

Trump Accounts Could Mint Millions for Kids

BY LEE BARNEY
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Trump Accounts aren't just for babies.

They're available for anyone under the age of 18 — and they could grow to \$3 million by age 59½ for someone who gets that initial \$1,000 seed money from the government, who saves the \$5,000 maximum each year, and whose portfolio compounds annually at 7%.

Trump Accounts, in fact, could be the next 401(k)-style savings game-changer.

President Donald Trump's idea sounded simple at first — almost too simple to matter.

A \$1,000 government deposit into an investment account for every newborn American born between Jan. 1, 2025 and Dec. 31, 2028.

The U.S. is giving that seed money to people born within that window.

But Trump Accounts are available to any child under the age of 18. And the beauty of these accounts is that they are for the child, in their name.

Parents and guardians can open a Trump Account on their own for any young person 18 and under at TrumpAccounts.gov — and the site is already up and running with 3 million accounts opened, even though the formal rollout is July 4, tied to the 250th anniversary of U.S. independence.

This will be when funding can begin and the government \$1,000 seed deposits start.



Nicki Minaj, who has backed the Trump Accounts program, and Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent attend President Donald Trump's launch of the program, Jan. 28, 2026, in Washington, D.C.

(Jose Luis Magana/AP)

Robinhood is the Trump Accounts broker, while BNY Mellon is custodian. The accounts will be held at the U.S. Treasury Department.

As policymakers, wealth managers, and financial experts began to examine what started out as “Make America Great Again” (MAGA accounts) and morphed into Trump Accounts, a very different picture emerged: not a modest benefit, but a potentially transformative shift in how wealth is built in the U.S.

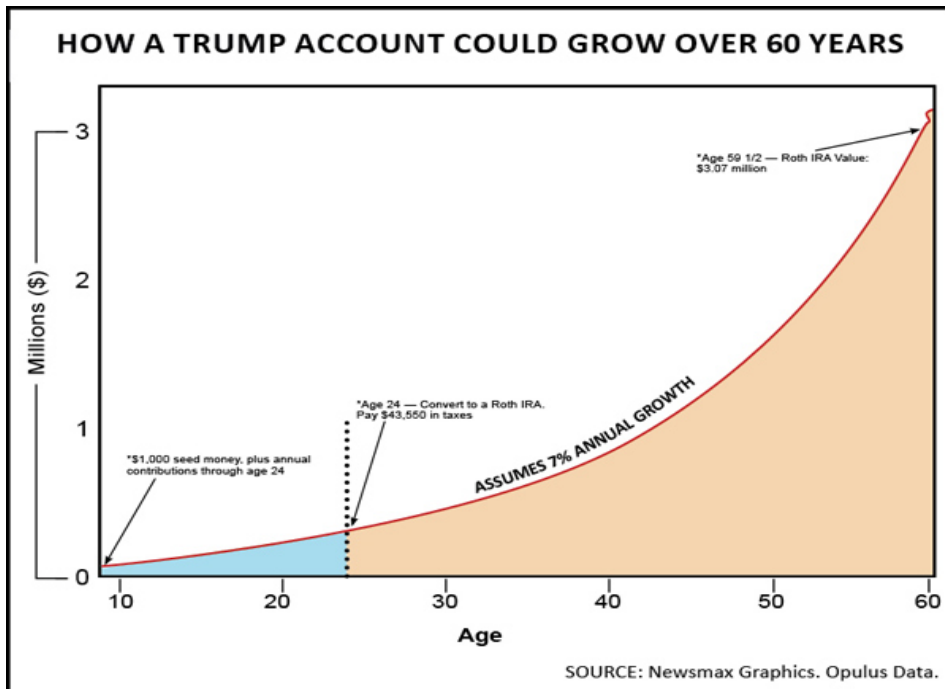
‘Shot at the American Dream’

When Trump introduced the concept, he framed it in sweeping terms — giving younger generations a “financial stake in the future and a fair

shot at the American dream.”

It was rhetoric grounded in the fact that Trump Accounts seed money would be deposited into a tax-advantaged investment account. From there, families, employers, companies, banks, credit cards, and even nonprofits could contribute — families up to \$5,000 annually, and employers (including state and local governments, and nonprofits) can kick in another \$2,500 each year.

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent sharpened the policy objective: the accounts are designed to “set up American families, American children for success,” he said. “We are giving them a stake in our great innovation economy.”



The emphasis was not just on savings, but ownership — equity participation in the long-term growth of U.S. markets.

The idea is to expand equity ownership far beyond “Main Street,” to people unfamiliar with stocks, bonds, mutual funds, ETFs, crypto — not to mention the culture of saving and the power of compounding and investing.

The largest private donation to the Trump Accounts program comes from Michael and Susan Dell, who pledged roughly \$6.25 billion to help seed accounts for millions of children. Additional support includes \$75 million from Ray Dalio.

