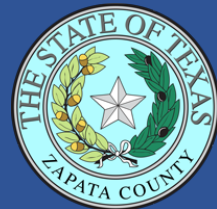


2024 Plan Year
January 1, 2024-December 31, 2024

Open Enrollment
December 4th – 12th



COUNTY OF ZAPATA BENEFITS GUIDE



First Financial Group of America
Nick Sullenger, Account Manager
956-998-8117 | nick.sullenger@ffga.com
<https://ffbenefits.ffga.com/zapatacounty/>

County of Zapata Benefits Office
Noelia Trevino, HR Director
nellie.trevino@zapatacountytexas.org
956 765-9955 | <https://www.co.zapata.tx.us/>

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- BENEFIT CONTACT INFORMATION

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.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CENTER

YOUR ONE-STOP-SHOP FOR BENEFIT INFORMATION

County of Zapata and First Financial are excited to provide you with a custom website filled with information about your benefits. Visit the Employee Benefits Center to see current benefit options for your employer, as well as find claim forms, important phone number, and enrollment information.

There's no need to register for site access. Simply type the URL below into your browser and you will be directed to your Employee Benefits Center.

<https://ffbenefits.ffga.com/zapatacounty/>



HOW TO ENROLL

ONLINE ENROLLMENT

To begin online enrollment, visit <https://ffga.benselect.com/Enroll/login.aspx>.

LOGIN

- Login: Your Employee ID or Social Security Number (no dashes)
- PIN (first login only): The last four digits of your Social Security Number and the last two digits of the year you were born (six digits total)
- New PIN: The first time you log in you will be required to change to a new PIN. Please note your new PIN because you will use the new PIN from that point forward.

VIEW CURRENT BENEFITS

After logging in, you will arrive at the welcome screen. Your current benefits and premium deductions will be listed on this screen.

VIEW/ADD DEPENDENTS

Click next to view your dependents. It is very important to make sure the social security numbers and birth dates listed are correct. If you plan to add dependents, you will need to enter their social security numbers and birth dates.

BEGIN ELECTIONS

Click next again to begin making your benefit elections. Remember, no changes to your elections can be made during the plan year unless you have either a qualified mid-year change under Section 125 or a special enrollment event.

ON-SITE ENROLLMENT

When it's time to enroll in your benefits, your First Financial Account Representative will be on-site to assist you with making your elections. Visit your EBC to view the on-site enrollment schedule.

ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBILITY

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

NEW EMPLOYEES

You have 31 days from your actively-at-work date to make benefit elections. To enroll please contact your First Financial representative Nick Sullenger at (956) 998-8117.

EXISTING EMPLOYEES

When it's time to enroll in your benefits, your First Financial Account Representative will be available to assist you with making your elections. Your elections can be made anytime during annual enrollment online from your work or home computer. 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.

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, please complete the online enrollment either on your work or home computer. Under each option, you will need to select "waive." **You must still complete the beneficiary information.**

SECTION 125 PLANS

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 must 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.*

DENTAL INSURANCE

Ameritas | www.ameritas.com | 1.800.487.5553

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

DENTAL MONTHLY PREMIUMS	
EMPLOYEE ONLY	\$27.56
EMPLOYEE + SPOUSE	\$62.12
EMPLOYEE + CHILD(REN)	\$57.92
EMPLOYEE + FAMILY	\$89.72



ZAPATA COUNTY

Dental Highlight Sheet



Dental Plan Summary # 010-400398

Effective Date: 1/1/2024

Plan Benefit	
Type 1	100%
Type 2	80%
Type 3	50%
Deductible	\$10/visit Type 1 \$50 Calendar Year Type 2,3 No Family Maximum
Maximum (per person)	\$1,000 per calendar year
Allowance	U&C
Dental Rewards®	Included
Waiting Period	12 Month

Orthodontia Summary - Adult and Child Coverage

Allowance	U&C
Plan Benefit	50%
Lifetime Maximum (per person)	\$1,500
Waiting Period	12 months

Sample Procedure Listing (Current Dental Terminology © American Dental Association.)

