

Understanding Your Medical Flexible Spending Account: Carryover Funds, Run-Out Period and Your Debit Card

How Does Medical FSA Carryover work?

Sally's Medical FSA has a January through December plan year and allows participants to carryover up to \$550 of unused election dollars at the end of the plan year. Sally also has a debit card for her Medical FSA.



Sally elected \$2,000 on January 1, 2021, and by December 31, 2021 she used \$1,450 of her funds. Sally is allowed, under the Carryover provision that her employer

adopted, to "carryover" the remaining \$550 into the 2022 plan year. \$550 is automatically deposited into her 2022 FSA and is available right away. It gets added to the new \$2,000 election she made effective January 1, 2022.

How do the Carryover dollars work at the end of the plan year and the Run-out period?

Sally's plan also has a "run-out period" of 60 days after the end of the plan year. Sally has until March 1, 2022 to submit any expenses incurred during 2021. **During the 60-day run-out Sally's \$550 carryover is available for BOTH 2021 and 2022 dates of service!**

	2021 FSA with \$2,000 & debit card to pay for 2021 dates of service	2021 Run-C	ut	
	In 2021, Sally only spends \$1,450, leaving \$550 Carryover on 12/31/21	2022 FSA with \$2,000 + \$550 Carryover & debit card to pay for 2022 dates		
1	/1/2021	1/1/2022	3/1/202	22 12/31/2022

Now it's 2022 – How can Sally pay for a 2021 Expense?

On February 1, 2021, Sally receives a \$150 bill for lab work done on December 29, 2021. She has \$550 Carryover she can still use toward 2021 expenses, as long as she seeks reimbursement before the 60-day run-out period ends on March 1, 2022. Sally also has a Medical FSA Debit Card.

Question: Can Sally use her FSA Debit Card in February 2022 to pay the lab bill incurred in December 2021?

Answer: No, she cannot!

Federal rules require that the FSA debit card only be used for expenses incurred in the current plan year. Sally's \$150 lab bill is eligible for reimbursement, but <u>not</u> via her FSA Debit card. Sally can submit her 2021 claim before the run-out expires on March 1, but she must submit it using one of the following methods:

- 1. On-line via the participant portal;
- 2. Use the GDI Mobile App from her phone or tablet;
- 3. Complete a Reimbursement Request form and submit it to Group Dynamic, Inc. via e-mail, fax or mail.

She can pay the lab bill using a personal check or personal credit card, but not her FSA Debit Card.

Questions about your FSA or Debit Card? Call GDI's Reimbursement Team at 800-626-3539