



FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT (FSA) SOURCEBOOK

2023-2024 PLAN YEAR
Commonwealth of Virginia



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OVERVIEW

Flexible Spending Account (FSA)

An FSA allows you to set aside money from your paycheck, before taxes, to use on qualified health care and dependent care expenses. You may enroll in an FSA during Open Enrollment, or within 60 days of a consistent Qualifying Life Event (QME). You choose the amount to set aside based on your anticipated eligible expenses. The money is deducted from your paycheck in equal amounts and placed in your FSA. Plan wisely on how much to set aside in your FSA because you must use all the money during the plan year, or lose it.

You Can Elect to Enroll in One or Both of These FSAs

	HEALTH CARE FSA	DEPENDENT CARE FSA
Maximum amount you can put into the account each plan year	\$3,050	\$5,000
Eligible expenses (see detailed list on page 8 for Health Care and page 16 for Dependent Care)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prescriptions• Deductibles, coinsurance and copays• Dental care• Vision care	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Before- and after-school care• Child day care, adult care or elder care• Summer day camp

All full and part-time classified employees and faculty members who are eligible for the State Health Benefits Program may participate in the FSA.

Sign Up and Save with an FSA

An FSA is a plan sponsored by the Commonwealth of Virginia that allows you to set aside a part of your income on a pre-tax basis for eligible health or dependent care expenses. The plan year begins July 1 and ends June 30. Your coverage period for incurring expenses is based on your participation in the program.

Important Dates

Plan year starts: July 1, 2023

Plan year ends: June 30, 2024

Last payroll deduction for plan year: July 1, 2024

Last day to incur eligible expenses: June 30 or last day of your coverage period

Last day to submit reimbursement requests and verification of outstanding card transactions: September 30 or three months from the end of your coverage period, whichever is sooner.

Last day to use FSA card for July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024 expenses: June 30, 2024

Get to Know Your FSA

Review this FSA Sourcebook to understand how you and your family can save. Once you decide how much to contribute to your Health Care FSA and/or Dependent Care FSA, the contribution is deducted in equal amounts from your paychecks during the plan year.

The savings examples in this guide use a 30 percent tax rate. But your savings may vary based on your personal annual tax rate. Please consult your tax advisor for more details.

Your Health Care FSA funds are available to you at the beginning of your coverage period. Dependent Care FSA funds are only available as they are deducted from your paycheck. For both accounts, your funds are deducted before federal and state taxes are calculated on your paycheck.

With either account, you benefit because less of your paycheck is taxable, which means more spendable income.

Administration Fee

If you choose to enroll in one or both FSAs, one monthly administration fee of \$2.10 will be deducted from your paycheck each month on a pre-tax basis. (Note: If you are not paid on a 12-month basis, please see your Benefits Administrator for the applicable administration fees).

The Use-It-or-Lose-It Rule and Your Coverage Period

Timing is everything! FSAs have a start date and an end date, and the time in between is called the coverage period. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has a "use-it-or-lose-it" rule that requires you to use all the money in your FSA toward eligible expenses by the end of the coverage period. Remaining FSA dollars won't be returned to you. Funds do not roll over to the next plan year.

To keep from losing money, do a little homework. How much did you spend on health care expenses last year? Choose an amount that's close to what you think you'll need during the plan year.

FSA Eligibility

All full and part-time classified and faculty employees who are eligible to participate in the State Health Benefits Program may participate in Health and Dependent Care FSAs. Changes to your employment status could affect your eligibility. For more information, contact your agency Benefits Administrator.

New Hires

The initial election period is within 30 calendar days of your hire date or the date you become newly eligible for the State Health Benefits Program. If you enroll, your FSA will be effective the first of the month coinciding with or following the date of employment, or the date you become newly eligible for the State Health Benefits Program. No election changes are allowed after your FSA has taken effect unless you experience a consistent Qualifying Life Event (QME).

FSA Questions?

During Open Enrollment: You'll find helpful guides and FAQs online at www.payflex.com. Or call **1-855-516-8595 (TTY:711)**, Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. CT.

Starting July 1: Register for your online account at www.payflex.com. You can register at any time. Use your online account to monitor your purchases and account balance, submit reimbursement requests, and find helpful resources and plan details.

When you register, you'll simply need to provide your 9-digit employee ID# (which includes 2 leading zeros) and confirm part of your debit card # received with your FSA Welcome Letter. You'll also need to confirm your contact information, create your security questions and create a user name and password. Your FSA Welcome Letter will be mailed to you when you enroll.

HEALTH CARE FSA

Learn about Health Care FSA

A Health Care FSA allows you to set aside part of your income on a pre-tax basis to pay for eligible out-of-pocket health care expenses for you, your spouse, and your eligible tax dependents. With a Health Care FSA, you can reduce your taxable income and the associated tax liability. That's because you can use the pre-tax dollars that are deducted from your pay on a pre-tax basis to pay for eligible health care expenses like copays and coinsurance that you may now be paying for with after-tax dollars.

Save Money with a Health Care FSA

Your FSA contributions are deducted from your paycheck before taxes are taken out. How much you save depends on your income tax bracket. For example, if you're in a 30 percent tax bracket, you can save \$30 for every \$100 that you put into your FSA. So, if you put \$1,000 into your Health Care FSA, you increase your annual take home pay by \$300* (not including the impact of your FSA deduction).

To see the full benefit of having an FSA, check out this savings example (assumes 30% tax bracket):

Salary	\$40,000/year
Taxes paid with no FSA	\$12,000
FSA contribution	\$2,600
Taxes paid with FSA	\$11,220
Take home pay	\$26,180
Extra cash from FSA savings	\$780

Health Care FSAs

Your Health Care FSA may be used to reimburse eligible health care expenses incurred by:

- yourself
- your spouse
- your qualifying child or qualifying adult child
- your qualifying relative

An individual is a qualifying adult child if they do not attain age 27 during your taxable year and they have the following relationship to you:

- son/daughter or stepson/daughter
- eligible foster child
- legally adopted child or legally placed with taxpayer for adoption

An individual is a qualifying child if they are not someone else's qualifying child and:

- are a U.S. citizen, national or a resident of the U.S., Mexico or Canada
- have a specified family-type relationship to you

An individual is a qualifying relative if they are a U.S. citizen, national or a resident of the U.S., Mexico or Canada and:

- have a specified family-type relationship to you, are not someone else's qualifying child and receive more than one-half of their support from you during the taxable year, or
- if no specified family-type relationship to you exists, are a member of and live in your household (without violating local law) for the entire taxable year and receive more than one-half of their support from you during the taxable year.