Type 1	Type 2	Type 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Routine Exam (1 in 6 months)• Bitewing X-rays (1 in 12 months)• Full Mouth/Panoramic X-rays (1 in 5 years)• Periapical X-rays (1 in 6 months)• Cleaning (1 in 6 months)• Fluoride for Children 13 and under (1 in 12 months)• Sealants (age 13 and under)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Space Maintainers• Restorative Amalgams• Restorative Composites (anterior and posterior teeth)• Endodontics (nonsurgical)• Endodontics (surgical)• Periodontics (nonsurgical)• Periodontics (surgical)• Denture Repair• Simple Extractions• Complex Extractions• Anesthesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Onlays• Crowns (1 in 10 years per tooth)• Crown Repair• Prosthodontics (fixed bridge; removable complete/partial dentures) (1 in 10 years)

Monthly Rates

Employee Only (EE)	\$27.56
EE + Spouse	\$62.12
EE + Children	\$57.92
EE + Spouse & Children	\$89.72

Ameritas Information

We're Here to Help: This plan was designed specifically for the associates of **ZAPATA COUNTY**. At Ameritas Group, we do more than provide coverage - we make sure there's always a friendly voice to explain your benefits, listen to your concerns, and answer your questions. Our customer relations associates will be pleased to assist you 7 a.m. to midnight (Central Time) Monday through Thursday, and 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Friday. You can speak to them by calling toll-free: 800-487-5553 or access our automated voice response system or go online to ameritas.com.

Rx Savings

Our valued plan members and their covered dependents can save on prescription medications at over 60,000 pharmacies across the nation including CVS, Walgreens, Rite Aid and Walmart. This Rx discount is offered at no additional cost, and it is not insurance. To receive this Rx discount, Ameritas plan members just need to visit us at ameritas.com and sign into (or create) a secure member account where they can access and print an online-only Rx discount savings ID card.

Open Enrollment

If a member does not elect to participate when initially eligible, the member may elect to participate at the policyholder's next enrollment period. This enrollment period will be held each year and those who elect to participate in this policy at that time will have their insurance become effective on January 1.

VISION INSURANCE

Ameritas | www.ameritas.com | 1.800.487.5553

Proper vision care is essential to your overall well-being. 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

VISION MONTHLY PREMIUMS	
EMPLOYEE ONLY	\$7.32
EMPLOYEE + ONE	\$14.64
EMPLOYEE + TWO or MORE DEPENDENTS	\$21.00



ZAPATA COUNTY

Eye Care Highlight Sheet



Focus® Plan Summary # 010-400398

Effective Date: 1/1/2024

	VSP Choice Network + Affiliates	Out of Network
Deductibles		
	\$10 Exam	\$10 Exam
Annual Eye Exam	\$25 Eye Glass Lenses or Frames*	\$25 Eye Glass Lenses or Frames
Lenses (per pair)	Covered in full	Up to \$45
Single Vision	Covered in full	Up to \$30
Bifocal	Covered in full	Up to \$50
Trifocal	Covered in full	Up to \$65
Lenticular	Covered in full	Up to \$100
Progressive	See lens options	NA
Contacts		
Fit & Follow Up Exams	15% discount See Additional Focus Features.	No benefit
Elective	Up to \$115	Up to \$105
Medically Necessary	Covered in full	Up to \$210
Frames	\$100**	Up to \$70
Frequencies (months)		
Exam/Lens/Frame	12/12/24 Based on date of service	12/12/24 Based on date of service

*Deductible applies to a complete pair of glasses or to frames, whichever is selected.

**The Costco allowance will be the wholesale equivalent.

Lens Options (member cost) *

	VSP Choice Network + Affiliates (Other than Costco)	Out of Network
Progressive Lenses	Up to provider's contracted fee for Lined Bifocal Lenses. The patient is responsible for the difference between the base lens and the Progressive Lens charge.	Up to Lined Bifocal allowance.
Std. Polycarbonate	Covered in full for dependent children	No benefit
Solid Plastic Dye	\$33 adults	No benefit
Plastic Gradient Dye	\$15 (except Pink I & II)	No benefit
Photochromatic Lenses (Glass & Plastic)	\$17	No benefit
Scratch Resistant Coating	\$31-\$82	No benefit
Anti-Reflective Coating	\$17-\$33	No benefit
Ultraviolet Coating	\$43-\$85	No benefit
	\$16	No benefit

*Lens Option member costs vary by prescription, option chosen and retail locations.

