

A HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT: THE TRIPLE TAX ADVANTAGE BENEFIT

Health care expenses are a growing concern for many—and an E Benefits health savings account, or HSA, is an option becoming increasingly available to help workers set money aside. And there are tax benefits of a health savings account as well. In fact, a health savings account offer

HSA account owners a triple tax advantage:

- Contributions reduce taxable income.
- Earnings on the account build up tax free.
- Distributions from the account for <u>HSA qualified expenses</u> (link to qualified expenses) aren't subject to taxation.

Eligibility is set by different guidelines specific to this type of account. A health savings account allows those enrolled in high-deductible health plans (HDHPs) to save money tax-free to pay for medical expenses. Unlike a flexible spending account (FSA), a health savings account can be used as an investment account because the funds aren't lost after a certain period of time.

The benefits of an HSA share a lot of similarities with individual retirement accounts (IRAs), such as:

- Allows employees to save and grow money, tax-free.
- Employees can decide how to invest and grow their money.
- HSA funds can be withdrawn anytime for medical expenses.
- After age 65, the funds can be used for any purpose, without penalty.

There are two types of health savings offerings from E Benefits:

EMPLOYER-SPONSORED HSA

An employer offers a HDHP combined with an HSA.

How it Works

- **1.** An employee enrolls.
- 2. Money is deducted from the employee's paycheck to go toward health savings. Employers can also make contributions.
- 3. The employee manages their own funds and investment options.
- **4.** The health savings account is used to pay for out-of-pocket medical expenses that are <u>eligible for</u> <u>reimbursement.</u>

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