NOTE: There is no age requirement for a qualifying child if they are physically and/or mentally incapable of self-care. An eligible child of divorced parents is treated as a dependent of both, so either or both parents can establish a Health Care FSA.

*FSA contributions are deducted before federal and most state taxes. Savings vary depending on your tax bracket. Check with your tax advisor for details regarding your state taxes and your potential tax savings.

Important Health Care FSA Rules

Contributions

The total amount you contribute to an FSA each year is called an “annual election.” You can elect up to \$3,050 per plan year.

Your full Health Care FSA election amount is available on the first day of your coverage period, but your contributions will be taken out of your paycheck in equal amounts during your coverage period.

Transferring Funds

- Funds cannot be transferred between FSAs.
- You cannot pay a dependent care expense from your Health Care FSA or vice-versa.
- You cannot transfer funds to your spouse’s FSA or an FSA you may have in the upcoming plan year.

Incurred Expenses

Your eligible Health Care FSA expenses must be incurred during the coverage period. This means the medical treatment or services must take place during the coverage period, not when you are billed or pay for the care you received.

Double-dipping

Expenses reimbursed under your Health Care FSA can’t be reimbursed under any other plan or program. Only your out-of-pocket health care expenses are eligible for reimbursement. Plus, expenses reimbursed under a Health Care FSA can’t be deducted when you file your tax return.

Election Changes

Your election can’t be changed during the plan year unless you have a change in status or other Qualifying Life Event (QME) that’s defined by IRS rules. Qualified changes in status may include:

- A change in legal marital status (marriage, divorce or death of your spouse)
- A change in the number of your dependents (birth or adoption of a child, or death of a dependent)
- A change in your employment status, or the employment status of your spouse or dependent
- An event causing your dependent to satisfy or cease to satisfy an eligibility requirement for benefits

Generally, two things decide if an election change is permitted. First, you must experience a change in status or other qualifying event. Second, your requested change must be consistent with the event. For example, if you have a baby, you may want to increase your election amount. Divorce from a spouse may allow you to decrease your election.

Termination

If you stop working for the Commonwealth of Virginia or lose your FSA eligibility, your plan participation and your pre-tax contributions will stop at the end of the month. Expenses for services you have after your plan termination date are not eligible for reimbursement. Health Care FSAs are eligible for account continuation under Extended Coverage.

NOTE: You have three months from your account termination date to submit reimbursement requests and documentation for eligible expenses incurred during your coverage period.



Health Care FSA Expenses

Only eligible expenses can be reimbursed under the FSA. These include eligible health care expenses for you, your spouse, and your eligible tax dependents. Your FSA plan expenses are defined by IRS rules and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Eligible Health Care FSA expenses are those you pay for out of your pocket for medical care. Generally, IRS rules state that medical care is meant to diagnose, cure, mitigate, treat, or prevent illness or disease. Transportation that is primarily for medical care is also included.

Typical FSA-Eligible Expenses

Use your FSA to save on hundreds of products and services for you and your family. Eligible expenses are defined by the IRS. On March 27, 2020, the government enacted the CARES Act

which, effective January 1, 2020, allows participants to use their Health Care FSA for over-the-counter (OTC) medications. This could include aspirin, ibuprofen, and cough or flu medicines without a prescription from a doctor. The CARES Act also allows reimbursement for feminine hygiene products. For more information about eligible items, go to **www.payflex.com**. After you log in, go to "Help & Support" and click on the link for "Explore Eligible Health Care Expenses." You can then search alphabetically by item. Some non-medication items may be eligible for reimbursement but will require a PayFlex Letter of Medical Necessity form which must be completed by your doctor and sent to PayFlex to verify the charge on your card. This form is available on the **www.payflex.com** member website under "Documents & Forms" — select "Administrative Forms." For more information or additional support regarding a Letter of Medical Necessity, call **855-516-8595**.

Sample of Eligible medical expenses:

- Acupuncture
- Ambulance service
- Birth control pills and devices (over-the-counter and prescription)
- Breast pumps
- Chiropractic care
- Contact lenses (corrective)
- Dental fees (other than cosmetic)
- Diagnostic tests/health screening
- Doctor fees
- Drug addiction/alcoholism treatment
- Experimental medical treatment*
- Eyeglasses
- Feminine hygiene products*
- Guide dogs
- Hearing aids and exams
- In vitro fertilization*
- Nursing services
- Optometrist fees
- Orthodontic treatment
- OTC and personal protective equipment
- Prescription drugs
- Smoking cessation programs/treatments
- Surgery (other than cosmetic)
- Transportation/travel expenses for medical care (including mileage, tolls and parking)
- Weight-loss programs*/meetings*
- Wheelchairs, crutches and walkers
- X-rays

*For details and a complete list of eligible expenses, visit:

<https://www.payflex.com/en/individuals/products-programs-health-care-fsa.html> or by calling **1-855-516-8595**.

Expenses that are not approved are called "ineligible expenses"

Ineligible Health Care FSA Expenses include:

- Cosmetic surgery and procedures, including teeth whitening
- Herbs, vitamins and supplements used for general health
- Insurance premiums
- Personal use items such as toothpaste, shaving cream and makeup
- Prescription drugs imported from another country

Also, you can't use your FSA funds for:

- Services that take place before or after your coverage period
- Expenses that are reimbursed by another plan or program, including a health care plan

Special Rules for Orthodontia Expenses

Orthodontic services aren't provided the same way as other types of health care. Most of the time, they're provided over a long period of time and may extend beyond the plan year. Orthodontic services tend to be hard to match up with actual costs. As a result, the reimbursement process is different.