Monthly Rates

Employee Only (EE)	\$7.32
EE + 1 Dependent	\$14.64
EE + 2 or more dependents	\$21.00

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS

First Financial Administrators, Inc. | www.ffga.com | 1.866.853.3539

P.O. Box 161968 | Altamonte Springs, FL 32716

MEDICAL FSA

A Medical Flexible Spending Account (Medical FSA) is an IRS-approved program to help you save taxes and reimburse yourself for out-of-pocket medical expenses not covered under your medical plan. Your employer has chosen the \$640 carryover option for your Medical FSA plan. This option allows you the opportunity to carry over up to \$640 of unclaimed Medical FSA funds into the following plan year. Keep in mind that balances more than \$640 will be forfeited under the use-it-or-lose-it rule.

Your maximum contribution amount for 2024 is \$3,200.

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 without spending 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 the 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's 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 childcare, babysitters, and adult day care.

**You may allocate up to \$5,000 per tax year for reimbursement of dependent care services.
If you are married and file a separate tax return, the limit is \$2,500.**

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.
- 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

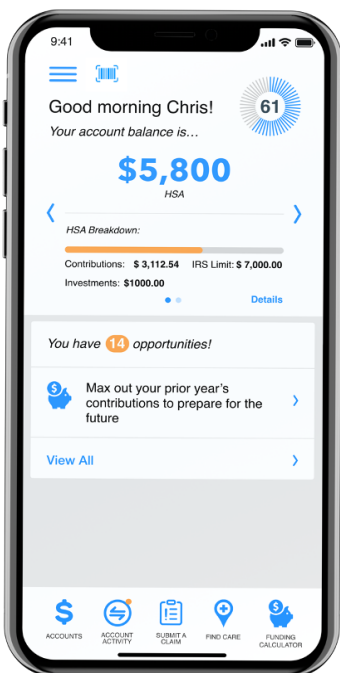
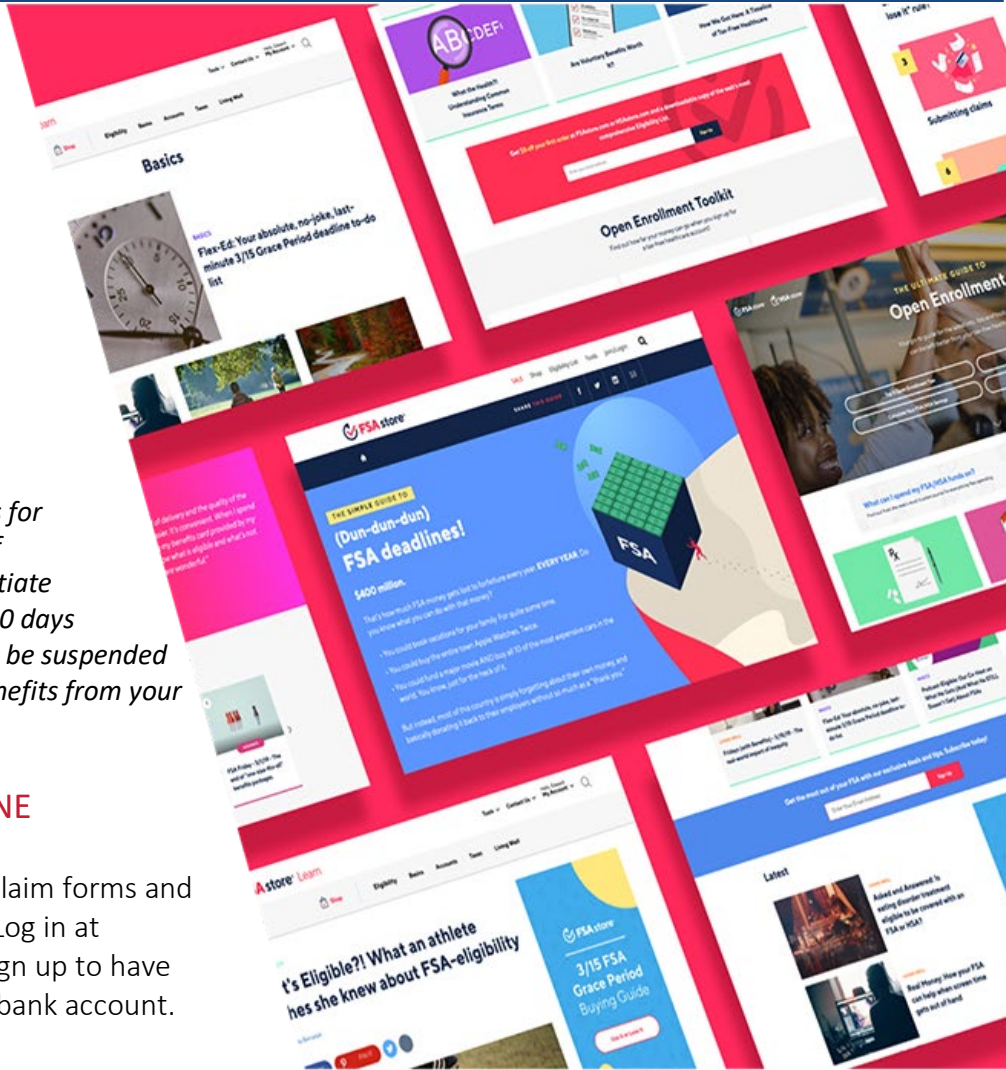
BENEFITS CARD

