



Silver Consolidated Schools

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS GUIDE

2023 Plan Year



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Silver Consolidated Schools offers eligible employees a competitive benefits package that includes both district-paid and voluntary products. We have worked closely with First Financial (FFGA) to provide you with a variety of benefits and resources to help you reach your healthcare and retirement needs. Details of all available benefits can be found on the Employee Benefits Center website, <https://benefits.ffga.com/silverconsolidatedschools>.

Be sure to read the product descriptions carefully so you are well prepared before enrollment begins. If you have questions, feel free to reach out to your First Financial Account Manager or your Benefits department.

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This guide contains a summary of the benefits offered by your employer. If there is a conflict between the terms of this outline of benefits and the actual contracts, the terms of the contracts will prevail.

ELIGIBILITY & ENROLLMENT

Silver Consolidated Schools Benefits Office

2810 N. Swan St. Silver City, NM. 88061 | Ph: 575.956.2000 | Fax: 575.956.2039

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible employees must be actively at work on the plan effective date for new benefits to be effective.

BENEFITS ENROLLMENT

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CENTER

The Employee Benefits Center (EBC) is a one-stop-shop for you to find all things benefits related. On the website, you'll find open enrollment and plan year dates, benefit descriptions, carrier contact information, product brochures, claim forms and enrollment details. Visit <https://benefits.ffga.com/silverconsolidatedschools> today!

NEW EMPLOYEES

You have 31 days from your actively-at-work date to make benefit elections. Your New Hire Enrollment elections will be made at the District Office.

EXISTING EMPLOYEES

When it's time to enroll in your benefits, your First Financial Account Representative will be onsite to assist you with making your elections. Your elections can be made anytime during your annual open enrollment. Before enrollment, take time to educate yourself on the available benefits and what options would work best for you and your family by visiting the Employee Benefits Center.

Enrollment Assistance Center Instructions

Call 855-765-4473 and follow the prompts to be connected to your local First Financial branch office. Hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (local time) Monday through Friday. There is an option to leave a voice message for a representative to call you back. Phone calls will be returned as soon as possible or the next business day if it is after hours.

MID-YEAR BENEFIT CHANGES

You may add or cancel coverage during the plan year if you have a change in family status. You must notify the benefits department within 31 days of the change.

QUALIFYING LIFE EVENTS INCLUDE:

- Changes in household, including marriage, divorce, legal separation, annulment, death of a spouse, birth, adoption, placement for adoption, or death of a dependent child
- Loss of health coverage, attributable to your spouse's employment, losing existing health coverage including job-based, individual & student plans, losing eligibility for Medicare, Medicaid, or CHIP, turning 26 and losing coverage through a parent's plan

DECLINING COVERAGE

If you are eligible for benefits, but wish to DECLINE coverage, you will need to meet with your representative during open enrollment to waive your elections. **You must still complete the beneficiary information.**

SECTION 125 PLAN INFORMATION AND RULES

A Section 125 Plan provides a tax-saving way to pay for eligible medical or dependent care expenses. The funds are automatically deducted from your paycheck on a pre-tax basis.

Here's How It Works

A Section 125 Plan reduces your taxes and increases your spendable income by allowing you to deduct the cost of eligible benefits from your earnings before tax. Plus, the plan is available to you at no cost, and you're already eligible – all you have to do is enroll.

Is It Right for Me?

The savings you may experience with a Section 125 Plan are outlined in the example below. For instance, you could potentially take home about \$70 more each month if you participated in your employer's Section 125 Plan – that's a savings of \$840 a year!

You cannot change your benefit elections for the plan year unless the benefits office receives notification in writing within 31 days of the status change. If the benefits office is not notified within 31 days of the status change, no benefit change can be made until the next annual open enrollment.

IRS specified changes in family status include:

- Change in legal married status
- Change in number of dependents
- Termination or commencement of employment
- Dependent satisfies or ceases to satisfy dependent eligibility requirements
- Change in residence or worksite that affects eligibility for coverage

SECTION 125 PLAN SAMPLE PAYCHECK		
	WITHOUT S125	WITH S125
Monthly Salary	\$2,000	\$2,000
Less Medical Deductions	-N/A	-\$250
Taxable Gross Income	\$2,000	\$1,750
Less Taxes (Fed/State at 20%)	-\$400	-\$350
Less Estimated FICA (7.65%)	-\$153	-\$133
Less Medical Deductions	-\$250	-N/A
Take Home Pay	\$1,197	\$1,267

YOU COULD SAVE \$70 PER MONTH IN TAXES BY PAYING FOR YOUR BENEFITS ON A PRE-TAX BASIS!

