

## **New HSA Guidelines for 2009**

Here are some highlights for 2009.

1. Maximum contributions are \$3000 for an individual and \$5950 for a family. Person's aged 55 years old and older can add an additional \$900/year as a catch up contribution.
2. Minimum Deductibles have changed. The minimum deductible for an individual plan is now \$1,150 and for a family it is now \$2,300.
3. Maximum out of pocket has changed. The maximum out of pocket (including deductible) on an individual plan is now \$5,800 and for a family it is \$11,600.

Items that haven't changed, but are beneficial to know.

- You can put the full amount in immediately without waiting (This even applies to new hires or a person starting an HSA qualified health plan in the middle of a calendar year).
- You can put the maximum contribution into your HSA account, regardless of your deductible.
- A person can choose to accumulate HSA qualified expenses over the course of years (instead of taking the expenses out of the HSA account at the time of service). Every year they need to fill out a Form 8889 and carry the balances forward. At 65 years old, they can then take a distribution equal to the total amount of expenses incurred tax free.
- An individual can take a one-time distribution from their IRA to fund their HSA account.
- As always, you have until April 15<sup>th</sup> (or when you file your taxes) to contribute to your HSA savings account for last year.

Check with your accountant for more information on how this would specifically apply to you.