

Welcome to ABLE to SAVE

Thank you for joining us today. The webinar will begin soon.

Please note: This webinar is being recorded and the materials, including a transcript, will be placed on the [webinars section of the ABLE National Resource Center website.](#)



ABLE | NATIONAL
RESOURCE
CENTER

#ABLEtoSAVE Opens the Door to Housing Opportunities

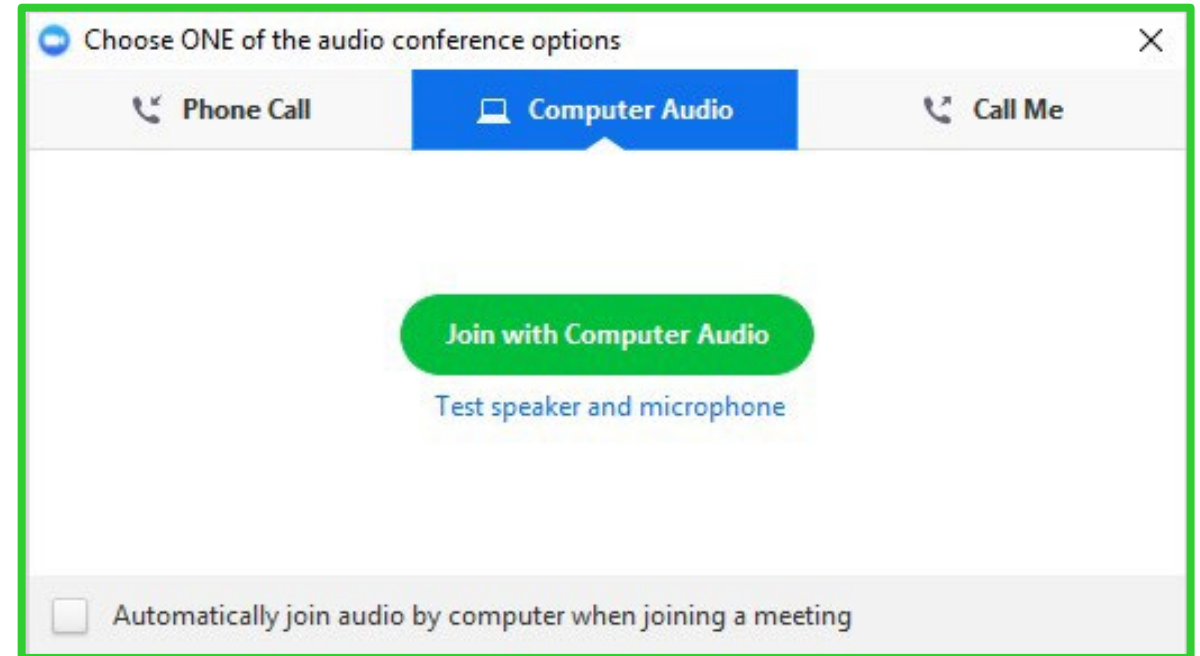
APRIL 16TH, 2-3PM ET

Listening to the Webinar

The audio for today's meeting can be accessed using Computer Audio or by calling in by phone. If you select Computer Audio, please make sure your speakers are turned on or your headphones are plugged in.

If you do not have sound capabilities on your computer or prefer to listen by phone, dial:

- **1-929-205-6099**
- **Meeting Code: 817 0131 5336**



Captioning and ASL Interpretation

Real-time captioning and American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation are being provided.

- The captions can be found by clicking on the closed captions icon in your Zoom controls at the bottom of the screen.
- ***NOTE:*** *If you do not see the captions after clicking the button, or the ASL Interpreters on the screen, please alert the host via the Q&A box.*

Questions and Technical Assistance

- **Questions:** We have accepted ABLE and housing questions in advance of this webinar. Additionally, we will try to answer questions placed in the Q&A box during the webinar. If your question is not answered or if you are listening by phone or Facebook live, please email info@ablenrc.org or visit our website www.ablenrc.org and contact us if our resources do not provide the answer you are seeking.
- **Technical Issues:** If you have technical difficulties, please email info@ablenrc.org. In the subject line, enter Webinar Help.