**The figures in the sample paycheck above are for illustrative purposes only.*

Medical



NMPSIA | <https://nmpsia.com> | 800.548.3724

NMPSIA offers three comprehensive and versatile medical plans with two highly respected providers. Blue Cross Blue Shield of NM and Presbyterian Health Systems work with NMPSIA to establish co-pays for the things you do most like primary care visits, specialist visits and acupuncture instead of meeting your deductible for your everyday things.

NMPSIA has made it so that you can choose which plan and provider you want, that way you are deciding what is the best medical option for you and your family.

For more information or to enroll in these plans, contact your benefits department.

Dental Insurance



NMPSIA | <https://nmpsia.com> | 800.548.3724

Taking care of your oral health is not a luxury, it is a necessity to long-term optimal health. Dental insurance can greatly reduce your costs when it comes to preventative, restorative, and emergency procedures. Review the plan benefits to see which option is best for you and your family's dental needs. A range of procedures may be covered, such as:

- Comprehensive Exams
- Cleanings
- X-Rays
- Fillings
- Tooth Extractions
- General Anesthesia
- Crowns
- Root Canals

Vision Insurance



NMPSIA | <https://nmpsia.com> | 800.548.3724

Proper vision care is essential to your overall wellbeing. Regular eye exams at any age will help prevent eye disease and keep your vision strong for years to come.

Your employer provides you with a vision plan to take care of you and your family's needs. You must enroll in the vision plan each plan year and premiums are typically paid through payroll deduction. Here are just a few of the areas where you will save money with your plan:

- Eye exams
- Eyeglasses
- Contact lenses
- Eye surgeries
- Vision correction

Flexible Spending Accounts



First Financial Administrators, Inc. | www.ffga.com | 1.866.853.3539
P.O. Box 161968 | Altamonte Springs, FL 32716

HEALTHCARE FSA

A Health Flexible Spending Account (Health FSA) is an IRS-approved program to help you save taxes and pay for out-of-pocket medical expenses not covered under your medical plan. Your plan includes a grace period option, which gives you 2 and ½ months additional time to incur and claim against unused funds in the new plan year. Keep in mind that remaining balances after the grace period is exhausted will be forfeited under the use-it-or-lose-it rule.

Your maximum contribution amount for 2023 is \$3,050.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Contributions are automatically deducted from your paycheck on a pre-tax basis, which helps reduce your taxable income and increase your spendable income.
- Your full election will be available to you at the beginning of the plan year.
- Be conservative – any money left in your account at the end of the plan year will be forfeited.
- Use your benefits card to pay for qualified expenses upfront so you don't have to spend money out of pocket.
- Keep all receipts in case you need to substantiate a claim for tax purposes.

NOTE: The IRS requires proof that all expenses are eligible. Keep all receipts in case you need to substantiate a claim for tax purposes. Your receipt must include: Date of purchase or service, amount you were required to pay after insurance, description of the product or service, merchant or provider name, and the patient name.

DEPENDENT CARE FSA

With a Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account, you can set aside part of your pay on a pre-tax basis to pay for eligible dependent care expenses like child care, babysitters and adult day care. Eligible dependents must be claimed as an exemption on your tax return.

The 2023 dependent care contribution limits are as follows:

- \$5,000 for single taxpayers and married couples filing jointly
- \$2,500 for married individuals filing separately

HIGHLIGHTS

- Eligible dependents must be claimed as an exemption on your tax return.
- Eligible dependents must be children under age 13 or an adult dependent incapable of self-care.
- Contributions are not loaded upfront. Funds become available as contributions are made to your account.
- Keep all receipts in case you need to substantiate a claim for tax purposes.
- Balances will be forfeited at the end of the runoff or grace period.

FSA RESOURCES

BENEFITS CARD

The First Financial Benefits Card is available to all employees that participate in Medical FSA and/or a Dependent Care FSA. The Benefits Card gives you immediate access to your money at the point of purchase. Cards are available for participating employees, their spouse, and eligible dependents that are at least 18 years old.

- **The IRS requires validation of most transactions for FSAs.** You must submit receipts for validation of expenses when requested. If you fail to substantiate by providing a receipt to First Financial within 90 days of the purchase or date of service your card will be suspended until the necessary, receipt or explanation of benefits from your insurance provider is received.
- **Dependent Care FSA Contributions are not loaded upfront.** Funds become available as contributions are made to your account.

