



Louisiana START Saving Program Enhancements Coming Early October



Louisiana's START College Saving Program and START K12 Program are partnering with Ascensus to provide investors with industry-leading account management and security.



Your plan is changing for the better

Starting in early October, you will benefit from updated tools and features designed to make managing your education savings easier and more secure as part of the Louisiana START partnership with Ascensus. This guide explains what this partnership means for your account, what to expect, and when, as we launch the improved programs.

For now, there's nothing you need to do. Your account will upgrade automatically, and we'll continue to share information as we get closer. You'll also receive instructions soon on how to register for your new online account, which you can access beginning October 5, 2026.

There is nothing you need to do right now—and soon, your savings experience will be improved with:

- Simple, secure account management
- Access to your account through a mobile app
- New investment options
- A refreshed brand and website
- Additional ways to save, and more

In this guide, you'll find:

- What's changing and what's staying the same
- Key dates and how your account may be affected
- Details about new features and benefits
- New investment options and how your funds will move into the portfolios most similar to your current selections
- What to know if you contribute automatically



Keep an eye out for another communication from us soon with instructions for accessing your new online account experience.



PLAN CHANGES AT A GLANCE

What's new

Enhanced account security

Protecting your account information remains a top priority. The new platform is designed to provide a more secure online experience while making it easier to manage your education savings account with confidence.

A new program manager

Your account will now be supported by Ascensus, one of the nation's leading education savings administrators. As of March 31, 2026, Ascensus administers more than 8 million 529 education savings accounts across 49 education savings plans.

A new account number

Beginning October 5, 2026, you'll need your new account number to access your online account. We'll provide your new account number and instructions before the transition, so you'll have everything you need to log in and manage your upgraded account securely.

READYSAVE™ 529 mobile app

Enjoy a new level of convenience and security with the READYSAVE™ 529 mobile app, making it easy to manage your account anytime, anywhere. You can:

- Track your savings progress
- Make contributions
- Invite family and friends to contribute
- Request withdrawals when needed

What's better

Professionally managed investment options

You'll have access to an updated investment lineup designed to help you choose the approach that best fits your needs and comfort level. The diverse offering includes options from respected investment managers, including:

- Vanguard
- BlackRock
- State Street
- New York Life

More secure, easier account access

The upgraded platform combines enhanced security with a modern online experience.

From your phone, tablet, laptop, or desktop, you'll be able to:

- Make contributions
- Request withdrawals for qualified education expenses
- Exchange investments (when eligible)
- Update banking information
- Manage your profile
- Invite family and friends to contribute

Simple gifting with Ugift®

Sharing the gift of education savings is easier than ever. Through Ugift®, family and friends can make contributions to celebrate birthdays, holidays, graduations, and other special milestones.

What isn't changing

The benefits of START

The purpose of the START Saving Program remains the same: helping Louisiana families save for future education costs through a flexible, tax-advantaged savings program.

Earnings Enhancement remains available

Eligible families contributing to the START College Saving Program can still receive the Earnings Enhancement, a state match of up to 14% of annual contributions, helping your education savings grow even further.

Oversight by the Louisiana Board of Regents

The Louisiana Board of Regents will continue to oversee the START Saving Program and remain committed to helping Louisiana families save for future education expenses.



EXPANDED INVESTMENT OPTIONS

Louisiana START College Saving Program

Year of College Enrollment Portfolios:

Select a portfolio that corresponds with your beneficiary's anticipated college enrollment year. As that year approaches, the portfolio's investments automatically adjust over time to help balance growth potential and risk.

Consider for:

Savers looking for a simple, "set it and forget it" investment option.

Individual Portfolios:

If you prefer more control over your account, you can choose from five individual portfolios and create an investment mix that aligns with your goals.

