

BabySteps Savings Plan



Save today for your child's tomorrow!



OFFICE OF
**ECONOMIC
EMPOWERMENT**
Office of the Treasurer and Receiver General of Massachusetts

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BabySteps Savings Plan



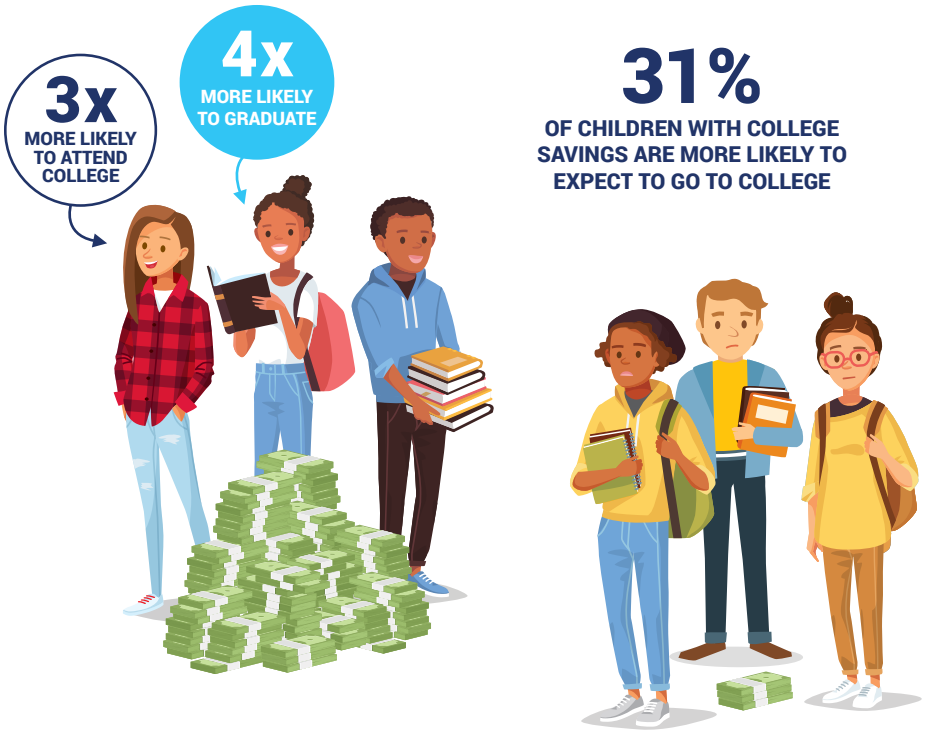
The BabySteps Savings Plan is Massachusetts' first statewide seeded college savings account program, designed to empower families to plan and save for their children's higher education.



Brought to you by State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg, every child born or adopted on or after **January 1, 2020** who is a Massachusetts resident will be eligible within one year of birth or adoption to receive a **\$50 seed deposit**. Families simply need to open a U.Fund 529 College Investing Plan account to receive their funds.

Why BabySteps?

College Savings Accounts are about more than just saving money for your child's future. They're also a good method for your family to gain financial and planning skills. Children with college savings are 31% more likely to expect to go to college than children without college savings.*



BabySteps Goals

- Increase the percentage of families saving for higher education in Massachusetts
- Deliver high-quality financial education programming to families, building a culture centered on saving for the future and employing prudent budget management
- Boost postsecondary enrollment and graduation rates for Massachusetts students by fostering aspirations of higher education for economically vulnerable and disadvantaged children

* William Elliot III and Sandra Beverly, "The Role of Savings and Wealth in Reducing 'Wilt' Between Expectations and College Attendance," George Warren Brown School of Social Work Center for Social Development (January 2010): 1-2.

How BabySteps Works:

Sign up for a U.Fund 529 College Investing Plan account and receive your **free \$50 deposit**. Additionally, you can also use our free digital financial education tools designed to support families in their college savings journey.



Families who have adopted children of any age on or after **January 1, 2020** are also eligible for a free \$50 towards their child's future. Simply visit **BabyStepsSavingsPlan.org** to register online and you'll receive information on next steps.





Just Check the Box!



When you are filling out the Parent Worksheet for a birth certificate at the hospital, you can check a box on the form to let us know you are interested in receiving your **free \$50 deposit**.

Didn't check the box? Simply visit **BabyStepsSavingsPlan.org** to be directed to open a U.Fund 529 College Investing Plan account.

Grandparents and other loved ones can also open a U.Fund account for qualified children in Massachusetts.



Frequently Asked Questions

What is a 529 college savings account?

A 529 college savings account is a tax-advantaged plan authorized by Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code and designed to encourage saving for higher education. The Massachusetts 529 plan is the U.Fund, which is offered by MEFA and managed by Fidelity Investments. Contributions to Massachusetts 529 plans of up to \$1,000 per year by an individual, and up to \$2,000 per year by a married couple filing jointly, are deductible in computing Massachusetts taxable income.

Will the BabySteps program affect my public benefits?

Most public benefit programs are not affected by savings in a 529 account up to a certain limit. For more information please visit our website at BabyStepsSavingsPlan.org.

What can the savings in a 529 be used for?

529 savings can be used toward expenses related to higher education and vocational training.



Get Started Today

YOU'LL NEED:

FOR THE **Account Holder**



Parent or other adult

- Name
- Social Security Number or Employer Identification Number (EIN).
- Date of Birth
- Legal Address
- Phone Number
- Email Address
- Employment Information (if employed)



Child

FOR THE **Beneficiary**

- Name
- Social Security Number
- Date of Birth
- Legal Address

BabySteps Savings Plan



Contact Us!

We understand that saving for your child's future comes with a lot of questions. We're here to help.

You can contact us at info@BabyStepsSavingsPlan.org or visit our website at BabyStepsSavingsPlan.org.

