



## Ohio Revised Code

### Section 124.823 Medical savings account pilot program.

Effective: December 1, 2006

Legislation: House Bill 530 - 126th General Assembly

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The department of administrative services shall establish a pilot program under which it includes medical savings accounts as part of any package of health care benefit options offered to state employees and state elected officials paid by warrant of the director of budget and management. Except for the provisions in divisions (A) and (B) of section 3924.64 of the Revised Code concerning designation of an administrator, a medical savings account established as part of the program is subject to sections 3924.64 to 3924.74 of the Revised Code.

The department is not required to offer the medical savings account option to any state employee who is covered under a collective bargaining agreement entered into pursuant to Chapter 4117. of the Revised Code, but a medical savings account option may be part of a package of health care benefit options offered pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement. The department may limit enrollment in the medical savings account program and may require state employees enrolled in it to contribute to their medical savings accounts. The department shall make both individual and family coverage available through the accounts. The program shall not increase the cost of providing health insurance to state employees. The department may end the program at any time not sooner than two years after it is established, except that the department may not end the program prior to providing six months' notice to the speaker of the house of representatives, president of the senate, minority leader of the house and minority leader of the senate, and the chairs of the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with primary responsibility for health and insurance legislation.

A state employee who chooses the medical savings account option shall have any state health, medical, hospital, dental, surgical, and vision benefits for which the employee is eligible provided through the medical savings account. The department, under section 124.81 or 124.82 of the Revised Code, shall contract for or otherwise provide a high-deductible policy or contract through which those benefits can be paid.

The employee for whom a medical savings account is opened shall at the time the account is opened



choose an administrator from a list of administrators designated by the department, one of which may be the insurer from which the department purchases the high-deductible policy or contract. If the employee fails to choose an administrator, the department shall designate an administrator.

If an elected state official whose term commenced prior to the establishment of the program elects to participate in the medical savings account program, participation shall commence at the beginning of the term following establishment of the program.