ABLE National Resource Center

The [ABLE National Resource Center](#) (ABLE NRC) is the leading, comprehensive source of objective, independent information about ABLE plans, including guidance on tax-advantaged ABLE savings accounts.

Our mission is to educate, promote and support the positive impact ABLE can make on the lives of millions of Americans with disabilities and their families.

Facilitator and Presenters



Edward Mitchell
ABLE NRC Ambassador,
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of Tennessee



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ABLE NRC Ambassador,
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Supported By:



Laurie Schaller
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ABLE Subject Matter Expert



Cheyenne Rivers
ABLE NRC Project Coordinator

Agenda

- What is #ABLEtoSAVE?
- What is an ABLE account and how can it help with housing?
- What resources and strategies are available to help you achieve your housing goal?
- Learn how two ABLE NRC ambassadors use their ABLE accounts for housing and other expenses.

2024 #ABLEtoSave Campaign (Slide 1 of 3)

#ABLEtoSave is a month-long grassroots educational campaign designed to provide information and resources about the ease, use and significance of ABLE accounts for people with disabilities.

As of December 2023, more than 162,969 ABLE accounts have been opened with \$1.741 billion in assets invested. The average ABLE savings is more than \$10,000. Together, we can increase awareness across the nation and expand the number of people with disabilities benefitting from ABLE accounts.

ABLE NRC thanks our #ABLEtoSave Sponsor:



2024 #ABLEtoSave Campaign (Slide 2 of 3)

This year's campaign includes two webinars:

#ABLEtoSave Opens the Door to Housing Opportunities features ABLE NRC

Ambassadors who will discuss how they used their ABLE accounts for home ownership; and

#ABLEtoSave for Lifelong Financial Wellness highlights four ABLE

Ambassadors and their strategic use of ABLE accounts to create a better economic future for themselves or their family members.

Follow #ABLEtoSave 2024 (Slide 3 of 3)

The campaign has widespread participation from ABLE programs, major national disability groups, financial institutions, and other stakeholders.

To join this year's campaign, follow us on Facebook: @theABLENRC; Instagram: @theABLENRC; and Threads: @theABLE NRC; and Linked in. Don't forget to use the hashtag **#ABLEtoSave** in posts you share.



ABLE Overview

ABLE is a Tool to Obtain Financial Independence

- The Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act allows millions of people with disabilities the chance to save and invest money in a 529 ABLE account without paying taxes on investment earnings.
- Account owners who receive needs-based benefits can save more than the savings limit (usually \$2000) and still get benefits if they need them.
- The savings can be spent on things that help the person stay healthy, independent and have a good life. This includes basic needs like food and housing.
- Anyone can deposit money in the account up to \$18,000 each year (2024). Employed account owners may contribute more.

Resource Limits

- ABLE savings up to and including \$100,000 are not counted as a resource for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.
- A person can have any amount of ABLE savings and it will **NOT** affect:
 - Social Security and Disability Insurance (SSDI),
 - Housing Assistance through Housing and Urban Development programs (HUD),
 - Supplemental Nutrition and Assistance Program (SNAP),
 - Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA),
 - Medicare Parts A, B, C, or D, Medicare Savings Programs, and Extra Help, or
 - Any type of Medicaid benefit including Medicaid waiver services.

ABLE Decision Guide: [Understanding ABLE Account Savings and Public Benefits](#)

