

# **YOUR BENEFIT PLAN**

Pafford Emergency Medical Services, Inc.

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**Maryland**

**The group insurance policy providing coverage under this certificate was issued in a jurisdiction other than Maryland and may not provide all of the benefits required by Maryland law.**

## State Notices

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN STATES:** There are state-specific requirements that may change the provisions described in the group insurance certificate. If you live in a state that has such requirements, those requirements will apply to your coverage. State-specific requirements that may apply to your coverage are summarized below. In addition, updated state-specific requirements are published on our website. You may access the website at [www.thehartford.com](http://www.thehartford.com). If you are unable to access this website, want to receive a printed copy of these requirements, or have any questions or complaints regarding any of these requirements or any aspect of your coverage, please contact your Employee Benefits Manager; or you may contact us as follows:

**The Hartford**  
**Group Benefits Division, Customer Service**  
**P.O. Box 2999**  
**Hartford, CT 06104-2999**  
**1-800-523-2233**

If you have a complaint and contacts between you, us, your agent, or another representative have failed to produce a satisfactory solution to the problem, some states require we provide you with additional contact information. If your state requires such disclosure, the contact information is listed below with the other state requirements and notices.

We are providing notice that Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company is subject to economic and trade sanctions laws and regulations. These laws and regulations, including the laws and regulations administered and enforced by the United States Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC"), prevent Hartford Life and Accident from providing coverage to, and from paying benefits to, entities and individuals where prohibited by applicable law. In addition, these laws and regulations prohibit certain activities with respect to certain countries.

We have included this information to make you aware of the existence and potential impact of these economic and trade sanctions programs on your benefit program.

The Hartford complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. The Hartford does not exclude or treat people differently for any reason prohibited by law with respect to their race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

If your policy is governed under the laws of Maryland, any of the benefits, provisions or terms that apply to the state you reside in as shown below will apply only to the extent that such state requirements are more beneficial to you.

### **Alaska:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable.

### **Arizona:**

1. **NOTICE:** The Certificate may not provide all benefits and protections provided by law in Arizona. Please read the Certificate carefully.

### **Arkansas:**

1. **NOTICE:** You have the right to file a complaint with the Arkansas Insurance Department (AID). You may call AID to request a complaint form at (800) 852-5494 or (501) 371-2640 or write the Department at:  
Arkansas Insurance Department  
1 Commerce Way, Suite 102  
Little Rock, AR 72202
2. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the General Provisions section of the Certificate, does not apply to you.

### **California:**

1. **NOTICE: READ YOUR CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY**  
You have a 30 day right from Your original Certificate Effective Date to examine Your certificate. If You are not satisfied, You may return it to Us within 30 days of Your original Certificate Effective Date. In that event, We will consider it void from its Effective Date and any premiums paid will be refunded. Any claims paid under The Policy during the initial 30 day period will be deducted from the refund.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT YOU RETAIN ALL RIGHTS WITH RESPECT TO YOUR POLICY/CERTIFICATE AGAINST YOUR ORIGINAL INSURER IN THE EVENT THE ASSUMING INSURER IS UNABLE TO FULFILL ITS OBLIGATIONS. IN SUCH EVENT YOUR ORIGINAL INSURER REMAINS LIABLE TO YOU NOTWITHSTANDING THE TERMS OF ITS ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT.

2. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the General Provisions section of the Certificate, does not apply to you. The following requirement applies to you:

**Eligibility Determination:** *How will We determine Your eligibility for benefits?*

We, and not Your Employer or plan administrator, have the responsibility to fairly, thoroughly, objectively and timely investigate, evaluate and determine Your eligibility or Your beneficiaries for benefits for any claim You or Your beneficiaries make on The Policy. We will:

- 1) obtain with Your cooperation and authorization if required by law, only such information that is necessary to evaluate Your claim and decide whether to accept or deny Your claim for benefits. We may obtain this information from Your Notice of Claim, submitted proofs of loss, statements, or other materials provided by You or others on Your behalf; or, at Our expense We may obtain necessary information, or have You physically examined when and as often as We may reasonably require while the claim is pending. In addition, and at Your option and at Your expense, You may provide Us and We will consider any other information, including but not limited to, reports from a Physician or other expert of Your choice. You should provide Us with all information that You want Us to consider regarding Your claim;
- 2) as a part of Our routine operations, We will apply the terms of The Policy for making decisions, including decisions on eligibility, receipt of benefits and claims, or explaining policies, procedures and processes;
- 3) if We approve Your claim, We will review Our decision to approve Your claim for benefits as often as is reasonably necessary to determine Your continued eligibility for benefits;
- 4) if We deny Your claim, We will explain in writing to You or Your beneficiaries the basis for an adverse determination in accordance with The Policy as described in the provision entitled **Claim Denial**.

In the event We deny Your claim for benefits, in whole or in part, You can appeal the decision to Us. If You choose to appeal Our decision, the process You must follow is set forth in The Policy provision entitled **Claim Appeal**. If You do not appeal the decision to Us, then the decision will be Our final decision.

3. **For Your Questions and Complaints:**

State of California Insurance Department  
Consumer Communications Bureau  
300 South Spring Street, South Tower  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
**Toll Free:** 1(800) 927-HELP  
**TDD Number:** 1(800) 482-4833  
**Web Address:** [www.insurance.ca.gov](http://www.insurance.ca.gov)

**Colorado:**

1. Entering a civil union, terminating a civil union, the death of a party to a civil union or a party to a civil union losing employment, which results in a loss of group insurance, will all constitute as a **Change in Family Status**.
2. **Complications of Pregnancy**, if shown in the **Definitions** section of the certificate, will always include acute nephritis or nephrosis, cardiac decompensation, missed abortion or any similar medical and surgical conditions of comparable severity regardless of hospital confinement.
3. The **Claim Appeal** provision will always include the following:

In addition, if a claim for benefits is wholly or partially denied and all administrative remedies have been exhausted, You are entitled to pursue such claim anew, from the beginning, in a court with jurisdiction and entitled to a trial by jury.

4. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable.

**Florida:**

1. **NOTICE:** The benefits of the policy providing you coverage may be governed primarily by the laws of a state other than Florida.

**Georgia:**

1. **NOTICE:** The laws of the state of Georgia prohibit insurers from unfairly discriminating against any person based upon his or her status as a victim of family abuse.

**Idaho:**

1. **For Your Questions and Complaints:**

Idaho Department of Insurance  
Consumer Affairs  
700 W State Street, 3rd Floor  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0043  
**Toll Free:** 1-800-721-3272  
**Web Address:** [www.DOI.Idaho.gov](http://www.DOI.Idaho.gov)

2. **Notice to Buyer: This is a disability income protection policy.**
3. The **Benefits Commence** provision, shown in the **Schedule of Insurance** section of the Certificate, cannot exceed:
  - 1) 90 days for plan designs with a **Maximum Duration of Benefits Payable** of 1 year or less;
  - 2) 180 days for plan designs with a **Maximum Duration of Benefits Payable** of more than 1 year but less than 2 years; or
  - 3) 365 days for plan designs with a **Maximum Duration of Benefits Payable** of 2 years or more.
4. The **Maximum Duration of Benefits Payable** provision, shown in the **Schedule of Insurance** section of the Certificate, cannot be less than 6 months. If the plan design includes both short term and long term disability benefits, the combined short term disability and long term disability **Maximum Duration of Benefits** cannot be less than 6 months.

**Illinois:**

1. You may file a consumer complaint online at the Illinois Department of Insurance's website or by mail. The Department maintains a Consumer Division in Chicago at 115 S. LaSalle Street, 13th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60603; and in Springfield at 320 West Washington Street, Springfield, Illinois 62767.

This notice is to advise you that should any complaints arise regarding this insurance, you may contact the following:

Illinois Department of Insurance  
320 W. Washington Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62767-0001

Illinois Department of Insurance  
115 S. LaSalle Street  
13th Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60603

**Consumer Complaints:** [DOI.Complaints@illinois.gov](mailto:DOI.Complaints@illinois.gov); toll-free: 1(866) 445-5364

**Officer of Consumer Health Insurance:** [DOI.Complaints@illinois.gov](mailto:DOI.Complaints@illinois.gov); toll-free: 1(877) 527-9431

2. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.
3. In accordance with Illinois law, insurers are required to provide the following **NOTICE** to applicants of insurance policies issued in Illinois.

**STATE OF ILLINOIS**  
**The Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act**  
**Effective June 1, 2011**

The Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act ("the Act") creates a legal relationship between two persons of the same or opposite sex who form a civil union. The Act provides that the parties to a civil union are entitled to the same legal obligations, responsibilities, protections and benefits that are afforded or recognized by the laws of Illinois to spouses. The law further provides that a party to a civil union shall be included in any definition or use of the terms "spouse," "family," "immediate family," "dependent," "next of kin," and other terms descriptive of spousal relationships as those terms are used throughout Illinois law. This includes the terms "marriage" or "married," or variations thereon. Insurance policies are required to provide identical benefits and protections to both civil unions and marriages. If policies of insurance provide coverage for children, the children of civil unions must also be provided coverage. The Act also requires recognition of civil unions or same sex civil unions or marriages legally entered into in other jurisdictions.

For more information regarding the Act, refer to 750 ILCS 75/1 *et seq.* Examples of the interaction between the Act and existing law can be found in the Illinois Insurance Facts, Civil Unions and Insurance Benefits document available on the Illinois Department of Insurance's website at <https://doi.illinois.gov>.

**Indiana:**

1. **For Your Questions and Complaints:**

Public Information/Market Conduct  
Indiana Department of Insurance  
311 W. Washington St. Suite 300  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2787  
1(317) 232-2395

**Kansas:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is amended to read as follows:

**Policy Interpretation:** *Who interprets Policy terms and conditions?*

Pursuant to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA), Your Employer has delegated to Us the fiduciary responsibility to determine eligibility for benefits and to construe and interpret all terms and provisions of The Policy. Therefore, We are a fiduciary for The Policy and We have the continuing duty to act prudently and in the interest of You, Your beneficiaries and the other plan participants. If You have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, then You may file suit in state or federal court for a review of Your eligibility or entitlement to benefits under The Policy. This provision only applies where the interpretation of The Policy is governed by ERISA.

**Louisiana:**

1. You are entitled to have your coverage reinstated after release from active military service; subject to the terms of the policy.

**Maine:**

1. **NOTICE:** The benefits under this policy are subject to reduction due to other sources of income.

This means that your benefits will be reduced by the amount of any other benefits for loss of time provided to you or for which you are eligible as a result of the same period of disability for which you claim benefits under this policy.

Other sources of income are plans or arrangements of coverage that provide disability-related benefits such as Worker's Compensation or other similar governmental programs or laws, or disability-related benefits received from your employer or as the result of your employment, membership or association with any group, union, association or other organization. Other sources of income include disability-related benefits under the United States Social Security Act or an alternate governmental plan, the Railroad Retirement Act, and other similar plans or acts. Other sources of income may also include certain disability-related or retirement benefits that you receive because of your retirement unless you were receiving them prior to becoming disabled.

What comprises other sources of income under this policy is determined by the nature of the policyholder. Therefore, we strongly urge you to **Read Your Certificate Carefully**. A full description of the plans and types of plans considered to be other sources of income under this policy will be found in the definition of "Other Income Benefits" located in the Definitions section of your certificate.

2. **NOTICE:** The laws of the State of Maine require notification of the right to designate a third party to receive notice of cancellation, to change such a designation and, to have the Policy reinstated if the insured suffers from cognitive impairment or functional incapacity and the ground for cancellation was the insured's nonpayment of premium or other lapse or default on the part of the insured.

Within 10 days after a request by an insured, a Third Party Notice Request Form shall be mailed or personally delivered to the insured.

3. You are entitled to have your coverage reinstated within 90 days from the date of cancellation; subject to premium payment. We have the right to require a medical demonstration of cognitive and/or functional capacity at your expense.

**Maryland:**

1. **NOTICE:** The group insurance Policy providing coverage under the Certificate may have been issued in a jurisdiction other than Maryland and may not provide all of the benefits required by Maryland law.

