Please stand by for realtime captions.

 Hello, we will be beginning the webinar in just one minute.

 Hello and welcome to the #able to save webinar series. This is our final webinar, this has been the final webinar in a series of five different webinars held during the last month. With our national ABLEtoSave campaign. This webinar is called choosing the right ABLE program for you, my name is Christopher Rodriguez, we are just about ready to get started. This webinar is brought to you by the Fidelity Investments -- ABLE webinars, sponsored by Fidelity Investments. I would like to go over briefly it is important to note that the audio is being broadcast through your computer. Please make sure your speakers are turned on or your headphones are plugged in. You can come -- control the broadcast via the panel, if you close it you can reopen it by going to the communicate menu at the top of the screen and choosing join audio broadcast.

If you do not have sound capabilities on your computer or would prefer to listen by phone, the dial in information is on the right-hand side of the screen.

 Real-time captioning is provided during this webinar, the captions can be found in media viewer panel which appears in the lower right-hand corner of the webinar platform. If you want to make the media viewer panel larger you can minimize other panels such as the chat panel, the Q&A panel, or the participants panel.

 In terms of submitting questions, please use the Q&A box to submit any questions that you have during the webinar and we will direct the questions accordingly during the Q&A portion of the webinar. If you are listening by phone and are not logged into the webinar you may also ask questions by emailing questions to [Indiscernible] .

 Also this webinar is being recorded in the materials will be placed on the ABLE national resource Center website.

During the webinar if you experience in ejecting go -- any death -- technical difficulties during the webinar, please use the chat box you may email kauchenbach@ndi really quickly I would like to introduce the presenter, myself,

 I'm the director of ABLE national resource Center. We are privileged to have excellent guest panelist consisting of Maggie Redden, -- Martha Savery, the director and public affairs .

Today's agenda includes a little information about the ABLE national resource Center, information about the ABLEtoSave campaign, a little bit about our ABLE basics and then the bulk of our presentation which is going to consist of accessing your disability your disability related needs identifying and contributing -- identifying conservators, and

 examining comparing programs based on your needs. After that we will direct questions to the guest panels -- panelist, and then we will answer some questions provided by the audience participants.

The ABLE national resource Center, it is a collaborative the supporters share the goal of exhilarating the design and availability of ABLE accounts for the benefit of individuals with disabilities and their families. We bring together the investment support and resources of the country's largest and most influential national disability organizations. We encourage you to learn more about the ABLE national resource Center, by visiting our website at ww,ablenrc.org .

 Tran03 campaign. It is a month-long marketing and informational

 campaign caught taking place throughout August. It is spearheaded by the national resource Center, in collaboration with the centers 25 national disability organizational members, state ABLE programs, financial institutions and other ABLE related fickleness. #ABLEtoSave is striving to blanket the country with widespread information concerning all things related to ABLE, with the aim to significantly accelerate the opening of ABLE accounts by eligible individuals with disabilities and their families. Again the primary goal of this campaign is to increase awareness and education about ABLE accounts and again to accelerate the opening of these accounts nationwide both in the short and the long term. So that people with disabilities can come to benefit from this transformative new policy that is available for folks with disabilities.

Lastly, the #ABLEtoSave campaign is taking place throughout the month of August, we have been happy with all of the information in participants that have been involved with getting the information out. We broke the campaign down into five individual weeks of education information and marketing, each week focused on a different aspect of ABLE. With the aim to provide potential account owners and their families with comprehensive education and motivation so that they feel comfortable in rolling in a ABLE program of their choice. You can see on the screen how we broke the weeks down into different topics with each individual weeks. If you happen to have missed one of those weeks, or the webinars, or some of the materials, we have placed recordings of the webinars with those specific topics in the other material distributed during those weeks on our website so again I encourage folks to go to the website at www. ablenrc.org before we dive into the bulk of our presentation. Helping people to understand how to enroll in a ABLE program, and know what to taken consideration when choosing the right program for them, I want to make sure that we have a basic understanding of ABLE programs in the ABLE act. What is ABLE? It is the Stephen back achieving a better life experience act or as we call it the ABLE. It amended the federal tax code to add section 529A into law. What the ABLE act does is to create a new option for eligible people with disabilities to save money in attacks exempt account that can be used for qualified disability related expenses in the funds in this account that are placed into or contribute it to a ABLE accounts are not taken into consideration when determining that beneficiaries eligibility for federally funded benefits such as Medicaid and supplemental security income.