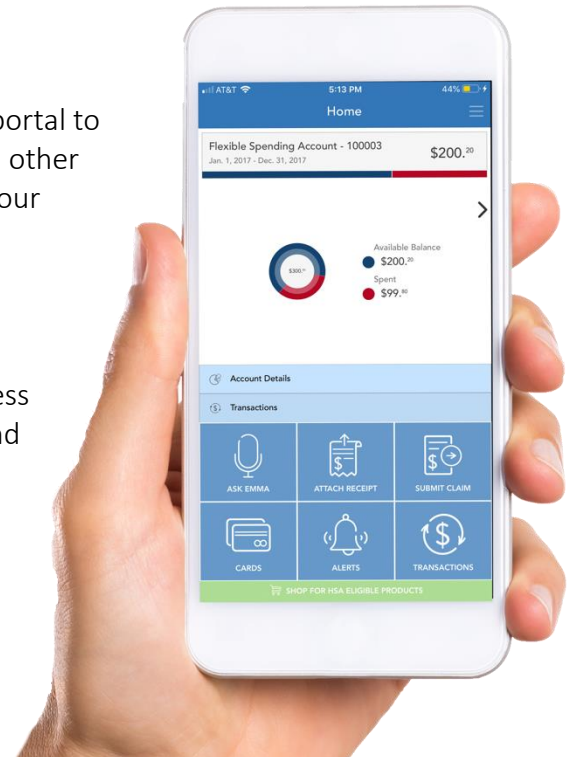
ONLINE FSA PORTAL

Flexible Spending Account participants can log in to their online FSA portal to access account balances, check on claims, upload receipts and access other account details. Visit <https://ffga.com/individuals> to login or set up your account.

FF FLEX MOBILE APP

Managing your benefit accounts on the go is made easy with **FF Flex Mobile App**. This powerful, intuitive mobile application gives you access to view your account balances, update your profile, submit a claim and much more – right from your Android or Apple device.

- Access account Information
- View card details and profile information
- Submit FSA claims using an electronic claim form
- View pending claims
- Upload receipts and documentation
- Receive alerts
- Update direct deposit information



FSA STORE

First Financial has partnered with the FSA Store to bring you an easy to use online store to better understand and manage your FSA. An online marketplace that connects consumers to FSA-eligible products, seasonal deals, and account support resources such as open enrollment guides and educational videos.

Visit <http://www.ffga.com/fsaextras> for more details & special deals!

- Shop for eligible items from bandages to wheelchairs and thousands of products in between
- Browse or search for eligible products and services using the Eligibility List
- Visit the Learning Center to help find answers to questions you may have about your account.

Life Insurance



NMPSIA | <https://nmpsia.com> | 800.548.3724

EMPLOYER-PAID TERM LIFE INSURANCE

Life insurance protects your loved ones. It pays a benefit, so they can afford to pay for funeral expenses, pay off debt and maintain their current standard of living. It is one of the best ways to show you care. Your employer provides all eligible employees a \$50,000 benefit. The cost of this policy is paid for 100% by your employer. This is a term life policy that is in effect while you are employed.

VOLUNTARY TERM LIFE INSURANCE

Voluntary life insurance is term life coverage you can purchase in addition to the basic life plan provided by your employer. It will cover you for a specific period of time while you are employed. Plan amounts are offered in tiers so you can choose the amount of coverage that works best for you and your family. Because it's a group plan, premiums are typically lower, so it's more affordable to gain the peace of mind that life insurance provides. Limitations apply, please see policy for details.

Life Insurance



Texas Life | www.texaslife.com | 800.283.9233

TEXAS LIFE INSURANCE - PERMANENT, PORTABLE LIFE INSURANCE

The peace of mind voluntary, permanent life insurance provides is unmatched. It is a solid companion to your group life insurance plan. Texas Life provides life insurance that you can keep for a lifetime. The plan is easy to purchase, pay for, and keep through the convenience of payroll deduction. Coverage is affordable and dependable. Plus, Texas Life has over a century of experience protecting families and giving the peace of mind only permanent life insurance can provide.

HIGHLIGHT

- You own the policy, even if you change jobs or retire.
- The policy remains in force until you die or up to age 121, as long as you pay the necessary premium on time.
- It is a permanent, universal life policy which means you can rest easy knowing your loved ones will be well taken care of when you're gone.

Life Insurance



American Fidelity Assurance Company | <https://americanfidelity.com> | 800.662.1113

Life insurance protects your loved ones. It pays a benefit, so they can afford to pay for funeral expenses, pay off debt and maintain their current standard of living. It is one of the best ways to show you care. During this year's enrollment, you now can increase your life insurance protection with a voluntary plan offered by your employer.