**Massachusetts:**

1. You have the right to continue your coverage for up to 31 days should your employment terminate or you cease to be a member of an eligible class; subject to our receipt of the required premium payment.
2. You have the right to continue your coverage for a maximum of 90 days should your employment terminate due to a plant or partial plant closing. Premium payment must be received in order for coverage to continue.

**Michigan:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.

**Minnesota:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.

**Montana:**

1. **NOTICE:** Conformity with Montana statutes: The provisions of this certificate conform to the minimum requirements of Montana law and control over any conflicting statutes of any state in which the insured resides on or after the effective date of this certificate.
2. Pregnancy will be covered, the same as any other Sickness, anything in The Policy to the contrary notwithstanding.

**New Hampshire:**

1. If Your claim is denied, You may appeal to Us within 180 days of receipt of the claim denial, subject to the other terms of the **Claim Appeal** provision.
2. The time period stated for legal action to start in the **Legal Actions** provision shown in the **General Provisions** section can not be less than 3 years after the time **Proof of Loss** is required to be given.

**New York:**

1. We will not offset settlements or judgments from any lawsuit that represents or compensates you for a loss of earnings, if shown in the **Other Income Benefits** provision in the **Definitions** section of the certificate.
2. The **Subrogation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.
3. The **Reimbursement** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.
4. If the definition of **Surviving Spouse** within the **Survivor Income Benefit** requires the completion of a domestic partner affidavit, the following requirement applies to you:

The domestic partner affidavit must be notarized and requires that You and Your domestic partner meet all of the following criteria:

- 1) you are both are legally and mentally competent to consent to contract in the state in which you reside;
- 2) you are not related by blood in a manner that would bar marriage under laws of the state in which you reside;
- 3) you have been living together on a continuous basis prior to the date of the application;
- 4) neither of you have been registered as a member of another domestic partnership within the last six months; and
- 5) you provide proof of cohabitation (e.g., a driver's license, tax return or other sufficient proof).

The domestic partner affidavit further requires that You and Your domestic partner provide proof of financial interdependence in the form of at least two of the following:

- 1) a joint bank account;
- 2) a joint credit card or charge card;
- 3) joint obligation on a loan;
- 4) status as an authorized signatory on the partner's bank account, credit card or charge card;
- 5) joint ownership of holdings or investments, residence, real estate other than residence, major items of personal property (e.g., appliances, furniture), or a motor vehicle;
- 6) listing of both partners as tenants on the lease of the shared residence;
- 7) shared rental payments of residence (need not be shared 50/50);



- 8) listing of both partners as tenants on a lease, or shared rental payments, for property other than residence;
- 9) a common household and shared household expenses (e.g., grocery bills, utility bills, telephone bills, etc. and need not be shared 50/50);
- 10) shared household budget for purposes of receiving government benefits;
- 11) status of one as representative payee for the other's government benefits;
- 12) joint responsibility for child care (e.g., school documents, guardianship);
- 13) shared child-care expenses (e.g., babysitting, day care, school bills, etc. and need not be shared 50/50);
- 14) execution of wills naming each other as executor and/or beneficiary;
- 15) designation as beneficiary under the other's life insurance policy;
- 16) designation as beneficiary under the other's retirement benefits account;
- 17) mutual grant of durable power of attorney;
- 18) mutual grant of authority to make health care decisions (e.g., health care power of attorney);
- 19) affidavit by creditor or other individual able to testify to partners' financial interdependence;
- 20) other item(s) of proof sufficient to establish economic interdependency under the circumstances of the particular case.

#### **North Carolina:**

1. The **Subrogation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.
2. We will not offset for income received from a mandatory "no-fault" automobile insurance plan; if included in the **Other Income Benefits** provision in the **Definitions** section of the certificate.
3. You are not required to be under the **Regular Care of a Physician** in order to continue to receive benefit payments provided qualified medical professionals have determined that further medical care and treatment would be of no benefit to You.
4. The **Exclusions** provision shall only exclude for Workers' Compensation if the final adjudication of the Worker's Compensation claim determined that benefits are paid, or may be paid, if duly claimed.
5. No statements will be used to reduce or deny a claim if the insured person has been covered under the Policy for at least 2 years. Prior to 2 years, such statement must be in writing and signed by the insured person in order to be used.
6. The **Sending Proof of Loss** provision is amended to state that written **Proof of Loss** must be sent to Us within 180 days following the completion of the **Elimination Period**.
7. The **Claims to be Paid** provision is amended to state that We may pay up to \$3,000 to a person who is Related to You and who, at Our sole discretion, is entitled to it. Any such payment shall fulfill Our responsibility for the amount paid.
8. **Notice of Claim** may also be given to Our representative, if applicable.
9. **NOTICE:** UNDER NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE SECTION 58-50-40, NO PERSON, EMPLOYER, FINANCIAL AGENT, TRUSTEE, OR THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PAYMENT OF GROUP LIFE INSURANCE, GROUP HEALTH OR GROUP HEALTH PLAN PREMIUMS, SHALL:
  1. CAUSE THE CANCELLATION OR NONRENEWAL OF GROUP LIFE INSURANCE, GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE, HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR DENTAL SERVICE CORPORATION PLAN, MULTIPLE EMPLOYER WELFARE ARRANGEMENT, OR GROUP HEALTH PLAN COVERAGES AND THE CONSEQUENTIAL LOSS OF THE COVERAGES OF THE PERSON INSURED, BY WILLFULLY FAILING TO PAY THOSE PREMIUMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE INSURANCE OR PLAN CONTRACT; AND
  2. WILLFULLY FAIL TO DELIVER, AT LEAST 45 DAYS BEFORE THE TERMINATION OF THOSE COVERAGES, TO ALL PERSONS COVERED BY THE GROUP POLICY WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE PERSON'S INTENTION TO STOP PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS. VIOLATION OF THIS LAW IS A FELONY. ANY PERSON VIOLATING THIS LAW IS ALSO SUBJECT TO A COURT ORDER REQUIRING THE PERSON TO COMPENSATE PERSONS INSURED FOR EXPENSES OR LOSSES INCURRED AS A RESULT OF THE TERMINATION OF THE INSURANCE.

#### **IMPORTANT TERMINATION INFORMATION**

**YOUR INSURANCE MAY BE CANCELLED BY THE COMPANY. PLEASE READ THE TERMINATION PROVISION IN THIS CERTIFICATE.**

**THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE PROVIDES COVERAGE UNDER A GROUP MASTER POLICY. THIS CERTIFICATE PROVIDES ALL OF THE BENEFITS MANDATED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA INSURANCE CODE, BUT YOU MAY NOT RECEIVE ALL OF THE PROTECTIONS PROVIDED BY A POLICY ISSUED IN NORTH CAROLINA AND GOVERNED BY ALL OF THE LAWS OF NORTH CAROLINA.**

**PRE-EXISTING LIMITATION**

**READ CAREFULLY**

**NO BENEFITS WILL BE PAYABLE UNDER THIS PLAN FOR PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS WHICH ARE NOT COVERED UNDER THE PRIOR PLAN. PLEASE READ THE LIMITATIONS IN THIS CERTIFICATE.**

**READ YOUR CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY.**

**Oregon:**

1. You are entitled to have your coverage continue while you are scheduled or required to serve as a juror for jury duty.

**Rhode Island:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.

**South Carolina:**

1. The **Physical Examinations and Autopsy** provision will state that such autopsy must be performed during the period of contestability and must take place in the state of South Carolina.
2. If You become insured under The Policy on the Policy Effective Date and were insured under the Prior Policy within 30 days of being covered under The Policy, the **Pre-existing Condition Limitation** will end on the earliest of:
  - 1) the Policy Effective date, if Your coverage for the Disability was not limited by a pre-existing condition restriction under the Prior Policy; or
  - 2) the date the restriction would have ceased to apply had the Prior Policy remained in force, if Your coverage was limited by a pre-existing condition limitation under the Prior Policy.

This is subject to the other terms and conditions of the **Continuity From a Prior Policy** provision.

**South Dakota:**

1. The definition of **Physician** may include the insured person or a person Related to the insured person by blood or marriage provided that he/she is the only such physician in the area and provided that he/she is acting within the scope of their normal employment.
2. We will not offset against the amount of any benefit for loss of income, provided to Your family, Your Spouse or Your Spouse's family.

**Texas:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.
2. **NOTICE:**

**Have a complaint or need help?**

If you have a problem with a claim or your premium, call your insurance company first. If you can't work out the issue, the Texas Department of Insurance may be able to help.

Even if you file a complaint with the Texas Department of Insurance, you should also file a complaint or appeal through your insurance company. If you don't, you may lose your right to appeal.

**Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company**

To get information or file a complaint with your insurance company:

**Call: Customer Service at 860-547-5000**

**Toll-free: 1-800-523-2233**

Online: <https://www.thehartford.com/contact-the-hartford>  
Email: [gbdcustomerservice@thehartford.com](mailto:gbdcustomerservice@thehartford.com)  
Mail: The Hartford, Group Benefits Division, P.O. Box 2999, Hartford, CT 06104-2999

### **The Texas Department of Insurance**

To get help with an insurance question or file a complaint with the state:

**Call with a question: 1-800-252-3439**

File a complaint: [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)  
Email: [ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov)  
Mail: MC 111-1A, P.O. Box 149091, Austin, TX 78714-9091

### **¿Tiene una queja o necesita ayuda?**

Si tiene un problema con una reclamación o con su prima de seguro, llame primero a su compañía de seguros. Si no puede resolver el problema, es posible que el Departamento de Seguros de Texas (Texas Department of Insurance, por su nombre en inglés) pueda ayudar.

Aun si usted presenta una queja ante el Departamento de Seguros de Texas, también debe presentar una queja a través del proceso de quejas o de apelaciones de su compañía de seguros. Si no lo hace, podría perder su derecho para apelar.

### **Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company**

Para obtener información o para presentar una queja ante su compañía de seguros:

**Llame a: servicio al cliente al 860-547-5000**

**Teléfono gratuito: 1-800-523-2233**

En línea: <https://www.thehartford.com/contact-the-hartford>  
Correo electrónico: [gbdcustomerservice@thehartford.com](mailto:gbdcustomerservice@thehartford.com)  
Dirección postal: The Hartford, Group Benefits Division, P.O. Box 2999, Hartford, CT 06104-2999

### **El Departamento de Seguros de Texas**

Para obtener ayuda con una pregunta relacionada con los seguros o para presentar una queja ante el estado:

**Llame con sus preguntas al: 1-800-252-3439**

Presente una queja en: [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)  
Correo electrónico: [ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov)  
Dirección postal: MC 111-1A, P.O. Box 149091, Austin, TX 78714-9091

### **Utah:**

1. If the **Sending Proof of Loss** provision provides a timeframe in which proof must be submitted before it affects Your claim, this time limitation shall not apply to You.

### **Vermont:**

1. The following requirement applies:

**Purpose:** Vermont law requires that health insurers offer coverage to parties to a civil union that is equivalent to coverage provided to married persons.

**Definitions, Terms, Conditions and Provisions:** The definitions, terms, conditions or any other provisions of the policy, contract, certificate and/or riders and endorsements to which this mandatory endorsement is attached are hereby amended and superseded as follows:

- 1) Terms that mean or refer to a marital relationship, or that may be construed to mean or refer to a marital relationship, such as "marriage", "spouse", "husband", "wife", "dependent", "next of kin", "relative", "beneficiary", "survivor", "immediate family" and any other such terms, include the relationship created by a civil union established according to Vermont law.

- 2) Terms that mean or refer to the inception or dissolution of a marriage, such as "date of marriage", "divorce decree", "termination of marriage" and any other such terms include the inception or dissolution of a civil union established according to Vermont law.
- 3) Terms that mean or refer to family relationships arising from a marriage, such as "family", "immediate family", "dependent", "children", "next of kin", "relative", "beneficiary", "survivor" and any other such terms include family relationships created by a civil union established according to Vermont law.
- 4) "Dependent" means a spouse, a party to a civil union established according to Vermont law, and a child or children (natural, stepchild, legally adopted or a minor or disabled child who is dependent on the insured for support and maintenance) who is born to or brought to a marriage or to a civil union established according to Vermont law.
- 5) "Child or covered child" means a child (natural, step-child, legally adopted or a minor or disabled child who is dependent on the insured for support and maintenance) who is born to or brought to a marriage or to a civil union established according to Vermont law.

