

# WHAT IS A Private Health Services Plan?



A "cost plus" PHSP under subsection 248(1) of the Income Tax Act including Health Spending Accounts is an arrangement whereby an incorporated employer can reimburse an employee through a 3rd party plan for any incurred Health or Dental expenses that would otherwise have qualified under the "Medical Expense Tax Credit". These expenses are fully Tax Deductible for the business, Non-Taxable to the employee and are not subject to CPP or El remittance. There are no monthly premiums for a PHSP. One CRA requirement for a PHSP is that all full-time employees of the business must be, either enrolled on the plan or have been offered benefits under the plan but decided not to participate. Our benefit plans offer maximum flexibility and often are designed with 2 or more employee classes or levels of benefits based on occupation or "years of service". Proprietorships have specific limitations and may not qualify for a PHSP. For your convenience in establishing a plan please complete our "fill sheet" and return to our office. One of our specialists will then contact you for a brief consultation to ensure your customized plan is fully compliant and the perfect fit for your business.

Innovative Benefits is a rapidly growing enterprise and takes pride in providing responsive and fast service coupled with knowledgeable, experienced advice in designing customized plans for our customers. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.



# WHAT ARE THE COST SAVINGS?

#### Consider the following circumstances:

- Salary \$100,000
- Personal Marginal tax rate 36%
- Corporate tax rate of 14%
- \$3500.00 combined health and dental expenditures

## WITHOUT AN IB CORPORATE COST PLUS PLAN

The employee would have to earn \$5468.75 before tax to net \$3500

With a 36% tax rate, their tax cost is \$1968.75

\$3500.00 is left over to pay their bills

A medical expense tax credit of \$199.35 is available.

Total Tax Burden to pay these bills was \$1769.40

Total cost of \$5269.40

## WITH AN IB CORPORATE COST PLUS PLAN

Submit a claim to IB for \$3500.00. IB will invoice the company for \$3794.00 representing the \$3500.00 + 8% claims adjudication fee and 5% GST on the fee.

After paying the invoice the full amount of the claim (\$3500) is reimbursed.

This amount is non-taxable.

The company is able to deduct the full \$3794.00 as an employee benefit business expense.

With a tax rate of 14% \$3794.00 represents a net cost of \$3262,84.

Therefore the total tax cost was reduced by \$2006.56, a 38% savings.

#### Contact us for more information

#435, 450 Ordze Road, Sherwood Park, AB T8B 0C5 780-448-0783 or 1-866-448-0783 info@innovativebenefits.ca | www.innovativebenefits.ca





# LIST OF ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES GUIDELINE

Note: If you have any questions regarding eligibility of medical expenditures for tax purposes, please call Innovative Benefits Inc., or go to the Government of Canada website and look for Technical Bulletin IT519R2 http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/medical/

#### **Premiums for Health Care Plans**

Premiums paid to any non-government medical or hospital care plan: Blue Cross, Sun Life, etc.

#### **Professional Services**

Any services performed by a qualified medical practitioner including, but not limited to:

Acupuncture	Neurology	Osteopathy	Psychology
Chiropodist	Obstetrics	Pediatrics	Registered Nurse
Chiropractic	Oculist	Physician	Speech Therapy
Dental	Ophthalmology	Physiotherapy	Surgeon
Dermatology	Optician	Plastic Surgery	Vision Care
Gynecology	Optometric	Podiatry	Hearing Specialist
Massage Therapy	Orthodontic	Practical Nurse	
Naturopathic Doctor	Orthopedic	Psychiatry	

(A qualified medical practitioner is a person who is authorized to practice in accordance to the laws of the province and certified according to the practitioners governing body.)

#### **All Dental Services**

Dental X-Rays	Examinations	Crowns	Root Canals
Denture Repair	Extractions	Gum Treatment	Straightening Teeth
Denture Replacement	Fillings	Oral Surgery	(eg. Braces)

#### Laboratory Examination and Tests

Blood Tests	Spinal Fluid Tests	Urine Analysis	MRI
Cardiographs	Stool Examination	X-Ray Examination	CAT Scan
Metabolism Tests			



#### **Hospital Services**

Anesthesiologist	Oxygen Masks, Tent	Vaccines	Private/Semi-Private
Hospital Bills	Operating Room Fees	X-Ray Tech Room Fees	

#### Medications

<b>3</b> • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Prescription Drugs	Liver Extract
prescribed by a Dentist, Medical or Naturopathic Doctor and recorded	Insulin or Substitutes	Vitamin B-12
by a licensed pharmacist	Oxygen	Diabetic Supplies

#### **Prescribed Medical Treatments**

Blood Transfusion	Organ Transplant	Hydrotherapy	Pre & Post Natal Treatments
Bone Marrow Transplant	Insulin Treatments	Injections	Psychotherapy
Diathermy	Nursing (Registered)	Art Therapy	

