



Empowering Financial Independence: NAST & ABLE today Launch Innovative Savings Resources

(June 13, 2024 - Washington, DC) – The National Association of State Treasurers (NAST) and its ABLE today program are excited to announce new innovative resources for those interested in ABLE savings plans.

Knowing that finding the right financial solution can be overwhelming, NAST and ABLE today developed a first-ever search and compare tool for those researching ABLE savings plans. The interactive platform allows users to view state ABLE programs and compare items such as program fees, maximum account balance, state tax benefits, in-state or out-of-state residency, and more. This allows individuals to find a program that fits best with their savings and investment goals. The resource can be found here <https://www.abletoday.org/compare-able-programs>.

“ABLE programs are powerful financial tools to help our friends and neighbors with disabilities build a better future and live more independently,” said **Pennsylvania Treasurer Stacy Garrity, ABLE Savings Plans Network Chair**. “I’m thrilled that ABLE today continues to build new resources to help more people learn about the great benefits of saving with ABLE and find the best program to fit their needs. Getting the word out about ABLE programs and making sure people understand their positive impact is incredibly important, especially with the program expanding eligibility in 2026 to millions more Americans, including one million Veterans, thanks to the ABLE Age Adjustment Act.”

In partnership with the DC Bar, a continuing legal education class has been developed for law professionals nationwide on ABLE savings plans. This informative class provides an overview of how ABLE accounts can positively impact people with disabilities, their families, and their caregivers. The knowledgeable faculty also provides the statutory background on ABLE accounts and will explain eligibility requirements, account management, contribution limits, qualified expenses, tax rules, and interactions with benefits programs (such as SSI and Medicaid). Finally, the class gives practice pointers for the usage of ABLE accounts, including

working in conjunction with special needs trusts. The class can be accessed at abletoday.org/cle.

“There are many attorneys across the United States whose clients or family members could benefit from an ABLE account,” commented **NAST Chief Executive Officer and DC Bar President-Elect Shaun Snyder**. “This new legal education session will provide those attorneys with the tools they need to better aid people living with a disability.”

ABLE accounts are a financial tool for people with disabilities. Accounts allow people with disabilities to have money that is not counted towards asset limitations set by means-tested benefit programs like Medicaid or SSI. These asset limits prevent people with disabilities from saving money beyond \$2,000 and planning for their future. To learn more about ABLE accounts, visit <https://www.abletoday.org/overview>.

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ABLE today

The NAST Foundation launched ABLE today™, a national awareness and educational initiative aimed at advancing financial empowerment and community inclusion for people with disabilities through ABLE accounts. ABLE today supports a collaborative, national effort for expanding outreach for ABLE Programs to the disability community and establishing partnerships to promote the positive impacts of ABLE accounts.

About National Association of State Treasurers

The National Association of State Treasurers provides advocacy and support that enables member states to pursue and administer sound financial policies and programs benefiting the citizens of the nation. Membership is composed of all state treasurers or state finance officials with comparable responsibilities from the United States, its commonwealths, territories, and the District of Columbia as well as their staff. The private sector is represented through the Corporate Affiliate Program that was established to build professional relationships and foster cooperation between the public and private sectors. The association serves its members through educational conferences and webinars, a variety of working groups, policy advocacy, and publications that provide information about developments in public finance. For more information, visit www.nast.org.