Let's talk quickly about basic characteristics that will be consistent across all ABLE programs. The thing that we will go over now in this particular slide, these are things that will remain true no matter if you are enrolled in the Massachusetts plan, the Ohio plan, or Oregon plan, these are things found in the federal law that will be consistent across all programs.

To start, it is important to note that there are eligibility requirements related to opening a ABLE account,

 that speaks to the age in which the individual first experienced his or her disability and related to the severity of that particular disability. To learn more about that please go to the website in fact our second week of the campaign was dedicated to just helping people understand what those eligibility requirements look like in the specifics of them. We have an entire webinar that is up on the website I encourage people to check that out if they would like to know more about those specifics.

Additionally, and eligible individual is not obligated to enroll in their state of residence. This is a big deal. This means that regardless of whether or not the state in which you live has launched a ABLE program, you can still provided that you meet the eligibility requirements, open a ABLE account but you may need to do this through and other states program. There are currently just under 30 states that have launched ABLE programs and the vast majority of those states are actually enrolling people nationwide. That means regardless whether you are living in the state or not. You can learn about which states have opened up ABLE programs and whether they are open to national enrollment through the ABLE national resource Center website. Next it is important to understand that the designated the official very is the account owner. This means the person with that disability they are the designated beneficiary in their also the account owner. That is very important to note, we wanted to make sure that this new policy Orloff, -- or law, that there is as much independence offered over their finances as possible. That being said, if the individual is determined to not have the capacity to oversee the account, or they choose to want to allow another person to oversee the account on their behalf, there are three types of individuals that can have what is called signature authority or be allowed to oversee the account on behalf of the designated the fishery. Who is the person with the disability.

Those are a parent of a minor, can have signature authority, a guardian of the designated beneficiary is allowed to have signature authority, or a person given power of attorney by the designated beneficiary.

 Those three types of individuals would be allowed to have what is called signature authority.

Next, it is important to note that the funds in the account are to be used for what is called qualified disability related expenses. This is basically this means what exactly can the funds contributed into the ABLE accounts be spent on, the answer is qualified disability related expenses. The third week of this campaign we did an entire 60 minute webinar on helping folks understand what a qualified disability related expenses. I encourage you to go back to the websites to check that out if you have questions, what it basically is is any expense related to the person disability that is for their benefit and that helps them maintain or increase their health independence or quality of life. That would be considered a qualified disability related expense, does the individual would be allowed to use ABLE funds to purchase those things.

Next, assets in and for the dispenses -- expenses, will be disregarded or given special treatment when deciding on eligibility for things such as Social Security benefits or Medicaid. This is an incredible benefits of this particular new opportunity for people with disabilities because many individuals who are provider supports and services through programs such as Medicaid, are not allowed to have more than $2000 worth of assets at any given time. Or else their eligibility for those vital supports and services provided through those programs could be vulnerable. This is an incredible opportunity for people with disabilities to save significant amounts of one's, for disability -- of funds for disability related expenses that they never have had before.

Additionally, anybody can contribute into the person's ABLE account, including the beneficiaries family, their friends,

 the beneficiary themselves, the person with disability that owns the account can also contribute into their own account. Perhaps their funds that they have earned through employment or things like that. Despite the fact that anyone can contribute into a ABLE account, it is important to understand the all those contributions combined are not allowed to exceed $14,000 in any given tax year. So, from January 1 through December 31, all contributors combined can only deposit $14,000 into the account. And then come the next year , is start all over. You can contribute an additional $14,000 a year . And so forth and so on. In the account can continue to grow.

