

**What is an Individual Development Account (IDA)?**

Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) are matched savings accounts that help people low income wage earners save towards the purchase of a lifelong asset, such as an education.

**What is earned income?**

Earned income is income that comes from employment (self-employment included).

**Will this affect any other program eligibility (i.e., food support, disability income)?**

Federal law states there will not be a reduction in benefits as a result of savings from Individual Development Accounts.

**Will this affect my financial aid?**

No. TuitionMatch-MN funds do NOT reduce a student's financial aid package as stated in Public Law 105 – 285 Title IV Assets for Independence Section 415.

**Can I receive Social Security income and be on the program?**

Yes, only if you have earned income in addition to the Social Security income.

**Can I save more than \$40 per month?**

Yes, but only the \$40/month (\$480/year maximum) will be matched and you may not save more than \$960 in your tuition match account. Students are encouraged to have an additional savings account to save in simultaneously for other uses (i.e., emergencies, goals, etc.).

**Can my spouse have a TuitionMatch-MN account?**

Yes, as long as the spouse has earned income, they can open an account and save for their own education at a participating school.

**What happens if I need my money for an emergency?**

Students are encouraged to keep a parallel savings account for emergencies. Emergencies withdrawals are **NOT** allowed from your TuitionMatch-MN account. If deposits are withdrawn for anything other than the stated asset, the TuitionMatch-MN account must be closed, the student will receive the balance of their savings that is in the account and then exited from the program.

**Do I have to pay taxes on TuitionMatch-MN money?**

The only taxes paid are on the small amount of interest earned on the savings account.

**What documentation do I need for enrollment?**

- Proof of employment income (for all household members):
  - Prior year Federal Tax Return
  - Or*
  - Income list on FASFA if it has been verified through the IRS
- Verification of three semesters left at participating school
- Valid Social Security or ITIN

**How long can you save for?**

Savings can be deposited for up to 24 months (2 years).

**How much can I save?**

A maximum of \$960 per account is allowed for TuitionMatch-MN savings.