



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Maryland529 Adds New ESG Investment Option to Maryland College Investment Plan

Baltimore - Maryland 529, the administrator of the Maryland Senator J. Kasemeyer College Investment Plan (MCIP), is pleased to announce that it will be adding the Social Index Equity Portfolio to the MCIP's current lineup of diversified fixed investment options. The new option will invest solely in the Vanguard FTSE Social Index Fund, a passively managed fund designed to track the performance of the FTSE4Good* U.S. Select Index.

The Fund seeks to track the Index's performance and is composed of large- and mid-cap stocks of companies that are screened for certain environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) criteria by the Index sponsor, which is independent of Vanguard. The Fund attempts to replicate the FTSE4Good U.S. Select Index by investing all, or substantially all, of its assets in the stocks that make up the index, holding each stock in approximately the same proportion as its weighting in the index.

"We are excited to offer the first ESG investment option to our current and future participants," said Erin Layton, Maryland 529's Executive Director. "Over the past few years, we have received a significant number of requests from Account Holders, Maryland residents and legislators to add an ESG option to our MCIP portfolio lineup. With the addition of the Social Index Equity Portfolio Maryland 529 can help meet the needs of those who want to save for their children's future education and seek a sustainable investment option that aligns with their social values."

Participation in ESG investing has increased significantly over the past five years. According to [Bloomberg.com](https://www.bloomberg.com), about \$120 billion was invested in ESG funds, more than double the \$51 billion invested in 2020. Additionally, there are more than 11,000 companies worldwide that report on how they incorporate ESG principles into their business strategies, resources, and operations.

For more information about the Maryland 529 college savings plans, visit maryland529.com.

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About Maryland 529

Maryland 529 offers two affordable and flexible 529 college savings plans to help families save for the future cost of education, as well as the Maryland ABLE program to save for disability-related expenses. The Maryland Senator Edward J. Kasemeyer Prepaid College Trust allows families to save for tomorrow's tuition at today's prices. The Maryland Senator Edward J. Kasemeyer College Investment Plan is managed by T. Rowe Price, and offers a variety of investment portfolios with contribution amounts as low as \$25. The Maryland ABLE program allows individuals with disabilities to save money and pay for qualified disability-related expenses without jeopardizing State or federal means-tested benefits such as SSI or Medicaid.

Before investing in the Maryland 529 Plans, please carefully read the plan disclosure statements, which describe the investment objectives, risks, expenses, and other important information that should be considered. The Maryland Senator Edward J. Kasemeyer Prepaid College Trust (MPCT) and Maryland Senator Edward J. Kasemeyer College Investment Plan disclosure statements are available at www.Maryland529.com [maryland529.com] or by calling 888.4MD.GRAD. For Maryland ABLE enrollment information, visit www.MarylandABLE.org [marylandable.org] or call 855.563.2253. Also, if an account holder or beneficiary lives outside of Maryland, please compare Maryland 529 to any college savings or ABLE program offered by that individual's home state. These programs may offer state tax or other benefits, such as financial aid, scholarship funds, and protection from creditors, to participants of that state's 529 plan.

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Maryland 529, Administrator and Issuer.

Intuition College Savings Solutions, LLC, MPCT Program Manager.

T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc., MCIP Program Manager. T. Rowe Price Investment Services, Inc., MCIP Distributor/Underwriter.

Sumday Administration, LLC, Program Manager of Maryland ABLE.