

BENEFITS OF SELF-FUNDING

Taft-Hartley funds that self-fund maintain control of the healthcare consumption data of the members receiving benefits. There are numerous advantages to this. With this data, the Fund's actuary and consultant are in a much better position to recommended plan design changes that meet the medical needs of their members.

Much of the risk from self-funding is elimated for the Medicare population because Medicare is the primary payer for the first 80% of plan costs. Additionally, for the pharmacy benefit, with an Employer Group Waiver Plan, there is catastrophic coverage for all claims over \$8,417 for 2018.

Finally, self-funding eliminates costs associated with fully-insured plans. These include:

- · Insurance company risk charges
- Premium tax
- · Insurance company profit

MEDICAL BENEFITS

AmWINS provides back-office claims processing for several Medicare supplement insurance providers. To provide these services, AmWINS has entered into claims-paying relationships with all the CMS-approved Medicare intermediaries. These entities pay claims to providers on behalf of CMS. AmWINS receives Medicare crossover files from CMS and adjudicates the balance to be billed based on Medicare-allowable rates.

The service AmWINS provides to Medicare supplement carriers is the backbone of our Medicare self-funding program. Our relationships with the Medicare intermediaries, our ability to process Medicare crossover files, and our billing and collection capabilities allow us to efficiently and accurately administer your retiree medical program on a self-funded basis. We can ensure that claims are adjudicated based on Medicare-allowable rates, the gold standard for reference-based pricing. AmWINS has a great deal of flexibility in administering various levels of co-pays and deductibles for Medicare programs. Compared to a standard Coordination of Benefits (COB) strategy, we can ensure that your plan design is properly implemented and tracked. This can lead to additional savings for the Trust Fund.

PHARMACY BENEFITS

AmWINS can offer Taft-Hartley funds a self-funded pass-through Employer Group Waiver Plan (EGWP) for a population as small as 100 lives. Transparency around the various subsidies that are embedded in the EGWP gives self-funded Taft-Hartley groups a high level of confidence regarding the way their pharmacy plans are operating.

A fully insured EGWP does not allow the plan to gain the insights that are available from receiving the claims data for their populations. Claims data and subsidy information provide your actuary and benefit consultant the information they need to create the most appropriate plan design for your population. It also gives you the information you need to properly monitor the effectiveness of various strategies for controlling pharmacy costs.