 We've given you some basic information and quick information about some of the characteristics that will be consistent across all programs including things related to what the funds can be spent on, who is eligible, and basic components of the ABLE programs and accounts. Now I would like to switch gears and really focus on the book of this presentation which is going to be information again about understanding how to enroll into a ABLE account, but more so understanding what are the things that I need to have or the things I should be taking into consideration when thinking about opening up a ABLE account and what things should be taken into account when choosing one account over another because it is important to understand that an individual is only allowed to have one ABLE account. So that means if I open up a ABLE account, let's say in the Massachusetts attainable plan, as long as I have that in existence I cannot then go to another state and open up another additional ABLE account.

Since a person can only have one ABLE accounts at any given time, it is important to understand which ABLE program which test meets your specific needs. So let's talk a little bit about this.

 One of the things, when determining off about whether or not an individual can benefit from a ABLE account, one thing you might want to consider doing his first identifying your current disability related expenses. Ultimately the funds are to be used for disability related expenses. Consider making a list of short and longer-term needs or supports the may require financial assistance. Consider whether these needs or supports will be covered or financed by other or any public benefit programs that you currently receive or may receive in the future. Because if it is already covered through Medicaid, perhaps you would not need to spend ABLE dollars on that if it is provided through another type of public benefit or support. Also consider other sources of income that you may have and how a ABLE accounts may interact or complement them. Things like are you earning, -- income through employment, a cash benefit, you happen to have a special needs trust. These are different programs or things related to your life that may interact with your ABLE account. You would want to know before you signed up for a ABLE account how all of those things may affect each other. Lastly consider researching financial institutions and perhaps opening a savings or checking account. This may help with managing your ABLE account. That is another thing you might want to take into consideration.

So some examples, what things

 might we be thinking of in terms of disability related expenses or short and long-term needs and supports that could be helped by having funds in a ABLE account. Some examples include long-term supports my personal assistance services which a government-funded benefits may cover, it restricts the number of hours per week or four months. -- per month. In terms of these types of things, a ABLE account can supplements benefits already provided perhaps through other programs or benefit.

 Other things include renovations to where you live to be more acceptable -- assessable. Assistive technology like hearing aids or repairs to a wheelchair, the purchase of a computer or iPad, supported or customized employment assistance including on-the-job training, public benefit planning, and perhaps the purchase and retrofitting or modifying of a van or things like that. Those are examples of short and long-term needs and supports that a person with a disability might incur or experience that having one's in a ABLE account could help offset the expenses of those things. It is also important to investigate costs to meet identified needs and develop a short-term up to three years or long-term budget. Having a budget can help guide and motivate your savings in a ABLE account. It helps you better understand to what extent you need to be contributing funds or having help maybe family or friends interpreting into the funds to meet the short and or long-term supports that you have identified.

 So next you might want to look into what is called a circle of contributors. What does this mean? Again, as we discussed previously, anyone can contribute into your ABLE account. This means friends, family, employer, certainly the beneficiary themselves. They can all put money into the account. Whether it is before you have opened up the ABLE account , or perhaps after, it is good to cultivate or to develop a circle of potential can to bidders, folks -- contributors, folks who are close to you who may want to help support you in terms of the expenses that you might experience as a result of being a person with a disability. Also, your contributions to a ABLE account, while they are not tax-deductible for the purposes of filing your federal taxes, they may be deductible for the purposes of your state income tax depending on where you live. So we will come back to this in a little bit, later in the presentation. It is important to know in terms of one of the things that you might want to take into consideration when determining one ABLE account over another, whether or not the account in your state, is providing any type of state income tax deduction or credit for contributions made into your ABLE account. That is something that might provide an extra benefit in terms of folks contributing into the ABLE account. Lastly, all you or your family may not have the resources to contribute $14,000 annually, you might also consider crowdsourcing for letting relatives and friends know about your specific future savings goals and how they can help make it happen. So again, people need to understand, I get this question a lot, I don't have any money to contribute, why should I even open one up. To those folks, I would say you are not the only one again they can contribute into those accounts, perhaps family or friends would like to support you in terms of your future savings goals, again to help you offset some of the expenses that often times come along with living a life as a person with a disability.

