



**ALLIED**  
NATIONAL

# BULLETIN



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## HRAs – A Valuable Money Saving Idea



Allied National's partnership with TASC (Total Administrative Services Corporation) gives your employer groups access to valuable HRA benefit options.

By working closely with TASC, we can provide your clients a seamless benefits account experience. TASC is a third-party administrator like Allied, but their focus is not on major medical plans. They handle administration tasks for COBRA

benefits, Health Savings Accounts, the Family and Medical Leave Act and Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRA).

A popular way to save money for many medical expenses, HRAs reimburse employees and allows employers to offer more flexible health care options. TASC has multiple HRA designs and employers

can choose the option that best complements their group health plan. For Allied employer groups with a TASC HRA, we share claim data directly with TASC for a seamless experience for both employers and employees. No need to file HRA claims with a separate entity when using Allied and a TASC HRA.

HRA plan design options include:

- Medical Deductible Only
- Medical Deductible and Prescription
- Medical Deductible and Co-insurance
- Medical Deductible, Co-pay, and Prescription
- Medical Deductible, Co-pay, Co-insurance, and Prescription

Contact Allied Sales Support at 888-767-7133 to find a TASC representative in your area.



## An Easy Way to Explain Form 5500 and PCORI Fees

All Allied National self-funded plans are required to file a form 5500 with the federal government. And of course, all health plans are subject to the Affordable Care Act's PCORI fees. Do you understand these issues and are you ready for questions from your clients?

Use the following simple bullets to better understand your clients' 5500 and PCORI responsibilities. And don't forget Allied's web resources for both topics at [www.alliednational.com/5500](http://www.alliednational.com/5500).

### Simple 5500 facts

What is form 5500?

- It's an information filing for pension and health plans.
- All self-funded plans must electronically file form 5500.
- 5500 must be filed within seven months of the end of the plan year.
- Employers with fewer than 100 employees can use the 5500-SF (short form).

Calendar year versus plan year filing:

- We assume most employers will want to file on a calendar

year based plan year. Employers also can elect to file on a plan year based on their stop-loss plan year.

- Calendar year — Plan year that begins on Jan. 1 and ends on Dec. 31.
- Plan year — Plan year begins on the effective date of the company's stop-loss plan.

Allied National assists our employers by providing:

- At the end of May, we send information worksheets to all self-funded groups based on the calendar year of Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.
- This worksheet provides employers with the information we have in our system that is needed to help complete the electronic filing of form 5500.
- Allied does NOT have ALL the information needed for the filing. The employer must provide the missing information, such as the split of employer versus employee contributions.
- The majority of our employer groups (regardless of their stop-

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# An Easy Way to Explain Form 5500 and PCORI Fees

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loss plan year) file as calendar year plans. Employers also can elect to file based on their stop-loss plan year. The 5500 filing is due within seven months following the end of the plan year.

- If your client prefers to go by the plan year model, you or your client can contact Allied and request the information worksheet to be rerun with the plan year time frame they need.

## Simple PCORI facts

Patient Center Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Fee

- A fee created as part of the Affordable Care Act to help fund the institute.
- This fee will expire after Oct. 1, 2019.

When are PCORI fees due?

- The fee is due July 31 of each year (which is one reason we include PCORI information on our calendar year 5500 information worksheet – it's due at the same time).

How are the fees determined?

- The 5500 worksheet contains enrollment information needed to pay the annual PCORI tax.
- IRS Notice 2016-64, provides that the PCORI fee for plan years ending on or after Oct. 1, 2016, and before Oct. 1,

2017, including 2016 calendar year plans, is \$2.26 per each person covered under the applicable health plan, up from \$2.17 for the previous plan year.

How do employers pay their PCORI fees?

- The fee is paid on IRS Form 720, the Quarterly Federal Excise Tax Return.
- To pay the PCORI fee, employers need this form: [www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f720.pdf](http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f720.pdf). They should fill out their company information on page one and then fill out Part II, #133 on Patient Centered Outcomes Research Fee. After filling out the voucher at the end, they should mail it to:  
Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service  
Cincinnati, OH 45999-0009

To assist you and your clients further, Allied has created an informational page at [www.alliednational.com/5500](http://www.alliednational.com/5500) with detailed instructions on how to complete a 5500 filing as well as how to make PCORI payments. We hope you and your clients will refer to this page for assistance.

## Funding Advantage Rating Extended

WINAllied version 11.1 is now available for quoting Funding Advantage rates through November 2017.

This new version went online June 30 and all registered users were automatically informed of the availability of the update. You can download the WINAllied software on our website at: [www.alliednational.com/winallied](http://www.alliednational.com/winallied).

If you're not receiving automatic notifications of new software availability or just wondering if you have the most recent version,

you can always use the CHECK FOR UPDATE menu option in the WINAllied Utilities menu. This will immediately take you to our website where you can check for new update availability.

Rates for December 2017 and into the first quarter of 2018 will be available for quoting in the next 60 days.

## MyWave Connect – Expert Employer Resources

Your clients are reaping the benefits of expert compliance and human resource assistance provided by MyWave Connect. MyWave Connect is a free web portal provided by Allied that allows them to find the latest information on compliance, human resources, benefits, wellness and other issues important to today business owners.

The following are the top five pages our employers are visiting the most:

- House Republicans Pass Amended AHCA
- 2017 Minimum Wage Rate Increases

- 5 Important Issues to Monitor in 2017
- HR Brief Newsletter – March 2017
- Understanding Fiduciary Responsibilities under a Group Health Plan – An Employer's Guide

The MyWave website can save your clients hours of research and tracking. All of the compliance articles are written and reviewed for accuracy by a team of lawyers.

Ask your clients if they are using MyWave. If the answer is no, they can request free access today for this helpful benefit at [www.alliednational.com/mywave](http://www.alliednational.com/mywave).