



The 2025

Easy Guide

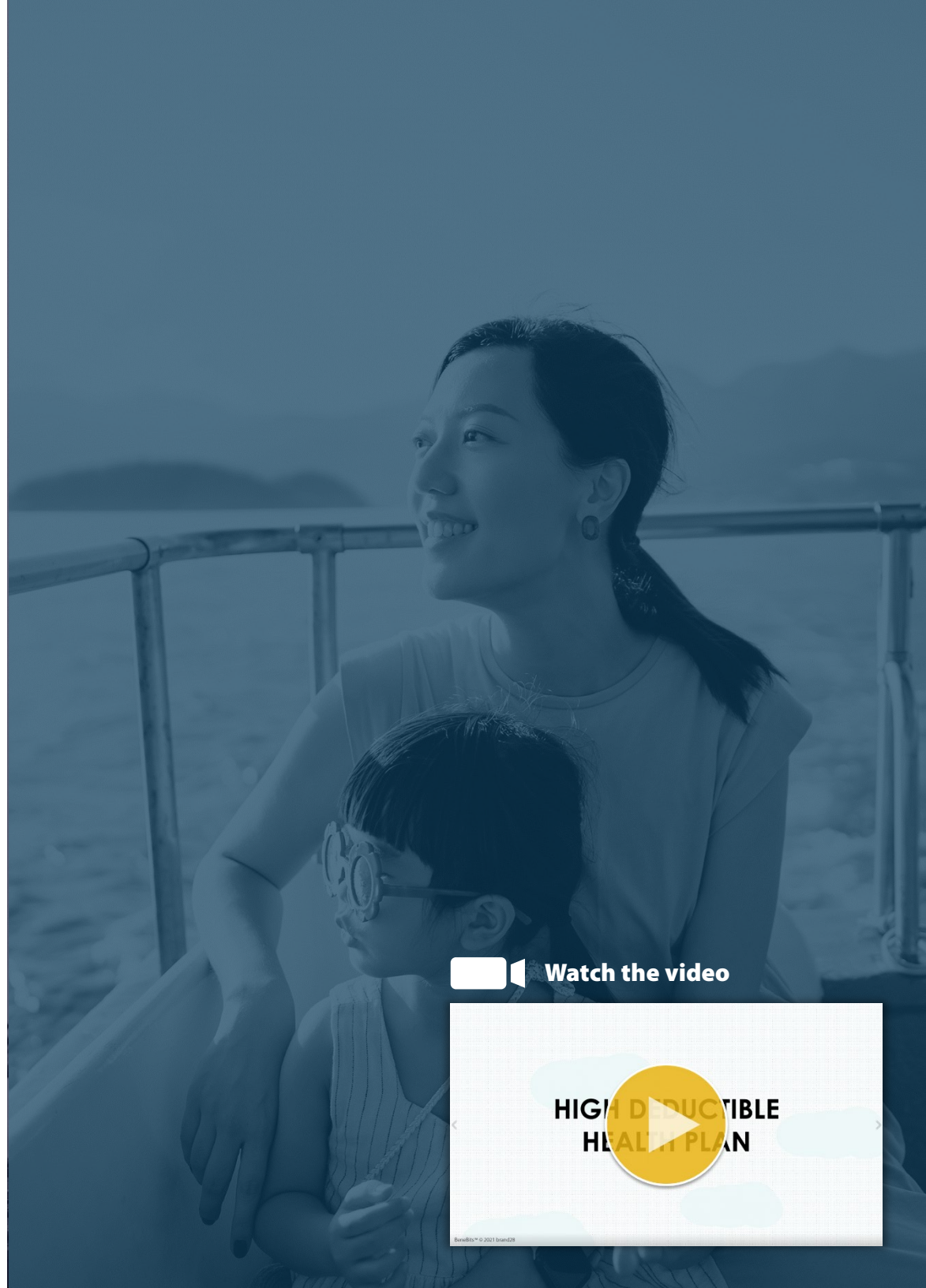
to Understanding the
Consumer's Choice Plan



The Premera CCP gives you more...

