



Sage Abra HRMS Newsletter

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sage

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Would You Like Paper or Plastic?

The Benefits of Electronic Payroll Paycards

In recent years, businesses have enjoyed tremendous savings in payroll costs by offering direct deposit programs and encouraging employees to participate. In fact, the employee adoption rate of direct deposit is very high. However one challenge remains - extending the convenience and cost savings of electronic payroll to employees who do not have a bank account ("unbanked") and thus cannot accept direct deposits. In this article, we'll discuss the value of Electronic Payroll Cards as an alternative to issuing paper paychecks to your "unbanked" employees.

What is a Payroll Card?

A payroll card holds a stored value and functions just like a debit card. An employee who receives payroll on a paycard is able to access cash at an ATM, pay bills, buy groceries, make online purchases, and use the card just about anywhere a debit card is accepted. In fact, they're often branded with Visa or Mastercard and are widely accepted by merchants, banks, and other institutions.

For employers, payroll paycards work in exactly the same way that direct deposit does. A paycard program blends into your existing payroll process without additional hardware or software required.

The Benefit to Employers

The primary benefit of offering paycards is to eliminate the processing costs of issuing paper paychecks to unbanked employees. According to research, there are about 28 million people that are unbanked in the US with another 44 million that have very little access to financial services. The cost of issuing paper paychecks to these employees is estimated to be about \$1 to \$2 per employee per pay period including the cost of paper stock, security features, envelopes, check handling, and printing supplies. There is also a replacement cost and potential bank fees for lost or stolen paychecks.

The Benefit to Employees

Unbanked employees often use a check cashing service that charges a fee in the neighborhood of 5%. With a payroll paycard program, those fees are eliminated putting more money in your employees' pockets. Plus, they'll gain the convenience of using a debit card while eliminating the risk of carrying cash. In fact, the convenience of paycards extends to employees currently using direct deposit who sometimes opt to receive a portion of their pay on a paycard as a means of providing funds to relatives or to track and budget spending on nonessential items.

Introducing Sage Payroll Paycards

Sage offers a Payroll Paycard program that will save you money while offering your employees the convenience of a safe and secure method of payment. It works the same way as direct deposit and requires no additional systems, hardware, or software.



[Contact us](#) if you'd like to learn more about the Sage Payroll Paycard program.



When It Comes to Payroll, You Have Options

There are many payroll options available to businesses today. Some use **outsourced** payroll providers for simplicity, others process payroll **in-house** for flexibility and complete control, and many companies use a **combination** of both ... that is, they process payroll in-house and use an outsourced service for tax filing and compliance.

Whatever your preference, Sage offers a lineup of fantastic payroll solutions and options to meet your needs. In this article, we'll quickly explore the benefits of Sage Abra Payroll for in-house processing and Sage Payroll Services for outsourced or a combination of both.

Sage Abra Payroll

Sage Abra Payroll is an affordable in-house payroll system that's integrated with Abra HR which eliminates duplicate data entry and simplifies payroll processing and reporting. It also eliminates the burden of maintaining separate HR, Payroll, and other employee databases.

Sage Abra Payroll includes all the functionality you'd expect including comprehensive reporting using the Crystal Reports® writer, simple check printing and MICR options, Direct Deposit, payroll tax management and automatic quarterly tax table updates, and flexibility to accommodate a wide range of earnings types and deductions.

Outsourcing with Sage Payroll Services

For companies that prefer NOT to maintain the necessary staff and expertise for in-house payroll processing, outsourcing with [Sage Payroll Services](#) might be the answer. Sage Payroll Services offers full-service web-based payroll processing that's affordable and saves time.

You'll ensure accurate and reliable processing and eliminate tax penalties with the "Penalty-Free Guarantee" which promises timely deposits and filings with federal, state, and local agencies or Sage Software will pay the fines for you! And of

course its integrated with Sage Abra HRMS which eliminates the need for data entry or synchronization.

I'll Take the Combo Please

For companies that prefer the flexibility and control of in-house payroll but don't want the hassle of tax filing, Sage Compliance Services combined with Abra payroll might be the perfect fit. You simply process your payroll as you normally would, upload an electronic file to [Sage Compliance Services](#), and they take care of the rest. You get the benefits of in-house payroll while mitigating the tax compliance risk.

[Contact us](#) and we'd be happy to discuss your payroll processing needs and guide you in the right direction.

Sage Timesheet Version 9.8 Now Available

Sage recently announced availability of Sage Timesheet Version 9.8 which is now integrated with the Microsoft SQL version of Sage Abra HRMS.

In addition, several simplified time entry features have been added including the ability to add holiday hours and other common time to all employees at once.

Sage Timesheet 9.8 allows employees to enter time worked through the web, supervisors to approve time entries, and payroll administrators to more easily control the approval process to ensure accurate and timely payroll.

For more detail visit www.sagetimesheet.com

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