SSGA Upromise 529 Plan

A Guide for Wealth Managers









The SSGA Upromise 529 Plan

The SSGA Upromise 529 Plan is a tax advantaged way to save for higher education. The plan is administered by the Board of Trustees of the College Savings Plans of Nevada and was created to encourage individuals and families to save for future higher education expenses.

This guide will provide answers to many of the frequently asked questions that clients may have when considering an investment in the SSGA Upromise 529 Plan.

Table of Contents

- 2 Client Advantages and Options
- 3 Costs, Contribution Limits and Beneficiary Restrictions
- 4 Expenses and Withdrawals
- 5 Enrollment and Client Account Access
- 6 Ease of Access to Your Clients' Accounts: 529 QuickView®

Client Advantages and Options

What are the advantages of a 529 plan?

- Tax deferred investment growth and withdrawals that are free from federal taxes when used for qualified higher education expenses at an eligible school.¹
- Gift and estate tax benefits—for 2017 individuals may invest up to \$14,000 (\$28,000 for married couples) per beneficiary without incurring any gift tax. Upon the death of the account owner, money remaining in the account will not be included in the account owner's estate for federal estate tax purposes.
- Account owner control and flexibility as to how assets are used
- Professional investment management

Why offer the SSGA Upromise 529 Plan to Your Clients?

- Institutional asset management from State Street Global Advisors' Investment Solutions Group (ISG)
- Powered by SPDR® ETFs—The underlying funds for the investment options offered in the plan are ETFs² and, where applicable, mutual funds managed by SSGA Funds Management, Inc.
- A number of 529 investment options can increase your flexibility and efficiency of managing college savings accounts.

What types of investments are available?

The plan offers the following investment options:

- 8 College Date Portfolios
- 3 Risk Based Portfolios
- 15 Static Portfolios
- Savings Portfolio

For complete details on the investment options offered by SSGA Upromise 529, please visit ssga.upromise529.com/investmentoptions.

Is there a state tax deduction available?

Nevada does not have a state income tax, so there is no state tax deduction for Nevada residents. Many other states do provide tax deductions for contributions to 529 plans sponsored only by that state, and some states provide tax deductions for contributions to 529 plans sponsored by any state. You and your client should check the rules for applicable states.

¹ Earnings on non-qualified withdrawals are subject to federal income tax and may be subject to a 10 percent federal penalty tax, as well as state and local income taxes. The availability of tax or other benefits may be contingent on meeting other requirements.

²Although they invest in ETFs and/or mutual funds, the SSGA Upromise 529 Plan Portfolios are not ETFs or mutual funds themselves. An account owner will own units of the portfolio, which are municipal securities, not shares of the ETFs or mutual funds.

Costs, Contribution Limits and Beneficiary Restrictions

What are the costs, contribution limits and beneficiary restrictions associated with the plan?

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Costs	
What are the management fees?	The annual asset-based plan fee varies from 0.22 percent to 0.27 percent depending on the portfolio chosen. For further details refer to the <i>Plan Description and Participation Agreement</i> .
What are the account fees?	There is no enrollment fee.
	There is an annual account fee of \$20. (The annual account fee is waived for Nevada resident account owners and beneficiaries, and for anyone invested in the Savings Portfolio at the time the fee is assessed)
How many times can funds be re-allocated to different investment choices?	Twice per calendar year <i>or</i> whenever the account's beneficiary is changed.
Contributions and Rollovers	
What is the minimum deposit needed to open an account?	\$15 for a lump sum contribution via check or a one-time electronic funds transfer
	or
	\$15 per month or \$45 a quarter with an Automatic Investment Plan. ³
Is there an annual or lifetime contribution limit?	Contributions can be made until the total contributions for the designated beneficiary reaches the lifetime maximum contribution limit of \$370,000 (based on aggregate market value of all college saving plan accounts for the same designated beneficiary under all college savings programs sponsored by the State of Nevada). Accounts that have reached the Maximum Contribution Limit will continue to accrue earnings, although future contributions may not be made to such accounts.
	Individuals contributing up to \$14,000 (\$28,000 if married filing jointly) in a single year can do so without incurring a gift tax. Individuals can also take advantage of the five year contribution rule and when gifting up to \$70,000 per child in a single year (\$140,000 for married couples) with no gift tax consequences as long as they make no additional gifts to the same child over the next five years. ⁴
Can funds be rolled over from a 401k or an IRA?	No, funds may not be rolled over from a 401k or an IRA account.
Can funds be rolled over from another 529 plan to the SSGA Upromise 529 Plan?	Yes. A tax-free rollover of a 529 account for the same beneficiary is permitted once every twelve (12) months.
Ownership and Beneficiaries	
Can the beneficiary be changed?	Yes, the beneficiary may be changed at any time without tax consequences as long as the new beneficiary is a "Member of the Family" of the current designated beneficiary (as defined under Section 529). ⁵
Can account ownership be changed?	Yes

