

Help Your Employees Benefit From College Savings

Rising college costs can be stressful for employees with children. But, you can help. Add the Bright Directions Advisor-Guided 529 College Savings Plan to your benefits package, and enjoy an Illinois tax credit for qualifying matching contributions. Your employees get the benefit of an easier, more successful way to save for college.



Benefits For Your Employees

- Illinois tax payers are eligible for a state tax deduction for contributions of up to \$10,000 (\$20,000 for joint filers)¹
- Tax-deferred growth on any interest, dividends, and capital gains
- Tax-free withdrawals for qualified higher education expenses²
- No minimum or annual contribution requirements
- Funds can be used at eligible colleges nationwide (public, private, trade and community colleges, graduate schools, and professional programs). Some foreign institutions are also eligible.

Benefits For Employers

- Illinois tax credit for employer matching contributions
For taxable years ending on or before December 31, 2024, employers are eligible for an Illinois tax credit against the Illinois state income tax in an amount equal to 25% of that matching contribution up to a maximum tax credit of \$500 per contributing employee per taxable year. Check with your tax advisor for details.³
- Increased employee satisfaction, which can lead to higher employee retention
- No upfront or ongoing costs to the employer

Our Portfolio Options

- Age-Based options (Aggressive, Moderate and Conservative) that automatically adjust their investment amounts as the child gets closer to college
- 7 Target Portfolios that have a set or static investment allocation, ranging from 100% equity to 100% fixed income
- 36 Individual Fund Portfolio options for employees to customize their own portfolio

Contribution Options

- Employees can automatically invest via bank account withdrawals
- Employers may withhold funds from paychecks, which are then remitted directly to Bright Directions

Our Fund Family

Bright Directions features investments in a number of quality fund families, including:



DODGE & COX FUNDS®



BLACKROCK



Ready to Help Employees Save?

Here's how a Bright Directions rollout can work in your office:



The Bright Directions College Savings Program is sponsored by the State of Illinois and administered by the Illinois State Treasurer, as Trustee. Union Bank & Trust Company serves as Program Manager and Northern Trust Securities, Inc., acts as Distributor. Balances in your Bright Directions account are not guaranteed or insured by Bright Directions, the State of Illinois, the Illinois State Treasurer, any other state or federal agency, Union Bank & Trust Company or any of its affiliates, Northern Trust Securities, Inc. or any of its affiliates, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (except as provided in the Program Disclosure Statement solely with respect to the FDIC-insured Bank Savings Underlying Investment), or any other entity.

An investor should consider the investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses before investing. This and other important information is contained in the Bright Directions Advisor-Guided 529 College Savings Program Disclosure Statement, which can be obtained from your financial professional or at BrightDirections.com and should be read carefully before investing. You can lose money by investing in a portfolio. Each of the portfolios involves investment risks, which are described in the Program Disclosure Statement. Before you invest, consider whether your or the beneficiary's home state offers any state tax or other state benefits such as financial aid, scholarship funds, and protection from creditors that are only available for investments in that state's 529 plan.

¹An individual who files an individual Illinois state income tax return will be able to deduct up to \$10,000 per tax year (up to \$20,000 for married taxpayers filing a joint Illinois state income tax return) for their total, combined contributions to the Bright Directions Advisor-Guided 529 College Savings Program, the Bright Start Direct-Sold College Savings Program, and College Illinois during that tax year. The \$10,000 (individual) and \$20,000 (joint) limit on deductions will apply to total contributions made without regard to whether the contributions are made to a single account or more than one account. The amount of any deduction previously taken for Illinois income tax purposes is added back to Illinois taxable income in the event an Account Owner takes a Nonqualified Withdrawal from an Account or if such assets are rolled over to a non-Illinois 529 plan. If Illinois tax rates have increased since the original contribution, the additional tax liability may exceed the tax savings from the deduction.

²Withdrawals used to pay for qualified college costs are free from federal and Illinois state income tax. Qualified college costs include tuition, fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for enrollment or attendance; certain room and board expenses incurred by students who are enrolled at least half-time; the purchase of computer or peripheral equipment, computer software, or Internet access and related services, if used primarily by the beneficiary during any of the years the beneficiary is enrolled at an eligible educational institution; and certain expenses for special needs services needed by a special needs beneficiary, apprenticeship program expenses, and repayment of up to \$10,000 of qualified education loans. The amount of any deduction previously taken for Illinois income tax purposes is subject to recapture in the event an Account Owner takes a Nonqualified Withdrawal or Illinois Nonqualified Withdrawal from an Account or if such assets are rolled over to a non-Illinois 529 plan.

³The credit may not be carried back. If the amount of the credit exceeds the tax liability for the year, the excess may be carried forward and applied to the tax liability of the five taxable years following the excess credit year. The tax credit shall be applied to the earliest year for which there is a tax liability. If there are credits for more than one year that are available to offset a liability, the earlier credit will be applied first.

