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The above comics are intended to provide general information only. They do not purport to be comprehensive nor to provide legal advice, and should not be treated as a substitute for professional legal advice on individual cases.

Visit www.vhis.gov.hk to learn more about Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme!



You and your family members can enjoy tax deduction under VHIS

Tax deduction for individual health insurance is only available for Certified Plans under VHIS which has been implemented by the Health Bureau as from 1 April 2019. Please see the following for details about calculation of the tax deduction.

The maximum tax deductible amount of qualifying premium is HK\$8,000 per insured person per annum without limit on the number of policies and insured persons

From the year of assessment 2019/20 onwards, taxpayers who purchase Certified Plans under VHIS for themselves or their specified relatives defined under the Inland Revenue Ordinance are eligible to apply for tax deduction. The tax deductible amount of qualifying premium is up to maximum HK\$8,000 per insured person per tax year and there is no limit on the number of policies and insured persons to claim tax deduction. Please note that the amount of premium qualifying for tax deduction (or tax-deductible amount) does not equal the amount of tax savings. The formula for calculating tax savings is as follows:

Amount of tax saved = Tax deductible amount of qualifying premium x tax rate

	Example 1	Example 2	Example 3
Annual premium paid (HK\$)	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$12,000
Tax-deductible amount (capped at HK\$8,000) (HK\$)	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$8,000
Amount of tax saved (assuming tax rate is 15%) (HK\$)	\$450	\$600	\$1,200

Specified relatives include taxpayer's spouse, taxpayer's or his/her spouse's children, grandparents, parents, and siblings. For details, please refer to Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) (<https://www.elegislation.gov.hk/hk/cap112>).

Obligations of insurance companies

Insurance companies should provide proof of premium payment to assist policy holders to claim tax deduction for the qualifying premiums of Certified Plans. **The premium payment date shown on the premium payment record will be the basis for deciding which year of assessment is applicable for claiming the premium for tax deduction.**

All-round consideration rather than focus on the tax deduction only

Though tax deduction can reduce the spending on insurance premium in effect, it should not be taken as the only factor to consider whether to buy a VHIS Certified Plan. You should also consider whether the benefit coverage of Certified Plans fits your needs and budget, and compare product design and premiums of different insurance plans. Please visit the official VHIS website www.vhis.gov.hk for more information about VHIS, the participating insurance companies and the Certified Plans they offer, and start planning with your family!