

529 COLLEGE SAVINGS PLAN VS. HEAD-START SAVINGS PLAN

COMPARISON	HEAD-START SAVINGS PLAN	529 SAVINGS PLAN
Utilized for Educational Tuition Expenses	✓	✓
Tax-Deferred Growth of Values	✓	✓
Competitive Returns Based on Market Performance	✓	✓
No 10% Penalty and No Restrictions for Non-Educational Expenses (aka Tax-Free Access to Cash Value)*	✓	✗
Access to Funds Due to Terminal or Chronic Illness	✓	✗
Protection from Market Downturns	✓	✗
Death Benefit Protection	✓	✗
Not Counted as an Asset When Applying for Federal Financial Aid (FAFSA) or Other Types of Grants and Scholarships	✓	✗
No Contribution Limits	✓	✗
If Not Used for College, or If Only a Portion is Used, Then Can Be Used as a Head Start Savings Plan for Future Expenses Such as a New Car, Down Payment for a House, Wedding, Retirement, etc.	✓	✗

**some expenses that are not considered "qualified educational expenses" and would not be authorized with a 529 Plan include but are not limited to, off-campus housing, repayment of student loans, smartphones and tablets, travel expenses, and more*