

Dependent Care Reimbursement Account Most Questioned Expenses

Dependent Care expenses are not considered incurred until the child care is actually provided. Reimbursement may not exceed year-to-date deductions. Divorced parents should be aware that the Dependent Care Reimbursement Account is **only available to the custodial parent**, as it can only be used to allow the parent to be gainfully employed.

Fees for the following are **not eligible**:

Diaper Changing Fees

Discounts

Entertainment

Expenses paid to child of participant – ineligible unless child is age 19 or older and cannot be claimed as a dependent of the participant or participant's spouse.

Fees for Lessons (i.e. dance, piano or swim, etc.)

Field Trips

Household Services (housekeeper, maid, cook) – generally ineligible, except where incidental to child care.

Kindergarten (IRS views Kindergarten as educational)

Late Fees

Lunches/Food

Maternity Leave – If you, or your spouse, are on maternity leave and you place your other children in day care, those day care expenses are not eligible.

Only day care expenses incurred while at work/school are eligible.

Overnight Camp Expenses – The cost of sending your child to an overnight camp is not eligible. This is not considered a work-related expense.

Transportation for day care