

Fast Facts



Program Summary

CalKIDS is a children's savings account (CSA) program administered by the ScholarShare Investment Board, an agency of the State of California. CalKIDS will provide each child born in California and eligible low-income public school students with up to \$1,500 for college education and career training!

Eligibility

There are two eligible groups for this program with unique benefits.

Newborns

- All children born in California on or after July 1, 2022, can claim:

Up to \$100

Eligible babies born after July 1, 2023, have a CalKIDS account created in their name with an automatic **initial deposit of \$100**. *Babies born between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023, have an initial deposit of \$25.*

+ \$25

Parents that claim their account on the CalKIDS online parent portal—at **CalKIDS.org**—will receive an **additional one-time \$25 contribution deposited into their newborn's CalKIDS account**.

+ \$50

Parents that link accounts from ScholarShare 529, California's official college savings plan, and CalKIDS, **will receive an additional \$50** deposited into their newborn's CalKIDS account.

= Up to \$175 in free money for college for newborns!

Students

- California low-income students will be given automatic CalKIDS accounts, if they were enrolled in public schools grades 1 through 12, beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year. In addition, CalKIDS accounts will be given to first graders who were enrolled during the 2022-2023 academic year, as well as subsequent years.*
- First graders will not be enrolled in the program until Spring or Summer.
- All eligible low-income public school students can claim:

\$500

Every eligible low-income public school student in grades 1-12 will have a CalKIDS account created in their name with an initial **deposit of \$500**.

+ \$500

Eligible students identified as **foster youth** will receive an **additional one-time \$500 deposit**.

+ \$500

Eligible students identified as **homeless** will receive an **additional one-time \$500 deposit**.

= Up to \$1,500 in free money for college for students!*

Claiming an Account

Enrollment is automatic for eligible newborns and students. However, parents or students will need to register online to claim funds in their CalKIDS account. To claim your account, the following is needed:

Newborns

- Child's county of birth
- Child's date of birth
- Local Registration Number found on birth certificate, OR CalKIDS code found on notification letter mailed to parent's home

Students

- County of student's school as of Fall Academic Census Day
- Student's date of birth
- Statewide Student Identifier, which can be obtained by contacting the child's school, OR CalKIDS code found on notification letter mailed to student's home

ScholarShare 529

- Parents can save on their own in a ScholarShare 529 account. ScholarShare 529 serves as California's official college savings plan. Administered by the ScholarShare Investment Board, ScholarShare 529 provides families with a valuable college savings tool, offering a diverse set of investment options, tax-deferred growth, and withdrawals free from state and federal taxes when used for qualified higher education expenses.
- Parents can link their CalKIDS account to a new or existing ScholarShare 529 account to view all balances in one place.

Withdrawals

- Withdrawal of funds from a CalKIDS account can be requested online at CalKIDS.org.
- CalKIDS funds are sent directly to the eligible institution of higher education as requested by the student.
- Program participants must be at least 17 years old to request a withdrawal of funds.
- Participants have until they reach age 26 to use the funds in their CalKIDS account.

Eligible Use of Funds

Money in a CalKIDS account can be used to pay for qualified higher education expenses, such as:

- Tuition and related fees
- Books and required supplies
- Computer equipment

Once funds are requested, they are sent directly to your institution and are treated as an award scholarship.

To learn more, visit CalKIDS.org.



*Student eligibility is defined by the Local Control Funding Formula.

The California Kids Investment and Development Savings Program (CalKIDS) is a children's savings account program, administered by the ScholarShare Investment Board, an agency of the State of California. CalKIDS will provide eligible participants with college savings accounts, including seed deposits and other potential incentives, to help pay for future qualified higher education expenses. To learn more about CalKIDS or opt out of the program entirely, please see the Program Information Guide at CalKIDS.org. CalKIDS participants may also establish individual accounts with ScholarShare 529, California's 529 College Savings Plan. **To learn more about California's ScholarShare 529, its investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses see the Plan Description at ScholarShare529.com. Read it carefully. Investments in the Plan are neither insured nor guaranteed and there is the risk of investment loss. Consult your legal or tax professional for tax advice. Investments in the Plan are neither insured nor guaranteed and there is the risk of investment loss. If the funds aren't used for qualified higher education expenses, a federal 10% penalty tax on earnings (as well as federal and state income taxes) may apply. Non-qualified withdrawals may also be subject to an additional 2.5% California tax on earnings. TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services, LLC, Member FINRA, is the distributor and underwriter for ScholarShare 529.**