

ABLE ACCOUNTS: AN OVERVIEW

Brittaney M. Chipley, M.P.A.

Executive Director, Arizona ABLE Program

Contact Info: BChipley@azdes.gov



GENERAL INFORMATION

- What is ABLE?
- Who is Eligible?
- What are Qualified Disability Expenses?
- AZ Implementation Status

IMPACT ON FEDERAL BENEFITS

- **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)**: For SSI, only the first \$100,000 in ABLE account assets will not affect benefits.
 - SSI payments (monthly cash benefit) will be **suspended** (not terminated) if the beneficiary's account balance exceeds \$100,000, but SSI benefits (eligibility) will not be terminated.
- **Medicaid**: ABLE assets are not affected in determining Medicaid eligibility.
 - Medicaid benefits **are NOT suspended** if the ABLE account balance exceeds \$100,000.
 - **Medicaid Payback**: Any assets remaining in an ABLE account when a beneficiary dies, subject to outstanding qualified disability expenses, can be used to reimburse a state for Medicaid payments made on behalf of the beneficiary after the creation of the ABLE account (the state would have to file a claim for those funds).