statement), which can be obtained at [NEST529.com](https://www.nest529.com) and should be read carefully before investing. You can lose money by investing in an Investment Option. Each of the Investment Options involves investment risks, which are described in the Program Disclosure Statement.

An investor should consider, before investing, whether the investor's or beneficiary's home state offers any state tax or other state benefits such as financial aid, scholarship funds, and protection from creditors that are only available for investments in such state's 529 plan. Investors should consult their tax advisor, attorney, and/or other advisor regarding their specific legal, investment, or tax situation.

The NEST College Savings Plan (the "Plan") is sponsored by the State of Nebraska, administered by the Nebraska State Treasurer, and the Nebraska Investment Council provides investment oversight. Union Bank and Trust Company serves as Program Manager for the Plan. The Plan offers a series of Investment Options within the Nebraska Educational Savings Plan Trust (the "Trust"), which offers other Investment Options not affiliated with the Plan. The Plan is intended to operate as a qualified tuition program.

Except for any investments made by a Plan participant in the Bank Savings Underlying Investment up to the limit provided by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") insurance, neither the principal contributed to an account, nor earnings thereon, are guaranteed or insured by the State of Nebraska, the Nebraska State Treasurer, the Nebraska Investment Council, the Trust, the Plan, any other state, any agency or instrumentality thereof, the Program Manager, the FDIC, or any other entity. Investment returns are not guaranteed. Account owners in the Plan assume all investment risk, including the potential loss of principal.

¹ Account owners may deduct for Nebraska income tax purposes contributions they make to their own account (and any other accounts they own in the Nebraska Educational Savings Plan Trust) up to an overall maximum of \$10,000 (\$5,000 if married, filing separately). Contributions in excess of \$10,000 cannot be carried over to a future year. For a minor-owned or UGMA/UTMA 529 account, the minor is considered the account owner for Nebraska state income tax deduction purposes. The minor must file a Nebraska tax return for the year their contributions are made to be eligible for a tax deduction for their own contributions. In the case of a UGMA/UTMA 529 account, contributions by the parent/guardian listed as the Custodian on the UGMA/UTMA Plan account are also eligible for a Nebraska state tax deduction.

Not FDIC Insured¹ / No Bank Guarantee / May Lose Value
(*Except the Bank Savings Underlying Investment)



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Program Manager