plansource



Commuter Benefits

Do you want to save 30% on commuting costs? Participating in a commuter account can save you up to $1,000 a year.

What are commuter benefits?

Commuter benefits are an account that lets you set aside money before taxes to spend on parking and public transportation to and from the office.

How does it work?

Participating in a commuter account is easy:

1. Choose the amount you would like to have deducted from your paycheck each pay period **You can do this during open enrollment or at any time during the year.**
2. Use your PlanSource Benefit Mastercard to pay for eligible commuting costs.

Did you know?

Commuter benefits are flexible to meet your needs:

- You can always change your contribution amount if your commuting expenses change
- You can opt out of contributing at any time
- Funds left in your account at the end of the year can usually be rolled over and used the following year

What can it be used for?

Eligible expenses include things like:

Public transportation
Bus, ferry, subway, and train tickets or passes

Parking
Costs to park near your workplace or where you catch public transit

Ridesharing
Vanpool fees when there are six or more adult passengers

Frequently Asked Questions

Commuter Account

What is a commuter account?
A commuter account is an employer-sponsored benefit program that lets you set aside money before taxes to spend on parking and public transportation to and from work.

Why should I participate?
The money you put into a commuter parking or transportation account is taken from your paycheck before taxes are deducted. So you can pay for your parking or transportation expenses with money that hasn't been taxed.

You can save an average of 30% on your eligible mass transit and parking expenses.

What is consider a qualified mass transit expense?
Qualified expenses include transit passes, tokens, fare cards, vouchers, or similar items allowing you to ride a mass transit vehicle to or from work. The vehicle may be publicly or privately operated and includes bus, subway, rail, or ferry.

What qualifies as vanpooling?
Vanpooling requires a commuter highway vehicle with a seating capacity of at least 7 adults, including the driver. At least 80 percent of the vehicle mileage must be for transporting employees between their homes and workplace with employees occupying at least one-half of the vehicle's seats (not including the driver's seat).

What is a qualified parking expense?
Get reimbursed for parking expenses incurred at or near your work location or a parking location from which you continue your commute to work by vanpool or mass transit. Out-of-pocket parking fees for parking meters, garages and lots qualify. Parking at or near your home is not an eligible expense.

Can I use my commuter account for commuting expenses like tolls and gas?
No. Commuter account funds may not be used for tolls, gas, or mileage.

Can I use my commuter account to pay for business or personal travel expenses?
No. You can only use commuter account funds to pay for your regular commute between your home and office on mass transit or vanpools.

Whose commuter expenses are covered?
Qualified expenses include those incurred for your transportation between your residence and worksite. Expenses for your spouse or dependents are not eligible.

Is there a limit to how much I can contribute or spend each month?
Yes. Monthly limits are set by the IRS. Any monthly expenses above these limits are not tax-exempt and cannot be applied to future months.

How does it work?
When you enroll in a commuter account, you authorize your employer to set aside an amount before taxes to pay for parking and/or mass transit from each paycheck, You cannot exceed the IRS limits mentioned above. You then pay for the qualified transportation with your benefits debit card.

Sign up for commuter benefits and start saving today!