

BULLETIN

SUBJECT:

FLEXIBLE 125 REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNTS

2010-11 No. AS-7

PLAN YEAR: JANUARY, 2011 - DECEMBER 31,

<u>2011</u>

TO:

All Active Employees

DATE:

August 2010

PREPARED BY:

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DEPARTMENT:

Compensation and Benefits

REVIEWED BY:

Patricia A. Hagemeyer

APPROVED:

Open Enrollment for Flexible Reimbursement Account enrollment begins August 31, 2010 and ends November 15, 2010. If you pay childcare or have out of pocket medical or prescription expenses, you may want to consider enrolling in this plan. IMPORTANT: You must enroll each year because 2010 Flexible Reimbursement Accounts do not automatically rollover for 2011.

A Flexible Reimbursement Account(s) provides district employees with the option to set aside pre-tax dollars from their payroll check in accounts that reimburse eligible dependent care expenses and/or out-of-pocket health care expenses. Therefore, you are able to reduce your taxes and increase your spendable income. The Plan allows you a choice of two Flexible Reimbursement Accounts. You can participate in either a Dependent Care Reimbursement Account or Health Care Reimbursement Account, or both.

How to Enroll: Contact the Employee Benefits Office and enrollment information will be provided to you. The deadline to enroll is November 15, 2010. If you enroll, the District will reduce your salary by your designated amount and credit those dollars to your flexible spending account(s). The District will credit your account(s) with equal amounts for each pay period during the Plan Year.

Important Information...Please check benefit website for detailed information:

- Due to new changes in law, some over-the-counter medication will no longer be eligible for reimbursement without a prescription. New guidelines for 2011 are attached.
- For 2011, you may contribute up to \$5,000 for each account.
- Please carefully make your election amount(s). If you do not use the money for eligible expenses incurred during the plan year (calendar year), the amount you do not claim must be forfeited.
 - This feature is a federal requirement. It is commonly referred to as "use it or lose it".
- Once enrolled you cannot "drop out" unless there is a qualifying status change, such as a change of employment status (yours or your spouse's), or the birth or adoption of a child. You will need to complete a status change form. All changes made due to a qualifying event, must be completed within 30 days of event.

Questions and Inquiries:

- Employee Benefits Office is located at the Serna Center, 5735 47th Avenue, Sacramento, California, 95824. You may reach us by phone: 643-9432 or email: benefits@sac-city.k12.ca.us.
- You may also contact CBA (Custom Benefit Administrators) at 916-303-7090 or 800-574-5448, or visit their website at www.cbadministrators.com.

Over-The-Counter (OTC) Drugs will no longer be reimbursable without a doctor's prescription after January 1, 2011!

In March 2010, President Obama signed broad new health care reform legislation into law.

One provision of the new law is that over-the-counter (OTC) drugs & medicines will no longer be reimbursable through a Medical Flexible Spending Account (FSA) after January 1, 2011 unless the expense is accompanied by a physician's prescription.

What does this mean for Medical FSA participants? Simply put, it means that the list of items you may purchase "OTC" (i.e. without a prescription from a doctor) will shrink from 43,000 items currently to approximately 23,000 items in 2011. So while 23,000 is still a big list, this new law will significantly reduce the items that you may purchase without a prescription.

Remember though, all the drugs & medicines that will drop off this list are still technically reimbursable after January 1, 2011. The difference is you will need a doctor's prescription, which of course will make it less convenient to be reimbursed for these items.

Following is a sample list of the types of OTC expenses that <u>WILL</u> require a doctor's prescription after January 1, 2011:

Acid Relievers	Digestive Aids					
Allergy & Sinus Remedies	Feminine Anti-Fungal Remedies					
• Antibiotics	Hemorrhoidal Remedies					
Anti-Gas Remedies	Laxatives					
Anti-Itch Remedies	Motion Sickness Remedies					
Anti-parasitic Treatments	Pain Relief Medication					
Baby Rash Ointments/Creams	Respiratory Treatments					
Cold Sore Remedies	Sleep Aids & Sedatives					
Cough, Cold & Flu Remedies	Stomach/Intestinal Remedies					

Following is a sample list of the types of OTC expenses that **WILL NOT** require a doctor's prescription after January 1, 2011:

Band Aids & bandages	Diagnostic Tests & Monitors
Birth Control	First Aid Supplies
Braces & Supports	Insulin & Diabetic Supplies
Catheters	Ostomy (e.g. colostomy) Products
Contact Lens Supplies & Solutions	Reading Glasses
Denture Adhesives	Wheelchairs, Walkers, Canes

How much will this affect my election for the coming plan year? That depends on how you use your FSA account. If you use your account primarily for OTC drugs and medicines, the new law could significantly impact the amount you should elect. On the other hand, if you rarely use your FSA account to purchase OTC drugs and medicines, it probably shouldn't impact your election at all. Nationwide, only about 6% of FSA purchases are for OTC drugs and medicines. This means that 94% of all purchases are

not affected by the new law. Still, you are the best judge of how this new law may impact your election. Just remember that starting in 2011, you will need a doctor's prescription to be reimbursed for OTC drugs and medicines. The prescription must identify each drug/medicine for which you want to be reimbursed. The prescription can be for a one-time use or for a life-time condition (e.g. ibuprofen for chronic pain, allergy medicine for hay fever, etc.).

