## BlackRock

## College Savings Solutions

## Tax-Free Savings Growth

Saving for college in a 529 plan, which offers tax-deferred growth and tax-free withdrawals for qualified expenses, allows your savings to grow faster and go farther.

Account Values of \$65,000 Invested When Child is Born
\$250,000


Sources: BlackRock: Internal Revenue Service. This is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any investment. BlackRock does not provide tax advice. Investors should speak to their tax professional for specific information regarding their tax situation. Final values
 return), a $20 \%$ tax rate on capital gains and ordinary income taxes on dividends. Examples assume reinvestment of distributions and no withdrawals made from the tax-deferred account until the end of each period illustrated. Taxes are assessed yearly on the taxable account.

Not FDIC Insured • No Bank Guarantee • May Lose Value

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## Comparing Account Types

Points to Consider When Charting Your Education Savings Course

|  | 529 Savings Plan | Coverdell ESA | UGMA/UTMA |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Funds May Be Used For | Eligible college expenses | Eligible K-12 (through 2010) and college expenses | Funds may be withdrawn at any time for any purpose |
| Contribution Limit | Depends on state/plan; usually quite high <br> Gift tax consequences for exceeding \$13,000 per contributor per year or $\$ 65,000$ per contributor for a five-year contribution made in a single year ${ }^{\dagger}$ | \$2,000 per student per year* <br> Beneficiary must be under age 18 at the time of contribution unless he/she has special needs | No limit <br> Gift tax consequences for exceeding \$13,000 per contributor per year |
| Income Limit | No income limitations; anyone can invest | \$110,000 for single filers; \$220,000 for joint filers | No income limitations; anyone can invest |
| Federal Tax Treatment | Withdrawals are tax-free if used for qualified expenses | Withdrawals are tax-free if used for qualified expenses | Withdrawals are taxable, usually at the child's tax rate |
| Investment Options | Professionally managed portfolios; generally age- or risk-adjusted | Self-directed and flexible; account holder builds portfolio | Self-directed and flexible; account holder builds portfolio |
| Control of Assets | Control remains with account holder/contributor ${ }^{\ddagger}$ | Control usually remains with account holder/contributor | Control transfers to beneficiary at legal age of majority |
| Transferablility/Change of Beneficiary ${ }^{\S}$ | Account assets may be transferred to another eligible family member of any age | Account assets may be transferred to another eligible family member under age 30 | Account assets cannot be transferred to another beneficiary |
| Age by Which Funds Must Be Used/Transferred | No age limit | By age 30 | By age of majority |
| Impact on "NeedsBased" Financial Aid | Funds are considered the account holder's when applying for financial aid | Funds are considered the account holder's when applying for financial aid | Funds are considered the child's when applying for financial aid |
| Penalties | Unused money must be transferred to another beneficiary for college expenses or is subject to taxes and penalties if withdrawn for other purposes | Unused money must be transferred to another beneficiary for eligible expenses (or can be rolled into a 529 plan) or is subject to taxes and penalties if withdrawn for other purposes | No penalties if not used for college expenses; unused funds are distributed to child at age of majority |

* This provision is slated to expire in 2010, returning the contribution limit to $\$ 500$. † Under a special rule, contributions of $\$ 65,000(\$ 130,000$ for married, filing jointly) can be made in one year and prorated over a five-year period without incurring gift taxes or reducing your
 $\ddagger$ If the 529 is held as a custodial account, such as when an UTMA is rolled into a 529 , the control converts to the child at the age of majority. § Please see the Program Description for more details regarding changing beneficiaries or transferring assets.


## FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.blackrock.com

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