

# HR Brief

Human Resources tips brought to you by  
**Sullivan Benefits**

February 2018

## The Technology with Limitless HR Possibilities

Blockchain technology is an encrypted digital ledger of public records organized into groups of data (blocks) and distributed over networks. This type of technology is best known for being the backbone technology for the digital currency bitcoin and is a way to store personal information in a secure manner and make it available to anyone with permission from those individuals.

According to experts at the Human Resource Executive's 20th Annual HR Technology Conference & Exposition, blockchain technology will come to the HR industry within the next 18-24 months, with companies like Microsoft and IBM already making huge investments in the technology. The potential HR uses of blockchain technology could be limitless.

Industry experts believe that blockchain technology could be particularly useful in recruiting and payroll.

### **Blockchain and Recruiting**

Blockchain technology could make it possible for employees to fully control data about themselves, a concept referred to as "self-sovereign identity." For example, a recruiter could use blockchain to verify a candidate's claim of achieving a certification, but the candidate would first have to release access to a blockchain entry cross-signed by the certifying body, which gives the candidate greater control over such data and also reduces the amount of time recruiters spend verifying information.

### **Blockchain and Payroll**

Payroll can be costly and a time-consuming process for managers because of the various banks and third parties involved in the process. Blockchain technology simplifies and standardizes payroll by eliminating the middleman, which can be incredibly useful for employees and payroll managers alike.

### **Summary**

Blockchain technology is in its infancy, but with its versatility and potential, it may become a large component of the HR industry in the near future.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Eight out of 10 Americans encounter frequent or daily stress, according to a recent Gallup poll. Among top stressors plaguing Americans is work-related stress. Many times an increase in work-related stress can cause negative emotional, physical and financial effects on otherwise happy employees.

Contact Sullivan Benefits today to learn about how you can help reduce your employees' stress.

## 4 Things Your Employees Can Do to Improve Cyber Security

According to the 2017-18 EY Global Information Security Survey, 60 percent of surveyed organizations believe that careless or unaware employees are their top cyber attack risk exposure. Listed below are four cyber security basics you can implement at your organization to improve its cyber security.

1. Require employees to create strong passwords, insist that they change them every 45-90 days and prohibit them from using the same password twice.
2. Implement specific protocol to protect sensitive data.
3. Remind your employees to never connect to the company network over an unsecure, public Wi-Fi network.
4. Train employees to recognize suspicious activity and encourage them to report such activities immediately.