

FSA Compliance Issues

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FSA Basics

Types of FSAs



Two Main Types

- Health Care FSA
- Dependent Care FSA
- Others







Tax Benefits

- Employer
- Employee

Contribution Limit

• \$2,550 per plan year (for 2016)





Qualified Medical Expenses

- Who decides?
- Flexibility in design
- Incurred v. Submitted
 - Run-Out Period





- Claim Substantiation
 - Burdensome, but necessary
 - Can it be avoided? Not really



Debit Cards

- Employer's still responsible for compliance
- Comes with restrictions



Dependent Care FSA



- Contribution Limit
 - Generally, \$5,000 per plan year (for 2016)

Qualifying Individuals

Qualifying Expenses



FSAs Generally



- Uniform Availability
 - Does not apply to Dependent Care FSAs

- Use-it-or-Lose-it Rule
 - Generally forfeit unused amounts

Experience Gains

FSA Issues



Grace Period

Up to 2½ months



Carryover Amount

- Up to \$500
- Impact on yearly contribution limit?

It's one or the other—not both





- Objective: need to avoid ACA mandates.
 - \$100 penalty per participant per day of violation.
- FSA must be:
 - "excepted benefit"; or
 - Integrated with medical coverage.



"Excepted benefit" if:

- Eligibility same as for medical plan coverage; and
- Employer contributions are no more than:
 - \$1 for \$1 match; or
 - \$500.





Integrated FSA

- Must offer group medical plan.
- Employee enrolled in group medical plan (even if not employer's).
- Annual opportunity to permanently opt out of or waive future reimbursements from FSA.





Tax Code Section 125

- Irrevocable election.
- Exceptions:
 - Mid-year status events
 - FMLA leave
 - Dependent Care special rules
- Possibly to correct a mistake?





Health and Dependent Care FSAs

- Change in Status Events
 - Marital status
 - Number of dependents
 - Employment status
 - Dependent's eligibility
- Subject to consistency rule





Dependent Care FSAs only:

- Change in cost (except for relatives)
- Change in provider
- Change in hours of dependent care
- Change in eligibility for coverage under another employer's plan





Health FSAs only:

- Qualified Medical Child Support Order
- Change in Medicare/Medicaid Entitlement





FMLA and health FSAs

- Employer may allow employee to revoke coverage during FMLA leave.
- FSA coverage upon return from FMLA leave:
 - Employer option 1: required reinstatement of coverage (if also required for non-FMLA leave)
 - Employer option 2: allow employee to elect reinstatement in FSA:
 - Coverage upon reinstatement:
 - Same coverage amount, with increased contribution amount
 - Same contribution amount, but decreased coverage amount
- But look at plan document for contrary provisions



USERRA and Health FSAs

- Upon reemployment after military leave, right to reinstatement in benefits.
 - No explicit rules
 - Allow new elections if permit for employees returning from other leaves.











HSAs and HRAs

FSAs and HSAs



- Is having both Health Care FSA and HSA possible?
 - Yes! But must carefully structure
- Structuring your Health Care FSA
 - General Purpose
 - Limited Purpose
 - Post-Deductible

HRAs and HSAs



Coordination issues with HRAs:

- Can't allow employees to double-dip on reimbursements.
 - Employee must certify that:
 - Expense has not been reimbursement under any other coverage
 - Will not seek reimbursement under any other coverage
- Ordering rules in HRA and Health FSA plan documents?





- Health FSAs are subject to COBRA
- "Excepted Benefit" FSAs have limited COBRA rights
 - No offer if FSA is "overspent"
 - If underspent, coverage only extends through end of plan year



- Each qualified beneficiary has an independent right to elect COBRA
 - Employee with family of four terminates employment: one shared account, or separate accounts?
 - Spouse losing coverage because of divorce: separate account?
 - Premiums?



- Grace periods apply
 - 2-1/2 additional months to incur costs
- \$500 carryover
 - Same carryover rights as non-COBRA FSA beneficiaries.



FSA Nondiscrimination

FSA Nondiscrimination



- Health FSA (§ 105) tests:
 - Section 105 eligibility tests
 - 70% test
 - 80%/70%
 - Nondiscriminatory classification test
 - Section 105 benefits test

FSA Nondiscrimination



Dependent Care FSA (§ 129) tests:

- nondiscriminatory classification eligibility test
- contributions and benefits test
- More than 5% owners concentration test
- 55% average benefits test

FSA Nondiscrimination



- Also included in cafeteria plan (§ 125) tests:
 - Nondiscriminatory classification eligibility test
 - Contributions and benefits test
 - Key employee concentration test







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Contact the Presenters



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Contact Us





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