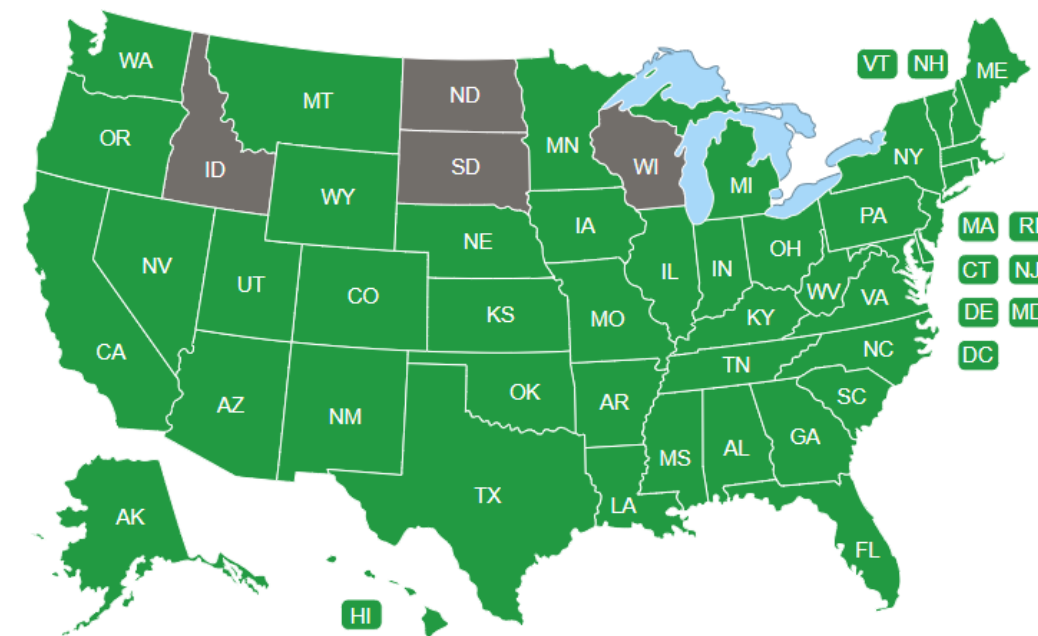
Who is ABLE Eligible?

- A person who has received Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) since before age 26*
- A person who has a disability that began before age 26 but has not received SSI or SSDI may ask their doctor to sign a [disability certification](#) indicating that their disability began before age 26 and results in severe functional limitations.
- A person who works and no longer receives SSI and/or SSDI but still has a disability continues to be ABLE eligible if their disability began before age 26.
- A person can open an ABLE account at any age.

**Note that the ABLE Age Adjustment Act expands ABLE eligibility to include those who have a disability that began before age 46 on 1/1/2026.*

Where are State ABLE Programs?

- There are 46 state ABLE programs, plus D.C.
There is a total of 49 plans from which to choose.
- If you are ABLE eligible, you can open one ABLE account; many plans accept out of state residents.
- An ABLE Program [Comparison Tool](#) and [Interactive State Map](#) is available on the ABLE NRC's website.



Qualified Disability Expenses (QDEs)

ABLE funds may be used to pay for items or services that:

- Relate to the ABLE account owner's disability
- Are for the benefit of the ABLE account owner
- Relate to maintaining or improving their health, independence or quality of life

QDEs should be broadly understood and are not limited to:

- Expenses for which there is a medical necessity, or
- Expenses that provide benefits to others in addition to the benefit to the ABLE account owner

How Can Funds be Used - Qualified Disability Expenses

- Education
- Housing
- Food
- Transportation
- Employment training and support
- Assistive technology and personal support services
- Health prevention and wellness
- Financial management and administrative services
- Legal fees
- Expenses for oversight and monitoring
- Funeral and burial expenses

Examples of Housing Expenses

- Rent/mortgage
- Property Taxes
- Property Insurance
- Home modifications
- Gas or other heating fuel
- Water
- Sewer
- Garbage removal
- Electric bills

Edward Mitchell



Emily Munson



Key Take Aways

- Use available resources to maximize savings.
- Remember that you or any other person can deposit funds into the ABLE account to help you to reach your goal.
- Qualified Disability Expenses for housing do not have to directly relate to your disability – these are needed to maintain independence and quality of life.
- ABLE accounts are a flexible tool that can be used for a variety of housing opportunities including renting and homeownership and can be used for a variety of types of homes and living arrangements.
- A primary residence is not a countable asset for means-tested benefits programs such as SSI or Medicaid.

