







## LEVEL AND SELF-FUNDED HEALTH PLANS



by JKB Consulting Group, LLC



## **Overview: Level and Self-Funded Health Plans**

- According to a report from the Kaiser Foundation over 93% of Fortune 1000 companies utilize a form of self-funding for their health plans.
- Self-funded health plans have been used for nearly 45 years.
- Average annual savings are 12% to 30% when compared to a fully-insured plan.
- Level-funding is a form of self-funding that utilizes 'stop-loss' insurance to eliminate risk for the employer.
- Level-funded simply means the amount you pay is 'level' or the same throughout the year regardless
  of claim activity. The risk to the employer is capped at the monthly premiums no assessment nor
  cash call.

## **Level-Funded Health Plan Advantages**

- Average annual savings are 12% to 30% when compared to a fully-insured plan.
- Level-funded plans are exempt from the excise tax on health insurance premiums (ACA Health Insurance Tax).
- Plans are exempt from some ACA and state mandated benefits requirements.
- Plans are also exempt from regulations regarding minimum-loss ratios and annual rate increase review.
- When claims are lower than projected, you receive 100% reimbursement of claims surplus. Other options can be selected by employer.
- Stop-loss insurance protects against risk of higher-than-expected claims.
- More control and discretion (ability to approve claims on a case-by-case basis as contracted in plan).

## Reference-Based Pricing (RBP)

- Aon Hewitt's Health Care Survey revealed that 68% of employer's plan to adopt reference-based pricing.
- Delivers greater claims cost savings when compared to a pre-negotiated network discount.
- RBP provides greater transparency.
- Trend (inflation) for RBP is 1.4% as opposed to 8%-12% for fully-insured carrier plans.
- RBP allows access to all hospitals nationwide (Mayo, John Hopkins, etc.) as if they were in-network.
- RBP plans may utilize PHCS (*Multi-Plan*), First Health, and other PPO networks, PRN as well as Direct Contracting and HPN (*High Performance Networks*).
- Claims processing and customer service will be provided by an approved TPA that has the local and regional presence to provide the appropriate customer service you require.
- All our approved TPAs currently utilize a RBP program and have the ability to manage the specific RBP processes as well as integrate PPO and direct network access.