You're required to submit one of the following to PayFlex® with your claim form:

- An itemized **statement/paid receipt**
- The orthodontist's **contract/payment agreement**
- Monthly **payment coupons**



You Have Three Ways to be Reimbursed:

1. Coupon Payment Option

You can submit an itemized statement of your orthodontia expenses after you or someone in your family receives an eligible service. Submit this documentation to PayFlex along with a completed claim form.

2. Monthly Payment Option (Automatic Monthly Reimbursement for Orthodontia)

To set up automatic ortho payments, download a claim form from the PayFlex member website. You can find it under Documents & Forms. Complete all required fields and make sure to check the box for Automatic Monthly Reimbursement for Orthodontia expenses.

You must also include a copy of your orthodontia contract/agreement with your first claim.

- Once the claim is processed, PayFlex will automatically reimburse you each month, according to the agreement. PayFlex will reimburse you on a monthly basis near the due date stated on your orthodontia contract agreement.
- Your contract/payment agreement with the orthodontist should include the following:
 - > Patient name
 - > Date the service begins
 - > Length of service
 - > Charges for the initial banding work
 - > Dollar amount charged each month

KEEP IN MIND: If you enroll in Auto Pay, you can't use the PayFlex Card®, your account debit card, to pay for orthodontia expenses.

3. Total Payment Option

If you paid the full amount when the orthodontia treatment began, you can request reimbursement for the treatment amount, minus the amount covered by your dental insurance. PayFlex can reimburse you up to your FSA election amount minus any previous FSA reimbursements. If you have already submitted other claims, make sure to check your FSA balance online to confirm the amount you have available to cover your orthodontia treatment.

NOTE: If you choose the total payment option, please remember a paid receipt must be submitted to PayFlex and can only be submitted once for reimbursement.

Reimbursement Requests

Eligible expenses you incur during the plan year can be reimbursed through your Health Care FSA by submitting a completed Flexible Spending Account Claim Form, along with proper supporting documentation. Acceptable IRS required documentation:

For office visits, hospitalization, or other services —

A health plan Explanation of Benefits (EOB) or an itemized statement from the provider that includes the patient's name, a description of the service, the original date of service and your portion of the charge.

For prescription drugs — A pharmacy statement or printout including the patient's name, the Rx number, the name of the drug, the date the prescription was filled and the amount.

NOTE: Credit card receipts, canceled checks and balance forward statements do not meet the requirements for acceptable IRS required documentation.

Reimbursement Payments

Your Health Care FSA has a daily payment schedule. With this schedule, there is no additional waiting period for reimbursements. Once your request has been reviewed and approved, your payment is scheduled, and your reimbursement is issued within the next business day.

Reimbursement Deadlines

Expenses submitted for reimbursement through your Health Care FSA must be incurred during the coverage period. Your Health Care FSA also includes a run-out period. The run-out period is a three-month predetermined period following the end of the plan year or the end of your coverage period. During this time, you may file claims for expenses incurred during the coverage period. Claims and the documentation must be received before the reimbursement deadline. After the run-out period ends, you will lose any unused dollars left in your Health Care FSA.

You can submit a claim or find forms by logging in to your account at www.payflex.com or by calling customer service at **855-516-8595**.



Your PayFlex Card®

One of the best features of your Health Care FSA is the PayFlex Card® which gives you easy access to your Health Care FSA funds. It's the easiest way to pay! Use your card to pay for your eligible Health Care FSA expenses at qualifying health care providers and merchants that accept Mastercard.



If you are a new participant, your card will be mailed to you. Call the toll-free number on the sticker on the front of the card and then follow the prompts.

Once you activate your card, sign your name on the back and then you're ready to go. If you already have a card, continue to use that card through the expiration date.

Participants automatically receive a new card when the current card expires. Cards for dependents are also reissued when a participant card expires.

Using Your PayFlex Card®

Your PayFlex Card® makes paying for eligible health care expenses easy with quick access to your Health Care FSA funds. There's no more waiting on a reimbursement check since your eligible expense is paid right away.

You may use your card at health care providers or merchants that have health care-related merchant category codes. These include doctors, dentists, vision care offices, hospitals and other health care providers. You can also use your card at grocery stores, discount stores and drugstores that use an Inventory Information Approval System (IIAS).

You may not use your benefit card at any merchant that does not have a health care-related merchant category code unless that merchant utilizes an IIAS.

IMPORTANT: You may not use your card after June 30 to pay for expenses from the previous plan year. You may only use your card for expenses incurred on or after July 1 of each plan year. File paper claims for the previous plan year's expenses after June 30.

When using your card, the amount of the purchase is automatically taken from your Health Care FSA, and the money is transferred instantly to the provider or merchant. The card system will confirm your account status, the status of your benefit card, the merchant category code and the funds that are in your Health Care FSA.

Paying for Eligible and Ineligible Expenses

When you use your PayFlex Card at an IIAS merchant (point of sale card machine), you may only pay for eligible expenses.

Here's an example: You need to fill a regular prescription, and you also want to get aspirin, bandages and a toothbrush. You first head to the pharmacy to turn in your prescription. Then you pick up the aspirin, bandages and toothbrush. You use your PayFlex card to pay for the eligible expenses: your regular prescription and the aspirin and bandages. You may not use the card for the toothbrush because it is not an allowed expense, per IRS guidelines. You will need to pay for the toothbrush another way (cash, credit or debit card etc.).

Save Your Receipts

Some debit card expenses are approved without the need for supporting documentation. IRS rules require us to review all card purchases. That means you may need to send us proof of your card purchases if we ask for it. You must keep copies of all itemized receipts and other supporting documentation (not the credit card receipt) for each card purchase.

Disputing a Benefit Card Transaction

Mastercard allows 60 days from the transaction date to dispute a charge. Call **1-855-516-8595 (TTY-711)** to speak with a PayFlex representative regarding a dispute.

Real-time Alerts

Just let us know how you want to get your FSA notifications — by email, online alert or text message. Setting up your account is a breeze.

Log in to your PayFlex member website.

