

Frequently Asked Questions

RETIREE MEDICAL COVERAGE - 65+

FACULTY WITHIN EIGHT YEARS OF RETIREMENT

Via Benefits
1 (855) 232-5748
my.viabenefits.com/gw

THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC

What is a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA)?

An HRA is a tax-free account that allows reimbursement for qualified medical expenses that meet certain IRS requirements.

Who is eligible for the HRA?

Faculty members within eight years of their retirement date, and enrolled in a medical plan through Via Benefits, are eligible for the HRA. Eligibility begins the first of the month following your retirement date and ends as of the end of the month following your eight-year anniversary of retirement. For example, if you retired on March 3, 2019, at age 65, you would be eligible to receive the GW contribution to your HRA until March 31, 2027.

What is the amount of GW's contribution to my HRA?

GW will credit \$2,400 per year to your HRA, prorated for the first year and the last year (as applicable).

Note: This funding is available for the first eight years from retirement.

How do I use my HRA?

You pay the premiums directly to the insurance company or pay costsharing directly to your provider. You then submit a claim to Via Benefits for reimbursement of premiums and/or eligible out-of-pocket expenses from your HRA. Reimbursement can be submitted in one of four ways: mail, fax, online or automatic reimbursement if it is offered at the time of enrollment by your carrier.

What happens if I do not use the entire HRA amount by the end of the year?

If you do not use all of your HRA during the year, the credit remains in your account for future years. You can use that HRA balance to reimburse yourself for future premiums or eligible out-of-pocket expenses in later years. You cannot withdraw excess funds for other uses.

Will my spouse have access to my HRA?

Spouses (age 65 and older) of eligible faculty members will have access to the retiree's HRA account dollars once the eligible spouse is enrolled in a medical plan through Via Benefits.

When is my HRA funded?

The HRA is credited with a \$2,400 contribution each calendar year. The account will be funded with your reimbursements as you submit claims.

Who do I call if I have questions about the HRA?

For questions regarding the HRA, you can call Via Benefits at **1 (855) 232-5748**.