



Coronavirus Update: March 19, 2020 Updates

In order to make sure that you are informed of actions by your insurance carrier as well as the government's response to COVID-19, we will continue to provide consolidated updates as we receive them. We will also provide additional resources that we come across.

Family First Coronavirus Response Act

President Signs Families First Coronavirus Response Act. This new law requires employers with up to 500 employees to provide paid sick leave and paid family leave while also providing a refundable payroll tax credit to employers to cover 100% of the cost of wages.

There is also a refundable income tax credit available for self-employed individuals. Employers with less than 50 employees must apply for a hardship exemption in order to qualify.

[Please see attached for more information.](#)

SunLife Webinar: Employment Law Compliance Issues for Employers in Responding to COVID-19

As an absence management provider, Sun Life has been asked to help employers navigate the swell of information in response to COVID-19. We encourage benefits consultants and HR leaders to attend this important webinar.

[See attached for additional information and to register](#)

GoodRx: COVID-19: Anxiety Tips, Free Screenings, Medication Refills

If you're feeling overwhelmed or panicked about COVID-19, you can take steps to help keep your anxiety under control. Along with how to get the medication refills you need and free COVID-19 screening through GoodRx care.

[Please see announcement attached.](#)

UnitedHealth Group Optum: COVID-19 resources available in 17 languages

Optum, a division of UnitedHealth Group, has created a COVID-19 website that has resources available in 17 languages. Consider sharing with employees whose primary language may not be English:

[Please see attached.](#)

Additional Resources and Alerts

At Home with Kids? [Here are tons of online games, field trips, and resources.](#)

What you need to know about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) - [FAQ Sheet Here](#)

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has issued Bulletin 2020-15, advising that high-deductible health plans (HDHPs) can pay for 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) related testing and treatment, without jeopardizing their status. This also means that an individual with an HDHP that covers these costs may continue to contribute to a health savings account (HSA).

Health plans that qualify as HDHP would not lose their status because they are covering the first dollar treatment of the COVID-19 virus. Please note this only applies to HSA eligible HDHPs....[Read IRS Notice Here](#)

New Jersey Department of Labor: Benefits and the Coronavirus (COVID-19): What You Should Know...[click to read more](#)



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