This includes, as many of you know, who have been on the webinars that I posted in the last few weeks, I have a brother who has a ABLE account to lives in Texas, often times for his birthday my grandparents like to contribute funds to him. Before he had the ABLE account, he was unable to accept those contributions from my grandparents for his birthday because my parents were worried that he would lose some of his benefits. Now we has a ABLE account, when it comes time for his birthday, if his grandparents would like to contribute to put funds into the ABLE account. This is an example of how others can help you build of the funds in your ABLE account.

 So we have talked a little bit about the things you might want to take into consideration before opening a ABLE account, in trying to set a budget, identify the different needs, that the able funds can be used for, now we talk about choosing the right ABLE program.

When choosing the right ABLE program, it is important to understand that your needs are unique. No two eligible individuals have the same needs for opening, managing, and utilizing a ABLE account. There is no one size fits all when we're talking about a ABLE program, that is why we're so excited to see state to have launched these programs offering different opportunities and variations of opportunities with people -- for people with disabilities to choose from.

 And why there is no one program that we can point to and say this states program is ultimately the best for every eligible ABLE person we understand that each one is a little different. Combined with the needs that are different for a person with a disability. Additionally,

 there is a lot of things that someone might want to take into consideration when choosing which program is right for them. We will discuss with some of those look like, off the bat, we talk about recommending that individuals pay special attention to potential state tax-deductible like we mentioned before, or account an asset based fees, and/or programs that feature things like debit cards, or an FDIC at -- insured account, that is associated with that. Some programs offer that some do not. Some people with disabilities would be things like this and others would not. These are things you want to take a look at when looking at individual programs that you are interested in enrolling in. Also, consider talking with people that you trust. Create a circle of support comprise a family and friends who can help you navigate the various state able programs that might be options to you. As I said previously, over half of the states have launched programs. That is just under 30 programs and you might need help comparing those. That is a lot of programs and a lot of different surgery sticks.

-- different characteristics. While not mandatory we encourage you to consider consulting a financial advisor who is documented experience with creating and/or managing funds related to individuals with special needs such as a pooled trust and special needs trust. While again, it is important to note that in order to open a ABLE account you do not need the advice of a financial advisor, however, if you have access to one, it certainly is not going to hurt getting their advice. And insight as to the benefits of the ABLE program in determining which program might be best for you.

 What types of consideration specifically are we recommending that you take into consideration when choosing the right ABLE program for you? We have broken them down into different sections. To start out, what are some of the considerations that you might want to take into account that relates to the actual opening of the recounts -- of the accounts? We identified the following, you want to understand how the enrollment process works for that specific program. You will find that the majority if not all of these programs you actually enroll online. That is something to take into consideration that is fairly consistent across all programs. Additionally, what proof will the program required for you to document in order to open an account or show that your disbursements are qualified expenses. So this is something that you might want to ask, this is another thing that will be fairly consistent across most programs. Additionally caught you will want to understand is there a fee to open a ABLE account, if so how much is that the? Additionally is that feed you for if you are and in-state or out-of-state -- out-of-state resident. There might be fees associated with the accounts, in the very based on whether you are and in-state or an out-of-state resident.

 Also is there a required minimum contribution to start the accounts? And if so what is that amounts exactly? Those are things that relate to the opening of the accounts that you would want to take into consideration before jumping in and opening up an account with one program or another.