Premera CCP is a High Deductible Health Plan that gives you:

- **More money** in your paycheck from lower monthly premiums
- **More ways to reduce taxes** with a tax-free Health Savings Account (HSA)
- **More flexibility** in how you choose and pay for healthcare services
- **More opportunities** to build long-term healthcare and retirement savings



Watch the video



Premera® © 2011 brand28

Consumer's Choice Plan at a glance

- Lower monthly contribution than our other medical plans
- Higher deductible
- Free in-network preventive care
- Comprehensive medical and prescription drug coverage
- Use tax-free Health Savings Account (HSA) to offset deductible

When you enroll in the Consumer's Choice Plan, you get a Health Savings Account (HSA) funded with tax-free contributions from City of Kent and you.

This is important because with the Consumer's Choice Plan you pay for 100% of all medical costs (except preventive care) until you reach the annual deductible.

You can use the money in your HSA for your deductible and any other eligible medical expenses you have throughout the year or any time in the future.

Your HSA balance never expires—there's no "use it or lose it" rule. You keep the account even if you leave City of Kent and any balance earns interest.



Your Consumer's Choice Plan & HSA put you in control of healthcare spending

- Preventive care is a no brainer. Keep up with your annual checkups without worrying about the cost since preventive care is fully covered in-network.
- Use your HSA for many different health expenses – regular office visits, prescriptions, lab tests, acupuncture, chiropractic adjustments – even dental care, glasses and contacts.
- You don't have to spend your HSA. If you'd rather save your HSA for a potential large expense down the road, feel free to pay small medical costs from your bank account. If you change your mind, you can always get reimbursed from your HSA later.
- Your HSA gives you flexibility to visit any doctor, hospital or lab of your choice, even out-of-network providers.
- You can shop around. Healthcare is like any other purchase. If you have the time, it pays to shop around for the best quality and price.



Your HSA helps you save on federal taxes

NO TAX
on HSA
contributions

NO TAX
on eligible HSA
withdrawals

NO TAX
on HSA interest
and earnings

[Click here for more about federal and state tax savings.](#)



Your HSA boosts your retirement savings plan

- Your HSA is your long-term health fund. The balance rolls over year after year so you can use it for healthcare expenses 30 days or 30 years from now.
- Your HSA is a smart addition to your retirement savings plan. Your post-retirement healthcare spending will be tax-free when you use your HSA. And after age 65, you can use HSA dollars for non-health expenses too (subject to ordinary income tax).
- You can invest your account balance. After you reach a minimum balance, you can invest your funds, just like a 401(k) or IRA. You have a number of investment options to choose from.



What's YOUR healthcare profile?

I typically only visit the doctor for preventive care.

I typically meet my deductible every year.

I have a family and our healthcare costs are different every year.

I want more control over my out-of-pocket medical costs and help meeting my annual deductible.

I have very low out-of-pocket medical costs every year.

I'm nearing retirement and looking for another way to bank some tax-free savings.

Your annual healthcare needs are unique—just like you

The HSA takes into consideration the fluctuations most people have in their health care needs. One year you might visit the doctor only for your annual checkup. Another year, you might make several trips to the doctor or even need surgery.

An HSA gives you a multi-year approach to health care planning. Money not spent today can grow in your HSA until that “rainy day” when you need it.



How Much Can You Contribute to an HSA?

2025

ALLOWABLE HSA CONTRIBUTIONS (PER YEAR)

| | Employee Coverage | Family Coverage |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Company Contribution | \$1,500 | \$1,500 |
| + | | |
| Your Pre-Tax Contributions | \$2,800 | \$7,050 |
| = | | |
| IRS Annual Maximum | \$4,300 | \$8,550 |

In addition to the company contribution, you can contribute money to your HSA, up to the total annual amount allowed by the IRS. If you're 55 or older, you can contribute \$1,000 more each year.



