



# EASY GUIDE

TO UNDERSTANDING YOUR  
HIGH DEDUCTIBLE HEALTH PLAN



A High  
Deductible  
Health Plan  
with a Health  
Savings  
Account is a  
smart way to  
finance  
healthcare  
costs today  
while building  
a nest egg for  
future  
healthcare and  
retirement  
expenses.

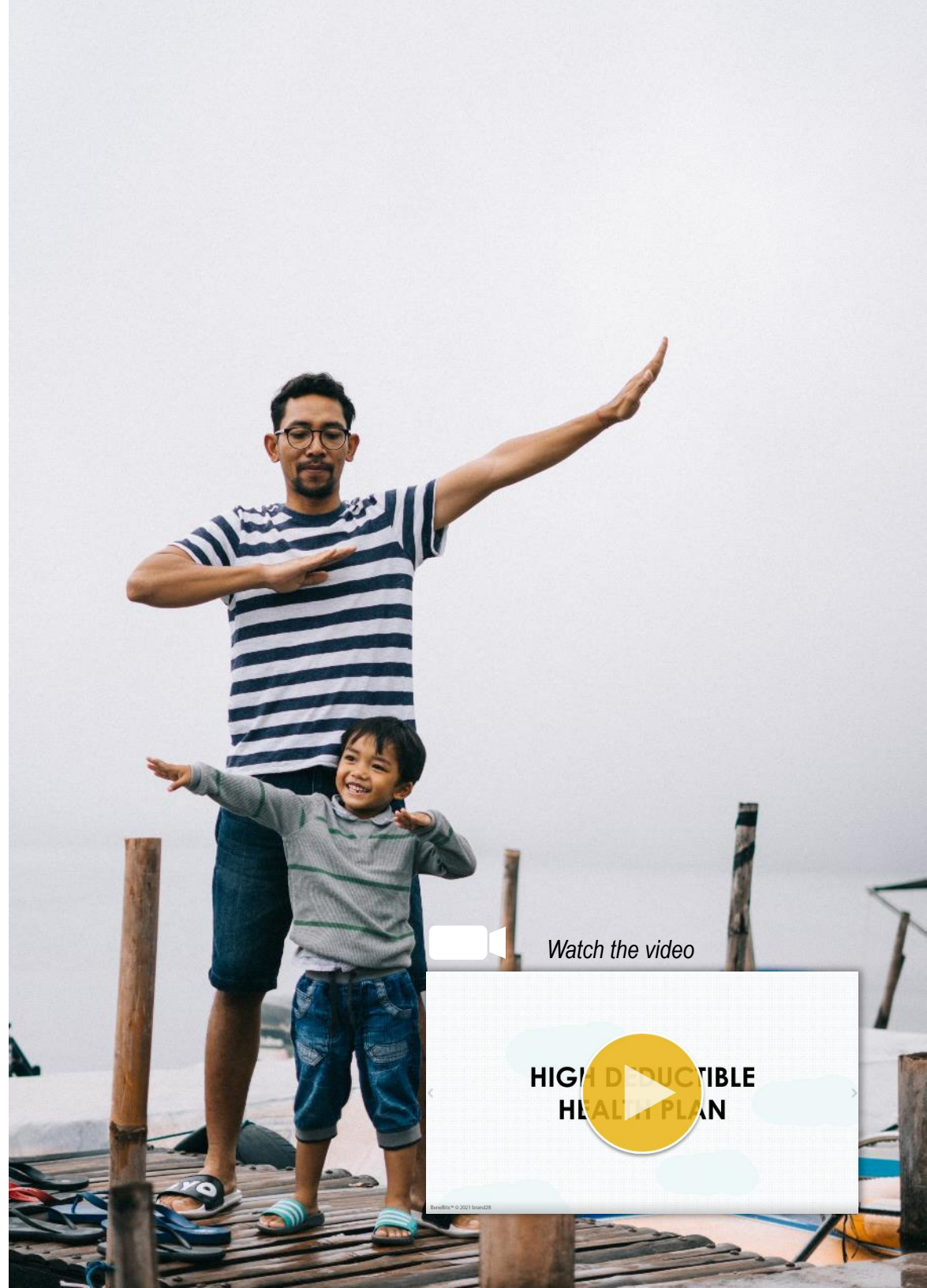




# The Plan that gives you more...

The Plan Name is a High Deductible Health Plan that gives you:

