

# FSA Eligible/Ineligible and Over-the-Counter Expenses

A Flexible Spending Account (FSA) is an IRS-approved benefit. It allows members to use pre-tax dollars to cover eligible (approved) expenses. Below are examples of IRS eligible expenses and those that are not. This list is not meant to be all-inclusive. The IRS may allow or disallow items depending on facts or circumstances. The IRS defines eligible health care expenses as "amounts paid for the diagnosis, cure, mitigation or treatment of a disease, and for treatments affecting any part or function of the body."

Benefit plans vary. Always check with your employer for the details of your plan. This information is subject to change. Visit <u>www.irs.gov</u> for current guidelines.

#### **Eligible (Allowed) Expenses**

**Dental Services** 

Physical exam Dental X-rays

Dentures

Exam/teeth cleaning

Extractions Fillings

Gum treatment Oral surgery

Orthodontia/braces

Lab Exams/Test

Blood test X-rays Cardiographs Laboratory fees Metabolism test Spinal fluid tests Urine/stool analysis

**Vision Services** 

Eye exams Eyeglasses Reading glasses Contact lenses Laser eye surgeries Artificial eyes

Prescription sunglasses Radial keratomy/LASIK

#### **Medical Treatment/Procedures**

Acupuncture

Alcoholism (inpatient treatment)

Drug addiction Hospital services Immunizations Infertility

In vitro fertilization

Physical exam (not work related)

Reconstruction surgery for congenital defect or accident

Rolfing Speech therapy Sterilization

Transplants (including organ donor)

Vaccinations

Vasectomy and reversal

Weight loss programs as prescribed by a doctor

Well baby care

Medication

Insulin

Prescribed birth control and vitamins

Prescription drugs

**Obstetric Services** 

Lamaze class Midwife expenses Ob/gyn exams

Ob/gyn prepaid maternity fees (reimbursable after date of birth)

Pre- and postnatal treatments

**Practitioners** 

Allergist Chiropractor Dermatologist Homeopath Naturopath Osteopath Physician Psychiatrist

**Psychologist** 

**Medical Equipment, Supplies & Services** 

Abdominal/back supports Ambulance services Arches/orthopedic shoes

Counseling Crutches

Guide dog for visually or hearing impaired

Hearing devices and batteries

Hospital bed Lead paint removal

Learning disability (special school/teacher)

Medic alert bracelet/necklace

Oxygen equipment
Prescribed contraceptives

Prosthesis

Splints/casts or support hose

Syringes

Transportation expenses essential for medical care Tuition fee at special schools for a disabled child Weight loss medications to treat a specific disease

Wheelchair

Wigs (hair loss due to a disease)



# **Ineligible (Not Allowed) Expenses**

Babysitting and child care Household and domestic help

Contact lenses or eyeglass insurance Insurance premiums
Cosmetics, toiletries, toothpaste, etc. Long-term care premiums
Dancing/exercise/fitness programs Marriage counseling
Diaper service Maternity clothes

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Electrolysis Personal trainers or exercise equipment

Hair loss medications Swimming lessons
Hair transplants Teeth whitening/bleaching

Health club dues Vitamins or nutritional supplements

## Over-the-Counter (OTC) Eligible Items

Requiring a Prescription Not Requiring a Prescription

Acid controllers Bandages

Allergy and sinus medications

Antibiotic products

Anti-diarrheal drugs

Blood glucose meters

Blood pressure monitor

Carpal tunnel wrist supports

Anti-gas medications Cholesterol tests

Anti-itch and insect bite treatments Colorectal cancer screening tests

Anti-parasitic treatments Contact lenses cleaning
Rash ointments/creams Crutches and mobility aids

Cold sore remedies Diabetes monitors and supplies, including insulin

Cold/cough, flu medications Ear wax kit

Digestive aids Eye drops and eye lubricants

Feminine anti-fungal/anti-itch products Hot/cold packs

Hemorrhoid preparations Incontinences supplies

LaxativesKnee supportsMotion sickness medicationsNasal stripsPain reliefOrthotic supplies

Respiratory treatments Pregnancy tests and storage supplies

Sleep aids and sedatives Reading glasses Stomach remedies (including baby) Thermometers



#### Reimbursement

## For Expenses Paid Out-of-Pocket

FSA debit card not used

Choose one of the following methods to request reimbursement.

#### Preferred method:

- Ask your pharmacist to fill the prescription for the OTC medicine/drug (just as you do any prescription) and assign it an Rx number. The Rx number will display on the pharmacy receipt.
- Attach the receipt containing the Rx number to your FSA Claim Form.

This method increases the chance of claim approval without the need for further documentation.

If prescription cannot be filled by a pharmacist and assigned an Rx number:

- Submit a copy of the prescription with a valid sales receipt showing:
  - o Date
  - Amount
  - o Product information
- Prescription must meet these state requirements:
  - Written only by someone authorized to do so, such as a doctor
  - Must include expiration limits

The applicable state law is determined by where the product was purchased (not where it is used).

For Expenses Paid with Your FSA Debit Card
At authorized merchants

FSA debit card purchases for OTC items will be approved or denied at the point of sale. (Except for medicines and drugs without an Rx number. See note at bottom of page).

FSA debit cards may be used to purchase OTC medicines or drugs at these locations:

- Drug stores and pharmacies
- Non-healthcare merchants that have pharmacies
- Mail order and web-based vendors selling OTC medicines and drugs

The following criteria must be met:

- A valid prescription is written by an authorized provider and presented to a pharmacist to fill and assign an Rx number.
- The Rx number is displayed on the pharmacy receipt.
- At authorized FSA merchants, use your FSA debit card to pay for the purchase.

**Important**: The FSA debit card system will not accept a charge for an OTC medicine or drug unless an Rx number has been assigned. If an OTC medicine or drug is purchased other than with an FSA debit card, an **FSA Claim Form** must be submitted with a copy of the prescription and a valid sales receipt showing the date, amount and product information.