Consumer's Choice Plan Highlights

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Preventive Care | CONSUMER'S CHOICE PLAN PAYS 100% (In-network) | |
| Before Meeting Deductible | YOU PAY 100% (\$2,000 Employee Only / \$4,000 Family) <i>Deductible for any one individual enrolled in family coverage is \$4,000</i> | |
| After Meeting Deductible | YOU PAY 0% | CONSUMER'S CHOICE PLAN PAYS 100% |
| After Meeting Out-of-Pocket Max | CONSUMER'S CHOICE PLAN PAYS 100% (After \$2,000 Employee Only / \$4,000 Family) <i>Out-of-Pocket Max for any one individual enrolled in family coverage is \$4,000</i> | |

Your Cost (Per Paycheck)

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Employee Only | \$0 |
| Employee + Spouse | \$0 |
| Employee + Children | \$0 |
| Employee + Family | \$0 |

Refer to your enrollment materials for additional plan details.



Can we talk about the ELEPHANT in the room?

A large elephant is standing behind a dark leather sofa in a dimly lit room. The elephant is the central focus, with its trunk extending to the right. The room features two floor lamps with dark shades and thin metal stands, one on each side of the sofa. The background shows two framed pictures on the wall. The overall scene is presented in a monochromatic, dark blue-grey color scheme.

What about
that
DEDUCTIBLE?



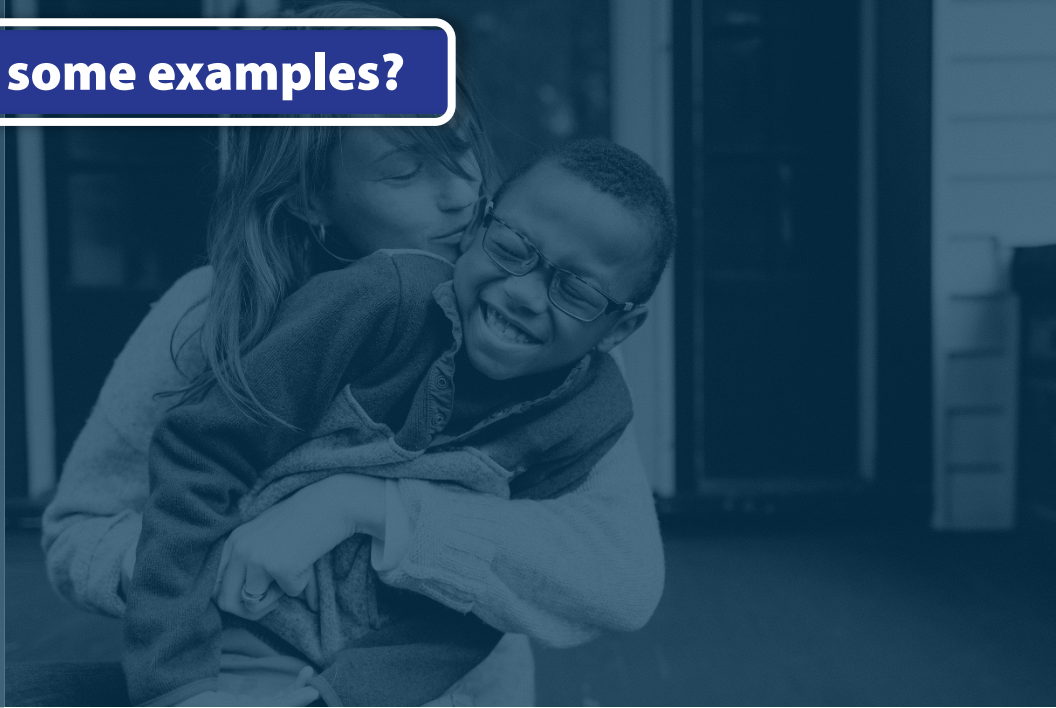
It all comes back to the HSA...

