

Product Comparison

CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield and CareFirst BlueChoice, Inc. (CareFirst) offer BlueFund products to help you manage health care expenses. The information below explains the differences between a health savings account (HSA) and health reimbursement arrangement (HRA).

	Health Savings Account (HSA)	Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA)
What is it?	HSAs are individual expense accounts owned by employees that allow for tax-free payment or reimbursement of eligible medical expenses. To make contributions to an HSA, an employee: Must be enrolled in an HSA-qualified health plan Cannot be covered by another health plan Cannot be listed as a dependent on someone else's taxes Cannot be enrolled in Medicare Companies can make tax-free contributions to an eligible employee's HSA.	HRAs are employer-funded, tax-advantaged plans used to reimburse employees for eligible expenses. Spouses and dependents are also eligible to have medical expenses reimbursed with qualifying insurance coverage.
Who is eligible?	Must have an HSA-qualified health plan with a minimum deductible: 2020: \$1,400 individual/\$2,800 family 2021: \$1,400 individual/\$2,800 family	All full-time employees, and potentially part-time employees. Owner eligibility is dependent on corporate structure.
Who can contribute?	Employer, employee or third party (virtually anyone)	Employer only
What's the maximum contribution?	2020: \$3,550 individual/\$7,100 family2021: \$3,600 individual / \$7,200 family	None
Is it tax-advantaged?	Yes Pre-tax contributions Tax-free interest Tax-free withdrawals for eligible	Yes ■ Tax-free withdrawals for eligible expenses

	Health Savings Account (HSA)	Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA)
What are considered eligible expenses? What are NOT	 Medical expenses that your plan may cover: Out-of-pocket expenses until you reach your deductible Copayments, coinsurance and prescription drugs Dental and vision care expenses not covered by your plan Long-term care premiums Health insurance monthly premiums 	Typically the same expenses that your health plan covers. Covered expenses include: In-network doctor visits Inpatient or outpatient hospital care Diagnostic exams Prescription medications Family or marriage counseling
considered eligible expenses?	 Expenses unrelated to medical treatment or care as defined by the IRS 	 Family or marriage counseling Cosmetic procedures Personal items such as toothpaste, lotions or shaving supplies Herbs, vitamins and supplements Non-prescribed over-the-counter medicines (except insulin) Any other items or services not used for medical treatment and care as defined by the IRS
What about keeping receipts?	It's important to save all your receipts and explanation of benefits (EOB) statements to validate expenses, as required by the IRS.	
Do unused funds at the end of the year roll over?	Yes	No
Who administers the account?	The employee owns and manages the account with a third-party administrator, like Further ^{SM*}	The employer or third-party administrator, like Further
What if I leave my job?	You take your money with you. You have continued access to unused funds in the account if you leave or retire.	You can't take it with you. Funds in the account cannot be maintained if you leave your job or retire.