- **More money** in your paycheck from lower monthly premiums
- **More ways to reduce taxes** with a tax-free Health Savings Account (HSA)
- **More flexibility** in how you choose and pay for healthcare services
- **More opportunities** to build long-term healthcare and retirement savings



## HDHP at a glance

- Lower monthly contribution than our other medical plans
- Higher deductible
- Free in-network preventive care
- Comprehensive medical and prescription drug coverage
- Use tax-free Health Savings Account (HSA) to offset deductible

When you enroll in the HDHP, you get a Health Savings Account (HSA) funded with tax-free contributions from Walla Walla University and you.

This is important because with the HDHP you pay for 100% of all medical costs (except preventive care) until you reach the annual deductible.

You can use the money in your HSA for your deductible and any other eligible medical expenses you have throughout the year or any time in the future.

Your HSA balance never expires—there's no “use it or lose it” rule. You keep the account even if you leave the company, and any balance earns interest.



# Your HDHP & HSA put you in control of healthcare spending



- Preventive care is a no brainer. Keep up with your annual checkups without worrying about the cost since preventive care is fully covered in-network.
- Use your HSA for many different health expenses—regular office visits, prescriptions, lab tests, acupuncture, chiropractic adjustments—even dental care, glasses and contacts.
- You don't have to spend your HSA. If you'd rather save your HSA for a potential large expense down the road, feel free to pay small medical costs from your bank account. If you change your mind, you can always get reimbursed from your HSA later.
- Your HSA gives you flexibility to visit any doctor, hospital or lab of your choice, even out-of-network providers.
- You can shop around. Healthcare is like any other purchase. If you have the time, it pays to shop around for the best quality and price.



A person is captured mid-jump in the center of a long, brightly lit hallway. The person is wearing a grey hoodie, black pants, and white sneakers with yellow accents. Their arms are outstretched horizontally, and their legs are bent at the knees. The hallway has a dark grey floor and light-colored walls. On the left, there is a wall with horizontal slats and a red fire alarm pull station. On the right, there is a plain wall with several small, dark rectangular vents or doors. The perspective is from behind the person, looking down the length of the hallway towards a bright light at the end.

# Your HSA helps you save on federal taxes

**NO TAX**  
on HSA  
contributions

**NO TAX**  
on eligible HSA  
withdrawals

**NO TAX**  
on HSA interest  
and earnings

[Click here for more about federal and state tax savings.](#)



A man with dark hair, wearing a blue blazer over a light blue and white striped shirt, is leaning against the trunk of a large tree. He is looking down at a black smartphone in his hands. The background is a soft-focus park scene with green grass and trees, with sunlight filtering through the leaves, creating a bokeh effect.

# Your HSA boosts your retirement savings plan

- Your HSA is your long-term health fund. The balance rolls over year after year so you can use it for healthcare expenses 30 days or 30 years from now.
- Your HSA is a smart addition to your retirement savings plan. Your post-retirement healthcare spending will be tax-free when you use your HSA. And after age 65, you can use HSA dollars for non-health expenses too (subject to ordinary income tax).
- You can invest your account balance. After you reach a minimum balance, you can invest your funds, just like a 401(k) or IRA. You have a number of investment options to choose from.



## What's **YOUR** healthcare profile?

I typically only visit the doctor for preventive care.

I want more control over my out-of-pocket medical costs and help meeting my annual deductible.

I typically meet my deductible every year.

I have very low out-of-pocket medical costs every year.

I have a family and our healthcare costs are different every year.

I'm nearing retirement and looking for another way to bank some tax-free savings.

## Your annual healthcare needs are unique—just like you

The HSA takes into consideration the fluctuations most people have in their health care needs. One year you might visit the doctor only for your annual checkup. Another year, you might make several trips to the doctor or even need surgery.

An HSA gives you a multi-year approach to health care planning. Money not spent today can grow in your HSA until that “rainy day” when you need it.





# HOW MUCH CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE TO AN HSA?

2023

## ALLOWABLE HSA CONTRIBUTIONS (PER YEAR)

	Employee Coverage	Family Coverage
Company Contribution	\$500	\$1,000
+		
Your Pre-Tax Contributions	\$3,350	\$6,750
=		
IRS Annual Maximum	\$3,850	\$7,750

In addition to the company contribution, you can contribute money to your HSA, up to the total annual amount allowed by the IRS. If you're 55 or older, you can contribute \$1,000 more each year.