At first, many people have deductible “sticker shock,” but many features of the Consumer’s Choice Plan partially or completely offset your deductible and other healthcare costs:

- You pay less in premiums, allowing you to use the money you save for other things, including funding your HSA.
- City of Kent helps you cover your deductible with contributions to your HSA.
- The IRS sets a generous annual limit on how much you can contribute to your HSA.
- You get significant tax benefits. HSA contributions, withdrawals and earnings are free from federal tax. (A few states tax HSA contributions or earnings.)
- Your HSA balance rolls over every year. What you don’t spend continues to grow, with interest.



Can you give me some examples?



Marco: Healthy Single Guy

Marco's costs were very low throughout the year. He had his annual checkup (fully covered), and he got contacts. He did not meet his deductible.

| | | |
|---|----------------|--|
| | \$1,500 | HSA deposit from City of Kent |
| + | \$2,000 | Marco's HSA contributions |
| = | \$3,500 | Total HSA Deposits |
| - | \$500 | Eye exam and contacts |
| = | \$3,000 | HSA balance rolls over to next year |

Nia: Working Mom with Family

Nia covers her whole family. They visited the doctor often because life happens! Even though her family's expenses were higher, she did not meet her deductible.

| | | |
|---|----------------|--|
| | \$1,500 | HSA deposit from City of Kent |
| + | \$5,000 | Nia's HSA contributions |
| = | \$6,500 | Total HSA Deposits |
| - | \$2,400 | Sniffles, sneezes & sprains |
| = | \$4,100 | HSA balance rolls over to next year |





Jack: Weekend Warrior

Jack's off-road trip went a little more off the road than he planned. His knee surgery exceeded his deductible. Here's how his health plan benefits (employee-only coverage) and HSA worked together to cover his costs.

CONSUMER'S CHOICE Plan Benefits

| | | |
|---|----------------|--------------------------------|
| | \$2,000 | Jack's in-network deductible |
| = | \$2,000 | Jack's total out-of-pocket |
| + | \$6,100 | Covered by insurance |
| = | \$8,100 | Total knee surgery cost |

HSA Usage

| | | |
|---|----------------|-------------------------------|
| | \$1,500 | HSA deposit from City of Kent |
| + | \$2,000 | Jack's HSA contributions |
| = | \$3,500 | Total HSA Deposits |
| - | \$2,000 | Paid for medical costs |
| = | \$1,500 | HSA balance |





Four easy ways to grow your HSA

- 1** If you will save on monthly premiums by enrolling in the Consumer's Choice Plan, put the savings into your HSA.
- 2** If you usually set aside money for medical expenses in a healthcare Flexible Spending Account (FSA), direct those dollars to your HSA instead.
- 3** If you get a pay increase or bonus, direct a portion of it towards your HSA.
- 4** If you haven't maxed out your contributions, make a deposit to your HSA before April 15 for an additional tax deduction.



What ELSE do I need to KNOW?



Common Eligible Expenses

- Acupuncture
- Alcoholism treatment
- Ambulance
- Artificial limb
- Birth control pills
- Blood pressure monitoring device
- Breast pumps and related supplies
- Chiropractic care
- Dental treatment

- Dentures
- Diagnostic services
- Drug addiction treatment
- Eye examination, eye glasses, reading glasses, contacts
- Family planning items
- Fertility treatment
- Hearing aids
- Hospital services
- Immunization
- Insulin and diabetic supplies
- Laboratory fees

- Laser eye surgery
- Medical testing devices
- Menstrual care products
- Nursing services
- Obstetrical expenses
- Orthodontia (not cosmetic)
- Over-the-counter (OTC) medicine– cold treatments, ointments, pain relievers, stomach remedies, etc.
- Over-the-counter (OTC) treatments – bandages, wraps, medical testing devices, etc.
- Oxygen
- Physical therapy

- Prescription drugs
- Psychiatric care
- Smoking cessation program and medications
- Surgery
- Telehealth services (pre-deductible)
- Transportation for medical care
- Wheelchair, walkers, crutches and canes

How can I spend my HSA?

