



DIRECTIONS



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In This Edition:

2006 Illinois Tax Deduction

IRS Form 709 (Gift Tax Return)

View Your Accounts Online

Helping Families Save

Tax Refunds

Looking for a Graduation Gift Idea?

Investment Plan



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Illinois State Treasurer
Trustee & Administrator



Program Manager

Not FDIC Insured
No Bank Guarantee
May Lose Value

2006 ILLINOIS TAX DEDUCTION

The State of Illinois provides a \$10,000 tax deduction (\$20,000 if married and filing a joint return) for contributions to the Illinois 529 plans (ie: Bright Directions, Bright Start, and College Illinois).

If you have not reported your contributions to your tax preparer we suggest you provide him/her with a copy of your December 31, 2006 statement along with a copy of your cancelled check for any contributions made at the end of the year. We have additional information at www.brightdirections.com. Please consult your tax professional.

IRS FORM 709 (GIFT TAX RETURN)

If you made a large gift in 2006 please be sure to consult your tax professional. If you contributed more than \$12,000 to an account during 2006, you may elect to treat these contributions as having been made ratably over a five-year period for federal gift tax purposes. To do so, you must file a Form 709 by April 17, 2007. Please consult your tax professional.

VIEW YOUR ACCOUNTS ONLINE

Check account status at the "Account Login" section of the web site. We have enhanced the site to allow you to view all your accounts under one sign-in. If you have not utilized the system or need assistance viewing your accounts please contact us and we will be happy to assist (866 – 722 – 7283).

HELPING FAMILIES SAVE

Over 17,000 accounts and \$180 million has been invested in the Bright Directions program to help pay future college costs. The program has been very favorably received this past year and continues to receive positive comments and feedback. We appreciate you investing with us and would welcome any comments or feedback you may have at any time.

TAX REFUNDS

Finding dollars to save for college can be a challenge. Consider investing a portion of any tax refund you might be receiving this year. The funds will be eligible for an Illinois tax deduction and will build tax-deferred for future college costs.

LOOKING FOR A GRADUATION GIFT IDEA?

For that upcoming graduate (ie: pre-school, grade school, middle school graduate) consider contributing to a Bright Directions account. Call us for a nice gift card or download a gift certificate from our web site.

INVESTMENT PLAN

Consider signing up for an automatic investment plan, or if you are signed up, consider increasing your contribution amount. You can sign up online or you can complete the "Automatic Funds Transfer Form" that can be downloaded from the web site.

An automatic investment plan allows you to invest a set dollar amount each month. The benefit is you are building funds each and every month. Many investors like the simplicity of not having to write a check each month – the contribution happens automatically.

Contributions for Illinois taxpayers qualify for the Illinois state income tax deduction and build tax-deferred. Contact your investment professional or give us a call and we can help you get set up (866 – 722 – 7283).

*Thank you
for investing with
Bright Directions!*