1. Click Account Settings from the top navigation.
2. Select Account Notifications.
3. Select the notifications you want to sign up for.

When Documentation Isn't Required

Most card purchases are automatically approved, and there's no need for supporting documentation. Some examples include:

- **IIAS-Approved Expense:** You buy eligible items at a grocery store, discount store or drugstore that is an IIAS merchant.
- **Copay Matching:** The FSA expense matches a specific copay under your employer's medical, vision, or dental plan.
- **Recurring Expense:** This is the same as an expense that's already been approved. That is, the cost, timing, and medical office are the same.
- **Electronic File:** In some situations, your health, dental or vision plan will send your claim information electronically.

Online Tip

Upload supporting documents through your online account. It's the quickest way to clear up transactions that need to be resolved.

PLEASE NOTE: Save all itemized receipts every time you use your PayFlex Card®. Do this even if you think the expense meets the above standards.

Lost Receipts and Ineligible Transactions

If you're asked to send in supporting documentation and can't find your receipt, please ask for a copy from your doctor or pharmacist. You may find statements and Explanation of Benefits (EOBs) on your health plan's website. You should keep original receipts for OTC purchases since stores rarely keep those copies.

If your PayFlex Card® is misused to pay for an ineligible expense, you will need to pay back the plan out of your own pocket. If you do not pay back the plan by the due date, your PayFlex Card® will be deactivated. In addition, any request for reimbursement for paper claims you submit after that date will be used to pay the balance you owe the plan. Failure to clear unresolved transactions may result in taxes owed.

A process known as "offsetting" can help clear up unresolved transactions. To offset, you send in supporting documentation for another eligible expense that you've paid out of your pocket. This will cover the cost of the unresolved transaction.

Tax Consequences

If you do not pay back your plan or offset your unresolved card transactions by the plan's deadline and before your run-out period ends, the unresolved amount may be withheld from your pay or you may owe more in taxes. The Commonwealth of Virginia will reclassify unresolved amounts that you owe the FSA that are not withheld from your pay as taxable income. This amount will be added to your Form W-2 for the applicable tax year.

IMPORTANT: If your PayFlex Card® is suspended, you cannot use it to access funds from your FSA until you clear up all unresolved transactions that have an expired deactivation deadline.

Card Termination

Your PayFlex Card® will be deactivated when your FSA terminates. If you have incurred qualified expenses prior to your account termination date, you should file a paper claim for those expenses. Do this by sending in a Flexible Spending Account Claim Form along with the supporting documents. Plus, if you have unresolved PayFlex Card® transactions requiring action, you will need to clear them to avoid paying additional taxes.

NOTE: You have three months from the end of your coverage period to submit reimbursement and verify unresolved card transactions.

KEEP IN MIND: that your allowed purchases must have been incurred during your coverage period.

DEPENDENT CARE FSA

Learn about Dependent Care FSA

A Dependent Care FSA is a plan sponsored by the Commonwealth of Virginia that allows you to set aside part of your income on a pre-tax basis to pay for eligible dependent care expenses throughout the coverage period. You save money on expenses you're already paying for, like child care and preschool.

Save Money with a Dependent Care FSA

If you have young children or dependent relatives, who are considered "qualifying individuals," you can benefit from this plan. Setting aside pre-tax dollars means you pay fewer taxes and increase your take-home pay. You also save money on expenses that you're paying for out of your pocket. How much you save depends on your tax bracket. For example, if you're in the 30 percent tax bracket, you can save \$30 on every \$100* spent on eligible expenses like daycare, after-school care, elder day care and much more.

Find a full list of eligible FSA expenses at www.payflex.com

To see the full benefit of having an FSA, check out this savings example (assumes 30% tax bracket):

Salary	\$40,000/year
Taxes paid with no FSA	\$12,000
FSA contribution	\$5,000
Taxes paid with FSA	\$10,500
Take home pay	\$24,500
Extra cash from FSA savings	\$1,500

*FSA contributions are deducted before federal and most state taxes. Savings vary depending on your tax bracket. Check with your tax advisor for details regarding your state taxes and your potential tax savings.

Dependent Care FSAs

You may use your Dependent Care FSA to receive reimbursement for eligible dependent care expenses for qualifying individuals.

A qualifying individual includes a qualifying child, if they:

- are a U.S. citizen, national or a resident of the U.S., Mexico or Canada
- have a specified family-type relationship to you
- live in your household for more than half of the taxable year
- are under the age of 13 years old
- have not provided more than one-half of their own support during the taxable year

A qualifying individual includes your spouse, if they:

- are physically and/or mentally incapable of self-care
- live in your household for more than half of the taxable year
- spend at least eight hours per day in your home.

A qualifying individual includes your qualifying relative, if they:

- are a U.S. citizen, national or a resident of the U.S., Mexico or Canada
- are physically and/or mentally incapable of self-care
- are not someone else's qualifying child
- live in your household for more than half of the taxable year
- spend at least eight hours per day in your home
- receive more than one-half of their support from you during the taxable year

NOTE: Only the custodial parent of divorced or legally-separated parents can be reimbursed using the Dependent Care FSA.

Important Dependent Care FSA Rules

Qualifying Individuals

Your dependent care expenses must be for a qualifying individual. A qualifying individual is:

- Your dependent child under the age of 13 who lives with you for more than half the year.
- Your spouse or other qualifying dependent who is physically or mentally incapable of self-care and lives with you for more than half the year.

Work-related Expenses

The care provided to your dependent must be so you (and your spouse if you're married) can work or look for work. "Work" may include actively looking for a job. It doesn't include unpaid volunteer work or volunteer work for a nominal salary. Your spouse is considered to have worked if he or she is a full-time student for at least five calendar months during the tax year or if he or she is incapable of selfcare. If you're sick, the fees you pay for dependent care when you aren't working generally are not eligible for reimbursement. But there is an exception to this rule. Temporary absences from work may be disregarded if you have to pay for dependent care expenses during your illness. Whether an absence is for a short time depends on the situation but, as a rule, the IRS says that an absence of up to two weeks in a row due to illness or vacation is a short-term or temporary absence.