**CAUTION: FEDERAL LAW RIGHTS MAY OR MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE**

Vermont law grants parties to a civil union the same benefits, protections and responsibilities that flow from marriage under state law. However, some or all of the benefits, protections and responsibilities related to health insurance that are available to married persons under federal law may not be available to parties to a civil union. For example, federal law, the Employee Income Retirement Security Act of 1974 known as "ERISA", controls the employer/employee relationship with regard to determining eligibility for enrollment in private employer health benefit plans. Because of ERISA, Act 91 does not state requirements pertaining to a private employer's enrollment of a party to a civil union in an ERISA employee welfare benefit plan. However, governmental employers (not federal government) are required to provide health benefits to the dependents of a party to a civil union if the public employer provides health benefits to the dependents of married persons. Federal law also controls group health insurance continuation rights under COBRA for employers with 20 or more employees as well as the Internal Revenue Code treatment of health insurance premiums. As a result, parties to a civil union and their families may or may not have access to certain benefits under this policy, contract, certificate, rider or endorsement that derive from federal law. You are advised to seek expert advice to determine your rights under this contract.

**Virginia:**

1. **For Your Questions and Complaints:**  
**State Corporation Commissions**  
**Life and Health Division**  
**Bureau of Insurance**  
P.O. Box 1157  
Richmond, VA 23218  
1(804) 371-9691 (inside Virginia)  
1(877) 310-6560 (outside Virginia)

**Washington:**

1. You are entitled to continue your insurance for a period of up to six months should your employment terminate as a result of a general work stoppage.

**Wisconsin:**

1. **For Your Questions and Complaints:**  
To request a Complaint Form:  
Office of the Commissioner of Insurance  
Complaints Department  
P.O. Box 7873  
Madison, WI 53707-7873  
1(800) 236-8517 (within Wisconsin)  
1(608) 266-0103 (outside of Wisconsin)



**HARTFORD LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY**

One Hartford Plaza

Hartford, Connecticut 06155

(A stock insurance company)

The Hartford® is The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc. and its subsidiaries.

**CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE**

**Policyholder:** Pafford Emergency Medical Services, Inc.

**Policy Number:** GRH-715891

**Policy Effective Date:** January 1, 2026

**Policy Anniversary Date:** January 1

We have issued The Policy to the Policyholder. Our name, the Policyholder's name and the Policy Number are shown above. The provisions of The Policy, which are important to You, are summarized in this certificate consisting of this form and any additional forms which have been made a part of this certificate. This certificate replaces any other certificate We may have given to You earlier under The Policy. The Policy alone is the only contract under which payment will be made. Any difference between The Policy and this certificate will be settled according to the provisions of The Policy on file with Us at Our home office. The Policy may be inspected at the office of the Policyholder.

Signed for the Company

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kevin Barnett".

Kevin Barnett, Secretary

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Fish".

Michael J. Fish, President

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*A note on capitalization in this certificate:*

Capitalization of a term, not normally capitalized according to the rules of standard punctuation, indicates a word or phrase that is a defined term in The Policy or refers to a specific provision contained herein.

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## SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE

The Policy of short term Disability insurance provides You with short term income protection if You become Disabled from a covered Injury, Sickness or pregnancy.

### **Cost of Coverage:**

You must contribute toward the cost of coverage.

### **Disclosure of Fees:**

We may reduce or adjust premiums, rates, fees and/or other expenses for programs under The Policy.

### **Disclosure of Services:**

In addition to the insurance coverage, We may offer noninsurance benefits and services to Active Employees.

### **Disclosure of Payment to the Policyholder:**

We have agreed to make payment to the Policyholder for reimbursement of cost(s) associated with:

- 1) audit;
- 2) marketing communication services; and
- 3) other administrative expenses.

### **Eligible Class(es) For Coverage:**

All Full-time Active Employees who are citizens or legal residents of the United States, its territories and protectorates; excluding temporary, leased or seasonal employees.

Full-time Employment: at least 30 hours weekly

**Annual Enrollment Period:** as determined by Your Employer on a yearly basis.

### **Eligibility Waiting Period for Coverage:**

- 1) None - if You are working for the Employer on the Policy Effective Date; or
- 2) The first day of the month following 30 days of employment - if You start working for the Employer after the Policy Effective Date.

The time period(s) referenced above are continuous.

### **Benefits Commence:**

- 1) for Disability caused by Injury: on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Total Disability or Disabled and Working;
- 2) for Disability caused by Sickness: on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of Total Disability or Disabled and Working.

### **Weekly Benefit:** The lesser of:

- 1) 60% of Your Pre-disability Earnings; or
- 2) \$1,000;

reduced by Other Income Benefits.

**Minimum Weekly Benefit:** \$25

### **Maximum Duration of Benefits Payable:**

- 1) 13 weeks if caused by Injury; or
- 2) 13 weeks if caused by Sickness

### **Additional Benefits:**

#### **Disabled and Working Benefit**

see benefit

#### **Rehabilitative Employment Benefit**

see benefit

## ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT

### **Eligible Persons:** *Who is eligible for coverage?*

All persons in the class or classes shown in the Schedule of Insurance will be considered Eligible Persons.

### **Eligibility for Coverage:** *When will I become eligible?*

You will become eligible for coverage on the later of:

- 1) the Policy Effective Date; or
- 2) the date on which You complete the Eligibility Waiting Period for Coverage shown in the Schedule of Insurance, if applicable.

### **Enrollment:** *How do I enroll for coverage?*

To enroll for coverage You must:

- 1) complete and sign a group insurance enrollment form which is satisfactory to Us; and
- 2) deliver it to Your Employer.

You have the option to enroll electronically. Your Employer will provide instructions.

If You do not enroll within 31 days after becoming eligible under The Policy, or if You were eligible to enroll under the Prior Policy and did not do so, and later choose to enroll:

- 1) You must give Us Evidence of Insurability satisfactory to Us; and
- 2) You may only enroll:
  - a) during an Annual Enrollment Period designated by the Policyholder; or
  - b) within 31 days of the date You have a Change in Family Status.

The dates of the Annual Enrollment Period are shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

### **Evidence of Insurability:** *What is Evidence of Insurability and what happens if Evidence of Insurability is not satisfactory to Us?*

Evidence of Insurability must be satisfactory to Us and may include, but will not be limited to:

- 1) a completed and signed application approved by Us;
- 2) a medical examination;
- 3) attending Physicians' statements; and
- 4) any additional information We may require.

All Evidence of Insurability will be furnished at Your expense. We will then determine if You are insurable under The Policy.

If Your Evidence of Insurability is not satisfactory to Us:

- 1) Your Weekly Benefit will equal the amount for which You were eligible without providing Evidence of Insurability, provided You enrolled within 31 days of the date You were first eligible to enroll; and
- 2) You will not be covered under The Policy if You enrolled more than 31 days after the date You were first eligible to enroll.

### **Change in Family Status:** *What constitutes a Change in Family Status?*

A Change in Family Status occurs when:

- 1) You get married;
- 2) You and Your spouse divorce;
- 3) Your child is born or You adopt or become the legal guardian of a child;
- 4) Your spouse dies;
- 5) Your child is no longer financially dependent on You or dies;
- 6) Your spouse is no longer employed, which results in a loss of group insurance; or
- 7) You have a change in classification from part-time to full-time or from full-time to part-time.

## PERIOD OF COVERAGE

### **Effective Date:** *When does my coverage start?*

Your coverage will start on the earliest of:

- 1) the date You become eligible, if You enroll or have enrolled by then;
- 2) the date on which You enroll, if You do so within 31 days after the date You are eligible;



- 3) the date We approve Your Evidence of Insurability, for benefit amounts requiring Evidence of Insurability; or
- 4) the Policy Anniversary Date following the Annual Enrollment Period if You enroll, during an Annual Enrollment Period.

**Deferred Effective Date:** *When will my effective date for coverage or a change in my coverage be deferred?*

If You are absent from work due to:

- 1) accidental bodily injury;
- 2) Sickness;
- 3) Mental Illness;
- 4) Substance Abuse; or
- 5) pregnancy;

on the date Your insurance, or increase in coverage, would otherwise have become effective, Your insurance, or increase in coverage will not become effective until You are Actively at Work one full day.

**Changes in Coverage:** *Can I change my benefit options?*

You may change Your benefit option only:

- 1) during an Annual Enrollment Period; or
- 2) within 31 days of a Change in Family Status.

At such time You may decrease coverage, or increase coverage to a higher option. An increase in coverage will be subject to Your submission of an application that meets Our approval.

*When will a requested change in benefit option take effect?*

If You enroll for a change in benefit option during an Annual Enrollment Period, the change will take effect on the later of:

- 1) the Policy Anniversary Date following the Annual Enrollment Period; or
- 2) the date We approve Your Evidence of Insurability if You are required to submit Evidence of Insurability.

If You enroll for a change in benefit option within 31 days following a Change in Family Status, the change will take effect on the later of:

- 1) the date You enroll for the change; or
- 2) the date We approve Your Evidence of Insurability if You are required to submit Evidence of Insurability.

Any such increase in coverage is subject to the following provisions:

- 1) Deferred Effective Date; and
- 2) Pre-existing Conditions Limitation.

*Do coverage amounts change if there is a change in my class or my rate of pay?*

Your coverage may increase or decrease on the date there is a change in Your class or Pre-disability Earnings.

However, no increase in coverage will be effective unless on that date You:

- 1) are an Active Employee; and
- 2) are not absent from work due to being Disabled. If You were so absent from work, the effective date of such increase will be deferred until You are Actively at Work for one full day.

No change in Your Pre-disability Earnings will become effective until the date We receive notice of the change.

*What happens if the Employer changes The Policy?*

Any increase or decrease in coverage because of a change in The Policy will become effective on the date of the change, subject to the following provisions:

- 1) the Deferred Effective Date provision; and
- 2) Pre-existing Conditions Limitation.

**Continuity From A Prior Policy:** *Is there continuity of coverage from a Prior Policy?*

If You were:

- 1) insured under the Prior Policy; and
- 2) not eligible to receive benefits under the Prior Policy;

on the day before the Policy Effective Date, the Deferred Effective Date provision will not apply.

*Is my coverage under The Policy subject to the Pre-existing Condition Limitation?*

If You become insured under The Policy on the Policy Effective Date and were covered under the Prior Policy on the day before the Policy Effective Date, the Pre-existing Conditions Limitation will end on the earliest of:

- 1) the Policy Effective Date, if Your coverage for the Disability was not limited by a pre-existing condition restriction under the Prior Policy; or

- 2) the date the restriction would have ceased to apply had the Prior Policy remained in force, if Your coverage was limited by a pre-existing condition limitation under the Prior Policy.

The amount of the Weekly Benefit payable for a Pre-existing Condition in accordance with the above paragraph will be the lesser of:

- 1) the Weekly Benefit which was paid by the Prior Policy; or
- 2) the Weekly Benefit provided by The Policy.

The Pre-existing Conditions Limitation will apply after the Policy Effective Date to the amount of a benefit increase which results from a change from the Prior Policy to The Policy, a change in benefit options, a change of class or a change in The Policy.

**Termination:** *When will my coverage end?*

Your coverage will end on the earliest of the following:

- 1) the date The Policy terminates;
- 2) the date The Policy no longer insures Your class;
- 3) the date premium payment is due but not paid;
- 4) the last day of the period for which You make any required premium contribution;
- 5) the date Your Employer terminates Your employment; or
- 6) the date You cease to be a Full-time Active Employee in an eligible class for any reason;

unless continued in accordance with any of the Continuation Provisions.