#### Materials that are Prescribed by a Recognized Medical Practitioner:

- An external breast prosthesis
- Any device designed to assist walking where the individual has a mobility impairment
- Devices designed to assist a person to use bathtubs, showers or toilets
- Devices designed to enable individuals with a mobility impairment to operate a vehicle
- Devices used by individuals suffering from a chronic respiratory ailment
- Electronic or computerized environmental control systems
- Electronic Speech synthesizers for mute individuals
- Equipment that enables deaf or mute persons to make and receive telephone calls
- Extremity pumps or elastic support hoses to reduce lymph edema swelling
- Heart monitors or pacemakers
- Hospital bed, if required in home
- Inductive coupling osteogenesis stimulator
- Infusion pumps for diabetes including peripherals
- Monitors attached to babies identified as being susceptible to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome
- Optical scanners or similar devices to enable a blind individual to read print
- Orthopedic shoes or boots
- Oxygen tent
- Power operated guided chair installation for stairways
- Power operated lifts and transportation equipment
- Synthetic speech systems, Braille printers and large print-on-screen devices
- Syringes
- Television closed caption decoders
- Wigs if required as a result of disease, accident or medical treatment



#### Materials which don't require a prescription:

Any apparatus or material paid to a doctor, dentist, nurse or hospital	Hernia truss
Any device to aid the hearing of a deaf person	Iron Lung
Artificial eye or limb	Laryngeal speaking aid
Artificial Kidney Machine	Wheelchair
Blood sugar measuring device for diabetic	Crutches
Limb or spinal brace	Colostomy pads
Catheters, catheter trays, tubing, adult diapers & disposable briefs required by incontinent persons	

#### **Other Expenditures:**

Ambulance Charges	Homemaker service & home care
Prescription birth control	Reasonable costs for adapting a residence to accommodate a disabled person
Specially trained animals for assistance	Transportation, meals & accommodation for patients who need to travel for treatments
Rehabilitative therapy, lip reading & sign language training	Transportation costs to and from medical treatments that are not available within 40 km of home

#### The Following Expenditures would NOT be covered under this plan:

- Air conditioners, humidifiers or dehumidifiers
- Maternity clothes
- Cosmetic Surgery
- Medical Expenses for which you have been reimbursed
- Health and fitness programs or are entitled to be reimbursed from other plans
- Illegal operations, treatments or drugs
- Non-prescription birth control devices
- Teeth whitening
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, etc.
- Over-the counter medications, vitamins and supplements, even if prescribed by a medical practitioner
- Payments to a municipality where it employed a doctor to provide medical services to the residents of the municipality.

## IMPORTANT – Provincial Health Care and AB Health& Wellness, "non group" premiums ARE NOT eligible.

### HSA/COST PLUS ELIGIBILITY WORKSHEET



Company/Business name:			
Company E-mail:			
Company Address:			
Company Phone Number:			
Plan Administrator Name:			
B. Fiscal vear-end:	(month)		

C. **Principles/Directors:** List names of all principles and/or directors who would participate in this plan. (must also be active in the day to day operations of the business)

D. Are there any full-time, permanent employees who are at arm's length (not related) to the directors? YES NO

- If NO, proceed to set up an Innovative Benefits "corporate cost plus" plan.
- If YES, please let us know:
  - 1. How many non-related employees are there?
  - 2. Does this business already have a benefit program in place for the remaining employees YES NO

#### E. 1) If you answered "Yes" to question D-2 above:

You are eligible for a standalone *"executive cost plus"* HSA plan. Upon implementation of your "executive cost plus" plan, ask us how we can assist with additional cost saving strategies on your current Group Health & Dental plan.

#### 2) If you answered "No" to question D-2 above:

You are eligible to set up a multi-tiered "Health Spending Account", where your employees should be offered at least 10% of the amounts made available to the executives. Often the tax savings from the executive plan will fully cover the company's expenditure for the employee's HSA.

#### F. Type of plan you are eligible for:

#### Cost Plus, annual limit:

Default is \$15,000 for Professional Corporations & \$10,000 for active incorporated businesses, unless otherwise stated. Plan limits should not exceed approximately 15% of the individual's total compensation or payroll of the business.

Participant's Name	Occupation	DOB (m/d/yyyy)	# of eligible dependents



## HEALTH SPENDING ACCOUNTS (HSA) **OVERVIEW**

Do your employee benefit plans meet yours and your employee's needs? Are you looking for more benefit flexibility for your employees and increased cost containment for your business? An Innovative Benefits Inc. HSA could be your first step towards achieving a "LEAN" benefits plan helping to contain costs, and empowering your employees, resulting in enhanced staff morale and overall value for your benefits and compensation budget.

An HSA allows you, as an employer, to set a predetermined dollar amount, which your employees can then use to pay for medical and dental expenses. All expenses that are eligible to be processed through a private health services plan are eligible for reimbursement through this benefit.