# Plan Highlights

## Premera Blue Cross HDHP with HSA

Preventive Care	PLAN PAYS 100% (In-network)	
Before Meeting Deductible	YOU PAY 100% (\$1,500 Employee Only / \$3,000 Family)	
After Meeting Deductible	YOU PAY 20%	PLAN PAYS 80%
After Meeting Out-of-Pocket Max	PLAN PAYS 100% (After \$4,000 Employee Only / \$8,000 Family) <i>OOP Max for any one individual enrolled in family coverage is \$4,000</i>	

### Your Cost (Per Month) WITH Wellness

You can save up to \$617.65 in premiums per year for Employee Only coverage or up to \$721.06 per year for Employee + Family coverage compared to our other medical plans.

Employee Only	\$62.83
Employee + Spouse	\$131.94
Employee + Children	\$113.09
Employee + Family	\$170.93

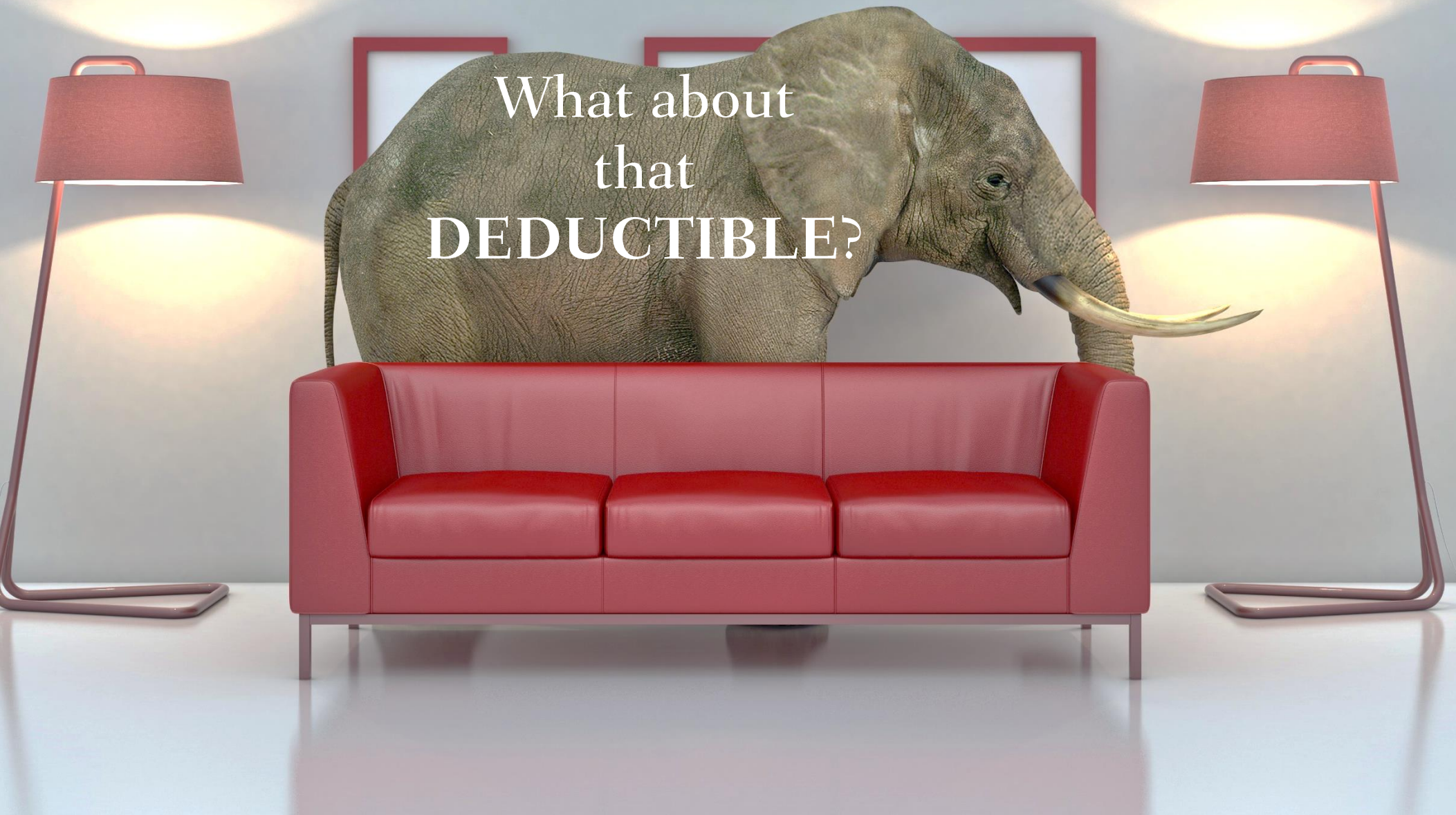
*Refer to your enrollment materials for additional plan details.*





