

Reduce your health care spending



If you're trying to spend as little on your health care premiums as possible, a high-deductible health plan (HDHP) combined with a health savings account (HSA) may be right for you.

Independence Blue Cross (Independence) offers Archdiocese members an HDHP that can be paired with an HSA. Together, they can help you and your covered dependents protect your health while lowering your monthly premiums.

Our HDHP offers freedom and flexibility

- Our Personal Choice (PPO) HDHP allows you to choose your own doctors and hospitals. You don't need to select a primary care physician, and you'll never need a referral to see a specialist.
- Your out-of-pocket costs are lower when you use in-network providers. With the largest network in our area, there's a good chance you can find in-network providers who meet your needs.
- You must pay all your medical and prescription costs out of pocket until you meet your annual deductible, which is \$1,500 if you're insuring yourself and \$3,000 if you have one or more covered dependents.
- After you meet your deductible, the plan covers most medical expenses at 100 percent with no member cost-share. You are responsible for prescription drug copays after meeting your deductible:
 - Generic drugs: \$15
 - Preferred drugs: \$35
 - Non-Preferred drugs: \$60

- Your maximum annual out-of-pocket costs are capped at \$6,350 if you're insuring yourself and \$12,700 if you have a family plan. Once you meet your out-of-pocket maximum, all medical and prescription drug costs are covered at 100 percent of the plan allowance.

Here's an example of how the HDHP works

- 1 An in-network dermatologist charges \$180 for an office visit for a routine evaluation, and the contracted rate for the service is \$100.
- 2 You are responsible for paying your in-network individual deductible up to \$1,500.
- 3 You will be responsible for the full allowed/contracted rate of \$100.
- 4 Your annual deductible is now \$1,400, and future services will continue to apply towards deductible until that amount is at \$0.
- 5 Once you exceed the \$1,500 in-network deductible, the plan will pay most medical expenses at 100%.

Getting the most from your HDHP

- When using an in-network health care provider, inform them that you're enrolled in an HDHP through Independence.
- It's better not to pay any medical expenses (except for point-of-sale prescriptions) until you've received an Explanation of Benefits (EOB) that outlines the final costs for the service(s).
- If payment is due at the time of service, ask if you can pay just part of the charges until you've received an EOB from Independence that outlines the final costs.
- If the amount due for services is more than you can afford at that time, always ask if a payment plan is an option. Most providers will let you pay your balance over time.

If you're visiting an in-network provider, many preventive services are covered at 100 percent, with no member cost-share. Visit ibx.com/preventive to learn more.

An HSA helps you save for current and future health care expenses

- An HSA is a tax-advantaged "piggy bank" that lets you save for current and future health care expenses. **To participate in the HSA, you must be enrolled in the HDHP.**
- You access your savings through an HSA debit card. You can only use as much money as you've already contributed to your account.
- The HSA is administered by HealthEquity. At healthequity.com you'll find videos, calculators, FAQs, and narrated presentations about how HSAs work and how to use your account. For specific tax questions, speak with a tax advisor.
- The HSA is *your* account. You are responsible for ensuring that you're eligible for HSA contributions, that your contributions don't exceed the IRS maximum, and that you only use the account for qualified medical expenses. You should keep all your receipts in case you get audited.
- Your parish may add funds to your HSA. Please talk with your parish business manager for more information.

Getting the most from your HSA

- It's usually better to use funds in your HSA for qualified expenses when you know what the final expense is (i.e., after the provider has submitted a claim and your financial responsibility has been determined.)
- If the provider requires up-front payment, you can always use another payment method and then reimburse yourself from your HSA.
- Out-of-network providers may bill you for the difference between how much Independence covers and how much the providers charge. This amount may be significant.

The contents of this document do not constitute legal or tax advice. You may wish to consult your tax or financial advisor.

Benefits underwritten by QCC Insurance Company, a subsidiary of Independence Blue Cross — independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Independence Blue Cross complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-800-275-2583 (TTY/TDD: 711).

注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-800-275-2583 (TTY/TDD: 711)。

© Independence Blue Cross 2022.