

Why an HDHP with an HSA may be the right choice for you



Explore reasons for enrolling in a qualifying high-deductible health plan (HDHP) paired with a health savings account (HSA).

When it's time to select your health plan, the choice is usually between two types:

- 1. A traditional copay plan with a paid provider organization (PPO)
- 2.A qualifying high-deductible health plan coupled with a health savings account

Choosing an HDHP and funding a health savings account is often the financial winner because you get:

- Income tax-free savings to cover a variety of qualified medical expenses now and into the future
- Typically lower premiums
- More control of your health care dollar

While everyone's plan options are different, when you line them up side by side, a qualifying high-deductible health plan with a funded HSA is the better deal in many scenarios. This can be true for both planned expenses as well as the unplanned. Often, the lower premiums combined with the tax savings end up costing you less than paying the higher premiums and copays in a traditional plan.

And if you don't have immediate medical needs, you have the potential to save even more. The money you put in your HSA will be there for you next year or the year after, potentially growing all the way to retirement and beyond. You may also choose to invest your HSA dollars once your balance reaches a designated minimum threshold amount.

Here's how your HSA helps you save

Your HSA is designed to work with an IRS-qualifying high-deductible health plan to protect you and your family against unexpected health care costs. When you use your HSA, it's like using a 30% coupon for your qualified medical expenses.** That's because HSA contributions are tax advantaged.



A digital, analytics and technology leader

Optum Financial has the only HSA bank that is connecting health and finance in unprecedented ways. We make it easy to plan, save and pay for health care with the right tools, resources and information based on your needs.

Some of the ways we're building a better banking experience include:

- Highly rated mobile app 4.7 out of 5
- Online tools and resources Our HSA calculator, the qualified medical expense tool and the health savings check-up tool equip you with the knowledge and tools you need to get the most out of your health care dollar.
- Easier ways to invest We offer a variety of investment opportunities, including self-directed mutual funds as well as Betterment, an automated online financial advisor.

Open your account

Check with your employer or benefits specialist to learn about your company's application process. You may be able to sign up through your employer's benefits enrollment site, or enroll at **optumfinancial.com**.

See how an HSA works

Lisa signed up for a qualifying high-deductible health plan through her employer last year. Because she has a chronic asthma condition, she was happy to hear she could open an HSA to save for her asthma prescriptions and doctor visits. Here's how she saves money while keeping up with treatment.

- 1. Lisa figured out that she spends about \$3,000 on her doctor visits and supplies each year. Then she set up pre-tax HSA contributions through payroll deduction to cover that amount. Lisa's HSA contribution saves her \$1,100 in taxes,* which essentially reduces her asthma expenses to \$1,900 for the year.
- 2. Whenever Lisa needs to see the doctor or order supplies, she uses her HSA to pay for it. So, she doesn't have to pay anything out of pocket.
- 3. She uses the U.S. mail-order pharmacy option available through her health plan to save even more.
- 4. Lisa checks her balance frequently at **optumfinancial.com**. If she notices it's getting low and she hasn't reached the IRS contribution limit for the year, she deposits additional funds online or increases her payroll deduction contribution through her employer.



Have questions?

Visit optumfinancial.com or download the mobile app.

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- *Tax savings based on a 24% federal tax rate, 5% state tax rate in a tax exempt HSA state and 7.65% FICA.
- **Based on a 30 percent combined payroll and income tax rate. Results and amounts will vary depending on your particular circumstances.

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