Not FDIC Insured* / No Bank Guarantee / May Lose Value
(*Except for the Bank Savings Underlying Investment)



Health. Dental. And Now, Pre-Med.

Your benefits are getting even better. Learn how your employer can help you save for a loved one's higher education with Bright Directions, Illinois' Advisor-Guided 529 College Savings Plan. The plan features:

- Tax-deferred growth
- Up to a \$20,000 tax deduction¹
- Multiple investment options
- Highly regarded fund families and program manager

We're coming to your office soon to show you how Bright Directions can help you meet the rising costs of college. See our poster or ask your office manager for more details.



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Union Bank & Trust
Program Manager


Michael W. Frerichs
ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER
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Distributor

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866.722.7283 | BrightDirections.com

They've Got Big Plans. What's Yours?

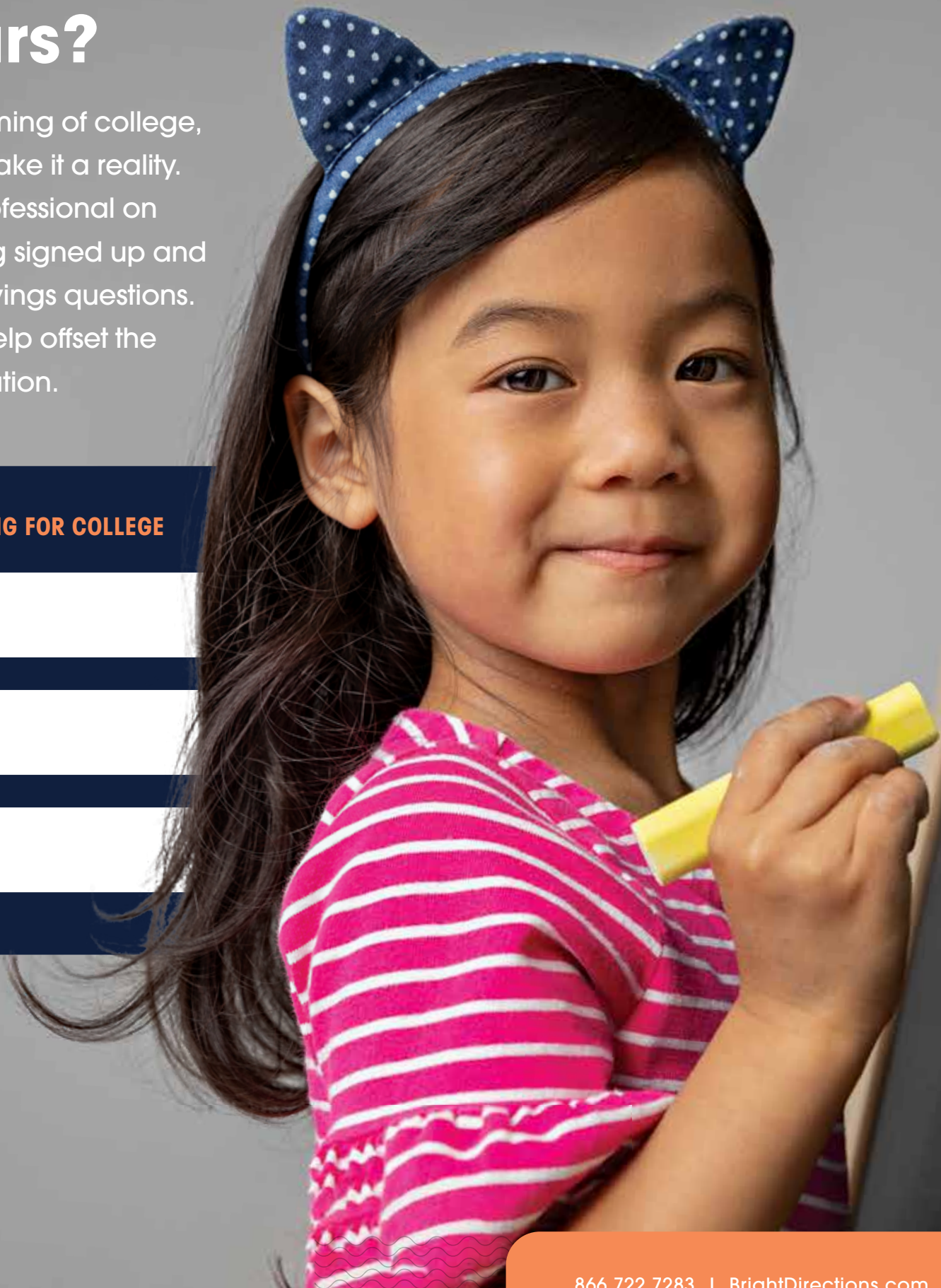
If you have a student dreaming of college, your employer can help make it a reality. There will be a financial professional on site to assist you with getting signed up and answering your college savings questions. Now is the time to start to help offset the rising costs of higher education.

COME TALK WITH US ABOUT SAVING FOR COLLEGE

Date

Time

Location



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