

A FRESH APPROACH TO HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

HealthFlex Health Savings Account (HSA) Plans

a general agency of The United Methodist Church

What Is an HSA Plan?



An HSA Plan is a health coverage plan that allows members (participants) to use a health savings account (HSA) to reimburse out-of-pocket health care expenses, while protecting participants from very high expenses with an out-of-pocket maximum.

HSA Funding

An HSA is an IRS-approved tax-exempt account that can reimburse eligible medical expenses. It has a unique tax advantage: contributions are made on a pre-tax basis; interest and earnings accrue tax-deferred; and withdrawals are tax-free for eligible expenses. The HealthFlex HSA Plan may include an "employer" contribution into your HSA at the beginning of the plan year, depending on which plan you select.

See your *Summary of Benefits and Coverage* or plan comparison document for contribution details of your plan.

HSA Plan—A Different Type of Plan

Use of the HSA makes the HSA Plan truly different from health coverage you may have had in the past. The HSA is similar to a savings account designated specifically for eligible health-related expenses, such as deductibles, co-payments, prescription medications and/or medical expenses that are not covered by your health plan or prescription drug plan.

The HealthFlex HSA Plan has a deductible (combined medical, pharmacy and behavioral health) that you must meet before the plan pays any **medical**, **pharmacy or behavioral health** benefits. If you have covered dependents in HealthFlex, you must meet the **full family deductible** before the plan pays benefits.* The HSA can assist you in meeting this deductible (and other eligible expenses). You have the choice to use your HSA or not, which means you can roll over any unspent HSA funds from one year to the next, so your HSA account can grow for future needs.

*Certain eligible preventive and wellness services are covered at 100% and are not subject to the deductible.

HSA Plan: A "Consumer" Health Plan

An HSA Plan is a type of health coverage that encourages covered individuals to be informed and thoughtful consumers of health care services, much like they would be informed and thoughtful when purchasing other goods and services. The HSA Plan structure and availability of the HSA motivate participants to take a more active role in selecting their health care providers, managing their health expenses, and improving their overall health through good nutrition, exercise and other factors that they can control.

For example, you might fill a prescription by choosing a generic therapeutic equivalent medication or a generic alternative medication (when available) instead of a more expensive name-brand drug, or you might go to an urgent care center rather than a hospital emergency room for a non-life-threatening medical concern.

Important: Always seek the appropriate level of care for your or your family's medical needs. While the HealthFlex HSA Plan fosters consumerism by encouraging participants to seek cost-saving measures when appropriate, it in no way expects participants to choose inappropriate or insufficient levels of care as a way to save money.

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Comparing your HSA plan to the traditional B1000 plan

	HSA Plans	B1000
Allows HSA contributions (may include employer contributions)	•	
Preventive Services (in-network covered at 100%)	•	•
Out-of-Pocket Maximum (includes deductible, co-payments, and co-insurance for medical, behavioral health and pharmacy; does not include dental/vision)	•	•
Inpatient/Outpatient Medical Services After you pay deductible, then plan co-insurance helps pay costs	•	•
Broad, Nation-Wide Networks and drug formularies	•	•
MDLIVE Telehealth (Urgent/Acute Care and Behavioral Health) No cost for plan participants through the end of 2024	•	•
Doctor, Urgent Care and ER Visits Fixed co-payment		•
Doctor, Urgent Care and ER Visits Co-insurance <i>after</i> deductible is met	•	
Behavioral Health Counseling and Telehealth Visits (not using MDLIVE) Fixed copayment		•
Behavioral Health Counseling and Telehealth Visits (not using MDLIVE) Co-insurance <i>after</i> deductible is met	•	
Pharmacy Co-payment or co-insurance <i>before</i> deductible is met		•
Pharmacy Co-payment or co-insurance <i>after</i> deductible is met. Certain Rx are preventive and covered before deductible is required to be met.	•	

Another Way to Look at It	HSA Plans	B1000
MDLIVE telehealth (urgent/acute care and behavioral health)	No cost for plan participants through the end of 2024	
Medical office and telehealth visits (not using MDLIVE)		
Urgent care	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Сорау
ER visits	Deductible and co-insurance	
Behavioral health office and telehealth visits (not using MDLIVE)	Deductible and co-insurance	
Hospitalization		Deductible and co-insurance
Other medical services		
Prescription drugs	Deductible then copay/ co-insurance	Copay/co-insurance