**Continuation Provisions:** *Can my coverage be continued beyond the date it would otherwise terminate?*

Coverage can be continued by Your Employer beyond a date shown in the Termination provision, if Your Employer provides a plan of continuation which applies to all employees the same way. Continued coverage:

- 1) is subject to any reductions in The Policy;
- 2) is subject to payment of premium; and
- 3) terminates if:
  - a) The Policy terminates; or
  - b) coverage for Your class terminates.

In any event, Your benefit level, or the amount of earnings upon which Your benefits may be based, will be that in effect on the day before Your coverage was continued. Coverage may be continued in accordance with the above restrictions and as described below:

**Military Leave of Absence:** In the event of a military leave of absence, if You enter active full-time military service and notify Your Employer in writing of Your intention to continue coverage, Your coverage can be continued. You must provide timely premium contributions equal to that which would have been deducted from Your compensation for such coverage immediately prior to entering active full-time military service.

**Family and Medical Leave:** If You are granted a leave of absence, in writing, according to the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, or other applicable state or local law, Your coverage may be continued for up to 12 weeks, or 26 weeks if You qualify for Family Military Leave, or longer if required by other applicable law, following the date Your leave commenced. If the leave terminates prior to the agreed upon date, this continuation will cease immediately.

**Coverage while Disabled:** *Does my insurance continue while I am Disabled and no longer an Active Employee?*

If You are Disabled and You cease to be an Active Employee, Your insurance will be continued:

- 1) while You remain Disabled; and
- 2) until the end of the period for which You are entitled to receive short term Disability Benefits;

provided premiums for Your coverage continued to be paid.

After short term Disability Benefit payments have ceased, Your insurance will be reinstated, provided:

- 1) You return to work for one full day as a Full-time Active Employee in an eligible class;
- 2) The Policy remains in force; and
- 3) the premiums for You were paid during Your Disability, and continue to be paid.

**Extension of Benefits for Disability:** *Do my benefits continue if The Policy terminates?*

If You are entitled to benefits while Disabled and The Policy terminates, benefits:

- 1) will continue as long as You remain Disabled by the same Disability; but
- 2) will not be provided beyond the date We would have ceased to pay benefits had the insurance remained in force.

Termination of The Policy for any reason will have no effect on Our liability under this provision.

## BENEFITS

### **Disability Benefit:** *What are my Disability Benefits under The Policy?*

If, while covered under this Benefit, You:

- 1) become Disabled;
- 2) remain Disabled; and
- 3) submit Proof of Loss to Us;

We will pay the Weekly Benefit.

The amount of any Weekly Benefit payable will be reduced by:

- 1) the total amount of all Other Income Benefits, including any amount for which You could collect but did not apply; and
- 2) any income received from the Employer for the period You are Disabled.

### **Minimum Weekly Benefit:** *Is there a Minimum Weekly Benefit?*

Your Weekly Benefit will not be less than the Minimum Weekly Benefit shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

### **Partial Week Payment:** *How is a benefit calculated for a period of less than a week?*

If a Weekly Benefit is payable for less than a week, We will pay 1/5 of the Weekly Benefit for each day You were Disabled.

### **Recurrent Disability:** *What happens to my benefits if I return to work as an Active Employee and then become Disabled again?*

When Your return to work as an Active Employee is followed by a Disability, and such Disability is:

- 1) due to the same cause; or
- 2) due to a related cause; and
- 3) within 15 consecutive calendar days of the return to work;

the Period of Disability prior to Your return to work and the recurrent Disability will be considered one Period of Disability, provided The Policy remains in force.

If You return to work as an Active Employee for 15 consecutive calendar days or more, any recurrence of a Disability will be treated as a new Disability.

**Period of Disability** means a continuous length of time during which You are Disabled under The Policy.

### **Multiple Causes:** *How long will benefits be paid if a period of Disability is extended by another cause?*

If a period of Disability is extended by a new cause while Weekly Benefits are payable, Weekly Benefits will continue while You remain Disabled, subject to the following:

- 1) Weekly Benefits will not continue beyond the end of the original Maximum Duration of Benefits; and
- 2) any Exclusions and Pre-existing Conditions Limitations will apply to the new cause of Disability.

### **Termination of Payment:** *When will my benefit payments end?*

Benefit payments will stop on the earliest of:

- 1) the date You are no longer Disabled;
- 2) the date You fail to furnish Proof of Loss;
- 3) the date You are no longer under the Regular Care of a Physician;
- 4) the date You refuse Our request that You submit to an examination by a Physician or other qualified medical professional;
- 5) the date of Your death;
- 6) the date You refuse to receive recommended treatment that is generally acknowledged by Physicians to cure, correct or limit the disabling condition;
- 7) the last day benefits are payable according to the Maximum Duration of Benefits;
- 8) the date Your Current Weekly Earnings are equal to or greater than 80% of Your Pre-disability Earnings if You are receiving benefits for being Disabled from Your Occupation; or
- 9) the date no further benefits are payable under any provision in The Policy that limits benefit duration.

### **Disabled and Working Benefits:** *How are benefits paid when I am Disabled and Working?*

If, while covered under this benefit, You are Disabled and Working, as defined, We will pay You a Weekly Benefit.

Current Weekly Earnings will not be used to reduce Your Weekly Benefit. However, if the sum of Your Weekly Benefit and Your Current Weekly Earnings exceeds 100% of Your Pre-Disability Earnings, We will reduce Your Weekly Benefit by the amount of the excess.

If You are participating in a program of Rehabilitative Employment approved by Us, We will determine Your Weekly Benefit by the Rehabilitative Employment Benefit.

Days which You are Disabled and Working may be used to satisfy the Benefits Commence period.

**Partial Week Payment:** *How is a benefit calculated for a period of less than a week?*

If a Weekly Benefit is payable for less than a week, We will pay 1/5 of the Weekly Benefit for each day You were Disabled.

**Rehabilitative Employment Benefit:** *What happens to my benefits if I accept Rehabilitative Employment?*

If, while You are Totally Disabled or Disabled and Working, You accept Rehabilitative Employment, We will continue to pay a Weekly Benefit.

The Weekly Benefit We will pay will be equal to Your Total Disability Weekly Benefit, less 50% of any income received from the Rehabilitative Employment.

The sum of the Weekly Benefit and total income received from Rehabilitative Employment may not exceed 100% of Your Pre-disability Earnings. If this sum exceeds the Pre-disability Earnings, the Weekly Benefit paid by Us will be reduced by the excess amount.

We reserve the right to review any Rehabilitative Employment You participate in while benefits are being paid under The Policy.

If You remain Totally Disabled or Disabled and Working after a period of Rehabilitative Employment, You may continue to receive benefits under the Total Disability Benefit or Disabled and Working Benefit, subject to the Maximum Payment Period for such benefit.

## EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS

**Exclusions:** *What Disabilities are not covered?*

The Policy does not cover, and We will not pay a benefit for, any Disability:

- 1) unless You are under the Regular Care of a Physician;
- 2) that is caused or contributed to by war or act of war, whether declared or not;
- 3) caused by Your commission of or attempt to commit a felony;
- 4) caused or contributed to by Your being engaged in an illegal occupation;
- 5) caused or contributed to by an intentionally self-inflicted Injury;
- 6) for which Workers' Compensation benefits are paid, or may be paid, if duly claimed; or
- 7) sustained as a result of doing any work for pay or profit for another employer, including self-employment.

If You are receiving or are eligible for benefits for a Disability under a prior disability plan that:

- 1) was sponsored by Your Employer; and
- 2) was terminated before the Effective Date of The Policy;

no benefits will be payable for the Disability under The Policy.

**Pre-existing Condition Limitation:** *Are benefits limited for Pre-existing Conditions?*

We will not pay any benefit, or any increase in benefits, under The Policy for any Disability that results from, or is caused or contributed to by, a Pre-existing Condition, unless, at the time You become Disabled:

- 1) You have not received Medical Care for the condition for 3 consecutive months while insured under The Policy; or
- 2) You have been continuously insured under The Policy for 12 consecutive months.

**Pre-existing Condition** means:

- 1) any Injury, Sickness, Mental Illness, pregnancy, or episode of Substance Abuse; or
- 2) any manifestations, symptoms, findings, or aggravations related to or resulting from such Injury, Sickness, Mental Illness, pregnancy, or Substance Abuse;

for which You received Medical Care during the 3 consecutive month period that ends the day before:

- 1) Your effective date of coverage; or
- 2) the effective date of a Change in Coverage.

**Medical Care** is received when a Physician or other health care provider:

- 1) is consulted or gives medical advice; or
- 2) recommends, prescribes, or provides Treatment.

**Treatment** includes but is not limited to:

- 1) medical examinations, tests, attendance or observation; and
- 2) use of drugs, medicines, medical services, supplies or equipment.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

**Notice of Claim:** *When should I notify the Company of a claim?*

You must give Us written, electronic or telephonic notice of a claim within 30 days after Disability occurs. Failure to give notice within such time shall not invalidate or reduce any claim if it shall be shown not to have been reasonably possible to give such notice and that notice was given as soon as was reasonably possible. Such notice must include Your name, Your address, and the Policy Number.

**Claim Forms:** *Are special forms required to file a claim?*

We will send forms to You to provide Proof of Loss, within 15 days of receiving a Notice of Claim. If We do not send the forms within 15 days, You may submit any other written, electronic or telephonic proof which fully describes the nature and extent of Your claim.

Proof of Loss is typically provided by telephone; however, if forms are required, they will be sent to You for providing Proof of Loss within 15 days after We receive a notice of claim.

**Proof of Loss:** *What is Proof of Loss?*

Proof of Loss may include but is not limited to the following:

- 1) documentation of:
  - a) the date Your Disability began;
  - b) the cause of Your Disability;
  - c) the prognosis of Your Disability;
  - d) Your Pre-disability Earnings, Current Weekly Earnings or any income, including but not limited to copies of Your filed and signed federal and state tax returns; and
  - e) evidence that You are under the Regular Care of a Physician;
- 2) any and all medical information, including x-ray films and photocopies of medical records, including histories, physical, mental or diagnostic examinations and treatment notes;
- 3) the names and addresses of all:
  - a) Physicians or other qualified medical professionals You have consulted;
  - b) hospitals or other medical facilities in which You have been treated; and
  - c) pharmacies which have filled Your prescriptions within the past three years;
- 4) Your signed authorization for Us to obtain and release:
  - a) medical, employment and financial information; and
  - b) any other information We may reasonably require;
- 5) disclosure of all information and documentation required by Us relating to Other Income Benefits;
- 6) proof that You and Your dependents have applied for all Other Income Benefits which are available; and
- 7) disclosure of all information and documentation required by Us in order to exercise Our Subrogation or Reimbursement rights.

You will not be required to claim any retirement benefits which You may only get on a reduced basis. All proof submitted must be satisfactory to Us.

**Additional Proof of Loss:** *What Additional Proof of Loss is the Company entitled to?*

To assist Us in determining if You are Disabled, or to determine if You meet any other term or condition of The Policy, We have the right to require You to:

- 1) meet and interview with Our representative; and
- 2) be examined by a Physician, vocational expert, functional expert, or other medical or vocational professional of Our choice.

Any such interview, meeting or examination will be:

- 1) at Our expense; and
- 2) as reasonably required by Us.

Your Additional Proof of Loss must be satisfactory to Us. Unless We determine You have a valid reason for refusal, We may deny, suspend or terminate Your benefits if You refuse to be examined or meet to be interviewed by Our representative.

**Sending Proof of Loss:** *When must Proof of Loss be given?*

Written Proof of Loss must be sent to Us within 90 days following the completion of the Benefits Commence period. If proof is not given by the time it is due, it will not affect the claim if:

- 1) it was not reasonably possible to give proof within the required time; and
- 2) proof is given as soon as reasonably possible; but
- 3) not later than 1 year after it is due, unless You are not legally competent.

We may request Proof of Loss throughout Your Disability, as reasonably required. In such cases, We must receive the proof within 30 days of the request.

**Claim Payment:** *When are benefit payments issued?*

When We determine that You;

- 1) are Disabled; and
- 2) eligible to receive benefits;

We will pay accrued benefits at the end of each week that You are Disabled. We may, at Our option, make an advance benefit payment based on Our estimated duration of Your Disability. If any payment is due after a claim is terminated, it will be paid as soon as Proof of Loss satisfactory to Us is received.