Part-time Employees

As a rule, you must divide expenses between the days you work and the days you don't. However, if you work part-time but are required to pay for dependent care expenses for a specific time frame (including non-working days), you do not have to allocate expenses between days worked and days not worked. Check out these examples.

Allocation Required — For example, you work three days a week and choose to put your child in day care five days a week to help you stay gainfully employed. Your cost for the childcare is \$50 per day and \$250 for the week. Because you work part-time and are not required to pay the full \$250 expense, you must allocate your expenses according to your days worked. In this case, your allocated expenses equal \$150 (\$50 per day for the three days worked).

Allocation Not Required — The facts are the same as above, but in this case, the day care requires you to pay the full \$250 weekly fee no matter how many days of the week your child is there. Here, the full \$250 expense may be considered an employment-related expense and allocation of the expense based on days worked is not required.

Contributions

The total amount you contribute to an FSA each year is called an "annual election." You can elect up to \$5,000 for the plan year.

If you're married and file separate tax returns, the maximum is \$2,500. Keep in mind, your annual contribution limit may be less based on earned income and tax filing status.

- If you are single, the earned income limit is your salary.
- If you're married and file separate tax returns, the maximum is \$2,500
- If you are married and file a joint tax return, your combined maximum election amount is \$5,000

Available Funds

While a Health Care FSA allows access to your entire election amount on the first day of the coverage period, a Dependent Care FSA does not. Your total Dependent Care FSA election amount is deducted from your paycheck in equal amounts throughout the coverage period. You can use your Dependent Care FSA funds during the coverage period as long as funds are in your account.

Double-dipping

Expenses reimbursed under your Dependent Care FSA can't be reimbursed under your spouse's Dependent Care FSA and vice versa. You can't "double-dip" from both accounts for the same expenses.

Election Changes

Your election can't be changed during the plan year unless you have a change in status or other Qualifying Life Event (QME) that's defined by IRS rules. Qualified changes in status may include:

- A change in legal marital status (marriage, divorce, or death of your spouse).
- A change in the number of your dependents (birth or adoption of a child, or death of a dependent).
- A change in your employment status, or the employment status of your spouse or dependent.
- An event causing your dependent to satisfy or cease to satisfy an eligibility requirement for benefits.
- Dependent Care Cost of Coverage Change

Generally, two things decide if an election change is permitted. First, you must experience a change in status or other qualified event. Second, your requested change must be consistent with the event. For example, if you have a baby, you may want to increase your election amount.

In addition, a child's eligibility as a dependent ends on the day before his or her 13th birthday—not at the end of the month. At this time, you may request an election change and decrease your election or terminate your participation in the Dependent Care FSA plan.

Your change will be effective the first of the month following receipt of the election request.

NOTE: Expenses incurred on or after the child's 13th birthday may not be reimbursed.

Termination

If you stop working for the Commonwealth of Virginia or lose your FSA eligibility, your plan participation and your pre-tax contributions will stop at the end of the month.

Unlike the Health Care FSA, the Dependent Care FSA is not eligible for continuation under Extended Coverage.

NOTE: You have three months from your termination date to submit reimbursement requests for eligible expenses.

Estimate Your Savings

To keep from losing money, do a little homework. How much did you spend on dependent care expenses last year? Choose an election amount that's close to what you plan to spend during the plan year. Estimate your eligible expenses by using our savings calculator at: <https://www.payflex.com/en/individuals/products-programs-dependent-care-fsa.html>

Important Dependent Care FSA Tax Information

Reporting Requirements

When participating in a Dependent Care FSA, you must identify all persons or organizations that provide care for your child or dependent. You do this by filing IRS Form 2441—Child and Dependent Care Expenses, along with your Form 1040 each year. Please note that filing requirements are subject to change by the IRS. Please consult your tax advisor for more information.

Dependent Care FSA vs. Dependent Care Tax Credit

You can't claim any other tax benefit for the tax-free amounts that you receive under the Dependent Care FSA. This is the case even though the balance of your eligible, work related dependent care expenses (if any) may be eligible for the dependent care credit. In limited situations, it may be to your benefit to take advantage of the tax credit rather than participate in the Dependent Care FSA. Be sure to talk to your tax advisor for advice.

Reimbursement Requests

Eligible expenses you incur during the plan year can be reimbursed through your Dependent Care FSA by submitting a completed Flexible Spending Account Claim. Two things to consider first:

- Did the provider sign the certification section on the form? If so, just send us the completed form.
- If the provider certification is not completed and signed, you must submit an itemized statement from your dependent care provider. This statement must have the dates of service, the name and birth date of each dependent, an itemization of charges, and the provider's name, address, and Tax ID or Social Security number.

Reimbursement Payments

Your Dependent Care FSA plan has a daily payment schedule. With this schedule, there is no additional waiting period for reimbursements. Once your request has been reviewed and approved, your payment is scheduled and your reimbursement is issued the next business day. If your reimbursement request exceeds your account balance, your FSA will pay up to the amount available in your account, and pay the outstanding amount once additional funds are available.

Pay After Termination

When your Dependent Care account ends you have additional time to incur and file Dependent Care claims in order to use your remaining Dependent Care balance. You have up to an additional 90 days to incur expenses, or the end of your plan year, whichever happens first. Note that the 90 days to incur claims cannot exceed the plan year end date of 06/30.

Reimbursement Deadlines

Expenses submitted for reimbursement through your Dependent Care FSA must be incurred during your coverage period. Your Dependent Care FSA also includes a run-out period. The run-out period is a three-month predetermined period following the end of the plan year or the end of your coverage period. During this time, you may file claims for expenses incurred during your coverage period. Claims must be received before the reimbursement deadline. After the runout period ends, you will lose any unused dollars left in your Dependent Care FSA.

You can submit a claim or find forms by logging in to your account at www.payflex.com or by calling customer service at **855-516-8595**.

Dependent Care FSA Expenses

The IRS defines eligible expenses as those incurred for the care of one or more eligible dependent children or relatives.