³ A plan of regular investment cannot assure a profit or protect against a loss in a declining market

⁴ In the event the donor does not survive the five-year period, a pro-rated amount will revert to the donor's taxable estate.

⁵ In the case of a beneficiary or account owner, rules regarding gifts and generation-skipping transfer tax may apply in the case of a change of beneficiary. Clients should consult with a tax advisor when considering a change of beneficiary.

Expenses and Withdrawals

Which education expenses are eligible?

To qualify for federal tax-free withdrawals on earnings, the money must be used for qualified higher education expenses for the beneficiary at an eligible educational institution. Some international schools and overseas study programs qualify.

- Eligible Educational Institutions—Eligible educational
 institutions are those eligible to participate in federal
 student financial aid programs. An easy way to check a
 school's eligibility under Section 529 is to confirm they
 have been assigned a federal school code at <u>fafsa.ed.gov</u>.
- Qualified Higher Education Expenses—Qualified higher education expenses are tuition, mandatory fees, books, computers/net, supplies and equipment required for enrollment or attendance of higher education.
 Certain room and board costs during any academic period for which the beneficiary is enrolled at least half-time and certain expenses for special-needs students are also eligible.

What happens to funds not used for qualified higher education expenses?

Any funds that are not used for the beneficiary's qualified higher education expenses can be withdrawn for other uses. However, the earnings portion of a withdrawal not used for a beneficiary's qualified education expenses is subject to federal and state income taxes and may also be subject to a 10 percent federal penalty tax. Exceptions to this penalty include a withdrawal made because the beneficiary:

- Dies
- Becomes disabled
- Receives a scholarship, to the extent that the withdrawal amount does not exceed the scholarship amount.
- Attends the United States Military Academy, the United States Naval Academy, the United States Air Force Academy, the United States Coast Guard Academy, or the United States Merchant Marine Academy, to the extent that the amount of the withdrawal does not exceed the costs of education attributable to such attendance.

Alternatively, should a beneficiary decide not to go to college an account owner has the option to either request a non-qualified withdrawal, change the beneficiary or stay invested in the case that the beneficiary decides to go to college at a later date (there is no age limit to use the funds).

How are withdrawals made?

Withdrawals can be requested either online after login in to your account or by submitting a *Withdrawal Request Form*. Generally, withdrawals may be made at any time.

- Proceeds from qualified withdrawals can be sent to the account owner, the beneficiary, or the higher education institution.
- Proceeds from non-qualified withdrawals can be sent to the account owner or the beneficiary.

Are there other ways to save?

Yes, Ugift® and Upromise® Rewards both offer additional ways to save.

Ugift

Ugift allows family and friends to celebrate children's milestones with the gift of college savings (in lieu of traditional gifts). By logging onto their SSGA Upromise 529 account and clicking on the Ugift logo, clients can invite their family and friends to contribute with as little as \$15 per gift.