Benefits may be subject to interest payments as required by applicable law.

**Claims to be Paid:** *To whom will benefits for my claim be paid?*

All payments are payable to You. Any payments owed at Your death may be paid to Your estate. If any payment is owed to:

- 1) Your estate;
- 2) a person who is a minor; or
- 3) a person who is not legally competent;

then We may pay up to \$1,000 to a person who is Related to You and who, at Our sole discretion, is entitled to it. Any such payment shall fulfill Our responsibility for the amount paid.

**Claim Denial:** *What notification will I receive if my claim is denied?*

If a claim for benefits is wholly or partly denied, You will be furnished with written notification of the decision. This written notification will:

- 1) give the specific reason(s) for the denial;
- 2) make specific reference to The Policy provisions on which the denial is based;
- 3) provide a description of any additional information necessary to perfect a claim and an explanation of why it is necessary; and
- 4) provide an explanation of the review procedure.

**Claim Appeal:** *What recourse do I have if my claim is denied?*

On any claim, You or Your representative may appeal to Us for a full and fair review. To do so You:

- 1) must request a review upon written application within:
  - a) 180 days of receipt of claim denial if the claim requires Us to make a determination of disability; or
  - b) 60 days of receipt of claim denial if the claim does not require Us to make a determination of disability; and
- 2) may request copies of all documents, records, and other information relevant to Your claim; and
- 3) may submit written comments, documents, records and other information relating to Your claim.

We will respond to You in writing with Our final decision on the claim.

**Social Security:** *When must I apply for Social Security Benefits?*

You must apply for Social Security disability benefits when the length of Your Disability meets the minimum duration required to apply for such benefits. You must apply within 45 days from the date of Our request. If the Social Security Administration denies Your eligibility for benefits, You will be required:

- 1) to follow the process established by the Social Security Administration to reconsider the denial; and
- 2) if denied again, to request a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Hearing and Appeals.

**Benefit Estimates:** *How does the Company estimate Disability benefits under the United States Social Security Act?*

We reserve the right to reduce Your Weekly Benefit by estimating the Social Security disability benefits You or Your spouse and children may be eligible to receive.

When We determine that You or Your dependent may be eligible for benefits, We may estimate the amount of these benefits. We may reduce Your Weekly Benefit by the estimated amount.

Your Weekly Benefit will not be reduced by estimated Social Security disability benefits if:

- 1) You apply for Social Security disability benefits and pursue all required appeals in accordance with the Social Security provision; and
- 2) You have signed a form authorizing the Social Security Administration to release information about awards directly to Us; and
- 3) You have signed and returned Our reimbursement agreement, which confirms that You agree to repay all overpayments.

If We have reduced Your Weekly Benefit by an estimated amount and:

- 1) You or Your dependent are later awarded Social Security disability benefits, We will adjust Your Weekly Benefit when We receive proof of the amount awarded, and determine if it was higher or lower than Our estimate; or
- 2) Your application for Social Security disability benefits has been denied, We will adjust Your Weekly Benefit when You provide Us proof of final denial from which You cannot appeal from an Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Hearing and Appeals.

If Your Social Security benefits were lower than We estimated, and We owe You a refund, We will make such refund in a lump sum. If Your Social Security benefits were higher than We estimated, and if Your Weekly Benefit has been overpaid, You must make a lump sum refund to Us equal to all overpayments, in accordance with the Overpayment Recovery provision.

**Overpayment:** *When does an overpayment occur?*

An overpayment occurs:

- 1) when We determine that the total amount We have paid in benefits is more than the amount that was due to You under The Policy; or
- 2) when payment is made by Us that should have been made under another group policy.

This includes, but is not limited to, overpayments resulting from:

- 1) retroactive awards received from sources listed in the Other Income Benefits definition;
- 2) failure to report, or late notification to Us of any Other Income Benefit(s) or earned income;
- 3) misstatement;
- 4) fraud; or
- 5) any error We may make.

**Overpayment Recovery:** *How does the Company exercise the right to recover overpayments?*

We have the right to recover from You any amount that We determine to be an overpayment. You have the obligation to refund to Us any such amount. Our rights and Your obligations in this regard may also be set forth in the reimbursement agreement You will be required to sign when You become eligible for benefits under The Policy.

If benefits are overpaid on any claim, You must reimburse Us within 30 days.

If reimbursement is not made in a timely manner, We have the right to:

- 1) recover such overpayments from:
  - a) You;
  - b) any other organization;
  - c) any other insurance company;
  - d) any other person to or for whom payment was made; and
  - e) Your estate;
- 2) reduce or offset against any future benefits payable to You or Your survivors, including the Minimum Weekly Benefit, until full reimbursement is made. Payments may continue when the overpayment has been recovered;
- 3) refer Your unpaid balance to a collection agency; and
- 4) pursue and enforce all legal and equitable rights in court.

**Subrogation:** *What are Our subrogation rights?*

If You:

- 1) suffer a Disability caused, in full or in part, by the act or omission of any person or legal entity;
- 2) become entitled to and are paid benefits under The Policy in compensation for lost wages; and
- 3) do not initiate legal action for the recovery of such benefits from a Third Party in a reasonable period of time or notify Us that You do not intend to do so;

then We will be subrogated to any rights You may have against a Third Party and may, at Our option, bring legal action against or otherwise pursue a Third Party to recover any payments made by Us in connection with the Disability.

**Third Party** as used in this provision, means:

- 1) any person or legal entity whose act or omission, in full or in part, causes You to suffer a Disability for which benefits are paid or payable under The Policy; or
- 2) any insurer, including Your own, that provides benefits to You as a result of the act or omission which causes You to suffer a Disability for which benefits are paid or payable under The Policy.

**Reimbursement:** *What are Our reimbursement rights?*

We have the right to be reimbursed for any benefit payments made or required to be made under The Policy for a Disability for which You recover any funds from a Third Party.

If You recover any funds from a Third Party as:

- 1) a legal judgment;
- 2) an arbitration award; or
- 3) a settlement or otherwise;

You or Your attorney shall hold in constructive trust the lesser of:

- 1) the entire amount of the benefit payment(s) made or required to be made by Us; or
- 2) the total amount of the recovered funds;

less Our pro rata share of any reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs associated with the recovered funds. We have the right of first reimbursement regardless of:

- 1) whether You are made whole;
- 2) how the recovered funds are characterized; or
- 3) whether the particular funds recovered are still in Your possession.

By accepting benefit payment(s) under The Policy, You:

- 1) agree to cooperate fully with Our reimbursement rights, including disclosure of all information and documentation required by Us in order to exercise Our reimbursement rights; and
- 2) will not do anything to prejudice Our reimbursement rights.

You or Your attorney's failure to cooperate fully with Our reimbursement rights may result in denial or termination of Your benefits under The Policy.

**Third Party** as used in this provision, means:

- 1) any person or legal entity whose act or omission, in full or in part, causes You to suffer a Disability for which benefits are paid or payable under The Policy; or
- 2) any insurer, including Your own, that provides benefits to You as a result of the act or omission which causes You to suffer a Disability for which benefits are paid or payable under The Policy.

**Legal Actions:** *When can legal action be taken against Us?*

Legal action cannot be taken against Us:

- 1) sooner than 60 days after the date Proof of Loss is given; or
- 2) more than 3 years after the date Proof of Loss is required to be given according to the terms of The Policy.

**Insurance Fraud:** *How does the Company deal with fraud?*

Insurance Fraud occurs when You and/or Your Employer provide Us with false information or file a claim for benefits that contains any false, incomplete or misleading information with the intent to injure, defraud or deceive Us. It is a crime if You and/or Your Employer commit Insurance Fraud. We will use all means available to Us to detect, investigate, deter and prosecute those who commit Insurance Fraud. We will pursue all available legal remedies if You and/or Your Employer perpetrate Insurance Fraud.

**Misstatements:** *What happens if facts are misstated?*

If material facts about You were not stated accurately:



- 1) Your premium may be adjusted; and
- 2) the true facts will be used to determine if, and for what amount, coverage should have been in force.

No statement, except fraudulent misstatements, made by You relating to Your insurability will be used to contest the insurance for which the statement was made after the insurance has been in force for two years during Your lifetime. In order to be used, the statement must be in writing and signed by You.

All statements made by the Policyholder, the Employer or You under The Policy will be deemed representations and not warranties. No statement made to affect this insurance will be used in any contest unless it is in writing and a copy of it is given to the person who made it, or to his or her beneficiary or Your representative.

**Policy Interpretation:** *Who interprets the terms and conditions of The Policy?*

We have full discretion and authority to determine eligibility for benefits and to construe and interpret all terms and provisions of The Policy. This provision applies where the interpretation of The Policy is governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA).

**Physical Examinations and Autopsy:** *Will I be examined during the course of my claim?*

While a claim is pending We have the right at Our expense:

- 1) to have the person who has a loss examined by a Physician when and as often as reasonably necessary; and
- 2) to make an autopsy in case of death where it is not forbidden by law.

## DEFINITIONS

**Actively at Work** means at work with the Employer on a day that is one of the Employer's scheduled workdays. On that day, You must be performing for wage or profit all of the regular duties of Your Occupation:

- 1) in the usual way; and
- 2) for Your usual number of hours.

We will consider You Actively at Work on a day that is not a scheduled work day only if You were Actively at Work on the preceding scheduled work day.

**Active Employee** means an employee who works for the Employer on a regular basis in the usual course of the Employer's business. This must be at least the number of hours shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**Current Weekly Earnings** means weekly earnings You receive from:

- 1) Your Employer; and
- 2) other employment;

while You are Disabled and eligible for the Disabled and Working Benefit.

However, if the other employment is a job You held in addition to Your job with Your Employer, then during any period that You are entitled to benefits for being Disabled from Your Occupation, only the portion of Your earnings that exceeds Your average earnings from the other employer over the 6 month period just before You became Disabled will count as Current Weekly Earnings.

Current Weekly Earnings also includes the pay You could have received for another job or a modified job if:

- 1) such job was offered to You by Your Employer, or another employer, and You refused the offer; and
- 2) the requirements of the position were consistent with:
  - a) Your education, training and experience; and
  - b) Your capabilities as medically substantiated by Your Physician.

**Disability or Disabled** means Total Disability or Disabled and Working Disability.

**Disabled and Working** means that You are prevented by:

- 1) Injury;
- 2) Sickness;
- 3) Mental Illness;
- 4) Substance Abuse; or
- 5) pregnancy;

from performing some, but not all of the Essential Duties of Your Occupation, are working on a part-time or limited duty basis, and as a result, Your Current Weekly Earnings are more than 20%, but are less than 80% of Your Pre-disability Earnings.

**Employer** means the Policyholder.

**Essential Duty** means a duty that:

- 1) is substantial, not incidental;
- 2) is fundamental or inherent to the occupation; and
- 3) cannot be reasonably omitted or changed.

Your ability to work the number of hours in Your regularly scheduled workweek is an Essential Duty.

**Injury** means bodily injury resulting:

- 1) directly from accident; and
- 2) independently of all other causes;

which occurs while You are covered under The Policy. However, an Injury will be considered a Sickness if Your Disability begins more than 30 days after the date of the accident.

**Mental Illness** means a mental disorder as listed in the current version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, published by the American Psychiatric Association. A Mental Illness may be caused by biological factors or result in physical symptoms or manifestations.

For the purpose of The Policy, Mental Illness does not include the following mental disorders outlined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders:

- 1) Intellectual disability;
- 2) Pervasive Developmental Disorders;
- 3) Motor Skills Disorder;
- 4) Substance-Related Disorders;
- 5) Delirium, Dementia, and Amnesic and Other Cognitive Disorders; or
- 6) Narcolepsy and Sleep Disorders related to a General Medical Condition.