[MORE ELIGIBLE EXPENSES](#)

[INELIGIBLE EXPENSES](#)

[BROWSE EXPENSES](#)



How do I pay with my HSA?

You can use your HSA like a checking account to pay for qualified medical expenses as long as you have enough money in your account to cover them. If your provider is billing you, wait until you have a statement from your insurance carrier showing exactly how much of the charge you're responsible for.

Debit Card

You will receive a debit card that you can use at the doctor's office, pharmacy, etc. Use this just as you would a debit or credit card. Charges will be deducted from your HSA account.

Reimburse Yourself

If you paid your provider out-of-pocket, you can request reimbursement from your account. Refer to your HSA partner's website for rules and instructions.

**Go to
HSA
website**



HSA Eligibility Rules

For You

To be eligible to make deposits to an HSA:

- You must currently be enrolled in an high deductible health plan, such as the Consumer's Choice Plan.
- You may not be enrolled in any other non-HDHP health coverage, except for accident, disability, dental or vision, or long term care coverage.
- You may not have a general purpose flexible spending account (FSA) or be eligible to use one (such as a spouse's FSA). Limited purpose FSAs, which cover dental and vision expenses only, are allowed.
- You cannot be claimed as a dependent on another person's tax return.
- You may not be enrolled in Medicare, Medicaid or Tricare.

For Your Adult Dependents

- Your HSA may be used to pay for eligible expenses for you and for your legal tax dependents (people listed on your federal income tax return).
- While you can cover dependent children on your health plan up to age 26, this does not extend to HSA spending. When your adult child is no longer a tax dependent, any HSA distributions for the child would be subject to taxes and penalties.
- If you cover your Domestic Partner on the Consumer's Choice Plan, you may each set up an HSA and contribute the full family amount (assuming you are HSA-eligible). However, you may not use your HSA for your partner's expenses (and vice versa).



Non-Qualified Medical Expenses

If you use your HSA for a non-qualified medical expense, you may owe taxes plus a 20% tax penalty on that amount. If you are age 65 or older or disabled at the time, you just pay your regular tax rate but no penalty on non-qualified withdrawal amounts.

Keeping Records

Keep all your receipts for your HSA transactions for at least three years. This proves that you used your funds for qualified medical expenses and provides documentation in case you are audited by the IRS.

State Taxes

Most states treat HSA contributions and earnings on a tax favored basis, just like federal. CA and NJ do not exclude HSA contributions from income. Contact your tax advisor or HSA administrator for additional information on taxes in your state.

Excess Contributions

If you contribute over the IRS limit in one year, you will have to pay tax plus 6% on the excess. To avoid additional taxes, you can withdraw the excess amount before the April 15 tax filing deadline or direct the excess toward the next year's contributions.

HSA Beneficiaries

If you name your spouse as your HSA beneficiary, your spouse will inherit your account and it will become your spouse's HSA. If your beneficiary is not your spouse, the account will no longer be considered an HSA and becomes taxable to the beneficiary.

Consult a tax advisor for guidance on how these rules may affect you.



[MORE INFO](#)

Helpful Online Resources

Click below for additional online resources.



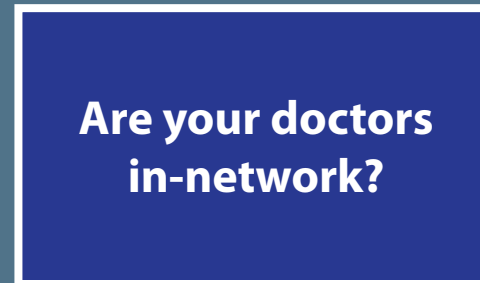
Consumer's Choice Plan



HSA



HSA vs. FSA





Manage your healthcare finances your way with your HSA.





**The EASY Guide to
Understanding the
Consumer's Choice Plan**



Click ESC
to exit