



Blue Cross  
Blue Shield  
Blue Care Network  
of Michigan

Confidence comes with every card.®

## Health Savings Accounts

# A smart way to save for health care expenses

An HSA offers lots of advantages:

- **It's a valuable savings tool.** It's like a 401(k), allowing you to save, invest and plan for current and future health care expenses.
- **You own it for life.** The money in your HSA is yours and goes with you if you retire, select a new medical plan or change jobs.
- **There's no use-it-or-lose-it rule.** Unlike a flexible spending account, HSA balances roll over from year to year and don't expire.

### ARE YOU READY TO LEARN MORE?

Click the options below to get started.

[HSA Basics](#)

[HSA & Retirement](#)

## HSA BASICS

# 5 important reasons to consider an HSA

1

### **YOU CAN USE IT TO PAY FOR HEALTH CARE EXPENSES.**

An HSA can help you better manage everyday and unexpected health care expenses. It's a great way to set aside money so it'll be there when you need it. It's not just for medical expenses, either. See your employer or visit [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov)\* for a full list of eligible expenses.

2

### **YOU GET COMPREHENSIVE BENEFITS.**

Coverage for a health plan coupled with an HSA includes everything from office visits and maternity care to inpatient and outpatient hospital care. And, most in-network preventive services, such as annual exams and screenings, are covered at 100%. This means you won't have any out-of-pocket costs when receiving these services.

3

### **YOU CAN INVEST YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS.**

Once your HSA balance reaches a certain balance, you can choose to invest in a selection of mutual funds to boost your savings.

4

### **THE HSA OFFERS TAX ADVANTAGES.**

An HSA offers a triple-tax advantage. Your contributions, interest earned (on investments) and withdrawals for qualified expenses are all tax-free.

5

### **YOU PAY LOWER PREMIUMS.**

An HSA is coupled with a high-deductible health plan, or HDHP. This type of plan offers lower premiums but a higher deductible than a traditional health plan. That means you'll pay less in premiums from your paycheck but more out of pocket initially when using your benefits until you meet your deductible.



Learn more at  
[bcbsm.com/HSA](https://bcbsm.com/HSA).

## HSA & RETIREMENT

# 5 tips to increase your retirement nest egg with an HSA

1

### **BOOST YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS.**

Contribute the maximum amount to your HSA. The IRS adjusts HSA contribution limits each year. Visit [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov)\* for current contribution limits.

If you're 55 or older, you can make a catch-up contribution of an additional \$1,000 each year until you enroll in Medicare.

2

### **BENEFIT FROM THE TAX ADVANTAGE.**

Contributions, investment gains and withdrawals for qualified medical expenses are all tax-free.

3

### **USE YOUR HSA BEFORE MEDICARE ELIGIBILITY.**

If you retire before age 65 and you aren't yet eligible for Medicare, you can use your HSA funds to pay your pre-retiree medical coverage premiums.

4

### **USE YOUR HSA AFTER MEDICARE ENROLLMENT.**

Once you've enrolled in Medicare, you'll no longer be able to make contributions to your HSA. However, you can continue to invest your HSA savings and pay for qualified health care expenses.

5

### **USE YOUR HSA FOR OTHER EXPENSES.**

If you're 65 or older, you're not limited to using the money in your HSA just for health care expenses. However, since you don't pay taxes on contributions, you'll need to pay income taxes on amounts used for non-health-care-related expenses.

\*Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan doesn't own or control this website.



Learn more at  
[bcbsm.com/HSA](https://bcbsm.com/HSA).





## Helpful resources

### **BLUE CROSS MEMBER ACCOUNT:**

Easily check your HSA and health plan information from your member account at [bcbsm.com](https://bcbsm.com) or on the Blue Cross mobile app.

### **CUSTOMER SERVICE:**

Questions about your health plan? Call the Customer Service number on the back your Blue Cross member ID card.

### **HSA EDUCATION:**

To learn more about how an HSA works, visit [bcbsm.com/hsa](https://bcbsm.com/hsa).



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