Upromise Rewards⁶

Upromise Rewards is a service that helps families earn extra money for college with many of the country's leading retailers. When a client links their Upromise Rewards account to their SSGA Upromise 529 account, they can arrange to have their rewards earnings automatically transferred to their 529 account on a periodic basis (subject to a \$25 minimum).

Contact Information

For questions about 529 QuickView® please call: 1-888-823-4348

For questions related to client accounts or the Plan,

please call: 1-800-587-7305

For questions on setting up a SSGA Upromise 529 account or on SPDR ETFs: 1-866-967-2776

⁶ Upromise Rewards is an optional program and is separate from SSGA Upromise 529 Plan. Specific terms and conditions apply for each company's contributions. Participating companies, contribution levels, and terms and conditions are subject to change without notice.

Enrollment and Client Account Access

How do I enroll my client?

Go to the Financial Advisor Pages on the plan website, <u>ssga.upromise529.com/enroll</u>, and follow the directions provided.

or

Navigate to the bottom of the Online Enrollment page and download the 529 Plan Advisor Enrollment Kit.

Ease of Access to Your Clients Accounts: 529 QuickView®

529 QuickView®, <u>529quickview.com</u>, is a web-based portal that gives you immediate online access to your clients Ascensus Broker Dealers Services, Inc -administered 529 plans. 529 QuickView® is easy to use and password protected so only authorized personnel have access to your clients' information.

529 QuickView® allows you to:

- View daily account balances
- Access participant account details
- Download statements, confirmations and tax forms
- View allocation management details
- Conduct online transactions

529 QuickView® Registration

Follow these three steps to get started:

- Receive Client Authorization: Before registering, each client must have submitted a signed Agent Authorization/ Limited Power of Attorney form. The help line 1-800-587-7305 can confirm receipt of the form.
- Fill in and submit the online registration form at 529quickview.com: Follow the "click here" link under the log in box. After this form has been completed, you will be notified by email within 24 hrs regarding your 529 QuickView® registration.
- Access your clients account: You can search for clients by plan, client and beneficiary name, tax identification number, social security number or account number.

What information do I have to provide at registration?

- Name/contact information
- Dealer, branch and representative number (or IRD number)
- Client's SSGA Upromise 529 account number

Can I download the client information to my computer?

Yes, you can download the account balance data to Microsoft Excel.

How secure is the site?

529 QuickView® was created with a focus on security. There are four built-in security factors:

- 128-bit SSL encryption
- Password protection (8–20 characters, letters and numbers)
- Timeout of authentication sessions
- Strict registration requirements

Are there any technical requirements for using 529 QuickView®?

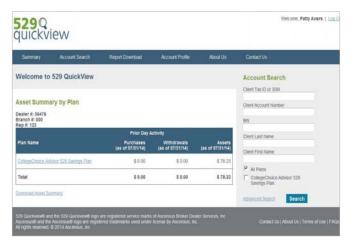
No. You just need access to a web browser.

Do my clients have to give permission for me to access their accounts?

Yes, each client must grant authorization by completing an agent authorization/limited power of attorney form, available on the SSGA Upromise 529 Plan website ssga.upromise529. com/enroll or by calling the SSGA Upromise 529 help line at 1-800- 587-7305. The help line can also confirm whether your client has submitted the appropriate form.

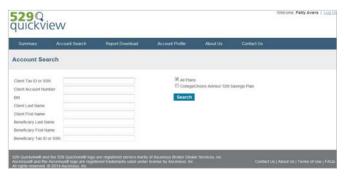
Ease of Access to Your Clients' Accounts: 529 QuickView®

529 QuickView® Homepage



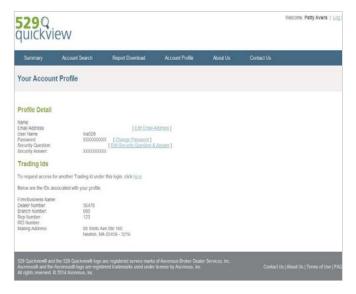
- The 529 QuickView® displays summary information for clients' Ascensus Broker Dealers Services, Inc. administered 529 plans.
- Search for accounts using your client's tax ID, social security number, BIN, first and last name. You can search all plans or by specific plan.
- A search by the account search criteria will display the search results page or account overview page in Unite/CSR.
- You may also download an asset summary.