Can we talk about the ELEPHANT in the room?

What about  
that  
**DEDUCTIBLE?**





# It all comes back to the HSA...

At first, many people have deductible “sticker shock,” but many features of the HDHP partially or completely offset your deductible and other healthcare costs:

- You pay less in premiums, allowing you to use the money you save for other things, including funding your HSA.
- Walla Walla University helps you cover your deductible with contributions to your HSA.
- The IRS sets a generous annual limit on how much you can contribute to your HSA.
- You get significant tax benefits. HSA contributions, withdrawals and earnings are free from federal tax. (A few states tax HSA contributions or earnings.)
- Your HSA balance rolls over every year. What you don’t spend continues to grow, with interest.

**CLICK HERE  
FOR ONE  
MEMBER’S HSA  
STORY**



Can you give me some examples?



## Marco: Healthy Single Guy

Marco's costs were very low throughout the year. He had his annual checkup (fully covered), and he got contacts. He did not meet his deductible.

	\$500	HSA deposit from Company
+	\$2,000	Marco's HSA contributions
=	\$2,500	Total HSA Deposits
-	\$500	Eye exam and contacts
=	\$2,000	HSA balance rolls over to next year

## Nia: Working Mom with Family

Nia covers her whole family. They visited the doctor often because life happens! Even though her family's expenses were higher, she did not meet her deductible.

	\$1,000	HSA deposit from Company
+	\$5,500	Nia's HSA contributions
=	\$6,500	Total HSA Deposits
-	\$2,400	Sniffles, sneezes & sprains
=	\$4,100	HSA balance rolls over to next year





### Jack: Weekend Warrior

Jack’s off-road trip went a little more off the road than he planned. His knee surgery exceeded his deductible. Here’s how his health plan benefits (employee-only coverage) and HSA worked together to cover his costs.

#### HDHP Plan Benefits

	\$2,000	Jack’s in-network deductible
+	\$500	Jack’s additional coinsurance costs
=	\$2,500	Jack’s total out-of-pocket
+	\$4,100	Covered by insurance
=	\$6,600	Total knee surgery cost

#### HSA Usage

	\$500	HSA deposit from Company
+	\$2,000	Jack’s HSA contributions
=	\$2,500	Total HSA Deposits
-	\$2,500	Paid for medical costs
=	\$0	HSA balance

# Four easy ways to grow your HSA



- 1 If you will save on monthly premiums by enrolling in the HDHP, put the savings into your HSA.
- 2 If you usually set aside money for medical expenses in a healthcare Flexible Spending Account (FSA), direct those dollars to your HSA instead.
- 3 If you get a pay increase or bonus, direct a portion of it towards your HSA.
- 4 If you haven't maxed out your contributions, make a deposit to your HSA before April 15 for an additional tax deduction.



What  
ELSE do I  
need to  
KNOW?



# Common Eligible Expenses

- Acupuncture
- Alcoholism treatment
- Ambulance
- Artificial limb
- Birth control pills
- Blood pressure monitoring device
- Breast pumps and related supplies
- Chiropractic care
- Dental treatment
- Dentures
- Diagnostic services
- Drug addiction treatment
- Eye examination, eye glasses, reading glasses, contacts
- Family planning items
- Fertility treatment
- Hearing aids
- Hospital services
- Immunization
- Insulin and diabetic supplies
- Laboratory fees
- Laser eye surgery
- Medical testing devices
- Menstrual care products
- Nursing services
- Obstetrical expenses
- Orthodontia (not cosmetic)
- Over-the-counter (OTC) medicine- cold treatments, ointments, pain relievers, stomach remedies, etc.
- Over-the-counter (OTC) treatments – bandages, wraps, medical testing devices, etc.
- Oxygen
- Physical therapy
- Prescription drugs
- Psychiatric care
- Smoking cessation program and medications
- Surgery
- Telehealth services (pre-deductible)
- Transportation for medical care
- Wheelchair, walkers, crutches and canes

How can I  
spend my  
HSA?

