



## ➤ Kick-start the New Year with a strong financial plan for higher education savings.

### A MESSAGE FROM THE NEBRASKA STATE TREASURER

As we welcome a new year filled with fresh opportunities, there's no better time to reflect on the steps we can take to secure our loved one's future.

A quick check-in can go a long way in helping you plan and grow your investment in the new calendar year. If you haven't yet done so, consider setting up or increasing automatic contributions — this simple step makes saving easier throughout the year. You can select the frequency (monthly, quarterly, or annually) in which the funds are automatically deducted from your bank account and contributed to your NEST 529 account.

Reviewing your investment portfolio on a regular basis ensures your funds align with your financial goals. Lastly, sign up for e-Delivery to receive notifications on important plan communications and statements electronically. Start the year off strong and make 2025 a smart savings year, so your loved one can soar toward their dreams!

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Watch the video series at [NEST529.com/AskPenny](https://NEST529.com/AskPenny)

In this episode, Penny gives a 529 vocab lesson to show you all the basic terms around education savings.



Set them up to soar.

888.993.3746  
[NEST529.com](https://NEST529.com)

## Call for entries: "Why I Want to Go to College" Writing Sweepstakes



### WIN UP TO \$2,000 IN THEIR ACCOUNT

Think big, dream big, and put goals into words. NEST 529 invites 7th and 8th graders to enter the 2025 "Why I Want to Go to College" Writing Sweepstakes. Sponsored by the Nebraska State Treasurer's Office and the Omaha Storm Chasers, young thinkers can submit an essay sharing why higher education matters to them. The winners will receive up to a \$2,000 contribution to their NEST 529 account.

Help your child reach their dreams. Learn more and enter at [NEST529.com/EssaySweepstakes](https://NEST529.com/EssaySweepstakes).



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL: [@NEST529CollegeSavings](https://www.instagram.com/NEST529CollegeSavings)



## Oh, the places Nester went!

A trip to the zoo, a visit to the big stage, and fun-filled events across the state. Nester loved meeting so many Nebraska families this year and can't wait to see even more in 2025! Want to meet Nester at an upcoming event? Visit [NEST529.com/Nester](https://NEST529.com/Nester) for updates.

## Check out the winning artwork!

In 2024, we launched the "Look to the Future" Art Challenge Sweepstakes to celebrate the limitless potential of a child's future. After 150 pieces of artwork were submitted, we held a drawing to select three winning artists who were each given a \$529 contribution to their NEST 529 account. Take a look at the results of their creativity!

### LOOK TO THE FUTURE ART CHALLENGE



Read more about the "Look to the Future" Art Challenge at [NEST529.com/Blog](https://NEST529.com/Blog).

## GET AHEAD OF TAX SEASON

### Study up on these 2024 tax forms.

#### NEBRASKA FORM 1040N SCHEDULE I

This form applies to any account owners or parents/guardians that are listed as the custodian on a UGMA/UTMA account who contributed up to \$10,000 (\$5,000 if married, filing separately) in 2024. If you made contributions to accounts you own last year, you may be able to claim a Nebraska state tax deduction.<sup>1</sup> List the amount of contributions you made on Line 17.

#### IRS FORM 709

Discuss this form with your tax professional if your account beneficiary received gifts over \$18,000 (\$36,000 for a married couple splitting gifts). Note: The annual gift exclusion beginning in 2025 is \$19,000 (\$38,000 for a married couple splitting gifts).

#### IRS FORM 1099-Q

This form is a record of any funds distributed from your NEST 529 account. If you made any withdrawals in 2024, you or your beneficiary will receive this form automatically in early February.

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](https://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 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, 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.

<sup>1</sup>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 Insured / No Bank Guarantee / May Lose Value  
(\*Except the Bank Savings Underlying Investment)



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Program Manager