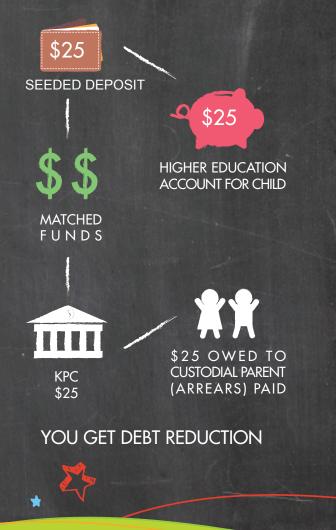
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TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE THAT DREAM HAPPEN



### YOUR CHILD GETS HIGHER EDUCATION



# About the Program

The Child Support Savings Initiative (CSSI) is designed for parents who owe back child support or judgments.

# How You Can Help Your Child

We're here to help you shape your child's future while reducing your child support debt. When children have a savings account in their name, they are seven times more likely to attend college and not dropout. A child with designated savings for school, even at a lower amount (less than \$500), is nearly five times more likely to graduate from college than a child with no savings account.

#### How to Get Started

You can start by opening a 529 higher education savings account for your child with the enclosed application and check or money order with a minimum deposit of \$25. This 529 account can be used to help with Qualified Higher Education Expenses such as costs for tuition, room and board, or books. Child Support Services will verify your child support case with arrears owed to the custodial parent and will forward your application and opening deposit to Learning Quest for processing.

## Child Support Savings Initiative Program Application

Application Print clearly, preferably in capital letters and black ink. Do not staple. See Program Description for complete details.

# STEP 1 - Beneficiary (Child) Information

Beneficiary's First Name	Middle Initial	Beneficiary's Last Name
Beneficiary's Street Address		Apartment/Unit
City	State	Zip
Beneficiary's U.S. Social Security Number		Beneficiary's Date of Birth

Beneficiary's Citizenship

## **STEP 2 - Noncustodial Parent Information**

List the individual who will be the Interested Party of the CSSI account. This should be the parent with child support arrears owed.

Mr. / Mrs. / Ms.	Noncustodial Parent's First N	Name Middle Initial	Last Name		
Noncustodial Par	ent's U.S. Social Security Num	ber			
Noncustodial Par	ent's Street Address	Apartment/Unit			
City	State	Zip			
Noncustodial Par	ent's Email Address				
Telephone Number (daytime)		Telephone Number (ev	Telephone Number (evening)		
Child Support Ca	se ID Number				

# **STEP 3 - Investment Option**

Before choosing your investment option below, see the Learning Quest Handbook for complete information about the investments offered. Choose either an Age-Based Track or a Static Portfolio. If you chose more than one, or do not select an option below, your contributions will be invested in the Index Age-Based Track. Investment options can be changed twice per calendar year.

#### **Age-Based Tracks**

You may select between the age-based tracks below. We offer three tracks based on your comfort with risk as well as an index track. Once you select a track, your contribution will be invested in the appropriate portfolio based on the age of Designated Beneficiary. As the beneficiary gets older, the assets will move to a progressively more conservative portfolio.

Conservative Track	Moderate Track
Aggressive Track	Index Track (default if none chosen)

#### **Static Portfolios**

The static portfolios offer a fixed-allocation strategy, which means that the amount of stock, bond and money market funds in the portfolios is set and will not change. The assets will remain in the portfolio you select below until you choose a new Investment Option.

Very Aggressive	Aggressive
Moderate	Conservative
Very Conservative	Short-Term
Short-Term Plus	Total Growth Index
100% Equity	Total Bond Market Index
Balanced Index	
Money Market	

# STEP 4 - Signature

By signing this application, the undersigned certifies that all the information contained herein is accurate and has read and understood the Child Support Savings Initiative Program Description.

The undersigned further authorizes enrolling the beneficiary (child) in the Child Support Savings Initiative Program within the Learning Quest 529 Education Savings Program. I further authorize Child Support Services to obtain the beneficiary's social security number and address from my child support case and use that to enroll the child if I was unable to provide that information.

