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## Section 125 Cafeteria Plan for Mennonite Church USA



Premium Expense, HSA Contributions, Dependent Care

The benefit of making contributions to your health savings account (HSA) through the Section 125 Cafeteria Plan is that your contributions are not subject to federal (as well as FICA) income taxes. However, health savings accounts are different than the Section 125 Cafeteria Plan reimbursement accounts and the rules governing them are also different.

The rules governing your HSA, including eligibility for establishing and contributing to an HSA, annual contribution limits, and taking distributions from an HSA are established by the Internal Revenue Service. For the HSA, the Section 125 Cafeteria Plan governs only how pretax contributions are made to your HSA. See your Health Savings Account Disclosure and Custodial Agreement for more details.

Please read this carefully. This is not meant to be a comprehensive description of how the Section 125 Cafeteria Plan works. See the summary plan description for the Section 125 Cafeteria Plan for more details. Call The Harrison Group if you have questions.

The Section 125 Cafeteria Plan allows you to save money on the following expenses:

- Pretax employee contributions to your health savings account.
- Work-related dependent care expenses through the dependent care reimbursement account.
- Premiums for employer-sponsored coverage (health, dental, or vision). This is automatic when you're paying a portion of premiums.

The Section 125 Cafeteria Plan is established under Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code. It permits you to pay for certain expenses with pretax dollars. These expenses must be unreimbursed by any health plan or reimbursement programs.

#### **Determining value for you**

You can determine whether you will benefit from the Section 125 Cafeteria Plan by answering the following questions and reviewing the annual maximums allowed.

#### For employee health savings account (HSA) contributions

- Do you have health, dental, or vision expenses not reimbursed by a health plan or any other source? Your deductible is one example of such an expense. A list of expenses eligible for distribution from a health savings account is available in the Health savings accounts section of the Banking tab on the Everence website at everence.com.
- You can contribute money to an HSA for the expenses you expect to have during the year, or you can save money for future medical expenses as long as you stay within the contribution limits.
- For 2022, the annual maximum contribution allowed is \$3,650 if you have individual (self-only) health coverage, \$7,300 if you have family health coverage. The maximum is the total of your employer and your contributions.
- If you are age 55 or older, you may contribute an additional \$1,000 (called a catch-up contribution). If your spouse is also age 55 or older and is otherwise eligible to contribute to an HSA, he or she may open a separate HSA and make catch-up contributions as well.

#### For dependent care (dependent care reimbursement account)

- Do you have a child under age 13 who lives with you and for whom you pay child care so you and your spouse can be employed or attend school full time?
- Do you have a dependent who lives with you, who is physically or mentally incapable of self-care, and for whom you pay dependent care?
- Maximum allowed is \$5,000 for a single adult filing as head of household or couple filing jointly; \$2,500 for couples filing separately.

#### Clarification on taxes

Paying for expenses on a pretax basis through the Section 125 Cafeteria Plan means that you are reducing your taxable income. You will pay less Social Security tax and also may be eligible for less Social Security benefits later.

## For dependent care reimbursement accounts

#### **Receiving reimbursements**

When you want to access the funds in your dependent care reimbursement account, you simply complete a reimbursement request and attach any relevant receipts.

#### When you can access funds

You can take only as much money out of your dependent care reimbursement account as you have deposited in it.

#### Cautionary notes for dependent care

You must spend all the money in your account each year or you lose it. If you contribute \$500 in a year and have qualifying dependent care expenses of only \$450, you will lose the \$50 you did not spend. You cannot keep it until the next year.

Because you cannot carry money over to the next year, you will want to estimate conservatively what your expenses will be.
When estimating your dependent care, do not forget to allow for vacations or sick days when you wouldn't be paying for care.

#### Changing dependant care election

You may be able to change your dependent care election in the middle of a plan year if you have a qualifying event such as marriage or divorce, death of a spouse or dependent, birth or adoption of a child, change in your employment or your spouse's employment status. Specific rules apply as outlined in the summary plan description for the Section 125 Cafeteria Plan.

#### **Regular reports**

You will receive periodic reports on the balance in your account. In addition, all reimbursement checks will include the current balance of your account.

### For health savings account contributions

#### **Changing contributions**

You can change or terminate employee contributions to your health savings account at any time. Any changes made will apply only to future paycheck withholdings.

## Changing jobs

If you are moving from one church to another church who is eligible to participate in The Corinthian Plan, then your FlexChoice elections continue uninterrupted. You may continue to access your dependent care reimbursement account for expenses, and your new employer should continue to withhold the election amounts you had chosen previously.

If you are retiring or going to an employer who is not eligible to participate in The Corinthian Plan, your elections will terminate.

For dependent care, you may continue to submit reimbursement requests for care that occurred within the plan year.