Typical eligible expenses include:

- Child day care
- Before and after-school care
- Preschool or nursery school
- Extended day programs
- Au pair services (amounts paid for the actual care of the dependent)
- Babysitter (in or out of your home)
- Elder day care for a qualifying individual
- Nanny services (amounts paid for the actual care of the dependent)
- Summer day camp for your qualifying child under the age of 13

Ineligible Expenses

Ineligible Dependent Care FSA Expenses include:

- Money paid to your spouse, your child under 19, a parent of your child who is not your spouse, or a person for whom you or your spouse, or a person who you or your spouse is entitled to a personal tax exemption as a dependent
- Expenses related to care for a disabled spouse or tax dependent living outside your home
- Educational expenses (such as summer school and tutoring programs)
- Tuition for kindergarten and later grades
- Food expenses (unless it can't be separated from care)
- Incidental expenses (such as extra charges for supplies, special events or activities, unless it can't be separated from care)
- Overnight camp
- Expenses related to a dependent's medical care

For a complete list of eligible and ineligible expenses, go to <https://www.payflex.com/en/individuals/products-programs-dependent-care-fsa.html>



MAXIMIZE YOUR FSA EXPERIENCE

Register Your Account Online

If you haven't already registered with PayFlex or are a new participant, go to www.payflex.com to register and set up your personal PayFlex account (view your balance, pay your providers, see eligible expense items and much more).

After you enroll and your plan goes into effect on July 1, the calculators will be available at

<https://www.payflex.com/individuals/calculate-savings> for the Health Care FSA and Dependent Care FSA.

These tools can help you decide your election amount for the plan year and estimate how much you'll save.

You can also review lists of eligible expenses, get answers to frequently asked questions, and much more.

Your Online Account

You can manage your account by registering and logging in at www.payflex.com. Your online account is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Reimbursement Requests

You can request reimbursement by completing a Flexible Spending Account Claim and submitting it along with supporting documentation. The easiest way to do this is through your online account. You can also submit a claim by Fax: **1-888-238-3539** or by mail to:

PayFlex Systems USA, Inc.

PO BOX 2495
Omaha, NE 68103

To find a form and get more details, simply log into your PayFlex account.

Keeping Up with Your FSA

Your account information is available at www.payflex.com. You can log in to check your real-time account balance and see your account activity. Plus, each time we issue a reimbursement, you will receive an online Explanation of Benefits (EOB) that shows your current account balance.

Direct Deposit

Direct Deposit delivers your reimbursements directly into your bank account. You may elect Direct Deposit when setting up your profile at www.payflex.com. If you use Direct Deposit for your FSA, the electronic fund transfer will be listed as "Commonwealth" on your bank statement. If you have limited or no access to the internet and wish to sign up for Direct Deposit, call PayFlex at **1-855-516-8595**. During the Open Enrollment period you may access your PayFlex account to locate and print the form.

We're Here to Help

Have a question? We'll be happy to answer it. You can send a message through the Message Center in your online account. Or if you prefer, just call us toll-free at PayFlex at **1-855-516-8595 (TTY-711)**.

Our participant service advocates are available Monday through Friday (excluding holidays), 7 am – 7 pm, and Saturday 9 am – 2 pm CT. You may also use this phone number to check your account balance at any time and get other helpful plan information.

FSA WORKSHEETS

See For Yourself How Your Savings Can Add Up

How much you save depends on how much you spend on health and dependent care, and on your tax situation. To estimate your expenses and see for yourself how your savings can add up, use the worksheets below to determine how much to contribute to your account(s). Calculate the amount you expect to pay during the plan year for eligible out-of-pocket medical and/or dependent care expenses. This calculated amount cannot exceed established IRS and plan limits.

Be conservative in your estimates, since any money remaining in your accounts cannot be returned to you.

Health Care FSA Worksheet

Estimate your eligible, uninsured out-of-pocket medical expenses for the plan year. IRS contribution limits for the Health Care FSA are based on the plan year (July 1 – June 30), not the calendar year.

UNINSURED MEDICAL EXPENSES

Health insurance deductibles	\$ _____
Coinsurance or co-payments	\$ _____
Vision care	\$ _____
Dental care	\$ _____
Prescription drugs	\$ _____
Travel costs for medical care	\$ _____
Other eligible expenses	\$ _____
Total (IRS contribution limit: Up to \$3,050)	\$ _____
Divide (by the number of paychecks you will receive during your coverage period)	÷ _____
This is your pay period contribution	\$ _____

Dependent Care Worksheet

Estimate your eligible dependent care expenses for the plan year. Remember that your calculated amount cannot exceed the calendar year limits established by the IRS.

CHILD CARE EXPENSES

Day care services	\$ _____
In-home care/au pair services	\$ _____
Nursery and preschool	\$ _____
After-school care	\$ _____
Summer day camps	\$ _____

ELDER CARE SERVICES

Day care center	\$ _____
In-home care	\$ _____

Total
(IRS contribution limit: Up to \$5,000, depending on how your taxes are filed) \$ _____

Divide
(by the number of paychecks you will receive during your coverage period) ÷ _____

This is your pay period contribution \$ _____

Improper FSA Payments

Since FSAs are regulated by IRS rules, you must resolve any improper FSA payments of claims (Health Care FSA claims, PayFlex Debit Card transactions, and Dependent Care FSA claims) to avoid the Commonwealth of Virginia taking further action.

Examples of Improper FSA Payments

Health Care FSA claims: Let's say you submit supporting documentation for benefit card transactions, but you use a Request for Reimbursement Form instead of a Return Form. If a Health Care FSA claim is improperly paid as a duplicate reimbursement, you will need to repay the FSA plan.

Benefit card transactions: At the doctor's office, you swipe your benefit card for health care services provided. However, the charges included an expense from the previous FSA plan year, which is an ineligible expense. If you have a benefit card transaction that is improperly paid for an ineligible expense, you will need to pay back the FSA plan.

Dependent Care FSA claims: Suppose that you stop working for the Commonwealth of Virginia. Any Dependent Care FSA claims improperly reimbursed due to retroactive changes in eligibility will need to be paid back to the FSA plan.

ATTENTION!