Available options include:

START Short-Term Bond Index Portfolio

START Bond Index Portfolio

START International Bond Portfolio

START US Equity Index Portfolio

START International Equity Index Portfolio

Consider for:

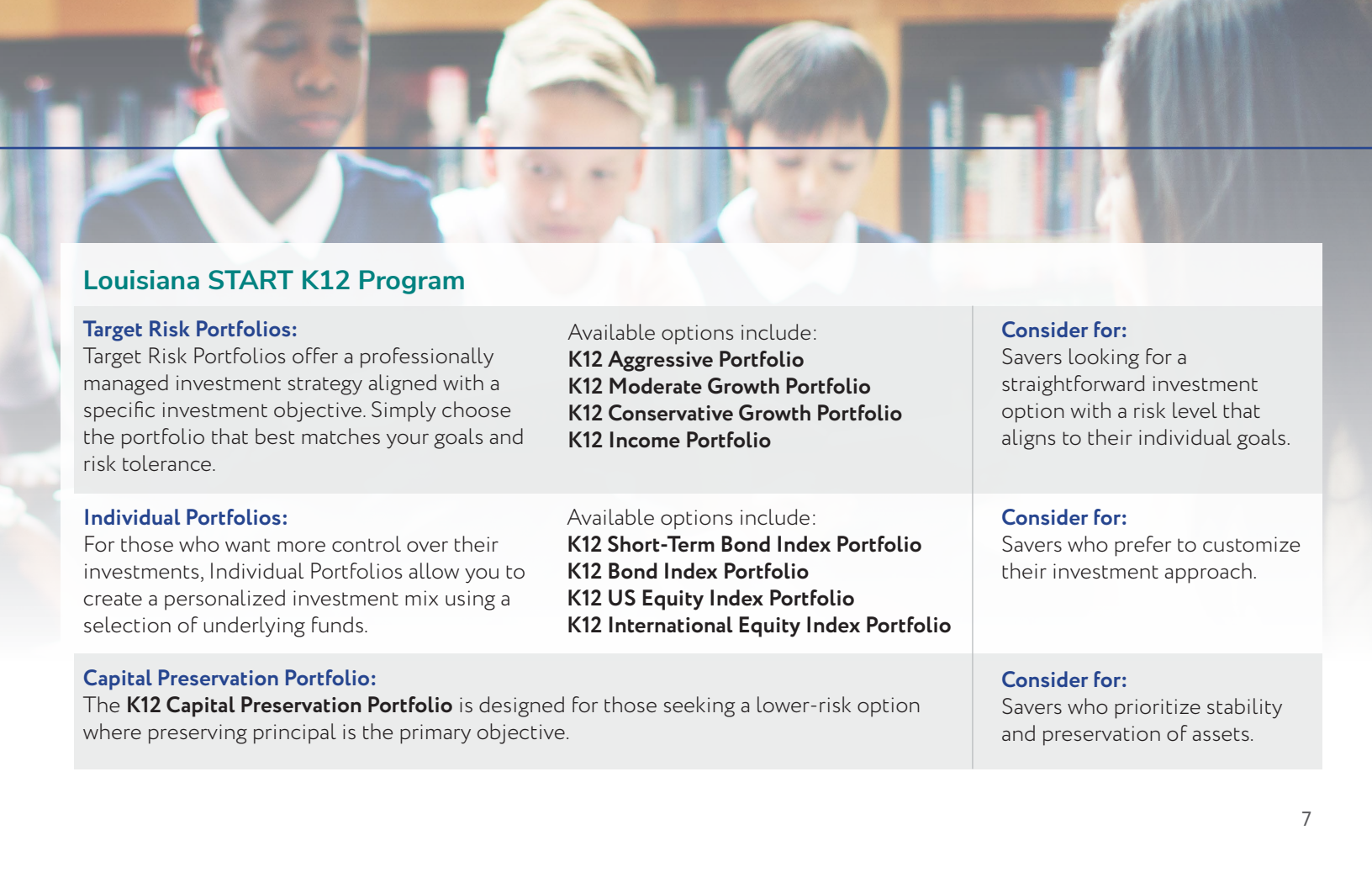
Savers who want to customize their investment approach.

