

STATE OF WISCONSIN Department of Employee Trust Funds

A. John Voelker SECRETARY

Correspondence Memorandum

Date: October 18, 2021

To: Group Insurance Board

From: Xiong Vang, HSA & ERA Accounts Program Manager Office of Strategic Health Policy

Subject: Transit and Parking Plan Document

This memo is for informational purposes only. No Board action is required.

The commuter fringe benefit accounts authorized under Wis. Stat. § 40.02(26g), Wis. Stat. § 40.85, and Section 132 of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) have been offered to State employees since 2002. The benefit accounts allow eligible members to elect pre-tax deductions for qualified parking expenses and/or mass transit expenses. This benefit plan can be used for qualified transportation expenses incurred while getting to work, such as parking or bus transit passes.

As of October 2021, a total of 2,624 participants elected to enroll in the commuter fringe benefit accounts. The Parking Account has 1,918 participants, and the Transit Account has 706 participants. Participation in the commuter fringe benefit accounts has decreased due to the pandemic and because a larger portion of former participants now work from home.

Due to potential employer tax liabilities, the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics continue to opt out of the commuter fringe benefits for their employees in the 2022 plan year.

ETF maintains a Transit and Parking Plan Document (Plan Document) that details how the plan works. There are no provisional changes to either the Plan Document or the plan design of the Transit and Parking Account. Optum Financial (formerly ConnectYourCare) continues to be the third-party administrator of the commuter benefits. The current contribution limit allowed by the Internal Revenue Service is \$270 per month. The same limit will apply for 2022 plan year.

Staff will be at the Board meeting to answer any questions.

Reviewed and approved by Eileen K Mallow, Director, Office of Strategic Health Policy Electronically Signed 11/05/2021

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