

# Supporting Special Needs Families: Exploring Trusts & ABLE Accounts



## ABOUT THIS WEBINAR

This presentation will provide an overview of the different types of special needs trusts (first-party, third-party, and pooled trusts) and explain the value of these instruments for individuals with disabilities. The presenter will also explore the use of ABLE accounts as an alternative to special needs trusts, or as a tool to be used in conjunction with these trusts. Case scenarios will be used to compare the effectiveness of ABLE accounts with special needs trusts in maintaining eligibility for needs-based government benefits, avoiding Medicaid reimbursement, providing alternatives to guardianships, encouraging a beneficiary's independence, avoiding unnecessary costs, and offering long-term financial strategies for families with special needs.

### Learning Objectives

- Gain a comprehensive understanding of special needs trusts and ABLE accounts, including the unique features, advantages, and limitations of each tool.
- Identify how ABLE accounts can be used in combination with special needs trusts to maximize SSI and simplify trust administration.
- Discover strategies for selecting an appropriate trustee, directing income and assets to an ABLE account or trust, and determining proper expenditures of funds.
- Review the process of assigning military survivor benefit plan (SBP) annuity payments and child support to a first-party special needs trust.
- Receive materials that outline options for dealing with unexpected income and assets that threaten eligibility for important government benefits.
- Develop a greater appreciation for the benefits of special needs estate planning and the critical need for such plans in families with special needs.

### PRESENTER

**Alison Packard**

Attorney

The Packard Law Firm, San Antonio, Texas

### EVENT PAGE

<https://oneop.org/learn/160052/>

### CONTINUING EDUCATION

- **Social Work, LPC, LMFT:** This webinar is pending approval for 1.5 continuing education (CE) credits from the University of Texas at Austin, Steve Hicks School of Social Work.
- **Case Manager:** This webinar is pending approval for 1.5 continuing education (CE) clock hours from the Commission for Case Manager Certification (CCMC).
- **Board Certified Patient Advocates (BCPA):** This webinar is pending approval for 1.5 continuing education (CE) contact hours by The Patient Advocate Certification Board.
- **Certified in Family & Consumer Sciences (CFCS):** This webinar is pending approval for 1.5 continuing education (CE) credits from the American Association for Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS).
- **Certified Family Life Educators (CFLE):** This webinar is pending approval for 1.5 continuing education (CE) credits from the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR).
- **Association for Financial Counseling & Planning Education (AFCPE):** This webinar is pending approval for 1.5 continuing education (CE) credits by AFCPE.
- **Certified Personal Financial Counselors (CPFC):** This webinar is pending approval for 1.5 continuing education (CE) credits from The Center for Financial Certifications (FinCert.org).
- **Certified Personal and Family Finance Educator (CPFFE):** This webinar is pending approval for 1.5 continuing education (CE) credits from the American Association for Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS).
- **Certificates of Attendance** are available for those interested in additional documentation of professional development activities.