What things might you want to take into consideration relating to maintaining or utilizing the account? This might include questions such as is there a required minimum contribution to your account? If so what is that amount? Previously we talked about a minimum contribution just to open the account. Here we are talking about is there a minimum contribution after the account has been made. Let's say, if I would like to make weekly contributions but I cannot afford a whole lot, maybe I can only contribute $10 into the account a week. Are there minimums say that I have to contribute at least $20, you will want to find those things out, from what I understand what the programs that I have seen they are extremely low in terms of minimum contributions if at all. But those are things that you might see in may be different from one program to another. Additionally, are there annual maintenance fees? What is that look like and again the majority of these ABLE account do have some kind of annual maintenance fee, they do differ based on which program you have enrolled in, and whether or not you are in in-state resident or not those are things you will need to take a look at. Are there fees that are front and loaded, -- front end loader, or are they reduced if you leave your funds invested for several years. If the fees are in fact available, are they assessed quarterly call monthly, annually. You want to know those answers prior to opening the account. And these can be different from one program to another. Additionally, are there restrictions or fees associated with how often you can withdraw funds from your account? This is another thing caught you might want to -- you might want to take this into consideration, as you look at frequent expenses. If there is a fee associated with the number of withdrawals and you are a person who has identified your needs as being frequent Scott you might want to stay away from those programs and look at programs that do not have fees associated with how often you withdraw the funds.

Additionally can you assess -- access the funds as soon as the ABLE account is open? How quickly can you get a hold of those funds? So that you can purchase whatever disability related expense that you might have? Lastly, this is a big one, is there a debit card or purchasing card available with the program? If so are there any additional costs associated with the use of the card? So again, this relates to if you know that you have identified your disability related needs as being pretty frequent, you will want to make sure that you have very quick access to those funds in a debit card could be something that you are very interested in. As opposed if you are a parent with a person with a disability and you open the account when they're young and you do not plan to access the funds and tell that person has reached the age of 18. That might not matter to you to have quick access to the funds. These are things that you want to take into consideration when choosing the right program for you.

 Investment considerations. What are some of the things that you might want to think about when choosing one ABLE account over the other regarding the investments. We went over this last week off in last week's --, in last week's webinar, the investments -- the money is often put into investment is important to know what they are and what the options might have from one program to the other. So what are the investment options in that states ABLE program? Are the options likely to meet your needs for limiting risk with the growth of your contributed dollars to the ABLE account? Again as discussed in last week's webinar, you are going to have to access what your risks you are comfortable with, and compare that with the options provided through the program you are interested in. Additionally does the program offer any unique or value added program elements to help you save, contribute to your account, grow the account or manage your invested dollars? Lastly, what has been the history of the rate of return of the investment fund? On those options provided through one program perhaps over another program.

 Lastly, we touched on this earlier, there may be some benefits related to opening up an account in your particular state of resident. While it is certainly not required again you can open an account in another state program so long as you number one meet the eligibility requirements to open up that account, and never to the the other program is offering enrollment nationwide. There may be some benefits to opening up in your state. Things you might want to ask is does your state have a program? Doesn't even have a program. That is number one. It's so does it offer a state income tax deduction or credit for contributions to the account, or into any 529 or into any 529A program. To make sure everyone is aware, nowhere in the federal law does it obligate or mandate that a state establish a ABLE program, it only allows them to do so. While we have been very fortunate in terms of so many states electing to open these and launch these accounts, there are states that will decide for whatever reason not to open an account. If you are interested in these it is important to understand whether or not your state is planning, if it has already plans on launching, if it already has one, or if it has decided to not open a program. Those are things you will want to look at. Lastly, does the state program offer any unique or value added program elements, such as a match or rewards program, financial literacy information or programs that would allow the family and beneficiary to donate and manage the dollars invested in what does that look like.

So we have gone over a lot of information in a relatively short period of time. Again, I would encourage folks to go to the ABLE national resource Center website,

 www. ablenrc.org

 if you would like to watch this again, this has been recorded, it will be available the website in the upcoming week. Our understanding, there is no one individual with a disability will be identical to another, there is no one size fits all in regards to the best program to enroll in. It really is a process of understanding your specific needs or the beneficiaries specific needs related to the expenses, understanding the different characteristics related to different programs, and just a level of comfort in terms of what the ABLE account owner feels like in respect to opening the account. One more thing before you bring into the guest panelist, one of the features that we are very proud of on the ABLE national resource Center, is an online tool that allows people to compare up to three ABLE programs at a time, based on 12 or 13 different characteristics the folks might want to take into consideration when choosing the best program for them. It goes over things such as fees, and in state or national program, it talks about things related to the investment fees, and the differing financial institutions involved in the investment side. And to many other things. I encourage folks to check out that website. If they are interested, to use that comparison tool to help understand the differences from one program over another.

