

Health Savings Account (HSA): 2024-2025

What is a Health Savings Account (HSA)?

A Health Savings Account (HSA) is a tax advantaged account that can be used to pay eligible medical expenses not covered by an insurance plan including deductibles and coinsurance. You can either fund your HSA with post-tax payments and receive a deduction on your tax return, or you can fund your HSA with pre-tax dollars. In addition, your employer makes a contribution to your HSA as shown below.

Who is eligible for a Health Savings Account?

Anyone who satisfies all of the following:

- Covered by a Qualified High Deductible Health Plan (QHDHP);
- Not covered under another health plan;
- Not enrolled in Medicare A or Medicare B benefits; and,
- Not eligible to be claimed on another person's tax return.

What is a deductible?

It is a set dollar amount, determined by your plan, that you must pay out of pocket or from your HSA account before insurance coverage for medical expenses can begin.

What is the difference between an HSA and Flexible Spending Account (FSA)?

- An HSA can rollover unused funds from year to year indefinitely.
- FSA contribution limits are lower than for HSAs. In addition, not all FSAs have a rollover feature, and those that do can only rollover a limited amount.

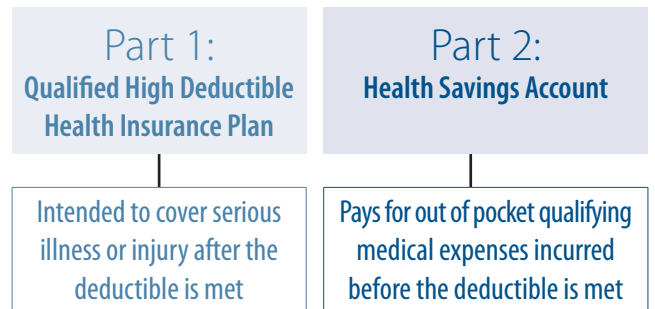
When do I use my HSA?

After visiting a physician, facility, or pharmacy, request that they submit your claim to your Medical Carrier for payment. You should make sure that your provider has your most up-to-date insurance information. Once the claim has been processed, any out of pocket expenses will be billed. At this time you may choose the following options:

- Use your HSA debit card or HSA check to pay for any out of pocket expenses.
- Write a personal check, receiving reimbursement at a later date.
- Save your HSA dollars for future medical expenses.

You should always ask that your claim be submitted to the health plan before you seek reimbursement from your HSA. This procedure will ensure that provider discounts are applied. **Also, remember to keep all medical receipts and Explanation of Benefits (EOBs) to support your personal tax record. You should keep these records for at least four years.**

How does a Health Savings Account Work?



How is an HSA used to pay for medical care?

1. Employee and/or employer funds an HSA account.
2. Employee seeks medical services.
3. A bill for medical services is submitted as a claim to your insurance carrier and paid in part according to your HDHP, subject to a deductible and coinsurance.*
4. Employee can pay the remaining amount with a debit card or check from their HSA account.
5. This process is repeated until the out of pocket maximum is reached, after which the employee generally should be covered for almost all network eligible expenses.

* Subject to plan design, check your Benefits Summary. Preventive care may be covered at 100%.

How much can be contributed to an HSA?

As mandated by federal law, the Annual Contribution limits are:

Type of Coverage	2024 Maximum Annual Contribution
Individual	\$4,150
Two Party	\$8,300
Family	\$8,300

Individuals age 55 or older may be eligible to make a catch up contribution of \$1,000 in 2024.

Does my employer contribute to my HSA?

Southern Utah University has elected to contribute the following amounts. These amounts apply towards your Annual Maximum Contribution:

Type of Coverage	2024 Employer Semi-Monthly Contribution
Individual	\$24.41
Two Party & Family	\$69.04

Can I contribute to both an HSA and FSA in the same year?

You **may not** contribute to or use a general purpose health FSA and an HSA. However, contributions to a Limited Purpose FSA, which only allows reimbursement of certain expenses that are not eligible for payment under the High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP), are permissible. The Limited Purpose FSA allows HSA-covered employees to pay for dental and vision expenses that are not covered by insurance. However, it **does not** allow you to pay for other medical expenses, until you have reached your HDHP medical deductible. Your employer **HAS NOT** established a limited FSA to allow employees to contribute pre-tax dollars to an account.

What if I am a new hire or have a special enrollment and enroll in an HSA in the middle of a year?

If you enroll in an HSA and corresponding HDHP at any time other than the start of the calendar year, so long as you enroll by December 1, you may still contribute the maximum amount allowed for the calendar year (see the chart on the previous page). However, the IRS requires you to participate in the HDHP during a subsequent testing period (generally through the end of the following year). Failure to do so will result in adverse tax consequences.

Why should I elect an HSA?

- Cost Savings
- Tax Benefits:
 - HSA contributions are excluded from federal income tax.
 - Interest earnings may be tax free.
 - Withdrawals for eligible expenses are exempt from federal income tax.
- You generally pay a lower plan premium for a HDHP than a traditional indemnity plan.
- Unused money is held in interest-bearing savings or investment accounts from year to year.

Note: Many states have passed legislation to provide favorable state tax treatment for HSAs. However, in a small number of states, amounts contributed to HSAs and interest earned on HSA accounts could be included in the employee's compensation for state income tax purposes.

Long-Term Financial Benefits

- Save for future medical expenses, including retiree medical
- Funds roll over year to year
- This is your account - you take it with you. If you leave your employer you can do the following:
 - Leave your funds in your current HSA account;
 - Transfer your funds to an HSA with your new employer; or
 - Transfer your funds to another qualifying account within 60 days.

Choice

- You control and manage your health care expenses.
- You choose when to use your HSA dollars to pay your health care expenses.
- You choose when to save your HSA dollars and pay health care expenses out of pocket.
- You can choose to increase or decrease your election during the year.

Can I use my HSA dollars for non-eligible expenses?

Money withdrawn from an HSA account to reimburse non-eligible expenses is taxable income to the account holder and is subject to a tax penalty. If the account holder is over age 65 OR disabled, the distribution amount (if for a non-eligible expense) is still considered taxable income; however, the tax penalty IS waived.

When can I start using my HSA dollars?

You can use your HSA dollars for any qualifying expense incurred after your HSA account activation and once contributions have been made.

Can my HSA dollars be used for retirement health care costs?

Yes, for expenses eligible for reimbursement, and Medicare and other health coverage premiums after age 65.

Can I use the money in my account to pay for my dependents' medical expenses?

Yes, you can use the money in the account to pay for medical expenses of yourself, your spouse, or your dependent children. You can pay for expenses of your spouse and dependent children even if they are not covered by your HDHP.