VOLUNTARY TERM LIFE INSURANCE

- Voluntary life insurance is term life coverage you can purchase in addition to the basic life plan provided by your employer. It will cover you for a specific period while you are employed.
- Plan amounts are offered in tiers, so you can choose the amount of coverage that works best for you and your family.
- Because it's a group plan, premiums are typically lower, so it's more affordable to gain the peace of mind that life insurance provides.

Disability Insurance



NMPSIA | <https://nmpsia.com> | 800.548.3724
American Fidelity | <https://americanfidelity.com> | 800.662.1113

Have you ever wondered what would happen to your income if you had an accidental injury, sickness, or pregnancy? That is why you need disability coverage. It replaces a portion of income for the period of time you are unable to work due to those reasons. You are able to choose the benefit amount, which is the amount of your income to replace, and the waiting period that you begin receiving payments.

How do you decide if you need disability insurance? Consider these questions when making your decision:

- How much employer leave do you have?
- Do you have savings?
- Do you have other income you can rely on, such as from your spouse or from child support?
- How close are you to retirement?
- Could you go on Social Security Disability or take a Disability Retirement?
- What are your other sources of income?

Cancer Insurance



American Fidelity | <https://americanfidelity.com> | 800.662.1113

Thousands of Americans are diagnosed with cancer each day. No doubt, the news is devastating, both personally and financially. It's impossible to anticipate a cancer diagnosis, but it is possible to prepare for it with a cancer insurance plan.

It is likely that your major medical coverage will not cover all of the costs associated with a cancer diagnosis. Supplementing your major medical with cancer insurance may help you pay for related expenses, such as copays and deductibles, specialists, experimental treatment, specialty hospitals, travel expenses, in-home care and more.

Premiums are paid through convenient payroll deduction to ensure your policy remains in force if you should need it. Benefits are paid directly to you, so you can choose how to spend the money.

Critical Illness Insurance



American Fidelity | <https://americanfidelity.com> | 800.662.1113

If you've heard of heart attacks, strokes, organ transplants or paralysis, then you're familiar with critical illness. It's likely you or someone you know has experienced one of these life-altering events. Often times, a critical illness has a powerful impact on people's lives, affecting their livelihood and finances.

A critical illness plan can help with the treatment costs of covered illnesses. Benefits are paid directly to you, unless otherwise assigned, giving you the choice of how to spend the money. Plus, there are plans available to provide coverage for you, your spouse and dependent children.

Prepare now for the unexpected with a critical illness insurance plan. The plan helps you focus on getting well rather than worrying about finances.

Accident Insurance



American Fidelity | <https://americanfidelity.com> | 800.662.1113

The costs associated with an injury can add up. Between hospital visits, exams and treatment, out-of-pocket costs could put you in a financial hardship. An accident plan pays benefits directly to you, so you can determine where to spend the money. It's comforting to know that an accident insurance policy can be there through all stages of your care, from initial treatment to follow-up care. Accident coverage is available to you through payroll deduction and may provide a benefit for costs associated with:

- Concussions
- Lacerations
- Broken teeth
- Emergency room visits
- Ambulance, ground or air
- Intensive care unit

403(b) Retirement Plans



First Financial Administrators, Inc. | www.ffga.com |
1.800.523.8422, option 2 | retirement@ffga.com

The 403(b) can be an excellent way to save money for retirement. It can serve as a supplement to a traditional pension plan or other retirement plan(s), or as a stand-alone plan. The 403(b) is a tax deferred retirement plan available to employees of educational institutions and certain non-profit organizations as determined by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions and investment earnings in a 403(b) grow tax deferred until withdrawal (assumed to be retirement), at which time they are taxed as ordinary income. The 403(b) is named after the section of the IRS code governing it.

HOW A 403(b) WORKS

Employees enroll and participate through their employer. Contributions to a 403(b) are made on a pre-tax basis through a Salary Reduction Agreement. This is an arrangement where the participating employee agrees to take a reduction in salary. The amount by which the salary is reduced is directed to investments offered through the employer and selected by the employee. These contributions are called elective deferrals and are excluded from the employee's taxable income. Contributions grow tax-deferred until the time of retirement, when withdrawals are taxed as ordinary income.

BENEFITS

- Tax deferred growth: no annual taxation on earnings
- Investment options: fixed annuities, variable annuities, or mutual funds
- Competitive interest rates
- Flexibility: start, stop, and adjust your contributions as allowed by your employer's plan.
- Receive periodic account statements

CONTRIBUTION LIMITS

Participants may contribute up to \$22,500 for year 2023. Participants age 50 and older at any time during the calendar year are permitted to contribute an additional \$7,500 in 2023, for a total of \$30,000.