A wide range of major U.S. corporations have also made Trump Accounts funding commitments and matching programs, including BlackRock, BNY Mellon, Charles Schwab, Citi, Coinbase, IBM, Intel, JPMorgan Chase, Mastercard, Nvidia, Robinhood, SoFi, and State Street.

‘Total Home Run’

The growing enthusiasm over Trump Accounts is what caught the attention of industry professionals like Mike Chadwick, president of

Fiscal Wisdom Wealth Management of Canton, Connecticut.

After reviewing the structure, he didn’t hesitate: “Love everything about this thing. ... Total home run.”

For Chadwick, the appeal is structural: tax advantages, flexibility, and long-term growth.

“This is going to take off — this is a big deal — everyone is looking for tax advantages,” he told Newsmax, noting that his clients are already clamoring to open their own Trump Account.

Yet, Chadwick also injected a note of realism. It may take “15 to 20 years,” he said, referring to when the current overpriced, in his mind, market cycle may normalize and create more attractive long-term entry points.

But in Chadwick’s view, the accounts are less about short-term gains and more about positioning a generation for disciplined investing over decades.

That long-term horizon is where the math becomes compelling.

Financial planner Ryan Greiser described the strategy bluntly: “This is the biggest win that people can have if they want to set their kids up for retirement.”

His guidelines are straightforward: consistent contributions, disciplined investing in broad U.S. equity index funds, and eventual conversion into a Roth IRA structure.

Under those assumptions, the numbers escalate quickly. With maximum contributions and steady returns, a child’s account could ultimately exceed \$3 million by retirement age.

“You’re giving a child a head start on tax-advantaged compounding. That’s the real power here,” Greiser told *The Wall Street Journal*.

But the mechanism is not fool-proof.

One certified financial planner, speaking on condition of anonymity, warned that behavior matters as much as structure.

He fears that once a young owner of a Trump Account turns 18 and is legally able to access the funds, previously overseen by a parent or guardian, the 18-year-old will be tempted to raid the account.

“There’s always a risk they could say, ‘This is found money,’” the CPA said, emphasizing the importance of financial education alongside account funding.

That behavioral component is echoed across the financial advisory community.

Christopher Gandy, president of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA), framed it succinctly: “Trump Accounts give families a seed. Trusted Main Street advisors [must] help them grow it.”

Without guidance, the accounts risk underperformance — not because of the market, but because of human decision-making, Gandy said.

Still, the structural advantages are difficult to ignore.

George Mentz, a Newsmax Money columnist and chartered wealth manager based in New Orleans,

Louisiana, sees the accounts as part of a broader evolution in financial literacy in the U.S.

“The earlier we invest in our children, the stronger our nation’s future becomes,” Mentz said, noting that early participation changes not just outcomes, but expectations and even financial literacy.

Mentz went further, highlighting the intergenerational potential.

“There will be grandparents out there who will make their small grandkids millionaires just by funding these accounts early with a few thousand dollars,” he said.

This creates a powerful, striking image of Trump Account owners and donors alike — wealth transfer not through inheritance at the end of life, but through compounding at the beginning.

Behind that vision lies a dense legal and tax framework.

“This legal and tax infrastructure is essential,” Mentz said. “Without it, these programs could not achieve scale, efficiency or sustainability.”

How Trump Accounts Work

The accounts function similarly to individual retirement accounts

(IRAs), with tax-deferred growth, strict contribution limits, and penalties for early withdrawal.

During childhood, funds are locked into low-cost U.S. index investments — no speculation, no leverage, no alternatives. The design is intentionally conservative.

Withdrawals are tax free until retirement age unless the money is used for education, a first-time home, birth adoption costs, medical expenses.

Policy experts believe the implications could extend even further.

KC Boas of the Aspen Institute pointed out that these accounts could become “a natural landing spot” for retirement rollovers over a lifetime.

Vanguard’s Joel Dickson described a potential “one-account-to-rule-them-all” scenario — solving the fragmented “small pots” problem that plagues 401(k)s and other modern retirement systems.

Even skeptics acknowledge the scale of the opportunity.

The combination of universal eligibility, government seeding, and private contributions creates a rare alignment between public policy

and personal finance incentives.

And then there is the broader context — the global economy.

With billions entering the middle class worldwide and U.S. companies increasingly deriving revenue overseas, long-term equity exposure becomes not just an investment strategy, but a participation in global growth. Trump Accounts, by design, plug American children directly into that system from birth.

A Quiet Revolution

It is, in many ways, a quiet revolution.

A \$1,000 deposit does not sound like much. But layered with contributions, guided by tax efficiency, and powered by decades of compounding, it becomes something else entirely — a foundation.

Or as Chadwick put it, with little hesitation: “Trump Accounts change the game.” ■

Lee Barney, Newsmax’s financial editor, has been a financial journalist for 30 years, covering the economy, retirement planning, investing and financial technology.

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