Noncustodial Parent's Signature

Date

### **Mailing Addresses**

Mail all forms to the address below. Checks must be made payable to Learning Quest. Mail the forms to the address below:

Child Support Services, CSSI Program P.O. Box 0497 Topeka, KS 66601-0497 For overnight delivery or registered mail: Child Support Services, CSSI Program 555 S Kansas Ave, 3rd Fl Topeka, KS 66612

# Contacts

For questions about the investments available for your Learning Quest account, please call American Centruty Investments at 1-800-579-2203.

For questions about the CSSI program, please call Child Support Services at 1-888-632-7758.

For Official Use Only

APPROVED BY DCF

DCF Representative Signature

## **Eligibility**

A noncustodial parent with an open IV-D child support case with Kansas Child Support Services for a minor child with a past due amount owed to the custodial parent is eligible to open a CSSI account.

For every dollar you invest in the child's CSSI Program account, up to \$500, will be matched with a payment of the same amount being sent to the Kansas Payment Center to be distributed to the custodial parent as a payment on your past due amounts owed. You must contribute at least \$25 to open an account. The State of Kansas, Department for Children and Families, will be the owner of the account with the child being named as the beneficiary. See Learning Quest Handbook for definition of what are Qualified Higher Education Expenses.

To receive the matching funds towards custodial arrears for deposits made into the CSSI account, the noncustodial parent must make the current child support payment in full during the same month plus pay one dollar (\$1) towards arrears through the Kansas Payment Center. If there is not current support obligation, then the only payment required would be one dollar (\$1) towards the arrears. If these payments are not made during the same month as the deposit into the CSSI account, then no matching funds will be sent to the Kansas Payment Center.

Applicants are encouraged to apply at any time. Once approved, Learning Quest will issue written confirmation of the account and provide payment vouchers that will be routed to you from the Kansas Child Support Services office.

Each child (the designated beneficiary for the

CSSI account) may be eligible for only one account under the CSSI program, but there is no limit to the number of children from that same household that can be eligible. Because matching funds are sent for contributions for a specific child, the beneficiary of the account cannot be changed. If the noncustodial parent already has a Learning Quest 529 Education Savinas Program account for the child, any contributions made to that account will not be eligible for credit. Contributions must be made to the new account owned by the KS Department for Children and Families to receive the matching payment through the Kansas Payment Center.

If additional investment slips are needed please contact Child Support Services at 1-888-632-7758 for additional forms.

#### Account Setup

You must complete a CSSI Application for each child you wish to have an account. Prior to completing the CSSI Application, you should review the Learning Quest Handbook which will provide more information on the account as well as the investment options that you may select in which the funds you contribute will be invested.

The account will be established for the beneficiary child named on your CSSI application and will default into the Index Age Based Track investment unless you designate a different investment portfolio.

You will be established as an interested third party on the account so that you will receive quarterly statements from Learning Quest any time there is activity in the account for the previous quarter.

# **Eligible Contributions**

Contributions can be made by you as well as anyone on your behalf. Contributions can only be submitted by **check or money order made payable to Learning Quest and sent directly to Learning Quest** at one of the addresses below. Investment slips will be mailed to you when the account opens and must be submitted with the check.

Learning Quest PO Box 29202 Shawnee Mission, KS 66201-9202

Overnight Address Learning Quest 2534 Madison Ave, 3rd Floor Kansas City, MO 64108-2335

## How the Matching Funds Occur

Approximately five days before the end of the month, Child Support Services will review the accounts to ensure child support payments were made and then initiate payment funds of the identical amount be routed through the Kansas Payment Center to be distributed to the custodial parent as a payment on arrears owed. These matching funds will be given for any deposits up to \$500 even if the payment comes from someone other than the noncustodial parent.

