

## MEDICA DIRECT<sup>SM</sup> HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT (HSA) OPTION



Medica Direct gives you choices when it comes to health care spending. Establishing a Health Savings Account is a choice that lets you save for the future while helping you to manage your health care costs today. Think of an HSA like a 401(k) plan for your health. It combines aspects of your health coverage with financial planning, while leaving you as the decision-maker.

Created as part of the Medicare reform package of 2003, an HSA combines a type of personal savings account with a "high deductible" insurance plan. The high deductible insurance plan protects you from big medical bills, while your personal savings account helps you pay your deductible. Your contributions are tax-deductible and the money in your account earns interest (free from federal taxes). Also, withdrawals for qualified medical expenses are not taxed. You can roll the account over from year to year—it is not a "use it or lose it" system.

### **Everything you need to get more value from your health care dollars**

In order to take advantage of an HSA, you must have a federally qualified high-deductible health plan like Medica Direct. Medica has arranged for Wells Fargo to manage your account and investment of funds, so it's easy to get started.

### **Online tools put information at your fingertips**

Decision Support Tools help you estimate health costs as you decide how much you will direct to your account. Online account access lets you track balances, follow account activity and check claims status, so you always know where you stand when it comes to health care expenses. The claims process is simple, with almost no paperwork required.

TO ACCESS THE ONLINE DECISION  
SUPPORT TOOLS, SIMPLY GO TO  
[WWW.MEDICA.COM](http://WWW.MEDICA.COM) AND CLICK  
ON MEDICA DIRECT.

### **A quick look at the flexibility offered by an HSA**

- > It's yours. If provided through an employee-funded plan, you can take it with you if you change jobs.
  - If you have the individual HSA product, it's still your money
- > Interest earned is tax-deferred; funds may be invested
- > May be used in combination with a dependent care FSA

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