

FAQs: Qualified Disability Expenses Webinar – September 16, 2020

	Question	Answer
1	Is there an online list somewhere of eligible expenses for CalABLE account holders?	At this time, there is no exhaustive list for Qualified Disability Expenses (QDEs). A list of common QDE categories is included on the CalABLE website or the Social Security Administration's Program Operations Manual System (POMS) (4/16/2020) at https://secure.ssa.gov/apps10/poms.nsf/lnx/0501130740 . CalABLE recommends reviewing the definition for QDEs. A QDE is any expense related to the designated beneficiary as a result of living a life with disabilities that helps maintain or improve your health, independence or quality of life to determine the QDE expense item.
2	Can an account holder set up a recurring withdrawal with a CalABLE Account for expenses related to housing or utilities?	By linking a commercial bank account to your CalABLE account, it is possible to set up a recurring ACH transfer.
3	When a person closes a CalABLE account, is there any requirement on when the CalABLE fund withdrawal needs to be spent?	No. It is important to keep a record when the purchase is made in order to justify the withdrawal as a QDE. Also, if the money is deposited in a bank account after closing the ABL account, it could trigger an excess resource notice that would require a spend down to avoid a suspension of benefits for SSI recipients.
4	When a person withdraws funds from a CalABLE Account for a QDE not related to housing, does the withdrawal need to be spent within a certain timeframe?	No. It is important to keep a record when the purchase is made in order to justify the withdrawal as a QDE.
5	Can I use my CalABLE account to pay for an entire year's rent? Can I use my CalABLE account to pay for back rent?	Yes and Yes. Based on a review of the Social Security Program Operation Manual System, there is no indication that housing expenses paid in advance or in arrears would be treated any differently than current expenses. Please remember that housing expenses must be withdrawn and paid within the same calendar month in order to avoid any impact to SSI benefits.

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Consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing in the California 529A Qualified ABLE Program (CalABLE Program). Please call toll-free 833-CAL-ABLE for a Disclosure Statement containing this and other information. Read it carefully.

Before investing in any ABLE program, you should consider whether your home state provides its taxpayers with favorable state tax or other benefits that are only available through investment in the home state's ABLE program. You also should consult your financial, tax, or other adviser to learn more about how state-based benefits (or any limitations) would apply to your specific circumstances. You also may wish to directly contact your home state's ABLE program, or any other ABLE program, to learn more about those plans' features, benefits and limitations. State-based benefits should be one of many appropriately weighted factors to be considered when making an investment decision.

The CalABLE Program is offered by the State of California. TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc. (TFI), program manager. TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services, LLC, Member FINRA, distributor and underwriter.

None of the State of California, its agencies, TFI or TCS nor any of their applicable affiliates insures accounts or guarantees the principal deposited therein or any investment returns on any account or investment option, and you may lose the principal amount invested. The FDIC Insured Portfolio is FDIC-insured up to \$250,000, subject to certain restrictions. Interests in the CalABLE Program are not registered with or in any way approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities commission.

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