MORE  
ELIGIBLE  
EXPENSES

INELIGIBLE  
EXPENSES







# How do I pay with my HSA?

You can use your HSA like a checking account to pay for qualified medical expenses as long as you have enough money in your account to cover them. If your provider is billing you, wait until you have a statement from your insurance carrier showing exactly how much of the charge you're responsible for.

## Debit Card

You will receive a debit card that you can use at the doctor's office, pharmacy, etc. Use this just as you would a debit or credit card. Charges will be deducted from your HSA account.

## Reimburse Yourself

If you paid your provider out-of-pocket, you can request reimbursement from your account. Refer to your HSA partner's website for rules and instructions.

Visit your Personal  
Funding Account  
at  
[www.premera.com](http://www.premera.com)

# HSA Eligibility Rules

## For You

To be eligible to make deposits to an HSA:

- You must currently be enrolled in an HDHP.
- You may not be enrolled in any other non-HDHP health coverage, except for accident, disability, dental or vision, or long term care coverage.
- You may not have a general purpose flexible spending account (FSA) or be eligible to use one (such as a spouse's FSA). Limited purpose FSAs, which cover dental and vision expenses only, are allowed.
- You cannot be claimed as a dependent on another person's tax return.
- You may not be enrolled in Medicare, Medicaid or Tricare.

## For Your Adult Dependents

- Your HSA may be used to pay for eligible expenses for you and for your legal tax dependents (people listed on your federal income tax return).
- While you can cover dependent children on your health plan up to age 26, this does not extend to HSA spending. When your adult child is no longer a tax dependent, any HSA distributions for the child would be subject to taxes and penalties.
- If you cover your Domestic Partner on the HDHP, you may each set up an HSA and contribute the full family amount (assuming you are HSA-eligible). However, you may not use your HSA for your partner's expenses (and vice versa).



SEE MORE  
ELIGIBILITY  
DETAILS



### **Non-Qualified Medical Expenses**

If you use your HSA for a non-qualified medical expense, you may owe taxes plus a 20% tax penalty on that amount. If you are age 65 or older or disabled at the time, you just pay your regular tax rate but no penalty on non-qualified withdrawal amounts.

### **Keeping Records**

Keep all your receipts for your HSA transactions for at least three years. This proves that you used your funds for qualified medical expenses and provides documentation in case you are audited by the IRS.

### **State Taxes**

Most states treat HSA contributions and earnings on a tax favored basis, just like federal. CA and NJ do not exclude HSA contributions from income. Contact your tax advisor or HSA administrator for additional information on taxes in your state.

### **Excess Contributions**

If you contribute over the IRS limit in one year, you will have to pay tax plus 6% on the excess. To avoid additional taxes, you can withdraw the excess amount before the April 15 tax filing deadline or direct the excess toward the next year's contributions.

### **HSA Beneficiaries**

If you name your spouse as your HSA beneficiary, your spouse will inherit your account and it will become your spouse's HSA. If your beneficiary is not your spouse, the account will no longer be considered an HSA and becomes taxable to the beneficiary.

**Consult a tax advisor for guidance on how these rules may affect you.**



**MORE  
INFO**

# Helpful Online Resources

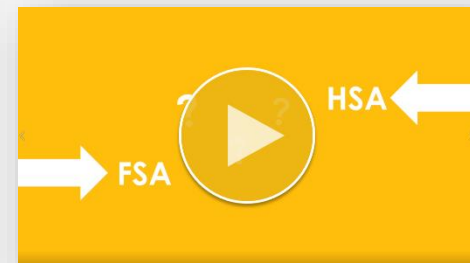
Click below for additional online resources.



High Deductible Health  
Plan



HSA



HSA vs. FSA

Premera Blue  
Cross

Are your doctors  
in-network?

**ENROLL**





**The EASY Guide to  
Understanding Your  
High Deductible  
Health Plan**

