

IRS announces reimbursement for PPE under flex spending account

Recent announcement from the Internal Revenue Service that pertains to the Health Care Spending Account (HCSA). Effective January 1, 2020, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) purchased primarily to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is eligible for reimbursement through the HCSA. Reimbursable COVID-19 PPE expenses include amounts paid for masks, hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes.

Represented employees who participate in the HCSA for 2021 will be notified of this change in the quarterly statement they will receive shortly from HealthEquity. In addition, the Flex Spending Account homepage (goer.ny.gov/FSA) has been updated to announce the change. Since the 2020 plan year claims deadline has ended, participants can't be reimbursed for 2020 PPE expenses, but they may be reimbursed for 2021 PPE expenses retroactive to January 1, 2021.

If anyone has any questions please contact the Flex Spending Account at 800-833-4344 or visit the website at goer.ny.gov/FSA.