Capital Preservation Portfolio:

For those seeking a lower-risk option, the **START Capital Preservation Portfolio** is designed with preserving principal as its primary objective.

Consider for:

Savers who prioritize stability and preservation of assets.



Louisiana START K12 Program

Target Risk Portfolios:

Target Risk Portfolios offer a professionally managed investment strategy aligned with a specific investment objective. Simply choose the portfolio that best matches your goals and risk tolerance.

Available options include:

K12 Aggressive Portfolio
K12 Moderate Growth Portfolio
K12 Conservative Growth Portfolio
K12 Income Portfolio

Consider for:

Savers looking for a straightforward investment option with a risk level that aligns to their individual goals.

Individual Portfolios:

For those who want more control over their investments, Individual Portfolios allow you to create a personalized investment mix using a selection of underlying funds.

Available options include:

K12 Short-Term Bond Index Portfolio
K12 Bond Index Portfolio
K12 US Equity Index Portfolio
K12 International Equity Index Portfolio

Consider for:

Savers who prefer to customize their investment approach.

Capital Preservation Portfolio:

The **K12 Capital Preservation Portfolio** is designed for those seeking a lower-risk option where preserving principal is the primary objective.

Consider for:

Savers who prioritize stability and preservation of assets.

HOW YOUR INVESTMENTS WILL MOVE

At the time of transition, your current investments will automatically move, or “map,” to new investment options with a similar investment approach. You do not need to take any action.

Louisiana START College Saving Program

Review the chart below to understand how your current investments will be automatically mapped to the new lineup.

Your investments today	Your investments on October 5, 2026
Age-Based Agg 0-9 Growth Age-Based Gr 0-6 Growth	START 2040-2041 Enrollment Portfolio
Age-Based Agg 9-12 Mod Growth Age-Based Mod 0-6 Mod Growth Age-Based Gr 6-11 Mod Growth	START 2034-2035 Enrollment Portfolio
Age-Based Agg 13-16 Con Growth Age-Based Gr 11-16 Con Growth Age-Based Mod 6-11 Con Growth	START 2030-2031 Enrollment Portfolio
Age-Based Mod 11-16 Income	START 2028-2029 Enrollment Portfolio
Age-Based Agg 16+ Princ Prot Age-Based Gr 16+ Princ Prot Age-Based Mod 16+ Princ Prot	START Capital Preservation Portfolio

Your investments today	Your investments on October 5, 2026
Vanguard Gr Idx Fd Inv Shr Vanguard Large-Cap Index S Vanguard Mid-Cap Index S Vanguard Small-Cap Index S Vanguard Instl Total Stk Mkt Idx Instl Plus Vanguard Val Idx Fd Ins Shr Vanguard Institutional Index Fund Instl	START US Equity Index Portfolio
Vanguard Total Intl Stk Idx Instl Vanguard World Stock Idx Fd Ins Shr	START International Equity Index Portfolio
Louisiana Principal Protection	START Capital Preservation Portfolio
Earnings Enhancement	Earnings Enhancement

Louisiana START K12 Program

Review the chart below to understand how your current investments will be automatically mapped to the new lineup.

Your investments today	Your investments on October 5, 2026
LifeStrategy Growth	K12 Aggressive Portfolio
LifeStrategy Moderate Growth	K12 Moderate Growth Portfolio
LifeStrategy Conservative Growth	K12 Conservative Growth Portfolio
LifeStrategy Income	K12 Income Portfolio
START K12 Vanguard Short-Term Bd Idx A	K12 Short-Term Index Portfolio
START K12 Vanguard Itmt-Trm Bd Idx A	K12 Bond Index Portfolio
START K12 Vanguard Ttl Stk MktIdxIPLs Vanguard Instituional Index Fund Instl Vanguard Val Idx Fd Ins Shr Vanguard Gr Idx Fd Inv Shr	K12 US Equity Index Portfolio
START K12 Vanguard Total Intl StkIdxI	K12 International Equity Index Portfolio
START K12 Vanguard Federal Money MktI	K12 Capital Preservation Portfolio



YOUR INVESTMENTS FOLLOWING THE TRANSITION

After the transition, you may be able to make changes to where your current assets are invested, if you haven't already completed two investment changes in 2026, per federal 529 plan regulations. The automatic investment mapping during the transition will not count toward that limit.