How the HealthFlex HSA Plan Works



- Preventive services—Such as annual checkups and age-appropriate screening tests (such as mammograms or colonoscopies) are covered by HealthFlex at no cost to you when in-network providers are used.
- Other medical and pharmacy services—You must first meet the deductible before the plan pays for services. *If you have dependents covered in HealthFlex, you must meet the full family deductible.* You can see the same doctors, receive the same treatment, and get the same medications covered as in any HealthFlex plan.
- After the deductible is satisfied—HealthFlex will pay a percentage of all remaining eligible expenses for in-network providers, and you (the participant) will pay a percentage (your co-insurance)—up to the annual out-of-pocket maximum.
- **Out-of-network doctors**—If you choose these hospitals or other providers, your out-of-pocket costs may be higher, including a higher deductible, co-insurance and out-of-pocket maximum. This is also true in any HealthFlex plan.
- Employer contribution—Each year, your "employer" or plan sponsor may contribute to your HSA via the HealthFlex HSA Plan, depending on which plan you select. You can contribute your own funds up to the IRS maximum (amounts are listed at irs.gov—maximum includes employer and personal contributions).
- HSA funds—You may use funds to pay your out-of-pocket expenses, including deductibles and co-payments. In addition, you can use the HSA to pay for dental and vision expenses. A detailed list of eligible expenses is available online from HealthEquity (after you log in to Benefits Access, select the "Health Details" button, then "Health & Reimbursement Accounts").
- Unused HSA funds—At the end of the plan year, unused funds roll over for the next plan year. Although there *is* an annual limit of how much can be contributed to an HSA, there is *no limit* to the amount that can accumulate in your HSA year after year. Many individuals choose to maximize their HSA rollover to save for future health expenses.
- With FSA—You may contribute to an HSA and a health care flexible spending account (FSA), but the FSA must be used for dental and vision claims only until the IRS-defined deductible is met (amounts are listed at irs.gov). This also applies if your spouse has a health care FSA outside of HealthFlex—the FSA must be a limited-use FSA. Electing a limited-use health care FSA is optional. If you want to set aside money into a limited-use health care FSA, you must do so during the Annual Election period.

You can use an HSA for any expenses you can use an FSA for—and more. It may only make sense to contribute to an FSA if you have already contributed the maximum to your HSA and you are sure you will have FSA-eligible expenses. Learn more about pairing a health care FSA with an HSA <u>here</u>.

• **Unspent HSA**—The balance is portable and remains with you indefinitely regardless of appointment/employment.

Steps You Can Take to Manage Your Health Expenses

You have more control over your health care expenditures than you may realize. Here are a few steps you can take to spend less on health care—without compromising the quality of care you receive:

- Fill prescriptions with generic medications instead of name-brand medications. Ask your doctor if a generic is available and appropriate.
- Fill maintenance (long-term) prescriptions in a 90-day supply using mail order or a Walgreens pharmacy, instead of 30-day fills at any retail pharmacy.
- Go to the doctor's office or urgent care center—instead of a hospital emergency room—when you feel sick, or have symptoms or an injury that is not life-threatening or limb-threatening. You can also use telemedicine services through MDLIVE when your symptoms are not life-threatening.
- Practice healthy habits to improve your overall well-being, including getting preventive screenings, managing chronic conditions, eating well and being active.

Important: Always seek the appropriate level of care for your or your family's medical needs. While the HealthFlex HSA Plan fosters consumerism by encouraging participants to seek cost-saving measures when appropriate, it in no way expects participants to choose inappropriate or insufficient levels of care as a way to save money.

Preventive and Wellness Services Are Covered

We are committed to your good health. The HSA Plan—like all HealthFlex plans—covers preventive and wellness services at 100%. When in-network providers are used, you have no out-of-pocket costs (no co-insurance or deductible) for eligible preventive and wellness services, including checkups, vaccines and age-appropriate preventive testing (such as routine blood tests, mammograms or colonoscopies).

HealthEquity[®] Card

HealthEquity will administer and act as custodian for the HSA. You will receive a purple debit card from HealthEquity to be used for the HSA funds only. Access your HealthEquity account online through Benefits Access and via phone at 1-866-346-5800.

If you also have an FSA or HRA with HealthFlex, you may also receive a teal HealthEquity Healthcare Card. This cannot be used to access HSA funds. You can request reimbursements through HealthEquity's website or mobile app if you do not use the debit card.



HealthFlex HSAs can earn interest or investment earnings depending on investment options. Please contact HealthEquity for current account information. You may want to contact EY Financial Planning Services^{**} at **1-800-360-2539** for guidance on investing your HSA.

