



# DIRECTIONS



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Not FDIC Insured  
No Bank Guarantee  
May Lose Value

### FALL SEMESTER - WITHDRAWALS FOR COLLEGE

As you plan ahead for the fall semester, keep in mind that it typically takes 5-7 days from the time you send us a withdrawal request until the time the school receives and processes the funds. Some schools can take even longer at the start of the school year to process payments.

You can complete the Withdrawal Form and mail it to us. To streamline the withdrawal process, if you have not recently moved and the withdrawal is less than \$25,000, you can fax it to us (402.323.1797) or give our customer care center a call and they will be happy to process the request for you (866.722.7283). Watch for additional details regarding online withdrawals later this year.

### INVEST FOR THE LONG HAUL

We have seen volatility in the markets during the first half of 2008. The U.S. Equity Market (i.e., S&P 500 Index) is down over 12% year-to-date. The international markets, as measured by the EAFE Index, are also experiencing a downturn in 2008 similar to the U.S. markets.

What is an investor to do? Bright Directions offers a number of diversified portfolios. The Age-Based and Target Portfolios are designed with multiple asset classes for diversification. An investor that has selected a “pre-mixed” portfolio like these should do their best to stay the course. To benefit from the asset allocation and diversification during good times, an investor needs to weather the downturns, also.

We have had many market cycles over the decades in the U.S. The investors that are rewarded long-term are those that invest for the long term. Experts agree that it is time in the market versus market timing that can pay dividends over the long haul.

### MEDALLION SIGNATURE GUARANTEES

In order to provide additional protection to you and the assets in your 529 account, a Medallion Signature Guarantee is needed on a Withdrawal Form in order to process distributions of more than \$25,000. The Medallion Signature Guarantee is also needed if you have changed the address on your account within the 30 days prior to the withdrawal request.

A Medallion Signature Guarantee is a different type of certification than that of a notary public, which is a general legal witnessing. Medallion Signature Guarantees protect investors by preventing unauthorized transfers and possible investor losses.

Individuals would normally obtain the Medallion Signature Guarantee from banks or other financial institutions. Different institutions have different policies as to what type of identification they require to provide the Guarantee and whether they charge a fee for such service (usually nominal, if any.)

Most institutions would not guarantee a signature of someone who has not already been their customer.

### PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

Thank you to everyone who responded to the Online Survey. We appreciate your feedback!

The winners of the 2 - \$100 contributions were Bo from Wheeling, IL and Steven from O’Fallon, IL. Thank you to everyone for participating.

If you have suggestions on how we can improve the Program, please contact us. We would love to hear your comments and are always looking for ways to enhance the Program.

*Thank You for  
Investing with Us!*