

NEBRASKA ACHIEVING A BETTER LIFE EXPERIENCE (ABLE) INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Investment Policy Statement (IPS) is to set forth the investment objectives, asset allocations, investment strategy, investment options, and responsibilities of the Nebraska Investment Council (the Council) and State Investment Officer related to the Nebraska Achieving a Better Life Experience Program. The plan operates as a qualified ABL program pursuant to Section 529A of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. The Council invests the money in the plan for the benefit of account owners and beneficiaries.

Funds contributed to the program shall be held in trust by the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall deposit money received by the program into three funds: The ABL Program Fund, the ABL Expense Fund, and the Treasury Management Cash Fund. Per statute, any money in the program funds available for investment shall be invested by the State Investment Officer.

The ABL Expense Fund and the Treasury Management Cash Fund shall be included in the Operating Investment Pool and managed in accordance with its Investment Policy Statement.

ENTITIES

- Nebraska Achieving a Better Life Experience

STATUTORY REFERENCES

- Nebraska Achieving a Better Life Experience Neb. Rev. Stat. §§77-1401 - 77-1409
- Nebraska State Funds Investment Act Neb. Rev. Stat. §§72-1237 - 72-1260
- Nebraska Capital Expansion Act Neb. Rev. Stat. §§72-1261 - 72-1269

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

The fundamental objective for funds deposited into the ABL program is to encourage and assist individuals and families in saving private funds for the purpose of supporting individuals with disabilities. Account owners will have different risk and return objectives and time horizons will vary based on the expected date the account beneficiary will need the funds. Each account owner will direct how the assets in their account will be invested using the mix of investment options offered in the Plan.

ASSET ALLOCATION AND STRATEGY

In accordance with the investment objectives, the Council's goal is to provide account owners with a choice of investment options with varying risk and return characteristics. The list below includes possible asset classes and portfolios to include in the Plans. The Council will make the final determination on what will be offered as investment options including the specific funds and investment managers.

- Asset Allocation Portfolios
- Domestic Equities
- International Equities

- Global Equities
- Fixed Income (domestic and international)
- Cash Equivalents

Benchmarks will be used for each investment option to help monitor performance and adherence to fund guidelines.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE NEBRASKA ACHIEVING A BETTER LIFE EXPERIENCE

The Council:

- Approves the IPS for the Portfolio. The IPS includes the investment objectives, asset allocation, and investment strategy.
- Approves exceptions to the IPS as requested by the SIO.
- Approves investment managers upon recommendation of the SIO.

The State Investment Officer:

- Makes recommendations to the Council regarding components of the IPS, such as asset allocation, investment options offered, investment managers utilized, and manager benchmarks.
- Implements the Council-approved IPS for the Portfolio.
- Evaluates and reports investment performance and other investment-related issues of the Portfolio.
- Maintains a current written IPS approved by the Council.
- Establishes written procedures for internal implementation of the IPS as needed.
- Obtains Council-approved IPS exceptions as needed.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND GOVERNANCE POLICIES

Council Administrative and Governance Policies are contained in two additional documents.

Approved March 7, 2024