



# ERISA Wrap Document Are you in Compliance?

# Who wants a visit from the Department of Labor? No one!

But it happens. And they have a checklist of items they request of the employer.

A very <u>long</u> checklist.

One of the many items requested is an ERISA compliant Summary Plan Description (SPD) or "Wrap Document". Ever heard of one? This is a document you need in addition to your insurance booklets or certificates. The Wrap Document ties it all together and brings it into compliance with ERISA.

ERISA was designed to protect individuals enrolled in health plans. This law does not require employers to establish benefit plans, it requires employers to provide certain information in writing about the benefits.

Failure to comply with ERISA can cost you money in the form of penalties.

#### Contact Us!

#### **Annual ERISA Document Fee \$400**

Includes employer notices/disclosures. Fee is per plan; if you have more than one plan (ie. file multiple Form 5500s), multiple documents are required.

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## What is a Wrap Document?

ERISA requires all private sector employers, regardless of size, to automatically distribute a Summary Plan Description (SPD) to all plan participants free of charge. Insurance companies provide a booklet or certificate that explains the benefits. However, most booklets and certificates do not comply with the ERISA requirements applicable to SPDs. The easiest way for employers to comply with ERISA is to adopt a Wrap Document.

The insurance certificates do not include ERISA <u>required</u> language for SPDs, for example:

- plan number and plan year
- · employer's tax ID number
- name and address for the Plan's legal agent

#### Who needs an ERISA Wrap Document?

Employers who offer insured or self-funded group benefits. This includes all types of group health plans such as major medical, dental, vision, group term life and disability benefits to name a few.

This document requirement is in addition to any plan document you may already have for a pre-tax benefit plan (i.e. premium only plan, flexible spending account, health reimbursement arrangement).



#### **ERISA Wrap Document**

The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), was designed to protect individuals enrolled in health plans. This law does not require employers to establish benefit plans, but it does require employers to provide employees certain information in writing about their welfare benefits.

#### Does ERISA Apply?

ERISA applies to all private sector welfare benefit plans, which are defined as any plan, fund or program established or maintained by an employer for the employees and their family members that provide benefits such as: health plans, dental plans, vision plans, group term life insurance plans, accidental death and dismemberment insurance and disability benefits just to name a few. Both self funded and fully insured plans are subject to ERISA.

Most employers make sure they comply with ERISA when it comes to their retirement plans, such as their pension, 401(k) and profit sharing plans. But, few employers make sure they are complying with the ERISA requirements applicable to their welfare benefit plans. The U.S. Department of Labor is conducting more ERISA compliance audits and employers need to make sure they are complying with the documentation, disclosure and annual reporting requirements for all plans. A Wrap Document will help employers meet these ERISA obligations.

ERISA mandates that every plan be in writing and the employer automatically provide every participant an accurate and comprehensive Summary Plan Description (SPD) free of charge.

#### What is a Wrap Document?

A Wrap Document is a document that "wraps" around the insurance policy, certificate or booklet so that the plan sponsor complies with ERISA. The plan benefits continue to be governed by the insurance policy, certificate or booklet, but the Wrap Document supplements that information so that the combined documents comply with ERISA. Basically, the Wrap Document fills in the gaps left by insurance carriers so that the employer complies with the ERISA requirements applicable to SPDs. In other words, most insurance company's documents do not include ERISA required SPD language.

#### Plan Document Requirement

ERISA requires every plan be established and maintained pursuant to a written plan document. The written plan document must clearly identify certain basic information about the plan, including:

- The named fiduciary who will have the authority and responsibility to administer the plan.
- ✓ Procedures for amending/terminating the plan.
- ✓ The source of plan contributions.
- ✓ The allocation of responsibilities for the operation of the plan between the employer and the insurance carrier or third-party administrator.

#### Summary Plan Description (SPD)

ERISA also requires the employer to provide all participants the summary plan description (SPD). This is in addition to the requirement that the employer provide a summary of benefits and coverage (SBC).

The Department of Labor describes the summary plan description as "the primary vehicle for informing participants and beneficiaries about their rights and benefits." Employers are required to provide each plan participant a free copy of the SPD. Failure to provide a participant with the SPD in a timely manner can result in a \$110 per day penalty.

The SPD must describe all the important plan rules and the benefits available under the plan, as well as key information about the plan, including but not limited to: plan name, employer's name, address and employer tax identification number, name, address and telephone number of the plan administrator, plan number for annual reporting purposes to name a few.

#### What Next?

We can prepare your ERISA compliant Wrap Document and Summary Plan Description (SPD). Attached is the application we need to get started.

#### Annual ERISA Document Fee \$400

Includes employer notices/disclosures. Fee is per plan; if you have more than one plan (ie. file multiple Form 5500s), multiple documents are required.

### ERISA Wrap Document Application

#### Invoice The fee for ERISA Wrap Document preparation is \$400 annually. Mail the completed application + \$400 check payable to: **Navia Benefit Solutions** 1250 W Dorothy Lane, Suite 107 Dayton, OH 45409 Questions? Contact us! 888.677.8373 ~ DAYCompliance@naviabenefits.com Thank you for your business! Legal Employer Name Tax ID Number State Incorporated Address/City/State/Zip Phone Number Contact Name Contact Email Address Referring Broker Name Referring Broker Email Address C Corp S Corp ☐ Partnership / LLP ☐ Sole Proprietor Do you own any other companies ("affiliated employers")? Non-profit \_ If yes, please list all affiliated employers, their respective corporation type, Church Government School (public) School (private) address, phone number and tax ID. PSC (note if file as a C or S)\_\_\_\_\_ LLC (note if file as Partnership, C or S) Other Is your group health plan grandfathered? No Yes Are you considered a large employer as defined by Health Care Reform and do you employ "variable hour employees"? \Backslash No ☐ Yes If yes, list measurement, administrative and stability periods: Do you offer taxable wages for employees who waive your group health plan or for any other reason related to health and welfare benefit offerings? No ☐ Yes ☐ If yes, are the benefits paid per pay or lump sum? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what are the conditions required to receive the extra compensation? Date application completed Signature

# ERISA Wrap Document Application

Component Welfare Benefit Plans  Attach Certificate of Coverage For Each Line of Coverage.										
		Plan Details	Eligibility							
Policy Type	Contract Year/Renewal	Insurance Carrier/TPA + Address & Phone Number	Self-funded or Fully-insured?	Is the benefit Employer paid? Employee Paid? Or, both?	Waiting Period (e.g. first of the month following date of hire)	Number of hours per week employees are required to work in order to be eligible?	Excluded Employees (i.e. temporary, seasonal, co-op, independent contractors, union, etc.)			
Health Union Non-Union										
Dental Union Non-Union										
Vision Union Non-Union										
Life Union Non-Union										
AD&D Union Non-Union										
STD Union Non-Union										
LTD Union Non-Union										
Voluntary Life Union Non-Union										
Voluntary AD&D Union Non-Union										

## **ERISA Wrap Document Application**

Component Welfare Benefit Plans (continued)  Attach Certificate of Coverage For Each Line of Coverage										
		Plan Details	Eligibility							
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Stop Loss Insurance Union Non-Union										
Wellness Union Non-Union										
EAP Union Non-Union										
Voluntary Benefits Union Non-Union										
Health FSA Union Non-Union										
Dependent Care FSA Union Non-Union										
HRA Health Reimbursement Union Non-Union										