

Maryland ABLE User's Guide

Changes January 2022

These are changes that were made to the Maryland ABLE program after the User's Guide was written. When you read the User's Guide, look at this information.

- The amount of money you can put into your ABLE account has increased.
- There are now *four* different investment options. Investment options are choices that you can make about where you invest (or put) all or part of your money in your ABLE account. The ABLE Fixed Income is new.
- You can make changes after you set up your ABLE account. The way to do that has changed.

Below we will address each change.

- The amount of money you can put into your ABLE account has increased.

How much money can you put into your ABLE account each year?

Each year, up to **\$16,000** can be deposited into your account. This amount can change.

- There are now *four* different investment options.

The User's Guide talks about three Investment Options. There are now *four*.

What options can you pick from?

There is one "Cash Option" and *four* different "Investment Options." The ABLE Fixed Income option is new.

When you open your account, you can choose to:

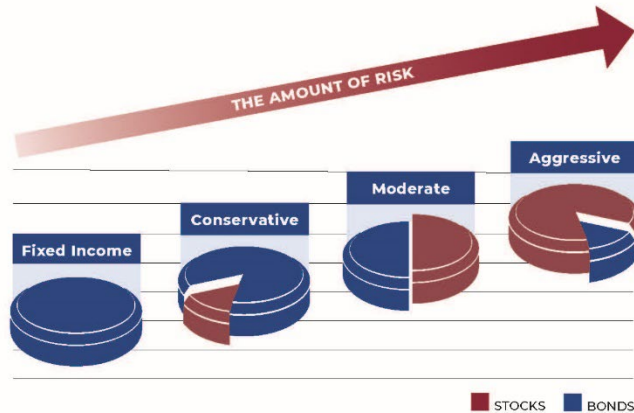
- Deposit all of your money in the Cash Option,
- Put all of your money in one *or more* of the Investment Options, or
- Split your money between the Cash Option *and one or more* of the Investment Options.
If you decide to split where you put the money in your account, you have to put at least \$10 in each option that you select.

Contact questions@marylandable.org or
Maryland ABLE Customer Support if you have questions.
Monday-Friday, 9am-8pm
1-855-563-2253 1-844-888-2253 (TTY)

INVESTMENT OPTIONS

The different Investment Options are called ABLÉ Fixed Income, ABLÉ Conservative, ABLÉ Moderate, and ABLÉ Aggressive.

These options use your money to buy different amounts of stocks and bonds. The value of stocks changes often. So the more money you have in stocks means the more chance there is that you could earn money. There is also more risk that you could lose money.



➤ What changes can you make after you set up your ABLÉ account?

You may decide after you open an account that you want to change where the money in your ABLÉ account goes. The good news is that you are allowed to make changes. You can make changes in the options you choose up to two times each calendar year. Here is what you can choose to do:

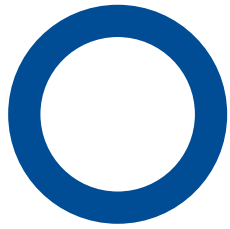
Each time you deposit money, you can choose to put your money in the Cash option and one or more Investment Option. You no longer need to split the money in your account between the cash option and only one investment option.

- **If you have all of your money in the Cash Option, you can add one or more Investment Option.**
You can choose how much money you want to deposit in each option.
- **If you have all of your money in one or more Investment Option, you can add the Cash Option.**
You can choose how much money to put into in each option. You can choose how much money to put into each option every time you make a deposit.
- **You can move all of your money out of the Cash Option or one of the Investment Options.**
If you choose to move all of your money from the Cash Option or one of the Investment Options, it will count as one of your changes for the year.

You can only move all of your money from the Cash Option or one of the Investment Options two times a year.

When you take money out of your account, you can choose how much money you want to take from the Cash Option or your Investment Options. You do not need to choose the same options each time you make a withdrawal.

MARYLAND ABLE INVESTMENT OPTIONS



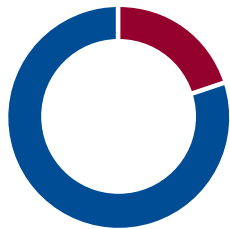
■ 100% BONDS

ABLE Fixed Income

This Investment Option is designed for people who want to take a low amount of risk with their money.

This option puts none of your money in stocks. 100% of the money that goes to this option buys bonds. For example, if you put \$1,000 into this option, \$1,000 would be used to buy bonds.

The goal is to have a low amount of risk with your money, while making some income. This is not guaranteed and you could lose money.



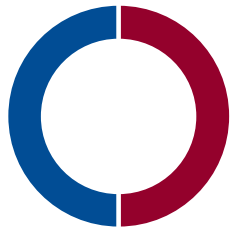
■ 20% STOCKS
■ 80% BONDS

ABLE Conservative

This Investment Option is designed for people who plan to have their money invested for just a short period of time.

This option puts only a small amount of your money in stocks. 20% of the money that goes to this option buys stocks and 80% buys bonds. For example, if you put \$1,000 into this option, \$200 would be used to buy stocks and \$800 would be used to buy bonds.

The goal is to take a little risk while making some income. This is not guaranteed and you could lose money.



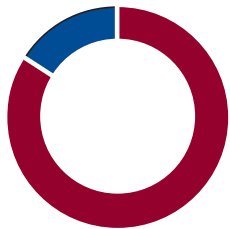
■ 50% STOCKS
■ 50% BONDS

ABLE Moderate

This Investment Option is designed for people who may not know if they want to invest their money for a short or long time.

Half (50%) of the money that goes to this option buys stocks and the other half (50%) buys bonds. For example, if you put \$1,000 into this option, \$500 would be used to buy stocks and \$500 would be used to buy bonds.

By putting half of your money in bonds and half in stocks, this option tries to balance the possibility of earning money with the possibility of losing money.



■ 84% STOCKS
■ 16% BONDS

ABLE Aggressive

This Investment Option is designed for people who want the most chance of earning money from their investments. And they expect to invest their money for 10 or more years.

This option puts most of your money in stocks. 84% of the money that goes to this option buys stocks and 16% buys bonds. For example, if you put \$1,000 into this option, \$840 would be used to buy stocks and \$160 would be used to buy bonds.

The goal of this option is to make earnings over the long-term. This is done by investing most of your money in stocks with some money in bonds. This comes with greater risk of losses over short periods of time. But it may give the greatest potential for earnings over a long time period.