Comparison Chart Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) vs.

Health Savings Account (HSA)

Feature	HRA	HSA
Who Contributes?	Employer only	Employer, Employee, or both
Are Contributions Taxable?	No – Employees do not pay taxes on employer-funded HRA contributions	No – contributions are pre-tax, grow tax-free, and are nontaxable upon distribution (must be used for eligible medical expenses)
Account Ownership	Employer – claims paid as incurred	Employee – funds deposited are immediately vested and portable upon employment termination
Account Funded	No – Employer contributions are based on submitted reimbursable medical expenses	Yes – Employer contribution directly deposited to account, whether or not medical expenses are incurred
Unused Balance at End of Year	WHOI does not allow for rollover, so all unused HRA funds are forfeited	Employee is fully vested – unused dollars rollover and accumulate in the employee's account
Eligible Expenses	Employer Defines	All IRS Section 213 Expenses (see separate listing of eligible HSA expenses)
Healthcare Flexible Savings Account (Health-FSA)	Health-FSA can be used in conjunction with HRA but cannot be used in duplicate with HRA reimbursements	Can only participate in a Limited Scope Health-FSA when enrolled in the HSA
Other Expenses that HRA or HSA funds can be used for	None	Premiums for COBRA, Long-Term Care insurance or certain Medicare coverage