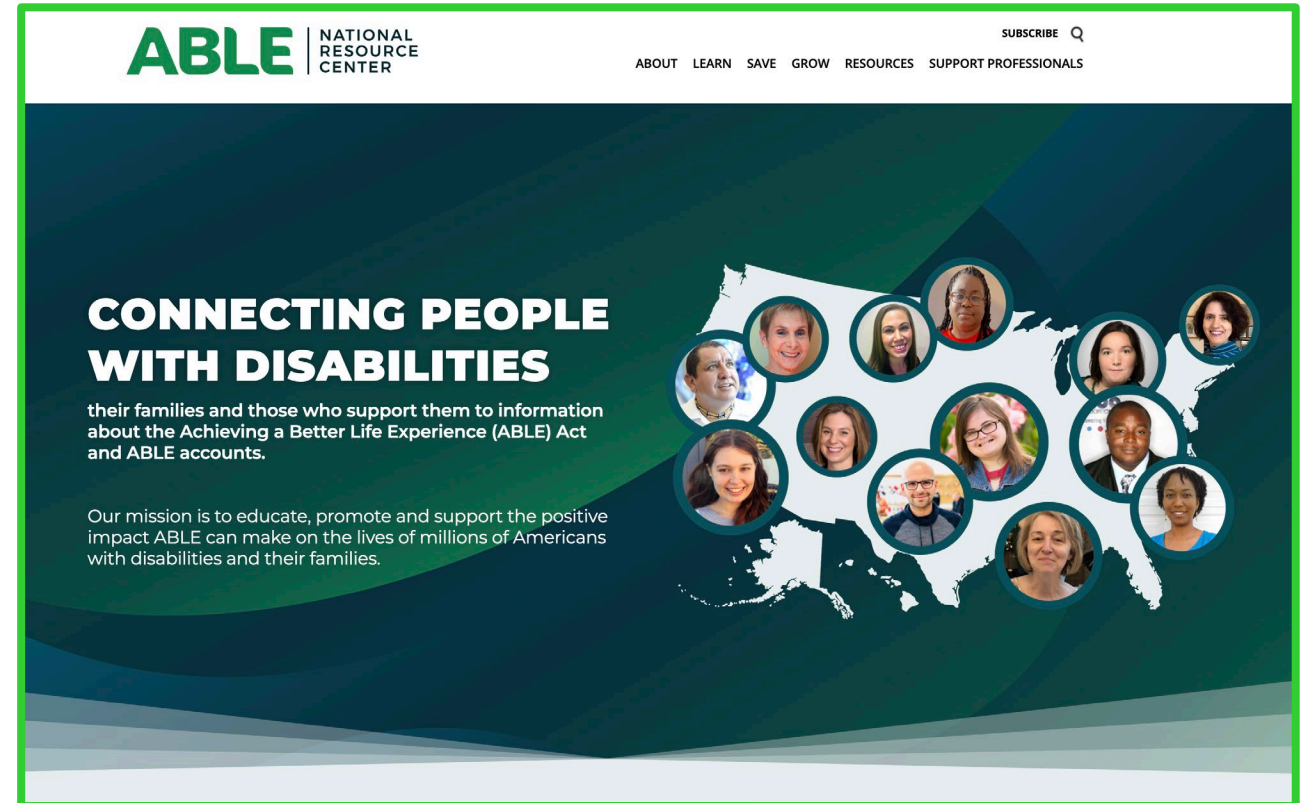


ABLE NRC Resources

ABLE National Resource Center Website

Visit our website at ablenrc.org for:

- [ABLE FAQs](#)
- [ABLE Decision Guides](#)
- [ABLE Programs by State](#)
- [ABLE Informational Flyer](#)
- [Meet our ABLE Ambassadors](#)
- [ABLE to Save Podcast](#)
- [ABLE Webinars](#)
- [AchievABLE Newsletters](#)





ABLE NRC Toolkits

- [Employer Toolkit](#)
- [Service Provider Toolkit](#)
- [Youth Transition Toolkit](#)
- [ABLE NRC Media Toolkit](#)



NDI Resources

- [National Disability Institute](#)
- [American Dream Employment Network \(ADEN\)](#)
- [NDI Assistive Technology Loan Program and AFP List](#)
- [NDI Financial Resilience Center](#)
- [NDI Small Business Hub](#)

Help Spread the Word!

- Please share information about ABLE accounts with friends, family and community groups!
- Share #ABLEtoSAVE campaign.
- Subscribe to receive our [AchievABLE](#) newsletter and receive important ABLE-related updates.
- Connect with us on social media: [Facebook](#), Instagram, Threads, and LinkedIn @theABLENRC.
- Participate in [ABLE National Resource Center webinars](#) to stay informed.
- Visit our [website at ablenrc.org](https://www.ablenrc.org) and check out our resources, including [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Thank You!