

John Laesch | Mayor

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October 21, 2026

A Message to Aurora Promise Families

Dear Aurora Promise Families,

Thank you for participating in the Aurora Promise Children's Savings Account pilot program. Aurora Promise was created to encourage families to begin planning and saving for their children's future education and career opportunities.

As the Aurora Promise pilot comes to a close, the City of Aurora remains focused on supporting your family through the transition and providing a pathway for the funds designated for your child.

The City is working with the Illinois State Treasurer's Office to transition eligible Aurora Promise funds into parent-owned Bright Start 529 College Savings accounts. **Bright Start is Illinois' established 529 college savings program and provides families with a trusted way to save for future education expenses.** This transition will allow you to take ownership of your child's account and continue building toward their future education goals.

What Happens Next?

To receive your child's designated Aurora Promise funds, a parent or guardian will need to open a Bright Start 529 College Savings account for your child **and provide the account information to the City of Aurora by December 30, 2026.** If you already have a Bright Start 529 account for your child, you do not need to open another one, but you will still need to provide the account information to the City.

The enclosed **Aurora Promise to Bright Start 529 Transition Guide** provides step-by-step instructions for opening your child's account and securely submitting the required account information to the City.

Need Help Getting Started?

The City of Aurora is partnering with Bright Start Education Consultants to offer four **45-minute virtual sessions** where families can learn more about Bright Start, receive guidance on opening an account, and ask questions.

Thursday, November 5, 2026

12:00 p.m. [English Webinar](#)

1:00 p.m. [Spanish Webinar](#)

Thursday, November 12, 2026

6:00 p.m. [English Webinar](#)

7:00 p.m. [Spanish Webinar](#)

If you're unable to attend either session, Bright Start Education Consultants are also available for **one-on-one appointments** to assist you. [Schedule a Bright Start Appointment](#)

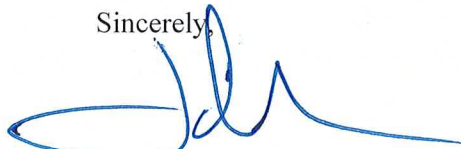
We encourage you to review the enclosed transition guide and begin the process as soon as possible. **Please open your child's Bright Start account and submit the required account information to the City no later than December 30, 2026.** Completing these steps by the deadline will help ensure a timely and smooth transition of your child's Aurora Promise funds.

We understand that families may have questions. The enclosed transition guide, virtual information sessions, and individual assistance available through Bright Start are available to help you through the next steps.

The City remains committed to connecting Aurora families with resources and opportunities that support financial education, college and career readiness, and long-term financial well-being.

Thank you for being part of Aurora Promise. We appreciate your cooperation and are committed to making this transition as smooth as possible for you and your family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Laesch', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

John Laesch
Mayor
City of Aurora