The First Financial Benefits Card is available to all employees that participate in a 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 any eligible dependents who 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 60 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.

VIEW YOUR ACCOUNT DETAILS ONLINE

Sign up to view your account balance, find claim forms and check claims status on our secure website. Log in at www.ffga.com. After you log in, you may sign up to have reimbursements directly deposited to your bank account. View the [Portal Log-in Guide](#) now!



FF MOBILE ACCOUNT APP

With the FF Mobile Account App, you can submit claims, view account balance and history, check claims status, view alerts, upload receipts and documentation and more! The FF Mobile Account App is available for Apple® and Android™ devices on either the App StoreSM or Google Play StoreTM. View the FF Mobile Account App [User Guide](#) and [Quick Reference Guide](#).

FSA STORE

First Financial has partnered with the FSA Store to bring you an easy-to-use online store to better understand and manager your account. You can shop for eligible medical items like bandages and contact solution, browse for products and services using the Eligibility List and visit the Learning Center to find answers to commonly asked questions. Visit the store at <http://www.ffga.com/individuals/#stores> for more details and special deals.



TEXAS LIFE – PERMANENT LIFE

Texas Life | www.texaslife.com | 1.800.283.9233

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 if 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.

DISABILITY INSURANCE

American Fidelity | <http://americanfidelity.com> | 1.800.654.8489

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 you are unable to work due to those reasons. You can 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

Allstate | <http://www.allstatebenefits.com/mybenefits> | 1.800.521.3535

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 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. Visit the Employee Benefits Center and view policy for more details.

CRITICAL ILLNESS INSURANCE

Aflac | <http://www.aflacgroupinsurance.com> | 1.800.433.3036

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. Visit the Employee Benefits Center and view policy for more details.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Aflac | <http://www.aflacgroupinsurance.com> | 1.800.433.3036

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

GAP INSURANCE

MetLife | <https://www.askmetlife.com> | 1.800.942.0854

You may think major medical insurance is enough to cover your needs, but the reality is that many plans may only cover a portion of your overall expenses. It's important to protect yourself in the event of a sudden hospitalization.

A Hospital Gap Insurance plan pays benefits directly to you and is designed to help cover the gap between what your traditional medical plan will cover and the out-of-pocket expenses you will pay. The plan may include benefits you can use to help pay for inpatient hospital stays and surgeries, doctor's office treatments and diagnostic testing costs.

With Hospital Gap Insurance, you can have peace of mind knowing that unexpected medical expenses will less of a financial burden for you and your family members.

LEGAL PLAN

Legal Shield | <http://www.legalshield.com> | 1.800.654.7757

Have you ever found yourself in need of legal advice, but aren't sure where to go? A voluntary group legal plan helps fill that need. It provides you with access to professional lawyers at a low monthly rate. For just a few dollars a month, you can consult with a lawyer about having your will prepared, reviewing documents, contesting a traffic ticket, lawsuits, divorce and so much more. Expert legal advice is available at your fingertips.

COBRA

First Financial Administrators, Inc. | www.ffga.com | 1.800.523.8422, option 4

Life is full of unexpected events that may impact your health insurance coverage. Under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, better known as COBRA, you have the right to continue your group health coverage such as medical, dental, vision insurance and flexible spending accounts for a limited period of time.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Temporary continuation of coverage that generally lasts for 18 months due to employment termination or reduction of hours of work, divorce, death or a child no longer qualifying as a dependent. Certain qualifying events, or a second qualifying event during the initial period of coverage, may permit a beneficiary to receive a maximum of 36 months of coverage.
- Either you or your family member are responsible for notifying your employer of a divorce, legal separation or child losing dependent status within 60 days of the event. In the case of termination, death or reduction in hours, your employer will be responsible for letting the provider know that you have the right to continue coverage under COBRA.
- Benefits will remain identical to what you had while employed. However, you will be responsible for paying the full premium, plus any applicable fees.