So with that, I am very excited to have our guest panelist, with us today. I wanted to start out by asking them each a couple of different questions for their perspective on the information shared today, but also their experience with ABLE programs. Let's go ahead and start with Martha Savery, the director of public affairs and communications.

Let's start out if you can tell us a little bit about what MEFA is and how you got involved in the ABLE space. Thank you Chris, I'm happy to do that. It stands for the Massachusetts educational finance authority, we are what is referred to in Massachusetts as a quasi-public agency, we are of public instrumentality of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts which is a long way of saying that we really are here to help families all across the Commonwealth. We were started actually to help families meet the high cost of higher education. That was 35 years ago. We have been in Massachusetts helping families for quite a long period of time. We were able to do that by providing to families at a low cast loan option. About 24 years ago, we actually were able to begin to offer families a college savings program. Through our prepaid tuition program which is known as the [Indiscernible] plan. Soon after that we were given the statutory designation to offer the 529 plan here in Massachusetts which is known as the U funds. When it came time to determine where the administration of the ABLE program would fit best, people naturally turn to MEFA. Because of the experience of operating in running the 529 program. Here in Massachusetts, we were delighted to be giving the statutory designation to provide to families and individuals in Massachusetts who are eligible to participate in the ABLE program, the opportunity to do that through MEFA. We work in proud partnership with Fidelity Investments, it was the program manager of the attainable program or ABLE program here in Massachusetts.

Ask ones that is great. We certainly appreciate you being involved in that space in providing the great opportunity for folks with disabilities. Let me ask you a couple of quick questions. We went over a lot of different characteristics that people would want to take into account, in terms of the attainable savings account, is that a national plan? Or just specifically for residents of the state of Massachusetts? Great question. It is a national plan. Which we are excited about. We feel as if this is a long-overdue opportunity. For eligible individuals to take advantage of the savings vehicle that is tax advantaged. This is a very exciting opportunity, that we are able to provide this to anyone. To anyone in the country he was looking for an option like the one we offer through attainable.

 You have mentioned, and I mentioned this in the presentation, the fact that these are tax advantage accounts. I want folks to understand what that means. As we went over the funds in the account, that are contributed that are not eligible for federal tax elections or credits, -- inductions or credits, one of the benefits related to the accounts is that the funds that are invested, the growth of the vestments are not taxed provided that they are spent on qualified disability expenses. That is a considerable benefit of the funds being contributed into an ABLE account for a person within a bit -- with a disability.

Yes that is very important. Like I said, you are paired with Fidelity Investments the sponsor of the webinar, we had a guest speaker representing fidelity on our first webinar five weeks ago, giving more information on them, it seems like an exciting program. How long have you been up and running? We launched on May 10, 2017. Excellent. That is wonderful.

Again we certainly appreciate you being involved. This is certainly an exciting time for people with disabilities with respect for being able to say. So many people have been chained or shackled to be situations in which they cannot save for the future because they are afraid of losing the benefits to provide them with supports and services to remain independent in the community. This is a great opportunity for people to start learning how to save, for their future, and really accomplishing a greater sense of financial peace of mind.

I do want to say, for us as a public authority, in the nonprofit, being able to provide this to any individual whether they are Massachusetts or nationally, has really enriched our mission. We as an organization, are really excited

 about this opportunity to work with folks all across the country, and within our home state of Massachusetts.

Great. Let me turn this over to John, he is with us, we worked with him in the past, to give us a perspective of things and how they look in terms of being a parent of an account owner. If you haven't seen it I encourage people to go to our Facebook page where there is actually a profile of John and his son James who has a disability and who has recently enrolled in the Massachusetts attainable savings program. It is a great example of how these programs and the potential of the programs

 how they can have beneficial effects with people with disabilities. John could you tell us a little bit about your son James? And what are some of the considerations that you took into account when opening up the account on behalf of him?