457(b) Retirement Plans



First Financial Administrators, Inc. | www.ffga.com |
1.800.523.8422, option 2 | retirement@ffga.com

A 457(b) plan is a Tax Deferred Retirement Plan available to employees of state and local governmental agencies, including public school employees. They are similar to 401k plans because they allow you to place a percentage of your salary into an employer-sponsored plan that helps you save for retirement. You will not have to pay taxes on what you contribute, or your earnings made until you withdraw the money.

BENEFITS

- Investment options: fixed annuities, variable annuities, or mutual funds
- Flexibility: start, stop, and adjust your contributions as allowed by your employer's plan
- Receive periodic account statements
- No 10% federal penalty on interest or earnings for early withdrawal
- No current federal income taxes on the money you put into the plan until it is time to take withdrawals

CONTRIBUTION LIMITS

Participants may contribute up to \$22,500 for year 2023. Participants age 50 and older at any time during the calendar year are permitted to contribute an additional \$7,500 in 2023, for a total of \$30,000.

Clever RX



Clever RX | <https://partner.cleverrx.com/ffga> | 1.800.873.1195

Clever RX helps you save money by using a prescription drug savings card. They partner with the healthcare community to bring state-of-the-art, money-savings tools to participants. It helps you save up to 80% off prescriptions drugs and often beats the average copay. Plus, it's completely free. Thanks to Clever RX, you will never overpay for prescriptions again!

HIGHLIGHTS

- 100% FREE to use.
- Unlock discounts on thousands of medications.
- Save up to 80% on prescription medication – Often beats your copay!
- Download the Clever RX app by using the information on your card below to unlock exclusive savings at over 60,000 pharmacies nationwide.
- Available to use now!

Use Clever RX every time you pay for a medication for instant savings! Download the app or visit the site to price a drug: <https://partner.cleverrx.com/ffga>.

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SAVE UP TO 80% on prescription drugs at virtually all U.S. pharmacies!

BIN: 610378
PCN: SC1
Group: 1062
Member ID: 1000

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download the app for **FREE!**

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Pharmacist Help Line: 800-974-3135
Customer Help Line: 800-873-1195

THIS CARD IS NOT INSURANCE

This card valid exclusively at CVS, Target, Longs Drugs, Walmart, Kroger, Fry's, Harris Teeter, Walgreens, and Duane Reade. For thousands more pharmacies, download the [Clever RX App](#).

CONTACT INFORMATION

Silver Consolidated Schools Benefits Office

2810 N. Swan St. | Silver City, NM 88061

Ph: 575.956.2000 | Fax: 575.956.2039

silverschools.org



FIRST FINANCIAL GROUP OF AMERICA

Myrna Gomez, Account Executive
Myrna.gomez@ffga.com | 575.915.7715

Michaela Schmidt, Client Service Specialist
michaela.schmidt@ffga.com | 800.365.3860

CONTACTS

BENEFIT	CARRIER	WEBSITE	PHONE
Medical	NMPSIA	https://nmpsia.com	800.548.3724
Dental	NMPSIA	https://nmpsia.com	800.548.3724
Vision	NMPSIA	https://nmpsia.com	800.548.3724
Flexible Spending Accounts	First Financial Administrators, Inc.	www.ffga.com	866.853.3539
Life Insurance	NMPSIA	https://nmpsia.com	800.548.3724
Permanent Life Insurance	Texas Life	www.texaslife.com	800.283.9233
Term Life Insurance	American Fidelity	https://americanfidelity.com	800.662.1113
Disability Insurance	NMPSIA	https://nmpsia.com	800.548.3724
Disability Insurance	American Fidelity	https://americanfidelity.com	800.662.1113
Cancer Insurance	American Fidelity	https://americanfidelity.com	800.662.1113
Critical Illness Insurance	American Fidelity	https://americanfidelity.com	800.662.1113
Accident Insurance	American Fidelity	https://americanfidelity.com	800.662.1113
Retirement Accounts	FFGA	www.ffga.com	800.523.8422

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CENTER – <https://benefits.ffga.com/silverconsolidatedschools>

The Employee Benefits Center (EBC) is a one-stop-shop for you to find all things benefits related. On the website, you'll find open enrollment and plan year dates, benefit descriptions, carrier contact information, product brochures, claim forms and enrollment details. Visit <https://benefits.ffga.com/silverconsolidatedschools> today!