### Learning Quest Account Transactions

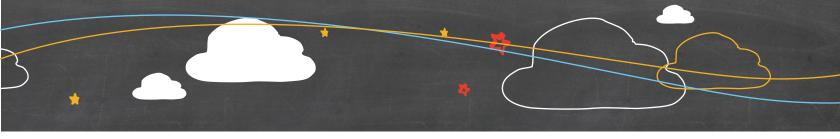
Because the State of Kansas is the account owner, all changes and transactions must be submitted to DCF, this includes name and address changes for the beneficiary. These requests will be received by Child Support Services to verify the accounts exist and forwarded on to Learning Quest for processing. Requests to update information must be submitted in writing to DCF with necessary documentation on the CSSI Program Information Change Form found online at: www.dcf.ks.gov/services/CSS/ Pages/529.aspx or by calling 1-888-632-7758.

#### Exchanges

You may change the investment option once per year. You may use the CSSI Program Information Change Form found online at: www.dcf.ks.gov/ services/CSS/Pages/529.aspx. or by calling 1-888-632-7758. Child Support Services will provide the account number information on the form for you. If you have questions about the investment options please contact American Century Investments at 1-800-579-2203. Additional information about the investment options can be found in the Learning Quest Handbook.

#### **Qualified Withdrawals**

To make a withdrawal from the account, the designated beneficiary will have to provide documentation with the withdrawal application that he/she incurred qualified higher education expenses at any college, university, community college or technical college that is accredited to



receive federal financial aid. See the Learning Quest Handbook for more information on "Qualified Higher Education Expenses" and Educational Institutions." "Eligible The beneficiary can either submit receipts for paid expenses or submit a bill from the eligible institution if requesting a check made payable to the institution. If the beneficiary is under the age of 18, the request for withdrawal will also need to be signed by a parent or guardian. Requests for withdrawals must be submitted in writing to Child Support Services on the CSSI Program Withdrawal Form found online at: www.dcf.ks.gov/services/CSS/Pages/529. aspx or by calling 1-888-632-7758. Child Support Services will verify the account exists and forward the application and documentation to Learning Quest for distribution of the funds.

#### Nonqualified Withdrawals

If the designated beneficiary does not make a qualified withdrawal by the age of 25, the beneficiary can request a distribution for noneducational purposes. However, any penalties and taxes due on the nonqualified withdrawal will be the responsibility of the beneficiary.

# Death of a Noncustodial Parent or Beneficiary

If the noncustodial parents dies, his/her rights will be transferred to the custodial parent if he/ she survives and then to the beneficiary or a guardian if the beneficiary is under 18 years of age.

If the beneficiary dies, his/her rights will pass to the beneficiary's heirs at law.

# Additional Benefits of Opening the 529 Account

Deposits can be withdrawn by the beneficiary tax free for higher education expenses. Additionally, Kansas taxpayers may also be eligible for a deduction on their Kansas income taxes for deposits into a 529 plan.

## **Contact Information**

If you have questions about the program, you can contact Child Support Services at 1-888-632-7758. If you have questions about Learning Quest you may contact American Century Investments at 1-800-579-2203.

#### Please mail check or money order to:

Learning Quest PO Box 29202 Shawnee Mission, KS 66201-9202

#### **Overnight Address**

Learning Quest 2534 Madison Ave, 3rd Floor Kansas City, MO 64108-2335

For questions about the investments available for your Learning Quest Account, please call American Century Investments at 1-800-579-2203.

For questions about the CSSI program, eligibility and enrollment, please call **Child Support Services at 1-888-632-7758.** 

To view payment history or to check if a specific payment has been received, processed or distributed, please call the **Kansas Payment Center at 1-877-572-5722 or visit: www.kspaycenter.com.** 

For questions about applying for child support, child support balances, support enforcement services or an existing child support case, call the **Child Support Call Center at: 1-888-757-2445.** 

Kansas Child Support Services is funded by 66% federal funds and 34% state funds. The Annie E. Casey Foundation has provided \$50,000 for the outreach of the Child Support Savings Initiative. The W. K. Kellogg Foundation has provided \$600,000 for this program.



Strong Families Make a Strong Kansas