



Good News on DataPath!

For the past week, VEHI has been researching **DataPath**, a respected HRA/HSA/FSA vendor headquartered in Arkansas, and a potential TPA partner for schools in Vermont currently under contract with Future Planning Associates.

We are pleased to report that the BCBS affiliates in Arkansas gave us consistent, positive reviews of their interactions with DataPath.

While vetting the company, we've also been working on a transition plan for school districts and local unions that contract with DataPath, with the commitment of minimizing the impact of the transition on both employees and central offices.

Today, we say confidently that

1. VEHI can recommend school districts give serious consideration to contracting with DataPath, if they have not made other arrangements. Our research shows that DataPath is not only willing to take on TPA business for schools under trying circumstances and a very compressed timeline, it is prepared (technologically, contractually, and customer service wise) to resolve existing problems and to provide the vital services schools and school employees are entitled to going forward.
2. The transition to DataPath will take effect on **May 1, 2018**. This is possible for two reasons: (a) DataPath's extensive experience and readiness posture and (b) because BCBSVT successfully expedited its normal process to set up a claims feed to meet the urgent need of VEHI members.

School districts must act quickly

DataPath is requesting that schools return **signed agreements to it by Wednesday March 28**, to give it time to receive and process data from Future Planning Associates. In other words, the March 28th deadline is essential for the transition process to begin on May 1.

So, if you decide to contract with Datapath (and that decision is entirely yours), it is imperative you not delay. Current FPA members should **receive an email** following this message from **Ben Robbins** at DataPath with the required forms to complete and return. Ben has access to district contact information that FPA has on file.

If you, or someone in your district does **not** hear from Ben soon, please reach out to him at brobbins@datapathadmin.com or at 501-355-0202.

Learn more about Datapath

Contracting with a TPA is a local decision, so we thought it important to give you opportunities to hear from DataPath directly before March 28. We are setting up 3 live webinars with DataPath to present information and to answer your questions. The registration links to the webinars are below.

VEHI will see this through

We understand how difficult and confusing a time this is for employees and schools across the state. VEHI will do everything it can to help everyone affected.

Finally, VEHI wants to extend its gratitude to BCBSVT's response team, especially Allison Plante and Kelly Sullivan, and to our colleague Bobby-Jo Salls for the exceptional work they have done on this project.

Webinar Registration Links

Monday, March 19, 2018, 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Thursday, March 22, 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

This communication is being sent to Superintendents, School Business Officials, Human Resources, Health Members, School Board Chairs and Local Union Leaders.