For health savings account contributions, you may make contributions directly to your HSA if you meet eligibility requirements. (If you're retiring and enrolling in Medicare, you would not be eligible to make contributions.) The HSA is considered yours, and you may be charged a small administration fee as long as you keep the account open.



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# Eligible Medical Expenses for Health Savings Accounts



An eligible expense is an expense paid for medical care as defined in Section 213(d) of the Internal Revenue Code. Below are two lists that may help determine whether an expense is eligible.

The Internal Revenue Service has not issued a list of eligible medical expenses specific to health savings accounts. However, IRS Publication 502 lists many of the expenses for medical care (as defined under Section 213(d) of the Code) that are eligible for reimbursement from an HSA. Please keep in mind that this is a guide only and is not an exact list of eligible medical expenses. You may order Publication 502 directly from the IRS by calling 800-829-3676. If tax advice is required, you should seek the services of a competent professional.

#### Eligible medical expenses

Acupuncture Alcoholism treatment

Ambulance Anesthetist

Artificial limbs Asthma treatments Birth control pills Blood tests

Blood transfusions

Braces Cardiographs Chiropractor

Contact lenses and solution Contraceptive devices

Convalescent home (for medical

treatment only)

Crutches

Dental treatment and x-rays

Dentures

Diagnostic tests and services Drug addiction treatment

Eyeglasses (needed for medical reasons)

Fluoridation services

Guide dog or other service animal

Gynecologist

Hearing aids and batteries

Home test kits

Hospital services Hydrotherapy

Insulin and diabetic supplies

Lab tests

Lead-based paint removal Menstrual care products Metabolism tests

Neurologist
Non-prescription drugs and medicines\*

(for medical care)

Nursing services (for medical care)

Obstetrician

Operating room costs
Ophthalmologist

Optician
Oral surgery

Organ transplant (including donor's

expenses) Orthodontia

Orthopedic shoes and inserts (for

medical care) Orthopedist Osteopath

Over-the-counter supplies (for medical

care, e.g. bandages)

Oxygen and oxygen equipment

Pediatrician

Physician Physiotherapist Podiatrist

Pre- and post-natal care

Prescription drugs and medicines

Psychiatrist Psychologist Psychotherapy Radium therapy

Registered nurse/practical nurse Smoking cessation programs

**Splints** 

Sterilization procedures

Telephone or TV equipment to assist

the hearing-impaired

Transportation expenses (when essential to medical care)
Vaccines and immunizations
Vision correction surgery

Walkers

Weight-loss programs (as treatment of a specific disease diagnosed by a physician such as hypertension

or heart disease)

Wheelchair/Autoette (when used for

relief of sickness/disability)

X-rays

Allergy medications

Antacids

Antibiotic ointments Antihistamines

Anti-diarrhea medicine

Calamine lotion

Cold medicine

Cough suppressants
Decongestants
Eye drops
First aid creams

Hemorrhoid treatments

Laxatives

Motion sickness pills
Nicotine gum and patches

Pain relievers

Sinus medication and nasal sprays

Sleep aids

Wart removal medication

<sup>\*</sup>Non-prescription drugs and medicines (examples listed below) purchased on or after Jan. 1, 2020, no longer require a prescription from a physician or other health care professional to be eligible medical expenses.

#### Ineligible medical expenses

Advanced payment for services to be rendered next year
Athletic club membership
Automobile insurance premium allocable to medical coverage
Boarding school fees
Bottled water
Commuting expenses of a disabled person
Cosmetic surgery and procedures
Cosmetics, hygiene products, toiletries and similar items
Diapers or diaper service
Diet foods

Electrolysis or hair removal
Funeral, cremation, or burial expenses
Hair transplants
Health programs offered by resort
hotels, health clubs and gyms
Herbs
Illegal operations and treatments
Illegally procured drugs, including drugs
imported from other countries
Late fees and missed appointment fees
Lip balm (including chapstick and
carmex)
Maternity clothes
Medicated shampoos and soaps

Premiums for life insurance, income protection, disability, loss of limbs, sight or similar benefits
Special foods and beverages
Suntan lotion
Swimming pool
Teeth whitening
Travel for general health improvement
Vitamins, nutritional supplements, and dietary supplements to maintain general health
Weight loss programs and drugs for general health

In general, health plan premiums are an ineligible medical expense for HSAs. However, there are several exceptions to this. HSA funds may be used to pay for:

- 1. Health plan premiums during any period of continuation of coverage required under federal law (COBRA).
- 2. The tax-deductible portion of the premium for a qualified long-term care insurance contract.
- 3. Health plan premiums during a period in which the individual is receiving unemployment compensation under any federal or state law.
- 4. For individuals age 65 and older, premiums for a health plan **other than** a Medicare supplement policy (Medicare premiums, premiums for individual health insurance, and retiree medical premiums under an employer plan).