^{**}EY Financial Planning Services are available to active Wespath participants and surviving spouses with account balances, and to retired and terminated participants with account balances of at least \$10,000. Costs are included in Wespath's operating expenses that are paid for by the funds.

HSA FAQs



Q: Can I use HSA funds for emergency or hardship purposes?

- A: HSA funds are not accessible for hardship purposes without possible tax penalties. Non-eligible medical and nonmedical withdrawals from an HSA are taxable income and subject to a tax penalty. Exception: Tax penalties do not apply if the withdrawal is made after the date a participant:

 Attains age 65;
 - 2. Becomes totally and permanently disabled; or 3. Dies.
- Q: How would the HSA work if one of the family members has a major medical incident? Would the entire HSA balance be available to the person who incurred the major medical expense?
- A: The entire HSA balance is eligible for use, for eligible expenses incurred by:
 - primary participant,
 - spouse, or
 - all dependents you claim on your tax return.

Note: Eligible expenses incurred by a tax dependent or a spouse may be applied to the primary participant's HSA—even if the dependent or spouse is not in the HealthFlex HSA Plan.

Q: What happens if I have a family status change (a qualified "life event" such as marriage, divorce or birth of a child) during the year?

A: If your coverage changes from "individual" to "family" coverage, you may receive an additional employer contribution to your HSA up to the family contribution amount, if included with the plan you selected (please see the *Summary of Benefits and Coverage* for specific plan information). You may also be able to increase your personal contributions, up to the IRS family limit*. If your coverage changes from "family" to "individual" coverage, you will not see any change to your employer contribution. Your IRS maximum contribution limit may be lower*.

*Please contact your tax adviser for advice on how changing coverage mid-year may influence your annual HSA contribution limit, as set by the IRS

Q: If I am no longer in a qualified HSA Plan through HealthFlex, what happens to my HSA?

- A: If you are no longer enrolled in a qualified HSA Plan, you are not eligible to make or receive additional contributions to your HSA. However, your HSA balance will remain available for you to use until it is exhausted. This applies to the following scenarios:
 - Termination from HealthFlex or plan sponsor
 - Selection of a non-HSA Plan offered through HealthFlex
 - Plan sponsor no longer offers HealthFlex
 - Reappointment to a conference that does not offer HealthFlex
 - Retirement, even if your plan sponsor does not offer retiree coverage through HealthFlex/Via Benefits

HSA FAQs (continued)



Q: If I retire (and leave the HSA Plan) but my dependents remain covered in the HSA Plan, what happens to any accumulated HSA fund balance?

A: Both you and your covered dependents may use the accumulated fund balance available at the time you retire. Additional funds may be contributed to an HSA by your plan sponsor after you retire if you still have dependents in a qualified HSA Plan, depending on which plan was selected. These funds would also be available to you and your covered dependents.

Q: Can I have a health care FSA if I am in the HSA Plan?

A: Yes. You may combine a health care FSA with an HSA. However, it will be a *limited-use* FSA that can be used for dental and vision claims only, until the IRS-defined deductible has been met*. If your spouse has a separate FSA, it must also be *limited-use* or HSA-compatible. Participants are responsible for complying with IRS regulations and for notifying HealthEquity when the IRS-defined deductible has been met. More information available <u>here</u>.

Q: Can I choose whether to use my HSA or limited-use health care FSA dollars to cover dental and vision expenses?

A: Yes. If you wish to use your HSA for dental/vision expenses, you should use your purple HSA card instead of your teal FSA card. However, since an FSA is "use it or lose it," you may want to consider using your limited-use FSA* for dental/vision instead of your HSA. Once you have met the IRS-defined deductible, you can notify HealthEquity and have your FSA converted to full use. Then you can use your FSA for medical/prescription drug/behavioral health as well as dental/vision.

*Limited use until participant notifies HealthEquity that the IRS-defined deductible has been met; then can be used for all eligible health care expenses. (IRS-defined deductible amounts are available at irs.gov.)

- Q: If I have an HSA but not a limited-use FSA, or if I use up all of my limiteduse FSA funds, do claims always need to be applied to the HSA? Can I choose to pay out of pocket instead?
- A: You always have the option to pay for health expenses "out of pocket" (on your own), instead of using your available HSA funds. In this case, you would pay directly (not using the debit card) and not request reimbursement.

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Comparing HSA vs. FSA

Health savings accounts (HSAs) and health care flexible spending accounts (FSAs) are both offered by HealthFlex. They share some similar traits, but have important differences. Learn more below.