My friend James -- my son James is 26, down syndrome, nonverbal and require support. One of the issues that we have had with James is that he is fortunate enough to have a job where he has a job coach, he has [Indiscernible] our problem was that his earnings forced him in many cases to hit that $2000 threshold. We are excited that we have the ABLE account, where we can put money into their when it gets close to $2000 so we does not lose his government eligibility benefits. The second thing is call we have to other children's, quite frankly, --, we have to other children, quite frankly we like to have our children treated equally, we encourage them to strive for independence. My other 2 children had bank accounts, and James could not. Moving forward, this will be another great way of integrating everyone with a disability, showing them that they may be unique but they are not different from others. Absolutely we appreciate you sharing that experience in the sprints of your son James with respect to being able to say funds.

I tried to explain just briefly the benefits of having a tax advantage savings accounts or investment accounts such as a ABLE account. I understand that you work in the financial services well. Could you explain very quickly how incredibly beneficial or what it means to be able to have tax-free growth?

 I think the key term that you said is to be able to save money. In the past, there truly was not a tool for individuals to say for themselves while

 [Indiscernible] even on a nontaxable basis. To finally have a tool that people can use as an accumulation vehicle where they can actually save money. In the past the only tool available

 was through the special needs trust, and everyone asks that question caught what is the difference between the special needs trust in the ABLE account? The big difference is the trust is the state -- the estate planning tool, the ABLE is a wealth building tool. Two different objectives. That is great. It is important to note, I get this question a lot, folk saying I have special-needs account, in my still allowed to open up a ABLE account? The answer is absolutely you can have both a special needs trust, and you can have a ABLE account the simultaneously. In many circumstances we have thought of plenty of ways the benefits provided by having both outweigh the benefits of having either one of those individually. So like John said, they are two different entities, in many circumstances they can be used in collaboration to really help realize even greater benefits than having either one of those alone.

Let me go, I know that we have a lot of questions in the chat box, I would like to address a couple of them. One of the questions is asking because I know we went over the fact that you can only have one ABLE account at any given time. The question was can you transfer funds from one ABLE account to another? The answer is yes. If you open up a ABLE account in Wednesday, for whatever reason you decided that you are going to have your needs better suited in another ABLE program, you can make what is called a program to program transfer. You would transfer the entirety of the account from one ABLE program into another ABLE program. But again because you can only have one account at any given time, you would have to transfer all of the funds. You could not transfer have because then you would have to ABLE accounts. That is specifically not allowed. He would have to transfer it all, you can do that in the events that you find your needs change, or you wanted to quickly and roll into a program to begin saving, and then your state of residence opened up, perhaps they have extra benefits for in-state residents, you can then transfer into your state. There may be fees associated with those types of transfers, so that is another characteristic that you would want to find out before enrolling in one program. Over another. So let's see here, another question. Will the annual contribution limit change on a regular basis or based on cost of living adjustments? The weight of that actually works, it is associated with what is called the gift tax exclusion. Which is periodically adjusted for inflation. When that goes up, that $14,000 Related to ABLE will go up as well. We do not perceive that happening in the immediate future, but certainly if that would take place, we would do our best to get the word out to everybody.

Would us to we have here? -- what else do we have here? Can I transfer funds from a special needs trust to a ABLE account? Yes, anything to make a contribution to a ABLE account. However even if you are transferring from a trusted to a ABLE account, it would still be subject to that $14,000 annual contribution. Another transfer question that we get a lot, whether or not you can transfer of 529 college savings accounts directly into a 529 ABLE account, unfortunately the answer right now to that is no, the only way to get the college savings account would be to make an unqualified disbursement from the college

 savings account, the person would be subject to applicable tax consequences and penalties. The new to deposit whatever is left provided that it does not go over that $14,000 limit. Into the ABLE account. That being said we have gotten a question quite a bit, there is a piece of legislation that has been filed in Congress, to allow for a clean roll over from a 529 college savings account into a ABLE account, even if that was to pass, it would still be subject to the $14,000 contribution limit. So that is important to note.