**Other Income Benefits** means the amount of any benefit for loss of income, provided to You or Your family, as a result of the period of Disability for which You are claiming benefits under The Policy. This includes any such benefits for which You or Your family are eligible or that are paid to You or Your family, or to a third party on Your behalf, pursuant to any:

- 1) temporary, permanent disability, or impairment benefits under a Workers' Compensation Law, the Jones Act, occupational disease law, similar law or substitutes or exchanges for such benefits;
- 2) governmental law or program that provides disability or unemployment benefits as a result of Your job with Your Employer;
- 3) plan or arrangement of coverage, other than income from any accumulated sick time, salary continuation or paid time off, whether insured or not, which is received from Your Employer as a result of employment by or association with Your Employer or which is the result of membership in or association with any group, association, union or other organization;
- 4) any income You received from Your Employer as a result of any accumulated sick time salary continuation or paid time off, which causes the Weekly Benefit, plus Other Income Benefits to exceed 100% of Your Pre-disability Earnings. The amount in excess of 100% of Your Pre-disability Earnings will be used to reduce the Weekly Benefit;
- 5) mandatory "no fault" automobile insurance plan;
- 6) disability benefits under:
  - a) the United States Social Security Act or alternative plan offered by a state or municipal government;
  - b) the Railroad Retirement Act;
  - c) the Canada Pension Plan, the Canada Old Age Security Act, the Quebec Pension Plan or any provincial pension or disability plan; or
  - d) similar plan or act;that You, Your spouse and/or children, are eligible to receive because of Your Disability;
- 7) disability benefit from the Department of Veterans Affairs, or any other foreign or domestic governmental agency:
  - a) that begins after You become Disabled; or
  - b) that You were receiving before becoming Disabled, but only as to the amount of any increase in the benefit attributed to Your Disability; or
- 8) income You receive from an extended sick leave plan as described in Louisiana Revised Statutes 17:1202, 17:500.2 or any other act or law with similar intent.

Other Income Benefits also means the amount of any payments that are made to You or to Your family, or to a third party on Your behalf, pursuant to any:

- 1) disability benefit under Your Employer's Retirement Plan;
- 2) temporary, permanent disability or impairment benefits under a Workers' Compensation Law, the Jones Act, occupational disease law, similar law or substitutes or exchanges for such benefits;
- 3) portion of a judgment or settlement of a claim or lawsuit that represents or compensates for Your loss of earnings, less Our pro rata share of any associated reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs;
- 4) retirement benefit from a Retirement Plan that is wholly or partially funded by employer contributions, unless:
  - a) You were receiving it prior to becoming Disabled; or
  - b) You immediately transfer the payment to another plan qualified by the United States Internal Revenue Service for the funding of a future retirement.(Other Income Benefits will not include the portion, if any, of such retirement benefit that was funded by Your after-tax contributions.); or
- 5) income You receive from an extended sick leave plan as described in Louisiana Revised Statutes 17:1202, 17:500.2 or any other act or law with similar intent.

The amount of any increase in Other Income Benefits will not be included as Other Income Benefits if such increase:

- 1) takes effect after the date benefits become payable under The Policy; and
- 2) is a general increase which applies to all persons who are entitled to such benefits.

**Physician** means a person who is:

- 1) a doctor of medicine, osteopathy, psychology or other legally qualified practitioner of a healing art that We recognize or are required by law to recognize;
- 2) licensed to practice in the jurisdiction where care is being given;
- 3) practicing within the scope of that license; and
- 4) not You or Related to You by blood or marriage.

**Pre-disability Earnings** means Your regular weekly rate of pay, not counting commissions, bonuses, tips and tokens, overtime pay or any other fringe benefits or extra compensation, in effect on the last day You were Actively at Work before You became Disabled.

However, if You were an hourly paid Active Employee before You became Disabled, Pre-disability Earnings means the product of:

- 1) the average number of hours You worked per week, not including overtime, over the most recent 12 month period immediately prior to the last day You were Actively at Work before You became Disabled, multiplied by:
- 2) Your hourly wage in effect immediately prior to the last day You were Actively at Work before You became Disabled.

**Prior Policy** means the short term disability insurance carried by the Employer on the day before the Policy Effective Date.

**Regular Care of a Physician** means that You are being treated by a Physician:

- 1) whose medical training and clinical experience are suitable to treat Your disabling condition; and
- 2) whose treatment is:
  - a) consistent with the diagnosis of the disabling condition;
  - b) according to guidelines established by medical, research, and rehabilitative organizations; and
  - c) administered as often as needed;to achieve the maximum medical improvement.

**Rehabilitative Employment** means employment or service which:

- 1) prepares a Disabled person to resume gainful work; and
- 2) is approved, in writing, by Us.

**Related** means Your spouse, or other adult living with You, or Your sibling, parent, step-parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, son, daughter, or grandchild.

**Retirement Plan** means a defined benefit or defined contribution plan that provides benefits for Your retirement and which is not funded wholly by Your contributions. It does not include:

- 1) a profit sharing plan;
- 2) thrift, savings or stock ownership plans;

- 3) a non-qualified deferred compensation plan; or
- 4) an individual retirement account (IRA), a tax sheltered annuity (TSA), Keogh Plan, 401(k) plan, 403(b) plan or 457 deferred compensation arrangement.

**Sickness** means a Disability which is:

- 1) caused or contributed to by:
  - a) any condition, illness, disease or disorder of the body;
  - b) any infection, except a pus-forming infection of an accidental cut or wound or bacterial infection resulting from an accidental ingestion of a contaminated substance;
  - c) hernia of any type unless it is the immediate result of an accidental Injury covered by The Policy; or
  - d) pregnancy;
- 2) caused or contributed to by any medical or surgical treatment for a condition shown in item 1) above.

**Substance Abuse** means the pattern of pathological use of alcohol or other psychoactive drugs and substances characterized by:

- 1) impairments in social and/or occupational functioning;
- 2) debilitating physical condition;
- 3) inability to abstain from or reduce consumption of the substance; or
- 4) the need for daily substance use to maintain adequate functioning.

Substance includes alcohol and drugs but excludes tobacco and caffeine.

**The Policy** means the policy which We issued to the Policyholder under the Policy Number shown on the face page.

**Total Disability or Totally Disabled** means that You are prevented by:

- 1) Injury;
- 2) Sickness;
- 3) Mental Illness;
- 4) Substance Abuse; or
- 5) pregnancy;

from performing the Essential Duties of Your Occupation, and as a result, You are earning 20% or less of Your Pre-disability Earnings.

If You are in an occupation that requires You to maintain a license, Your failure to pass a physical examination required to maintain a license to perform the duties of Your Occupation alone, does not mean that You are disabled from Your Occupation.

**We, Our, or Us** means the insurance company named on the face page of The Policy.

**Weekly Benefit** means a weekly sum payable to You while You are Disabled, subject to the terms of The Policy.

**Your Occupation** means Your Occupation as it is recognized in the general workplace. Your Occupation does not mean the specific job You are performing for a specific employer or at a specific location.

**You or Your** means the person to whom this certificate is issued.

**Maryland**

**The group insurance policy providing coverage under this certificate was issued in a jurisdiction other than Maryland and may not provide all of the benefits required by Maryland law.**

## State Notices

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN STATES:** There are state-specific requirements that may change the provisions described in the group insurance certificate. If you live in a state that has such requirements, those requirements will apply to your coverage. State-specific requirements that may apply to your coverage are summarized below. In addition, updated state-specific requirements are published on our website. You may access the website at [www.thehartford.com](http://www.thehartford.com). If you are unable to access this website, want to receive a printed copy of these requirements, or have any questions or complaints regarding any of these requirements or any aspect of your coverage, please contact your Employee Benefits Manager; or you may contact us as follows:

**The Hartford**  
**Group Benefits Division, Customer Service**  
**P.O. Box 2999**  
**Hartford, CT 06104-2999**  
**1-800-523-2233**

If you have a complaint and contacts between you, us, your agent, or another representative have failed to produce a satisfactory solution to the problem, some states require we provide you with additional contact information. If your state requires such disclosure, the contact information is listed below with the other state requirements and notices.

We are providing notice that Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company is subject to economic and trade sanctions laws and regulations. These laws and regulations, including the laws and regulations administered and enforced by the United States Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC"), prevent Hartford Life and Accident from providing coverage to, and from paying benefits to, entities and individuals where prohibited by applicable law. In addition, these laws and regulations prohibit certain activities with respect to certain countries.

We have included this information to make you aware of the existence and potential impact of these economic and trade sanctions programs on your benefit program.

The Hartford complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. The Hartford does not exclude or treat people differently for any reason prohibited by law with respect to their race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

If your policy is governed under the laws of Maryland, any of the benefits, provisions or terms that apply to the state you reside in as shown below will apply only to the extent that such state requirements are more beneficial to you.

### **Alaska:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.

### **Arizona:**

1. **NOTICE:** The Certificate may not provide all benefits and protections provided by law in Arizona. Please read the Certificate carefully.

### **Arkansas:**

1. **NOTICE:** You have the right to file a complaint with the Arkansas Insurance Department (AID). You may call AID to request a complaint form at (800) 852-5494 or (501) 371-2640 or write the Department at:  
Arkansas Insurance Department  
1 Commerce Way, Suite 102  
Little Rock, AR 72202
2. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.

### **California:**

1. **NOTICE: READ YOUR CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY**  
You have a 30 day right from Your original Certificate Effective Date to examine Your certificate. If You are not satisfied, You may return it to Us within 30 days of Your original Certificate Effective Date. In that event, We will consider it void from its Effective Date and any premiums paid will be refunded. Any claims paid under The Policy during the initial 30 day period will be deducted from the refund.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT YOU RETAIN ALL RIGHTS WITH RESPECT TO YOUR POLICY/CERTIFICATE AGAINST YOUR ORIGINAL INSURER IN THE EVENT THE ASSUMING INSURER IS UNABLE TO FULFILL ITS OBLIGATIONS. IN SUCH EVENT YOUR ORIGINAL INSURER REMAINS LIABLE TO YOU NOTWITHSTANDING THE TERMS OF ITS ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT.

2. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the General Provisions section of the Certificate, does not apply to you. The following requirement applies to you:

**Eligibility Determination:** *How will We determine Your eligibility for benefits?*

We, and not Your Employer or plan administrator, have the responsibility to fairly, thoroughly, objectively and timely investigate, evaluate and determine Your eligibility or Your beneficiaries for benefits for any claim You or Your beneficiaries make on The Policy. We will:

- 1) obtain with Your cooperation and authorization if required by law, only such information that is necessary to evaluate Your claim and decide whether to accept or deny Your claim for benefits. We may obtain this information from Your Notice of Claim, submitted proofs of loss, statements, or other materials provided by You or others on Your behalf; or, at Our expense We may obtain necessary information, or have You physically examined when and as often as We may reasonably require while the claim is pending. In addition, and at Your option and at Your expense, You may provide Us and We will consider any other information, including but not limited to, reports from a Physician or other expert of Your choice. You should provide Us with all information that You want Us to consider regarding Your claim;
- 2) as a part of Our routine operations, We will apply the terms of The Policy for making decisions, including decisions on eligibility, receipt of benefits and claims, or explaining policies, procedures and processes;
- 3) if We approve Your claim, We will review Our decision to approve Your claim for benefits as often as is reasonably necessary to determine Your continued eligibility for benefits;
- 4) if We deny Your claim, We will explain in writing to You or Your beneficiaries the basis for an adverse determination in accordance with The Policy as described in the provision entitled **Claim Denial**.

In the event We deny Your claim for benefits, in whole or in part, You can appeal the decision to Us. If You choose to appeal Our decision, the process You must follow is set forth in The Policy provision entitled **Claim Appeal**. If You do not appeal the decision to Us, then the decision will be Our final decision.

