



from the NEST

IN THIS ISSUE

Meet Our New Mascot

Long-Term Investing and
Market Volatility

20 Days of Giveaways Recap

Give Your College Savings
Fund a Boost

➤ 2021 Nebraska babies to be provided Meadowlark pledge funds.

A MESSAGE FROM THE NEBRASKA STATE TREASURER

The State of Nebraska will give a one-time \$50 Meadowlark Savings Pledge account contribution to Nebraska babies born in 2021, as directed by the Meadowlark Act.

The Meadowlark Program, effective starting in 2020, was announced in an effort to help families prepare for future costs of higher education. A one-time \$50 contribution is automatically provided to Nebraska babies born in the previous year, so parents and families don't need to go through an application process to receive them.

These funds can be used for education expenses at Nebraska colleges and universities, as well as trade, technical, and vocational schools. Learn more about the Meadowlark Program at NEST529.com/Meadowlark.

Meet our new mascot.

After reviewing over 2,000 submissions from students and families nationwide, 59 entrants submitted the same winning name — but only one could claim the final prize. After conducting a random drawing, we're excited to announce that the winner of the contest was Addison S. from Wahoo, NE.

You'll start to see Nester come to life on many NEST materials in the future. Keep an eye out for more features on our new feathered friend!

HEY THERE!
I'M NESTER.



Set them up to soar.

888.993.3746
NEST529.com

Long-term investing and market volatility.

RESIST THE URGE TO CHECK YOUR ACCOUNT

The start of 2022 has been accompanied by a rapidly-changing, volatile market. Based on the market's performance in the long run, it's not uncommon to see pull backs and volatility after a period of exceptionally strong markets like we've experienced since early to mid-2009. Here are some steps you can take to make sure your college savings efforts stay on track, despite the day-to-day ups and downs:

1 | Determine your risk levels. Volatile markets are a normal part of investing and saving, so it's important to find a level of risk you're comfortable with. With the very strong markets this past decade, it's also possible we'll see returns start to be more muted going forward. Make sure to have realistic expectations for future returns.

➤ Not sure how to determine your risk comfort level? Visit NEST529.com/RiskTolerance to get started.

2 | Diversify your portfolio. Spreading out your investments can help mitigate some of those risks. NEST 529 offers a number of investment options that can help strengthen your portfolio and set a foundation for future savings.

3 | Focus on the long term. Keeping your eyes on the future helps put things in perspective and is a good way to remind yourself why you're saving in the first place. Stay disciplined and continue investing in your loved one's future — and if you can, consider increasing your contribution amount. Your future self (and your loved one) will thank you.

20 days of giveaways recap.

CONGRATS TO TWO BIG WINNERS

In 2021, NEST 529 celebrated its 20th anniversary. To commemorate the milestone, NEST 529 launched the 20 Days of Giveaways sweepstakes, giving families the chance to enter their children to win prizes, including two chances to win a \$529 NEST account contribution. Congratulations to the two winners, Carter Olsen of Battle Creek and Henry Wichman of Lincoln.

See the full story at
NEST529.com/20Days

Give your college savings fund a boost.

MAKE THE MOST OF TAX SEASON

Expecting a tax refund in 2022? Don't forget — you can add some (or all) of those dollars toward your NEST 529 account. Contributions to a 529 account will grow tax-deferred and are tax-free when used for qualified higher education expenses¹, so it's a great way to make the most of your refund. Learn more at NEST529.com/TaxSeason.

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 Direct College Savings Plan Program Disclosure Statement (issuer's official statement), which can be obtained at 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 Direct 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 Static Investment Option 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, Union Bank and Trust Company, 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.

¹Withdrawals used to pay for qualified higher education expenses are free from federal and Nebraska state income tax. Qualified higher education expenses include tuition, fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for enrollment or attendance; certain room and board expenses incurred by students who are enrolled at least half-time; the purchase of computer or peripheral equipment, computer software, or Internet access and related services, if used primarily by the beneficiary during any of the years the beneficiary is enrolled at an eligible educational institution; certain expenses for special needs services needed by a special needs beneficiary; and apprenticeship program expenses. However, earnings on all other types of withdrawals are generally subject to federal and Nebraska state income taxes, and an additional 10% federal tax. Please consult your tax professional about your particular situation.

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



UBT
Union Bank & Trust
Program Manager