MORE ON THE TRANSITION

What happens to automatic contributions?

If you currently transfer money from your bank account to your education savings account on a periodic schedule, those transfers will continue automatically after the transition.

What happens with payroll direct deposit?

If you currently contribute through your employer using payroll direct deposit, you'll receive a separate letter soon with instructions on how to update your payroll instructions.

Can I change future contributions?

While your existing assets will automatically map to a similar portfolio as outlined earlier, you can always choose any of the new investment options for future contributions.

Will I still be able to see my past account activity?

Yes. While you will no longer have access to the current online account platform after the upgrade, your transaction history will move with your account and will be available through your new online account after you log in.

Starting Friday, October 2, 2026, your account records and assets will automatically transition. Your balance on that day will be reinvested into the new investment options.

Please note: You must register for online account access after the transition and choose a new username and password to continue accessing your account online. You will receive another mailing with a new account number that you will need to complete this registration.





KEY DATES

The upgrade will occur over the course of the first weekend in October and will happen automatically. Online registration will open at 7 a.m. CT on Monday, October 5, 2026.

KEY DATES	ACTION
Thursday, October 1, 2026	All transactions received in good order with a trade date up to Thursday, October 1, 2026, are processed as usual until 3 p.m. CT.
Friday, October 2, 2026 – Sunday, October 4, 2026	Upgrade begins. Transactions of any kind are not accepted by the Plan. Online account access will be suspended for both transactions and maintenance, and transactions will not be allowed via phone. Paper transactions, as well as automatic contributions through a bank with debit dates of Friday, October 2, 2026, through Monday, October 5, 2026, are expected to be processed when the upgrade is complete on Monday, October 5, 2026, using market values of Monday, October 5, 2026. During this window, assets are transferred into the new investment portfolios.
Monday, October 5, 2026	Beginning at 7 a.m. CT, you'll be able to set up your new online account access. To get started, you'll need your new account number, which will be mailed to you before the upgrade. Once your online access is established, you can download the READYSAVE™ 529 mobile app and sign in using your new account credentials. If you contribute with payroll direct deposit, you can update your payroll contributions using the instructions mailed to you.

Starting on October 5, 2026:

Before you invest, consider whether your or the beneficiary's home state or district offers any state or district tax or other benefits such as financial aid, scholarship funds, and protection from creditors that are only available for investments in that state's or district's qualified tuition program.

For more information about The Louisiana START College Saving Program and START K12, call 1-855-836-5387 or visit start.laregents.edu to obtain a Program Disclosure Booklet, which includes investment objectives, risks, charges, expenses, and other important information; read and consider it carefully before investing.

The Programs are administered by the Louisiana Board of Regents. Ascensus College Savings Recordkeeping Services, LLC, the Program Manager, and its affiliates, have overall responsibility for the day-to-day operations, including recordkeeping and administrative services. Ascensus Investment Advisors, LLC serves as the Investment Manager. The Program's Portfolios invest in: (i) exchange-traded funds, (ii) mutual funds and (iii) a funding agreement. Investments in The Plan are municipal securities that will vary with market conditions. Investments are not guaranteed or insured by the Louisiana Board of Regents or any co-fiduciary or instrumentality thereof, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any instrumentality thereof.

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Investments are not FDIC insured, may lose value and are not bank guaranteed.

3500183-GS529-3500184 (08/2026)

