OVER-THE-COUNTER (OTC) HEALTHCARE EXPENSES AND USE OF THE TASC DEBIT CARD

As you now know, OTC medicines and drugs (with the exception of insulin) are FSA ineligible as of January 1, 2011 unless prescribed.

This change has naturally raised some questions in regard to how the TASC Card can be used to pay for OTC medicines and drugs that have been prescribed – and the communication below provides the answers.

As discussed in a recent posting, the Internal Revenue Service has issued new guidance allowing the continued use of Flexible Spending Arrangement (FSA) debit cards for the purchase of prescribed over-the-counter (OTC) medicines and drugs. In accordance with the new guidance, a prescription for the medication must be presented to the pharmacy/store (or the mail-order/web-based vendor) that dispenses the medication and proper records must be retained.

The TASC Card makes it convenient and easy to purchase OTC prescription medicines and drugs, as well as eligible medical supplies. When purchasing these items, the TASC Card pays for qualified expenses only. Whether you are buying bandages at a grocery store or aspirin at the pharmacy, this automatic process uses the Inventory Information Approval System (IIAS) platform provided by the Special Interest Group for IIAS Standards (SIGIS).

How do you make sure your OTC medicines and drug purchases are eligible as FSA expenses?
First, obtain a prescription for the OTC item from your medical practitioner. Ask that the prescription be sent electronically to the store/pharmacy of your choice, or instead present the prescription yourself at the time of purchase. The pharmacist/clerk should then ring up your purchase as usual using your TASC Card. No additional paperwork is necessary.

In an instance when you are unable to make an over-the-counter medicine purchase using your TASC Card, you may submit your request for reimbursement to TASC online (www.tasconline.com) or by completing your Request for Reimbursement Form. A copy of your prescription, or an Over-the-Counter Letter of Medical Necessity signed by your medical practitioner, must be submitted with your reimbursement request, per the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA).

At TASC, we work hard to make sure you have access to, and can conveniently pay for, the medication you need.

Still have questions? Here are two options:

- Call the TASC Customer Care Department at 1-800-422-4661 for assistance between the hours of 8:00AM – 5:00PM on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and 9:00AM – 5:00PM on Wednesday (applies to all time zones).
- Use the secure online system:
  1. Log in to MyTASC (www.tasconline.com) using your 12-digit ID and 6-digit PIN
  2. Click on Contact Us in the upper right corner
  3. Click on Submit a Service Request to open our secure Service Request form
  4. Enter your question or information and click Submit