	HealthFlex HSA	HealthFlex Health Care FSA	
Which plans?	H2000 with HSA, H2500 with HSA, H5000 with HSA	Can be used with any plan if you elect an FSA.	
How funded?	 May be funded by plan sponsor¹ You may add money to an HSA (optional) May include extra premium credit (if applicable) 	• You fund your FSA	
Earnings/ Interest	May earn tax-deferred interest or dividends based on account or fund you select	No interest	
Tax Implications ²	 Triple tax advantage: 1. Contributions are deductible from gross income and are not subject to federal income tax 2. HSA earnings accrue tax-free 3. HSA withdrawals, including investment earnings, are tax-free for eligible expenses 	 Your contributions are excluded from gross income and are not subject to federal income tax FSA withdrawals are tax-free for eligible expenses 	
Annual Funding Limit (2025)	 Annual federal limit for total HSA contributions (plan sponsor + your money). \$4,300 (self-only) or \$8,550 (family) Individuals 55 and older may contribute extra \$1,000 annually (\$5,300 self-only, \$9,550 family) 	 \$300 minimum—\$3,200 in 2024* * Visit irs.gov for updated amounts 	
Funds Availability	 Any plan sponsor contributions¹ are available for use upon deposit at beginning of plan year Participant contributions and any excess premium credit (prorated, monthly amount) are available monthly as they are deposited to the HSA on 5th of the month 	 Available for use at beginning of plan year 	
Eligible Expenses/ Usage	 Use primarily for eligible health care expenses for tax dependents If used for non-health care expenses, tax penalty may apply Limited use for premiums: limited to continuation coverage, long-term care or Medicare (not including Medicare supplement) 	 Use for eligible health care expenses for tax dependents May not use for premiums or long-term care If contributing to HSA, FSA is limited to dental and vision expenses only³ 	
Substantiation/ Documentation ("proof" of claim)	 Not required, but you are responsible for reporting any taxable HSA distributions to the IRS 	 Required* * May not be required with debit card use 	

Comparing HSA vs. FSA (continued)

	HealthFlex HSA	HealthFlex Health Care FSA
Carry-Over at Year-End	 Unused balance carries over year to year No dollar limit on accumulated balance 	 \$640 carryover permitted from 2024 to 2025*. May increase. Remainder forfeited if not spent by December 31 (run-out period to file claims: through April 30 of the following year) * Visit irs.gov for updated amounts
Compatibility with Other Reimbursement Accounts	 Compatible with limited-use FSA or limited-use HRA If contributing to HSA, HRA and FSA are limited to dental and vision expenses only³ (including FSA balance carried over from a prior year and spouse's FSA/spouse's HRA) 	 Compatible with HRA. FSA pays first—HRA pays only after FSA funds are exhausted If contributing to HSA, FSA is limited to dental and vision expenses only³
If You Retire	 Unused balance is <i>portable; remains with</i> you indefinitely regardless of employment/ appointment 	 Eligible expenses can only be incurred through your last date of HealthFlex coverage pre-retirement Deadline to file claims: 90 days after leaving HealthFlex
If You Terminate Employment or Waive HealthFlex	 Unused balance is <i>portable; remains with</i> you indefinitely regardless of employment/ appointment 	 Eligible expenses can only be incurred through your last date of HealthFlex coverage Deadline to file claims: 90 days after leaving HealthFlex
Other Details	• HSA: Investment fees may apply if you use HealthEquity's investment support. Eligible Wespath retirement plan participants can use EY for investment consultation at no additional fee.	

More information is available through the Benefits Access website at **benefitsaccess.org**, log in, then select the "**Health Details**" button and click the "**Health & Reimbursement Accounts**" button.

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¹H3000 has no plan sponsor contribution for HSA unless there is excess premium credit.

²There may be additional tax implications for individuals approaching Medicare eligibility within the plan year. Please consult your tax adviser if you will soon be Medicare eligible.

³Limited use until participant notifies HealthEquity that the IRS-defined deductible has been met; then can be used for all eligible health care expenses. (The IRS-defined deductible is available at irs.gov.)

Learn More About the HSA Plans and Your HealthFlex Benefits

Start at the Benefits Access website to access online resources about the HSA Plans and your HealthFlex benefits.

benefitsaccess.org Log in by entering your **username** and **password**.

Call Wespath Customer Service at **1-800-851-2201** if you are unable to obtain your username/password online.

Disclaimer: Information regarding the HSA Plans is provided as a general information and educational service to HealthFlex participants. This information does not constitute legal, tax or consumer advice. Consult with a tax adviser. Wespath Benefits and Investments expressly disclaims all liability with respect to actions taken or not taken based on the information provide herein.

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