Steps to Correct Improper FSA Payments

Failure to resolve improper payments has consequences, such as the suspension of your benefit card and withholding the amount you owe from your pay.

- If you receive a notice about an improper FSA payment, just follow the instructions for paying back the FSA plan out of your own pocket or by offsetting the amount due with another eligible expense that you haven't submitted for reimbursement; or
- If the notice you receive applies to your benefit card and you do not pay back the plan by the due date listed, your benefit card will be deactivated and any reimbursement for paper claims you submit after that date will be used to pay the balance you owe the plan; or
- The Commonwealth of Virginia may withhold the amount of the improper payment from your pay or other compensation allowed by applicable law; or
- The Commonwealth of Virginia will reclassify the amount you owe the FSA plan as taxable income if you don't pay back your FSA plan or offset the amount you owe before the run-out period ends. Your Form W-2 for the applicable tax year will include the amount you owe the FSA plan.

Changing Your Election

You can enroll in or change your Flexible Spending Account (FSA) election(s) or vary your salary reduction amounts you have selected during the plan year, only under limited circumstances as provided by your state health plan and established IRS guidelines. Within 60 calendar days of a qualifying event, you must submit an election change request and supporting documentation to your agency Benefits Administrator. Election changes must be consistent with the event. The Commonwealth of Virginia will review, on a uniform and consistent basis, the facts and circumstances of each properly completed and timely submitted mid-plan year election change request. Upon the approval of your request, your existing FSA election(s) will be stopped or modified (as appropriate). You may not change your election after the effective date, unless you experience a Qualifying Life Event (QME).

A few examples of Qualifying Life Events (QME) include:

- Change in marital status.
- A change in number of dependents includes birth, death, adoption and placement for adoption.
- Change in employment status of the employee, or a spouse or dependent of the employee that affects the individual's eligibility under an employer's plan, including termination of employment.
- An event that causes the gain or loss of a dependent's eligibility status.
- Change in dependent care providers or a change in the cost of dependent care services. However, if a relative (who is related by blood or marriage) provides custodial care for your eligible dependent, you cannot change your salary reduction amount solely on a desire to increase or decrease the amount being paid to that relative.

When you cancel or decrease your FSA election to zero due to a status change, your account ends and you may only be reimbursed for expenses incurred up to the end of that coverage period.

For more information on Enrolling or Making Changes to your Flexible Spending Account(s), visit www.dhrm.virginia.gov or see your agency's Benefits Administrator.

What is My Coverage Period?

Your coverage period for incurring expenses is based on your participation in the program. If you make a permitted mid-plan year election change it may affect your coverage period. For a Health Care FSA, a mid-plan year election change will result in split periods of coverage, creating more than one coverage period within a plan year with expenses reimbursed from the appropriate coverage period. Money from a previous coverage period can be combined with amounts after a permitted mid-plan year election change. However, expenses incurred before the permitted election change can only be reimbursed from the amount of the balance present in the Health Care FSA prior to the change.

Mid-plan year election changes are approved only if the change is on account of and corresponds with the event according to the IRS regulations governing the plan.

PLEASE NOTE: Split periods of coverage do not apply to Dependent Care FSAs.

What are the IRS Special Consistency Rules Governing Change in Status?

1. Loss of Dependent Eligibility — If a change in your marital or employment status involves a decrease or cessation of your spouse's or dependent's eligibility requirements for coverage due to: your divorce, your spouse's or dependent's death or a dependent ceasing to satisfy eligibility requirements, you may decrease or cancel coverage only for the individual involved. You cannot decrease or cancel any other individual's coverage under these circumstances.

2. Gain Coverage Eligibility Under Another Employer's Plan

— If you, your spouse or your dependent gains eligibility for coverage under another employer's plan as a result of a change in marital or employment status, you may cease or decrease that individual's coverage if that individual gains coverage, or has coverage increased under the other employer's plan.

3. Dependent Care Expenses — You may change or terminate your Dependent Care FSA election when a Change in Status (CIS) event affects (i) eligibility for coverage under an employer's plan, or (ii) eligibility of dependent care expenses for the tax exclusion available under IRC § 129.

When Coverage Ends

Health Care FSAs

If you experience an event affecting your active employment status, such as termination of employment, unpaid leave or retirement, you may qualify to continue to contribute to your Health Care FSA on an after-tax basis. Contact your agency Benefits Administrator within 60 calendar days of the event to discuss continuation of your Health Care FSA through Extended Coverage.

If you do not elect to continue your participation in the Health Care FSA through Extended Coverage, in most cases your participation in the program will end the last day of the month in which your active employment status changed. If you do elect to continue participation in the Health Care FSA through Extended Coverage, you will make after-tax monthly contributions to your Health Care FSA along with the administrative fee. This will allow you to receive reimbursements on eligible health care expenses incurred during your coverage period. Your Health Care FSA coverage will not be continued beyond the plan year in which the Extended Coverage qualifying event occurred.

Dependent Care FSAs

You cannot continue contributing to your Dependent Care FSA under Extended Coverage. You can, however, continue to request reimbursement for eligible expenses until you exhaust your account balance or your run-out period ends.

Appeals

To Appeal a Denied Dependent Care FSA Claim

If you feel your claim was denied in error, you have the right to file an appeal by explaining in writing why you believe the claim should be approved. Your appeal may be submitted by logging into your PayFlex account, PayFlex Mobile® app, mail or fax to PayFlex. To appeal by traditional mail, send your request to the following address:

PayFlex Systems USA, Inc

Appeals
PO BOX 2495
Omaha, NE 68103

Or you may fax your request to **1-888-238-3539**.

Appeals (cont.)

- Your appeal must be received within 60 days of the date you receive notice that your claim was denied.
- You will be notified of the decision regarding your appeal in writing by PayFlex FSA within 60 days of receipt of your written appeal. The appeal decision on review is the Third-Party Administrator's (PayFlex FSA) final decision. If you appeal this claim again, your employer has the final coverage decision.
- You can request copies of all documents and information related to your denied claim. These will be provided at no charge.