Some other questions here. Are there any age restrictions for those who are eligible? You can open up an account at any age. That does not matter. The thing that relates to age, is one of the characteristics that must be met in terms of eligibility is that the person must have experienced or having an onset of their disability before their 26th birthday. As an example, my brother has intellectual and development ability -- developmental disabilities. He was born with this, he clearly experienced that before his 26th birthday. Is currently 35 years old, he just opened up his ABLE account, at 34 years old. Now he was older than 26, the experienced his disability before his 26th birthday. So that was fine. You have to experience the disability before you turn 26, so long as that is met in the other requirements are met, you can open up a ABLE account at any age. So let's go back we have answered a couple of those questions, I want to ask a few more of John. If you could, I know that we've gone over the incredibly wide array of different expenses that can be paid for with ABLE accounts. I'm curious, specific to your son James, what are some things that you are hoping that contributions into James account can be helpful relating to his disability.

We have to plans, a long-term in the short-term. Short-term we see how he will be using the money to supplements paying for his companion. He has the pleasure of some friends , we anticipate using the funds for his job coach. Where we can find more work opportunities for him, we don't want to lose the opportunity for him to work, so we will use the money to hire him in the job applications. The long-term goal will be to pay for some of his living expenses. It is always difficult as you cannot pay for rent or utilities if you are considered into kind support, that could jeopardize other payments, so potentially the utilities and rents can be paid from the money. There are rules just to follow when paying for rent, the exception of allowing those types of payments with the ABLE account which shows how they understand how rigid the rules are when crafting the regulations for the ABLE accounts.

Thank you John. You talked a little bit about short-term and long-term goals. And expenses. Martha, if an individual was to enroll in the attainable savings plan, and they were using the funds pretty frequently for disability related needs, are there funds fees related to the number of did drawls -- of withdrawals? In the attainable program there are not those additional fees. We are fortunate that there is a program that is provided by Fidelity, word individual could open up but does not have to, I cash management account, and through that account it allows them to manage their cash on a daily basis. That is an opportunity to have free checking, debit card, ATM, that is available as it is to any Fidelity customer. But it is not a requirement of being part of the attainable program.

Excellent. I know that that is very important for a lot of folks you may need to access those funds more frequent me. I'm glad to hear that the attainable savings plan has those options. If the person wants to perhaps

 not touch the money is frequently they do not have to put that in type -- into that type of checking account. They do have options.

Going back to some the questions that have been submitted. Is there a way to be notified by email when a new ABLE program is established? In fact there is, if you go to the national resource Center website, and click on the button on the home page that will allow you to sign up for a list serve whenever there is a new program launch we make sure to get a ABLE alerts out to everyone on that list serve to let them know that a specific state has launched the program. You can also follow us on Facebook, we also do state ABLE launch announcements through the Facebook page, and our twitter. Those are additional ways to keep up to date in terms of which programs have launched in which ones are in development. You can also go to the front page of the website there is a giant map of the United States and you will notice that the states as soon as they launch a program, we change the color of the state. So that you can identify which states have ABLE programs in which are in development. In addition to that you can click on any given state, it will give you more information about that particular state.

With that, I think we are just about out of time. Thank you so much to John, and Martha for lending their time and expertise to our webinar today. This concludes the fifth webinar of our #ABLEtoSave campaign , again if you would like to review the materials of the webinar or any of the webinars we've had over the last month you can go to our website. You will find the slide their, accessible slides, in within the next week or so, we will be archiving all of the webinars and they will be up on the website so that you can take another look at those, or perhaps if you missed one of those in the previous weeks you can access them there. Thank you again to our guest panelist, and to everyone who is able to attend the webinar today.

Thank you Chris. Goodbye. [Event Concluded]