The HSA amount is selected by you, the employer, and is complementary to your standard Group Benefit Plan.

#### Advantages:

- You as the employer will reap the same business expense deductibility as that of a group medical & dental plan. Your "base" benefit plan HSA outlays are not subject to Canada Pension Plan or Employment Insurance payroll deductions or remittances.
- Your employees will enjoy the same tax advantages as any health and dental plan, as all benefits reimbursed through HSA's are non-taxable to the employee.
- Can be positioned as a tax-free incentive program offered to all or separate classes already participating in your traditional benefits plan. A non-taxable HSA compares favourably to a taxable cash bonus.
- Promotes increased access to preventative healthcare resulting in awareness and reduced claims charges to your traditional plan.
- Well crafted HSA's have been proven to be a very effective tool in helping contain the rising costs of traditional health, drug and dental plans.
- An effective cost empowerment strategy that promotes ownership in the plan and encourages a shift in overall health and dental spending behaviors.
- Employees will now have the flexibility to use this predetermined amount as they see fit, rather than restrictive claims adjudication processes and being limited by the provisions of an insured contract.
- Universal benefit that all employees can utilize increasing overall value, compared to a benefit that is funded by all but can only be used by some.
- Can be an excellent alternative to vision and/or orthodontic coverage.
- Increases cost certainty for the employer, enabling more accurate fiscal budgeting.



# HOW DOES THE 'CARRY FORWARD' IN A HEALTH SPENDING ACCOUNT WORK?

A new HSA credit is allocated to each employee effective January 01.You may choose to allow one of the following carry forward provisions or you may elect not to have a carry forward provision.

Only one carry forward option can apply for each separate class or division.

- 1. No Carry Forward: After the start of a new benefit period or calendar year, an employee can no longer claim receipts from the previous year, (unless within the 30 day run off period). Any unused portion of their Health Spending Account will be forfeited, and the employee starts the New Year with their new yearly HSA limit.
- 2. Credit Carry Forward: At the beginning of a new benefit period or calendar year the employee is credited their new yearly HSA benefit that is added to the unused portion from the previous year. For example, if an employee has a \$5,000 annual limit and submits only \$3,000 for the current benefit year, \$2,000 is carried forward into the next benefit year (and is thus added on to the new \$5,000 allocation). In this example the employee would have an effective benefit limit of \$7,000 for that year. Effectively each year's annual HSA credit has a shelf life of 2 calendar years.
- 3. Expense Carry Forward: In this circumstance an employee is simply allowed to carry over old receipts from a previous year in which they reached their limit to the new benefit year. This occurs when an employee has expenses that exceed their annual HSA limit and is most common or beneficial for HSA accounts with smaller limits.



#### **HOW DO I SUBMIT CLAIMS?**

In order to be reimbursed for eligible medical and dental expenses the signed Claim Form and copies or originals of supporting documentation as specified in the table below must be submitted to Innovative Benefits.

Expense Type	Supporting Documentation
Prescription Medications	Computerized Official Prescription Receipt with Pharmacist signature or stamp
Non-traditional Medications	Computerized Official Prescription Receipt with pharmacist signature or stamp OR Official Dispensing Receipt from licensed medical practitioner stating that the items were prescribed and dispensed as a part of their required medical treatment.
Dental Treatments	Standard Dental Claim Form, including the Dentist's signature or stamp.
Optical Services	Prescription for Eyeglasses or Contact Lenses AND payment receipt
Medical Practitioners & Equipment (e.g. Physiotherapy, Chiropractor, Massage Therapy, etc.)	<ul> <li>Receipt from the licensed Medical Practitioner or retailer, including all the following information.</li> <li>Practitioner, Clinic Name, Address and Phone Number</li> <li>Name of the licensed Medical Practitioner who performed the service</li> <li>License number and credentials of the medical Practitioner</li> <li>Patient Name</li> <li>Date of Service</li> <li>Amount paid</li> <li>Description of service or treatment equipment.</li> <li>Signature or stamp of the licensed Medial Practitioner who performed the service</li> </ul>

#### What if Innovative Benefits Inc. is the second payor?

If your HSA is the second payor then a copy of the receipt along with the Explanation of Benefits from the primary payor is required. Remember that submitting the same receipt for reimbursement to 2 or more payors constitutes fraud.

#### Should I keep my original receipts?

Remember that if you do not send your original receipts, it is your responsibility to keep those and other claim documentation in your files as you may be required to show proof of the expense should Innovative Benefits Inc. or Canada Revenue Agency conduct a review.

#### Where do I mail my claim form and/or receipts?

Innovative Benefits Inc. 435, 450 Ordze Road Sherwood Park, Alberta T8B 0C5

#### Can I email or fax my claim?

You are welcome to email your scanned claim form and receipts to: claims@innovativebenefits.ca or fax toll free to 1.866.450.2507