3. **For Your Questions and Complaints:**

State of California Insurance Department  
Consumer Communications Bureau  
300 South Spring Street, South Tower  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
**Toll Free:** 1(800) 927-HELP  
**TDD Number:** 1(800) 482-4833  
**Web Address:** [www.insurance.ca.gov](http://www.insurance.ca.gov)

**Colorado:**

1. The **Surviving Children** definition within the **Survivor Income Benefit** will always include children related to You by civil union.
2. The **Surviving Spouse** definition within the **Survivor Income Benefit** will always include civil unions.
3. Entering a civil union, terminating a civil union, the death of a party to a civil union or a party to a civil union losing employment, which results in a loss of group insurance, will all constitute as a **Change in Family Status**.
4. **Complications of Pregnancy**, if shown in the **Definitions** section of the certificate, will always include acute nephritis or nephrosis, cardiac decompensation, missed abortion or any similar medical and surgical conditions of comparable severity regardless of hospital confinement.
5. The **Claim Appeal** provision will always include the following:

In addition, if a claim for benefits is wholly or partially denied and all administrative remedies have been exhausted, You are entitled to pursue such claim anew, from the beginning, in a court with jurisdiction and entitled to a trial by jury.

6. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable.

**Florida:**

1. **NOTICE:** The benefits of the policy providing you coverage may be governed primarily by the laws of a state other than Florida.

**Georgia:**

1. **NOTICE:** The laws of the state of Georgia prohibit insurers from unfairly discriminating against any person based upon his or her status as a victim of family abuse.

**Idaho:**

1. **For Your Questions and Complaints:**

Idaho Department of Insurance  
Consumer Affairs  
700 W State Street, 3rd Floor  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0043

**Toll Free:** 1-800-721-3272

**Web Address:** [www.DOI.Idaho.gov](http://www.DOI.Idaho.gov)

2. **Notice to Buyer: This is a disability income protection policy.**
3. The **Benefits Commence** provision, shown in the **Schedule of Insurance** section of the Certificate, cannot exceed:
  - 1) 90 days for plan designs with a **Maximum Duration of Benefits Payable** of 1 year or less;
  - 2) 180 days for plan designs with a **Maximum Duration of Benefits Payable** of more than 1 year but less than 2 years; or
  - 3) 365 days for plan designs with a **Maximum Duration of Benefits Payable** of 2 years or more.
4. The **Maximum Duration of Benefits Payable** provision, shown in the **Schedule of Insurance** section of the Certificate, cannot be less than 6 months.

**Illinois:**

1. You may file a consumer complaint online at the Illinois Department of Insurance's website or by mail. The Department maintains a Consumer Division in Chicago at 115 S. LaSalle Street, 13th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60603; and in Springfield at 320 West Washington Street, Springfield, Illinois 62767.

This notice is to advise you that should any complaints arise regarding this insurance, you may contact the following:

Illinois Department of Insurance  
320 W. Washington Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62767-0001

Illinois Department of Insurance  
115 S. LaSalle Street  
13th Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60603

**Consumer Complaints:** [DOI.Complaints@illinois.gov](mailto:DOI.Complaints@illinois.gov); toll-free: 1(866) 445-5364

**Officer of Consumer Health Insurance:** [DOI.Complaints@illinois.gov](mailto:DOI.Complaints@illinois.gov); toll-free: 1(877) 527-9431

2. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.
3. In accordance with Illinois law, insurers are required to provide the following **NOTICE** to applicants of insurance policies issued in Illinois.

**STATE OF ILLINOIS**  
**The Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act**  
**Effective June 1, 2011**

The Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act ("the Act") creates a legal relationship between two persons of the same or opposite sex who form a civil union. The Act provides that the parties to a civil union are entitled to the same legal obligations, responsibilities, protections and benefits that are afforded or recognized by the laws of Illinois to spouses. The law further provides that a party to a civil union shall be included in any definition or use of the terms "spouse," "family," "immediate family," "dependent," "next of kin," and other terms descriptive of spousal relationships as those terms are used throughout Illinois law. This includes the terms "marriage" or "married," or variations thereon. Insurance policies are required to provide identical benefits and protections to both civil unions and marriages. If policies of insurance provide coverage for children, the children of civil unions must also be provided coverage. The Act also requires recognition of civil unions or same sex civil unions or marriages legally entered into in other jurisdictions.



For more information regarding the Act, refer to 750 ILCS 75/1 *et seq.* Examples of the interaction between the Act and existing law can be found in the Illinois Insurance Facts, Civil Unions and Insurance Benefits document available on the Illinois Department of Insurance's website at <https://doi.illinois.gov>.

**Indiana:**

1. **For Your Questions and Complaints:**

Public Information/Market Conduct  
Indiana Department of Insurance  
311 W. Washington St. Suite 300  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2787  
1(317) 232-2395

**Kansas:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is amended to read as follows:

**Policy Interpretation:** *Who interprets Policy terms and conditions?*

Pursuant to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA), Your Employer has delegated to Us the fiduciary responsibility to determine eligibility for benefits and to construe and interpret all terms and provisions of The Policy. Therefore, We are a fiduciary for The Policy and We have the continuing duty to act prudently and in the interest of You, Your beneficiaries and the other plan participants. If You have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, then You may file suit in state or federal court for a review of Your eligibility or entitlement to benefits under The Policy. This provision only applies where the interpretation of The Policy is governed by ERISA.

**Louisiana:**

1. You are entitled to have your coverage reinstated after release from active military service; subject to the terms of the policy.

**Maine:**

1. **NOTICE:** The benefits under the policy are subject to reduction due to other sources of income.

This means that your benefits will be reduced by the amount of any other benefits for loss of time provided to you or for which you are eligible as a result of the same period of disability for which you claim benefits under the policy.

Other sources of income are plans or arrangements of coverage that provide disability-related benefits such as Worker's Compensation or other similar governmental programs or laws, or disability-related benefits received from your employer or as the result of your employment, membership or association with any group, union, association or other organization. Other sources of income include disability-related benefits under the United States Social Security Act or an alternate governmental plan, the Railroad Retirement Act, and other similar plans or acts. Other sources of income may also include certain disability-related or retirement benefits that you receive because of your retirement unless you were receiving them prior to becoming disabled.

What comprises other sources of income under the policy is determined by the nature of the policyholder. Therefore, we strongly urge you to **Read Your Certificate Carefully**. A full description of the plans and types of plans considered to be other sources of income under the policy will be found in the definition of "Other Income Benefits" located in the Definitions section of your certificate.

2. **NOTICE:** The laws of the State of Maine require notification of the right to designate a third party to receive notice of cancellation, to change such a designation and, to have the Policy reinstated if the insured suffers from cognitive impairment or functional incapacity and the ground for cancellation was the insured's nonpayment of premium or other lapse or default on the part of the insured.

Within 10 days after a request by an insured, a Third Party Notice Request Form shall be mailed or personally delivered to the insured.

3. You are entitled to have your coverage reinstated within 90 days from the date of cancellation; subject to premium payment. We have the right to require a medical demonstration of cognitive and/or functional capacity at your expense.

**Maryland:**

1. **NOTICE:** The group insurance Policy providing coverage under the Certificate may have been issued in a jurisdiction other than Maryland and may not provide all of the benefits required by Maryland law.

**Massachusetts:**

1. The **Surviving Children** definition in the **Survivor Income Benefit** will also include a child in the process of adoption.
2. You have the right to continue your coverage for up to 31 days should your employment terminate or you cease to be a member of an eligible class; subject to our receipt of the required premium payment.
3. You have the right to continue your coverage for a maximum of 90 days should your employment terminate due to a plant or partial plant closing. Premium payment must be received in order for coverage to continue.

**Michigan:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.

**Minnesota:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.

**Montana:**

1. **NOTICE:** Conformity with Montana statutes: The provisions of the certificate conform to the minimum requirements of Montana law and control over any conflicting statutes of any state in which the insured resides on or after the effective date of the certificate.
2. Pregnancy will be covered, the same as any other sickness, anything in The Policy to the contrary notwithstanding.

**New Hampshire:**

1. If Your claim is denied, You may appeal to Us within 180 days of receipt of the claim denial, subject to the other terms of the **Claim Appeal** provision.
2. The time period stated for legal action to start in the **Legal Actions** provision shown in the **General Provisions** section can not be less than 3 years after the time **Proof of Loss** is required to be given.

**New Jersey:**

1. The **Surviving Children** definition within the **Survivor Income Benefit** will always include children related to You by civil union.
2. The **Surviving Spouse** definition within the **Survivor Income Benefit** will always include civil unions and domestic partners, provided You continue to meet the requirements described in the domestic partner affidavit, civil union license or civil union certificate or as required by law. Same sex relationships entered into under the laws of another State or Country, which closely approximate a civil union or a domestic partnership under New Jersey law, will be recognized as civil unions or domestic partners under New Jersey law.

**New Mexico:**

1. The **Surviving Children** definition within the **Survivor Income Benefit**, if included in Your Certificate, will include children up to age 26.

**New York:**

1. We will not offset settlements or judgments from any lawsuit that represents or compensates you for a loss of earnings, if shown in the **Other Income Benefits** provision in the **Definitions** section of the certificate.
2. The **Conversion Right** provision, if shown in the **Period of Coverage** section of the Certificate, is not applicable.
3. The **Subrogation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.
4. The **Reimbursement** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.
5. If the definition of **Surviving Spouse** within the **Survivor Income Benefit** requires the completion of a domestic partner affidavit, the following requirement applies to you:

The domestic partner affidavit must be notarized and requires that You and Your domestic partner meet all of the following criteria:

- 1) you are both are legally and mentally competent to consent to contract in the state in which you reside;

- 2) you are not related by blood in a manner that would bar marriage under laws of the state in which you reside;
- 3) you have been living together on a continuous basis prior to the date of the application;
- 4) neither of you have been registered as a member of another domestic partnership within the last six months; and
- 5) you provide proof of cohabitation (e.g., a driver's license, tax return or other sufficient proof).

The domestic partner affidavit further requires that You and Your domestic partner provide proof of financial interdependence in the form of at least two of the following:

- 1) a joint bank account;
- 2) a joint credit card or charge card;
- 3) joint obligation on a loan;
- 4) status as an authorized signatory on the partner's bank account, credit card or charge card;
- 5) joint ownership of holdings or investments, residence, real estate other than residence, major items of personal property (e.g., appliances, furniture), or a motor vehicle;
- 6) listing of both partners as tenants on the lease of the shared residence;
- 7) shared rental payments of residence (need not be shared 50/50);
- 8) listing of both partners as tenants on a lease, or shared rental payments, for property other than residence;
- 9) a common household and shared household expenses (e.g., grocery bills, utility bills, telephone bills, etc. and need not be shared 50/50);
- 10) shared household budget for purposes of receiving government benefits;
- 11) status of one as representative payee for the other's government benefits;
- 12) joint responsibility for child care (e.g., school documents, guardianship);
- 13) shared child-care expenses (e.g., babysitting, day care, school bills, etc. and need not be shared 50/50);
- 14) execution of wills naming each other as executor and/or beneficiary;
- 15) designation as beneficiary under the other's life insurance policy;
- 16) designation as beneficiary under the other's retirement benefits account;
- 17) mutual grant of durable power of attorney;
- 18) mutual grant of authority to make health care decisions (e.g., health care power of attorney);
- 19) affidavit by creditor or other individual able to testify to partners' financial interdependence;
- 20) other item(s) of proof sufficient to establish economic interdependency under the circumstances of the particular case.

