Your Dependent Care FSA: What's Eligible & What's Not

Eligible expenses under a Dependent Care FSA are defined as those that enable the participant or the participant's spouse to work or to look for work. For purposes of a Dependent Care FSA plan, a "qualified dependent" must be under the age of 13, unless mentally or physically handicapped. Per IRS regulations, the service provider cannot be an individual under the age of 19 whom a personal tax exemption may be claimed and/or a child of the participant or spouse.

Eligible Dependent Care Expenses

- √ After-school care or extended day programs
- ✓ Babysitters (not for social events)
- Caregivers for a disabled spouse or dependent who lives with the participant
- Child care centers that care for six or more children and that meet the IRS's definition of a qualified day care center
- ✓ Day camps
- Household expenses provided that a portion of such expenses is incurred to ensure a qualifying dependent's well-being and protection
- ✓ Nursery schools
- Transportation services provided by the dependent care provider
- ✓ Elder care for taxable dependents
- / Au pair
- / Nanny
- / Pre-school (through pre-K)

Ineligible Dependent Care Expenses

- ✓ Babysitting for social events
- ✓ Educational expenses
- Expenses deducted from personal income tax return (dependent care)
- ✓ Kindergarten
- ✓ Overnight Camps
- ✓ K-12 Tuition