I have a 2010 FSA Account. Can I use my 2010 account to purchase OTC drugs and medicines before January 1, 2011 without a prescription? Yes! Within reason, you can use your 2010 FSA account to purchase OTC drugs and medicines without a prescription as long as you make your purchase prior to January 1, 2011. But you can't go crazy and purchase a year's worth of aspirin. The amount you purchase of each product has to be reasonable so if you want to maximize the amount you spend, be sure to spread your purchase out among multiple products.

Are Medical FSA accounts still worth having after this change? Absolutely! Remember that nationwide only 6% to 8% of all Medical FSA reimbursements are for OTC drugs and medicines. This means that between 92% & 94% of reimbursements are still totally tax-free through your Medical FSA. Plus, you may still be reimbursed for OTC drugs and medicines with a doctor's prescription.

We'll keep you posted on the new law as information becomes available.

Enrol	Enrollment form & Salary Reduction Agreement											
	EMPLOYER: Sacramento City Unified School District PLAN YEAR: 2011											
1	Employee Information											
	FIRST NAME		LAST NAME					SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER				
•	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY				STATE	E	ZIP CODE				
•	DATE OF BIRTH	DAYTIM	E PHONE NUMBER E-I			E-MAIL	MAIL ADDRESS				SEX Male Female	
2	Making Your Elections - Enter your election for each account.											
	Medical Expense FSA		Dependent Ca	re	FSA		Pre-1	Tax Pro	emiur	m Plan	("POP")	
	Yes, I elect to participate in the Medical Expense FSA. The amorelect for the PLAN YEAR is entered below (maximum election \$5,000)	Yes, I elect to participate in the Dependent Care FSA. The amount I elect for the PLAN YEAR is entered below (maximum election \$5,000):				If you contribute toward the cost of your group health insurance, you are automatically enrolled in the pre-tax premium plan (POP). You do not need						
	* Your election will be deducted from your p equal installments each pay period through	ed from your pay in * Your election will be deducted from your pay in health insura						orms to save taxes on your ance contributions.				
3	Plan Year.		Plan Year.									
	Salary Reduction Agreement I authorize my employer to reduce my taxable con					1611 1						
	 ➤ I understand that I must be 'common law employee' (as defined by my employer) to participate in the Plan. I further understand that if I am 'self-employed' (as defined under Code § 401°, which includes a sole proprietor, partner in a partnership, over 2% owner of a S-Corp (or the employee spouse or dependent of a more than 2% owner of an S-Corp), I may not participate in the Plan. ➤ Once made, my elections are 'irrevocable' during the plan year unless I experience a 'qualifying and related change in status' or other permissible event as defined in the Plan and by the Internal Revenue code(RS). I further understand that my employer may modify or revoke my elections in any way it deems necessary in order to maintain the flexible benefit plan in compliance with all applicable provisions of the IRS. I further understand that my elections are in addition to any other agreements I have with my employer. ➤ If my contributions for health insurance change by an insignificant amount during the plan year, my employer will automatically adjust my pre-tax contributions accordingly. ➤ I will forfeit contributions that I have not claimed from my FSA accounts after the end of each plan year (the run-out period). The length of the run-out period is stated in my Summary Plan Description. ➤ I may be offered COBRA for my Medical Expense FSA if I otherwise qualify. ➤ Tax-free reimbursements from my FSAs may only be made for qualified expenses incurred (date services are rendered) during the plan year and may not be carried over into future plan years. I understand that reimbursements are based on the amount I owe for qualified expenses and NOT on the amount I pay or have paid. ➤ Services must be rendered (performed) before I may be relimbursed. ➤ Psy participating in my Resible benefit (cafetral) plan I, could potentially reduce my social security benefits. ➤ This agreement is subject to all the terms and conditio											
	EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE: DATE: / /											
	To be completed by Employer	Locus	EITO EFFECTIVE	r .	DOMENIA LINE	1	DE DATE	. т	MILIMAD	ED OF DAY	/ DEDIODS	
	AUTHORIZED SCUSD SIGNATURE	DATE	FITS EFFECTIVE (May not precede mployee signed form)	BA	ARGAINING UNIT	HII	RE DATE		(CIRCL	ER OF PAY _E ONE): 	Y PERIODS	