To Appeal a Denied Health Care FSA Claim

If you feel your claim was denied in error, you have the right to file an appeal by explaining in writing why you believe the claim should be approved. Your appeal may be submitted by logging into your PayFlex account, PayFlex Mobile® app, mail or fax to PayFlex. To appeal by traditional mail, send your request to the following address:

PayFlex Systems USA, Inc

Appeals
PO BOX 2495
Omaha, NE 68103

Or you may fax your request to **1-888-238-3539**.

- Your appeal must be received within 180 days of the date you receive notice that your claim was denied.
- You are welcome to submit additional information related to your claim along with your appeal, such as: written comments, documents, records, a letter from your health practitioner indicating medical necessity of the denied product or service, and any other information you feel will support your claim.

Appeal Review Process for FSA Claims

- Your appeal will be reviewed by a person who was not involved with the initial claim denial and who is not a subordinate of any person who was.
- The review will be a fresh look at your claim and appeal without deference to the initial denial and will take into account all information submitted with your claim and/or appeal.
- You will be notified of the decision regarding your appeal in writing by PayFlex FSA within 60 days of receipt of your written appeal.

The appeal decision on review is the Third Party Administrator's (PayFlex FSA) final decision. After the PayFlex FSA appeal procedures have been exhausted, you may request an appeal with the Department of Human Resource Management (DHRM).

Your appeal should be submitted in writing to the Director of DHRM. Appeals to the Director must be filed within four (4) months of the notice of the adverse determination. To file such an appeal, you or your authorized representative must submit the following information to the Director of DHRM:

- Your full name
- Your identification number
- Your address
- Your telephone number
- A statement of the adverse decision you are appealing
- What specific remedy you are seeking in filing this appeal

You may download an appeals form at

www.dhrm.virginia.gov.

To appeal by traditional mail, send your request to the following address:

Director, Virginia Department of Human Resource Management
101 N. 14th Street – 12th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

Please mark the envelope: Confidential — Appeal Enclosed.

Or you may fax your request to **1-804-786-0356**. To use e-mail, send your request to **appeals@dhrm.virginia.gov**.

You have the right to submit written comments, documents, records, and other information supporting your claim. The appeal will take into account all information that you submit, regardless of whether it was submitted or considered in the initial determination.

DHRM does not accept appeals for matters in which the sole issue is disagreement with policies, rules, regulations, contract or law. If you are unsure whether a determination can be appealed, contact the Office of Health Benefits at **1-804-225-3642** or **1-888-642-4414**.

You are responsible for providing DHRM with all information necessary to review your request. You will be allowed to submit any additional information you wish to have considered in this review, and you will have the opportunity to explain, in person or by telephone, why you think the determination should be overturned.

These appeals will be decided by the Director of DHRM, who will render a written decision. If the decision is not in your favor, you have the right to further appeal through the Administrative Process Act. The circuit court ruling is binding on all parties. The Virginia Administrative Process Act addresses court review of administrative decisions at Va. Code §2.2-4025 through Va. Code §2.2-4030. Part 2A of the Rules of the Virginia Supreme Court addresses appeals through the Administrative Process Act.

Extended Coverage

What is Continuation Coverage?

The right to continuation of coverage was created for private employers by federal law through the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA), and these rights are reflected in the continuation coverage provisions of the Public Health Service Act which covers employees of state and local governments. Federal law requires that most group health plans, including Health Care FSAs, give employees and their families the opportunity to continue their health care coverage when there is a “qualifying event” that would result in a loss of coverage under an employer’s plan.

How Long Will Continuation Coverage Last?

For Health Care FSAs

If you have not already received as reimbursement the maximum benefit available under your Health Care FSA for the coverage period, you may continue your Health Care FSA (on a post-tax basis) only for the remainder of the plan year in which your qualifying event occurs.

If you stop working for your employer or lose your FSA eligibility, your plan participation and your pre-tax contributions will end automatically. Expenses for services you have after your FSA account termination date will only be eligible if you elect Extended Coverage.

When and How Payment for Continuation Coverage Must be Made?

First Payment for Continuation Coverage

If you elect continuation coverage, you do not have to send any payment for continuation coverage with the Extended Coverage Election Form. However, you must make your first payment for continuation coverage within 45 days after the date of your election. (This is the date the Election Notice is post-marked, if mailed.) If you do not make your first payment for continuation coverage within the 45-day period, you will lose all continuation coverage rights under the Plan.

Your first payment must cover the cost of continuation coverage from the time your coverage under the Plan would have otherwise terminated up to the time you make the first payment. You are responsible for making sure that the amount of your first payment is enough to cover this entire period.

Periodic Payments for Continuation Coverage

After you make your first payment for continuation coverage, you will be required to pay for continuation coverage for each subsequent month of coverage. Under the Plan, these periodic payments for continuation coverage are due on the first day of each month. If you make a periodic payment on or before its due date, your coverage under the Plan will continue for that coverage period without any break.

Grace Periods for Periodic Payments

Although periodic payments are due based on the above schedule, you will be given a grace period of 30 days to make each periodic payment. Your continuation coverage will be provided for each coverage period as long as payment for that coverage period is made before the end of the grace period for that payment. If you pay a periodic payment later than its due date but during its grace period, your coverage under the Plan will be suspended as of the due date and then retroactively reinstated (going back to the due date) when the periodic payment is made. This means that any claim you submit for benefits while your coverage is suspended may be denied and may have to be resubmitted once your coverage is reinstated.

If you fail to make a periodic payment before the end of the grace period for that payment, you will lose all rights to continuation coverage under the Plan.

This material is for informational purposes only and is not an offer of coverage. It contains only a partial, general description of plan benefits or programs and does not constitute a contract. It does not contain legal or tax advice. You should contact your legal counsel or tax advisor if you have any questions or if you need additional information. In case of a conflict between your plan documents and the information in this material, the plan documents will govern. Eligible expenses may vary from employer to employer. Please refer to your employer's Summary Plan Description ("SPD") for more information about your covered benefits. Information is believed to be accurate as of the production date; however, it is subject to change. PayFlex cannot and shall not provide any payment or service in violation of any United States (US) economic or trade sanctions. For more information about PayFlex, go to payflex.com.

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