

Trump Accounts (Sec. 530A):

Understanding the Account Features

Overview:

- Trump Accounts are new custodial-style Individual Retirement Account (IRA) established for minors.
- The accounts are owned by the child and administered by an adult (typically a parent) until the child turns 18 years old. The account converts into an IRA at age 18.
- Created under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act in 2025 to promote early savings and financial literacy.
- The government has promised a \$1,000 seed contribution for all children born between 2025 and 2028.
- These are a great planning tool for Roth IRA style assets for children prior to age 18.

Who Will Be Eligible?

- All U.S. citizens with a valid Social Security number under 18 years old are eligible for an account. Only minors born between January 1st, 2025 and December 31st, 2028 will receive a \$1,000 seed payment from the government.
- Only one account is allowed per child.

What investment options are available?

- Funds must be invested in a **low-cost index fund** tracking the S&P 500 or another broad equity index.
 - No other investment choices are allowed.
- Funds must also be passive index funds.
- Fund expense ratios must fall below the 0.1% cap.
- Individual stocks, bonds, crypto, real estate, and sector funds are not allowed in Trump Accounts.
- On January 1st of the year the child turns 18, the restriction on holdings is lifted (no longer limited to US stock indexes).



What are the rules on contributions?

- Contributions are limited to \$5,000 per year, per account.
- Annual contribution limits are indexed to inflation and will increase over time.
- The \$1,000 seed contribution in eligible accounts does not count toward the annual limit.
- Contributions from governments and charities also do not count toward the annual limit.
- An employer may contribute up to \$2,500 per year, per employee, which may be split between multiple children. These contributions are excluded from the employee's taxable income.
- An employee can divert this pretax pay into a Trump Account. Those contributions count toward the annual limit.
- There is no tax deduction for contributions from family and friends.
- When a child turns age 18, they will need earned income to contribute.
- Older children may qualify for the Dell \$250 contribution, based on earning less than \$150,000 and living in certain zip codes. For more information, please scan the QR code¹ below:



- Under an IRS safe harbor, if certain requirements are met, contributions made by individual donors to Trump accounts in a given year will not be subject to gift tax reporting requirements for that year. For more information, please scan the QR code² below:



What are the rules on distributions?

- IRS rules allow distributions from a Trump Account on January 1st of the year the child turns age 18. Withdrawals prior to age 18 will be highly restricted:
 - Penalty-free exceptions include qualified higher education expenses, first-time home purchase (up to \$10,000), birth or adoption expenses (up to \$5,000), qualifying medical expenses, disability, or death.
 - Withdrawals will be taxed as ordinary income at the child's tax rate minus the portion attributable to after-tax contributions from family and friends made over the years.
 - Pre-tax contributions (employer, charitable, government) are fully taxable on withdrawal, including both principal and growth.
 - A 10% penalty applies to taxable amounts withdrawn before age 59½, unless an exception applies.
 - The parent will need to keep track of which contributions are pre-tax and after-tax to avoid double taxation, which results from pre-tax non-family member contributions.

How do I open a Trump Account?

- To open an account parents will need to file IRS Form 4547 online at trumpaccounts.gov.
- A QR code that will direct you to the website³ is provided below. The process should take about 5 to 10 minutes:
 - You will need an ID.me account, your child's social security number, and your child's date of birth and address.
 - There is a Trump Accounts app that has launched. The app has financial literacy modules for children.
- Once IRS confirmation is received that their Trump Account is activated, parents can select any approved trustee to custody their assets. From there, they can choose eligible mutual funds or ETFs.
 - More information to come on approved custodians and account opening.
- There are no account minimums. You can open an account with \$0.
- To apply for the \$1,000 seed money, that individual must be able to claim the child as a dependent for purposes of the child tax credit.
 - If the child is NOT eligible for the \$1,000 government contribution, then the account opener may be a parent, legal guardian, adult sibling, or grandparent.
- If the parent has not filed their tax return, Form 4547 can also be included with the return in lieu of the website, but only if the dependent is claimed on the 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, etc. return as well. For current year newborn babies, parents need to go through trumpaccounts.gov.



Where can I find more information?

Please visit the IRS website⁴ by scanning the QR Code to the right:



Please note that the planning considerations and information provided is not intended to be legal or tax advice and you should not rely on it as legal or tax advice. Each person's tax situation is unique and the planning considerations and legislation discussed will impact each person differently. Therefore, you should discuss with your tax advisor how these planning considerations and new legislation might impact your situation and which planning strategies might be right for you.

1. NPR, "Michael and Susan Dell commit \$6.25 billion for investment accounts for kids", Updated December 2, 2025.
2. IRS, "Treasury, IRS provide safe harbor for certain contributions to Trump Accounts under the Working Families Tax Cuts", June 29, 2026.
3. trumpaccounts.gov (2026)
4. IRS, "Trump Accounts" (2026).

Disclosures:

“BMO” refers to BMO Financial Group, a diversified financial services organization and a trade name used by Bank of Montreal its subsidiaries and affiliates including BMO Bank N.A. in the United States.

“BMO Wealth Management” is a brand delivering investment management services, trust, deposit and loan products and services through BMO Bank N.A., a national bank with trust powers; family office services and investment advisory services through BMO Family Office, LLC, an SEC-registered investment adviser; investment advisory services through Stoker Ostler Wealth Advisors, Inc., an SEC-registered investment adviser; and trust and investment management services through BMO Delaware Trust Company, a Delaware limited purpose trust company. These entities are all affiliates and owned by BMO Financial Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Bank of Montreal. BMO Delaware Trust Company operates only in Delaware, does not offer depository, financing or other banking products, and is not FDIC insured. Not all products and services are available in every state and/or location. Investment products and services are: **NOT A DEPOSIT – NOT INSURED BY THE FDIC OR ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY – NOT GUARANTEED BY ANY BANK – MAY LOSE VALUE.** Capital Advisory Services are offered by a division of BMO Bank N.A.

Stoker Ostler is a trade name used by Stoker Ostler Wealth Advisors, Inc., an SEC registered investment adviser. Investment products and services are: **NOT A DEPOSIT – NOT INSURED BY THE FDIC OR ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY – NOT GUARANTEED BY ANY BANK – MAY LOSE VALUE.**

The information and opinions expressed herein are obtained from sources believed to be reliable and up to date; however, their accuracy and completeness cannot be guaranteed. Opinions expressed reflect judgment current as of the date of this publication and are subject to change.

This information is being used to support the promotion or marketing of the planning strategies discussed herein. This information is not intended to be legal advice or tax advice to any taxpayer and is not intended to be relied upon as such. BMO Bank N.A. and its affiliates do not provide legal advice or tax advice to clients. You should review your particular circumstances with your independent legal and tax advisors.

Investment involves risk. Market conditions and trends will fluctuate. Investment returns fluctuate, and investments when redeemed, may be worth more or less than the original investment. Asset allocation and diversification do not guarantee a profit and do not eliminate the risk of experiencing investment losses. Past performance is not indicative of future results. You cannot invest directly in an index.

Third party websites may have privacy and security policies different from BMO Bank N.A. and its affiliates. Links to other websites do not imply the endorsement or approval of such websites. Please review the privacy and security policies of websites reached through links from this BMO article.

CFP Board owns the marks CFP®, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER®, and CFP® (with plaque design) in the U.S.

CAS00039762