CLEVER RX

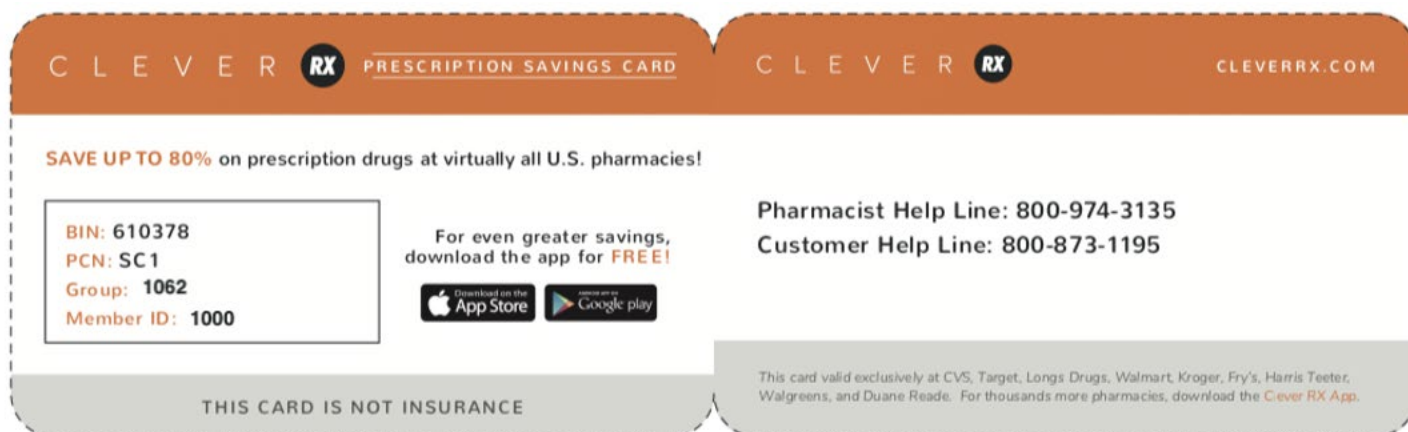
Clever RX | <https://partner.cleverrx.com/ffga> | 1.800.873.1195

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>.



CONTACT INFORMATION

ZAPATA COUNTY - BENEFITS OFFICE

201 East 7th Ave., Suite 154 | Zapata, TX 78344

(956) 765.9955

<https://www.co.zapata.tx.us/>

FIRST FINANCIAL GROUP OF AMERICA

Nick Sullenger, Account Manager

956.998.8117 | nick.sullenger@ffga.com

CONTACTS

BENEFIT	CARRIER	WEBSITE	PHONE
Dental	Ameritas	http://www.ameritas.com	(800) 487-5553
Vision	Ameritas	http://www.ameritas.com	(800) 487-5553
Flexible Spending Account	FFGA	https://ffa.wealthcareportal.com/Page/Home	(866) 853-3539
Dependent Care	FFGA	https://ffa.wealthcareportal.com/Page/Home	(866) 853-3539
Long Term Disability	American Fidelity	http://americanfidelity.com	(800) 654-8489
Cancer Insurance	Allstate	http://www.allstatebenefits.com/mybenefits	(800) 521-3535
Critical Illness Insurance	Aflac	http://www.aflacgroupinsurance.com	(800) 433-3036
Permanent Life Insurance	Texas Life	www.texaslife.com	(800) 283-9233
Accident Only Insurance	Aflac	http://www.aflacgroupinsurance.com	(800) 433-3036
Hospital GAP Insurance	MetLife	https://www.askmetlife.com	(800) 942-0854
Legal Plan	LegalShield	http://www.legalshield.com	(800) 654-7757
COBRA	FFGA COBRA Administrators	https://cobrapoint.benaisance.com	(800) 523-8422 Option 4
Clever RX	Clever RX	https://partner.cleverrx.com/ffga	(800) 873-1195