529 QuickView® Search Results Screen



- View and sort accounts by ascending or descending order by clicking on the account number, account owner, beneficiary or account balance heading.
- · Download search results in CSV format.

529 Plan Account Overview Screen



The information contained above is for illustrative purposes only.

- View detailed direct plan client information.
- Download statements, confirmations, year end tax forms and reports.
- Perform non–financial and financial transactions (depending on the level of authorization).

We look forward to working with you and your clients.

For technical questions, contact the 529 QuickView® help line at: 888-823-4348

SSGA UPROMISE 529 PLAN

P.O. Box 55578 Boston, MA 02205-5578

1-800-587-7305 ssga.upromise529.com/advisor

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IMPORTANT RISK INFORMATION

The information provided does not constitute investment advice and it should not be relied on as such. It should not be considered a solicitation to buy or an offer to sell a security. It does not take into account any investor's particular investment objectives, strategies, tax status or investment horizon.

The statements and opinions expressed are subject to change at any time, based on market and other conditions. State Street cannot guarantee the accuracy of completeness of any third party statements or data.

Investing involves risk including the risk of loss of principal. Investment returns will vary depending upon the performance of the Portfolios you choose. Except to the extent of FDIC insurance available for the Savings Portfolio, you could lose all or a portion of your money by investing in the Plan, depending on market conditions. Account Owners assume all investment risks as well as responsibility for any federal and state tax consequences.

ETFs trade like stocks, fluctuate in market value and may trade at prices above or below the ETFs' net asset value. Brokerage commissions and ETF expenses will reduce returns.

Diversification does not ensure a profit or guarantee against loss.

Risks associated with equity investing include stock values which may fluctuate in response to the activities of individual companies and general market and economic conditions.

Bonds generally present less short-term risk and volatility than stocks, but certain interest rate risks (as interest rates rise, bond prices usually fall); issuer default risk; issuer credit risk; liquidity risk; and inflation risk. These effects are usually pronounced for longer-term securities. Any fixed income security sold or redeemed prior to maturitymay be subject to a substantial gain or loss.

The SSGA Upromise 529 Plan (the "Plan") is administered by the Board of Trustees of the College Savings Plans of Nevada (the "Board"). Ascensus Broker Dealer Services, Inc. (ABD) serves as the Program Manager. ABD has overall responsibility for the day-to-day operations, including distribution of the Plan and provision of certain marketing services.

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State Street Global Advisors (SSGA) serves as Investment Manager for the Plan except for the Savings Portfolio, which is managed by Sallie Mae Bank, and also provides or arranges for certain marketing services for the Plan. The Plan's Portfolios invest in either (i) Exchange Traded Funds and mutual funds offered or managed by SSGA or its affiliates; or (ii) a Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)- insured omnibus savings account held in trust by the Board at Sallie Mae Bank. Except for the Savings Portfolio, investments in the Plan are not insured by the FDIC. Units of the Portfolios are municipal securities and the value of units will vary with market conditions.

Investment returns will vary depending upon the performance of the Portfolios you choose. Except to the extent of FDIC insurance available for the Savings Portfolio, you could lose all or a portion of your money by investing in the Plan, depending on market conditions. Account owners assume all investment risks as well as responsibility for any federal and state tax consequences.

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For more information about the SSGA Upromise 529 Plan (the Plan) download the Plan Description and Participation Agreement or request one by calling 1-800-587-7305. Investment objectives, risks, charges, expenses, and other important information are included in the Plan Description; read and consider it carefully before investing. Ascensus Broker Dealer Services, Inc. (ABD) is distributor of the Plan.

Before investing in the Plan, you should consider whether your or the beneficiary's home state offers a 529 plan that provides its taxpayers with favorable state tax and other benefits that are only available through investment in the home state's 529 plan.

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