FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT FROM PREMERA

Paying for healthcare expenses made easy

PREMERA | BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF ALASKA

Make paying for healthcare expenses easy

Premera Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alaska is committed to simplifying your experience when it comes to flexible spending accounts (FSAs).

What is an FSA?

An FSA is a tax-advantaged account that allows you to use pre-tax dollars to pay for out-of-pocket qualified medical expenses. You choose how much money you want to contribute to an FSA at the beginning of each plan year and then access these funds throughout the year.

Contribute to your FSA

Contribution limits

Contribution limits for the FSA are set by your employer. The amount you budget for healthcare expenses is automatically withheld from your paychecks throughout the year.

With an FSA, you do not pay taxes on the money you contribute, so your taxable income is reduced by this amount, saving you money.

Unused funds

Your employer may allow you to roll over some of the unused funds in your FSA.

Your Healthcare Payment Card

You will receive a healthcare payment card for use with your FSA. This is not a debit card. It is provided to give you quick access to the funds in your FSA.

Some merchants require a personal identification number (PIN) to use the card. To activate the card, call the number on the sticker on the card and you will receive your PIN as part of activation. To change your PIN, call **1-888-999-0121**. To use the card without a PIN, select "credit" when paying.

If you need an additional or replacement card, log in to your online account or contact customer service to make the request. There is no charge for this.

Healthcare FSA

A healthcare FSA can cover out-of-pocket medical expenses. Common qualified expenses include:

- Health plan deductibles, coinsurance, or copays
- Vision and Dental care
- Hospital charges
- Laboratory fees
- Prescriptions and certain over-the-counter items

Qualified expenses are based on the options your employer has selected and may not include some of the above.

This material is not intended to be tax or legal advice. The reader should consult with his or her own tax advisor to determine the tax implications of purchasing the products discussed herein. Advice, if any, included in this material was not intended or written by Premera to be used, and it cannot be used, by any taxpayer for the purpose of avoiding penalties that may be imposed on the taxpayer.

Use your FSA

Use your healthcare payment card to pay for eligible expenses at approved merchants and providers who accept debit cards.

If you pay using something other than your healthcare payment card, you can submit your claim online for reimbursement. Once you have submitted your receipts, you will be reimbursed by check or direct deposit.

When you incur eligible healthcare expenses, you should keep your itemized receipts since you may need to submit them to validate a claim for tax purposes.

Manage Your FSA

When you sign in to your account at **premera.com,** select **Manage Your Account** on the Personal Funding Account page:

- Check your account balance
- View transactions
- Enter a new claim
- View the status of claims
- Find out when to submit a receipt

You will be able to select the claims you want to pay and keep track of everything in one place.

Enjoy Tax Benefits

Since funds in your FSA aren't considered income:

- They aren't subject to income tax, Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA), or worker's compensation deductions.
- Withdrawals for qualified healthcare expenses for you and your dependents aren't taxable.

Contact your HR department for more information about how your specific FSA benefits work including what is covered and if there is a rollover amount.

Find account balance and claims status

Account balance and claims status information is available any time on the Personal Funding Account page when you log in at **premera.com**.

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