#### North Carolina:

1. The **Subrogation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.
2. We will not offset for income received from a mandatory "no-fault" automobile insurance plan; if included in the **Other Income Benefits** provision in the **Definitions** section of the certificate.
3. You are not required to be under the **Regular Care of a Physician** in order to continue to receive benefit payments provided qualified medical professionals have determined that further medical care and treatment would be of no benefit to You.
4. The **Exclusions** provision shall only exclude for Workers' Compensation if the final adjudication of the Worker's Compensation claim determined that benefits are paid, or may be paid, if duly claimed.
5. No statements will be used to reduce or deny a claim if the insured person has been covered under the Policy for at least 2 years. Prior to 2 years, such statement must be in writing and signed by the insured person in order to be used.
6. The **Sending Proof of Loss** provision is amended to state that written **Proof of Loss** must be sent to Us within 180 days following the completion of the **Elimination Period**.
7. The **Claims to be Paid** provision is amended to state that We may pay up to \$3,000 to a person who is Related to You and who, at Our sole discretion, is entitled to it. Any such payment shall fulfill Our responsibility for the amount paid.
8. **Notice of Claim** may also be given to Our representative, if applicable.
9. **NOTICE:** UNDER NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE SECTION 58-50-40, NO PERSON, EMPLOYER, FINANCIAL AGENT, TRUSTEE, OR THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PAYMENT OF GROUP LIFE INSURANCE, GROUP HEALTH OR GROUP HEALTH PLAN

PREMIUMS, SHALL:

1. CAUSE THE CANCELLATION OR NONRENEWAL OF GROUP LIFE INSURANCE, GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE, HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR DENTAL SERVICE CORPORATION PLAN, MULTIPLE EMPLOYER WELFARE ARRANGEMENT, OR GROUP HEALTH PLAN COVERAGES AND THE CONSEQUENTIAL LOSS OF THE COVERAGES OF THE PERSON INSURED, BY WILLFULLY FAILING TO PAY THOSE PREMIUMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE INSURANCE OR PLAN CONTRACT; AND
2. WILLFULLY FAIL TO DELIVER, AT LEAST 45 DAYS BEFORE THE TERMINATION OF THOSE COVERAGES, TO ALL PERSONS COVERED BY THE GROUP POLICY WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE PERSON'S INTENTION TO STOP PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS. VIOLATION OF THIS LAW IS A FELONY. ANY PERSON VIOLATING THIS LAW IS ALSO SUBJECT TO A COURT ORDER REQUIRING THE PERSON TO COMPENSATE PERSONS INSURED FOR EXPENSES OR LOSSES INCURRED AS A RESULT OF THE TERMINATION OF THE INSURANCE.

#### **IMPORTANT TERMINATION INFORMATION**

**YOUR INSURANCE MAY BE CANCELLED BY THE COMPANY. PLEASE READ THE TERMINATION PROVISION IN THE CERTIFICATE.**

**THE CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE PROVIDES COVERAGE UNDER A GROUP MASTER POLICY. THE CERTIFICATE PROVIDES ALL OF THE BENEFITS MANDATED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA INSURANCE CODE, BUT YOU MAY NOT RECEIVE ALL OF THE PROTECTIONS PROVIDED BY A POLICY ISSUED IN NORTH CAROLINA AND GOVERNED BY ALL OF THE LAWS OF NORTH CAROLINA.**

#### **PRE-EXISTING LIMITATION READ CAREFULLY**

**NO BENEFITS WILL BE PAYABLE UNDER THIS PLAN FOR PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS WHICH ARE NOT COVERED UNDER THE PRIOR PLAN. PLEASE READ THE LIMITATIONS IN THE CERTIFICATE.**

**READ YOUR CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY.**

#### **Oregon:**

1. The definition of **Surviving Spouse** within the **Survivor Income Benefit** will include Your domestic partner provided You have registered as domestic partners with a government agency or office where such registration is available. You will not be required to provide proof of such registration.
2. The **Surviving Children** definition within the **Survivor Income Benefit** will include children related to You by domestic partnership.
3. You are entitled to have your coverage continue while you are scheduled or required to serve as a juror for jury duty.

#### **Rhode Island:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.

#### **South Carolina:**

1. The **Physical Examinations and Autopsy** provision will state that such autopsy must be performed during the period of contestability and must take place in the state of South Carolina.
2. If You become insured under The Policy on the Policy Effective Date and were insured under the Prior Policy within 30 days of being covered under The Policy, the **Pre-existing Condition Limitation** will end on the earliest of:
  - 1) the Policy Effective date, if Your coverage for the Disability was not limited by a pre-existing condition restriction under the Prior Policy; or
  - 2) the date the restriction would have ceased to apply had the Prior Policy remained in force, if Your coverage was limited by a pre-existing condition limitation under the Prior Policy.

This is subject to the other terms and conditions of the **Continuity From a Prior Policy** provision.

#### **South Dakota:**

1. The definition of **Physician** may include the insured person or a person related to the insured person by blood or marriage provided that the he/she is the only such physician in the area and provided that he/she is acting within the scope of their normal employment.
2. We will not offset against the amount of any benefit for loss of income, provided to Your family, Your Spouse or Your Spouse's family.

**Texas:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable to you.
2. **NOTICE:**

**Have a complaint or need help?**

If you have a problem with a claim or your premium, call your insurance company first. If you can't work out the issue, the Texas Department of Insurance may be able to help.

Even if you file a complaint with the Texas Department of Insurance, you should also file a complaint or appeal through your insurance company. If you don't, you may lose your right to appeal.

**Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company**

To get information or file a complaint with your insurance company:

**Call: Customer Service at 860-547-5000**

**Toll-free: 1-800-523-2233**

Online: <https://www.thehartford.com/contact-the-hartford>

Email: [gbdcustomerservice@thehartford.com](mailto:gbdcustomerservice@thehartford.com)

Mail: The Hartford, Group Benefits Division, P.O. Box 2999, Hartford, CT 06104-2999

**The Texas Department of Insurance**

To get help with an insurance question or file a complaint with the state:

**Call with a question: 1-800-252-3439**

File a complaint: [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

Email: [ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov)

Mail: MC 111-1A, P.O. Box 149091, Austin, TX 78714-9091

**¿Tiene una queja o necesita ayuda?**

Si tiene un problema con una reclamación o con su prima de seguro, llame primero a su compañía de seguros. Si no puede resolver el problema, es posible que el Departamento de Seguros de Texas (Texas Department of Insurance, por su nombre en inglés) pueda ayudar.

Aun si usted presenta una queja ante el Departamento de Seguros de Texas, también debe presentar una queja a través del proceso de quejas o de apelaciones de su compañía de seguros. Si no lo hace, podría perder su derecho para apelar.

**Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company**

Para obtener información o para presentar una queja ante su compañía de seguros:

**Llame a: servicio al cliente al 860-547-5000**

**Teléfono gratuito: 1-800-523-2233**

En línea: <https://www.thehartford.com/contact-the-hartford>

Correo electrónico: [gbdcustomerservice@thehartford.com](mailto:gbdcustomerservice@thehartford.com)

Dirección postal: The Hartford, Group Benefits Division, P.O. Box 2999, Hartford, CT 06104-2999

**El Departamento de Seguros de Texas**

Para obtener ayuda con una pregunta relacionada con los seguros o para presentar una queja ante el estado:

**Llame con sus preguntas al: 1-800-252-3439**

Presente una queja en: [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

Correo electrónico: [ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov)

Dirección postal: MC 111-1A, P.O. Box 149091, Austin, TX 78714-9091

**Utah:**

1. If the **Sending Proof of Loss** provision provides a timeframe in which proof must be submitted before it affects Your claim, this time limitation shall not apply to You.

**Vermont:**

1. The following requirement applies:

**Purpose:** Vermont law requires that health insurers offer coverage to parties to a civil union that is equivalent to coverage provided to married persons.

**Definitions, Terms, Conditions and Provisions:** The definitions, terms, conditions or any other provisions of the policy, contract, certificate and/or riders and endorsements are hereby superseded as follows:

- 1) Terms that mean or refer to a marital relationship, or that may be construed to mean or refer to a marital relationship, such as "marriage", "spouse", "husband", "wife", "dependent", "next of kin", "relative", "beneficiary", "survivor", "immediate family" and any other such terms, include the relationship created by a civil union established according to Vermont law.
- 2) Terms that mean or refer to the inception or dissolution of a marriage, such as "date of marriage", "divorce decree", "termination of marriage" and any other such terms include the inception or dissolution of a civil union established according to Vermont law.
- 3) Terms that mean or refer to family relationships arising from a marriage, such as "family", "immediate family", "dependent", "children", "next of kin", "relative", "beneficiary", "survivor" and any other such terms include family relationships created by a civil union established according to Vermont law.
- 4) "Dependent" means a spouse, a party to a civil union established according to Vermont law, and a child or children (natural, stepchild, legally adopted or a minor or disabled child who is dependent on the insured for support and maintenance) who is born to or brought to a marriage or to a civil union established according to Vermont law.
- 5) "Child or covered child" means a child (natural, step-child, legally adopted or a minor or disabled child who is dependent on the insured for support and maintenance) who is born to or brought to a marriage or to a civil union established according to Vermont law.

**CAUTION: FEDERAL LAW RIGHTS MAY OR MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE**

Vermont law grants parties to a civil union the same benefits, protections and responsibilities that flow from marriage under state law. However, some or all of the benefits, protections and responsibilities related to health insurance that are available to married persons under federal law may not be available to parties to a civil union. For example, federal law, the Employee Income Retirement Security Act of 1974 known as "ERISA", controls the employer/employee relationship with regard to determining eligibility for enrollment in private employer health benefit plans. Because of ERISA, Act 91 does not state requirements pertaining to a private employer's enrollment of a party to a civil union in an ERISA employee welfare benefit plan. However, governmental employers (not federal government) are required to provide health benefits to the dependents of a party to a civil union if the public employer provides health benefits to the dependents of married persons. Federal law also controls group health insurance continuation rights under COBRA for employers with 20 or more employees as well as the Internal Revenue Code treatment of health insurance premiums. As a result, parties to a civil union and their families may or may not have access to certain benefits under the policy, contract, certificate, rider or endorsement that derive from federal law. You are advised to seek expert advice to determine your rights under this contract.

**Virginia:**

1. **For Your Questions and Complaints:**  
**State Corporation Commissions**  
**Life and Health Division**  
**Bureau of Insurance**  
P.O. Box 1157

Richmond, VA 23218  
1(804) 371-9691 (inside Virginia)  
1(877) 310-6560 (outside Virginia)

**Washington:**

1. You are entitled to continue your insurance for a period of up to six months should your employment terminate as a result of a general work stoppage.

**Wisconsin:**

1. **For Your Questions and Complaints:**  
To request a Complaint Form:  
Office of the Commissioner of Insurance  
Complaints Department  
P.O. Box 7873  
Madison, WI 53707-7873  
1(800) 236-8517 (within Wisconsin)  
1(608) 266-0103 (outside of Wisconsin)

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**HARTFORD LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY**

One Hartford Plaza

Hartford, Connecticut 06155

(A stock insurance company)

The Hartford® is The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc. and its subsidiaries.

**CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE**

**Policyholder:** Pafford Emergency Medical Services, Inc.

**Policy Number:** GLT-715891

**Policy Effective Date:** January 1, 2026

**Policy Anniversary Date:** January 1

We have issued The Policy to the Policyholder. Our name, the Policyholder's name and the Policy Number are shown above. The provisions of The Policy, which are important to You, are summarized in this certificate consisting of this form and any additional forms which have been made a part of this certificate. This certificate replaces any other certificate We may have given to You earlier under The Policy. The Policy alone is the only contract under which payment will be made. Any difference between The Policy and this certificate will be settled according to the provisions of The Policy on file with Us at Our home office. The Policy may be inspected at the office of the Policyholder.

Signed for the Company

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kevin Barnett".

Kevin Barnett, Secretary

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Fish".

Michael J. Fish, President

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*A note on capitalization in this certificate:*

Capitalization of a term, not normally capitalized according to the rules of standard punctuation, indicates a word or phrase that is a defined term in The Policy or refers to a specific provision contained herein.

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## SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE

The Policy of long term Disability insurance provides You with long term income protection if You become Disabled from a covered injury, sickness or pregnancy.

### **Cost of Coverage:**

You must contribute toward the cost of coverage.

### **Disclosure of Fees:**

We may reduce or adjust premiums, rates, fees and/or other expenses for programs under The Policy.

### **Disclosure of Services:**

In addition to the insurance coverage, We may offer noninsurance benefits and services to Active Employees.

### **Disclosure of Payment to the Policyholder:**

We have agreed to make payment to the Policyholder for reimbursement of cost(s) associated with:

- 1) audit;
- 2) marketing communication services; and
- 3) other administrative expenses.

### **Eligible Class(es) For Coverage:**

All Full-time Active Employees who are citizens or legal residents of the United States, its territories and protectorates; excluding temporary, leased or seasonal employees.

Full-time Employment: at least 30 hours weekly

**Annual Enrollment Period:** as determined by Your Employer on a yearly basis.

### **Eligibility Waiting Period for Coverage:**

- 1) None - if You are working for the Employer on the Policy Effective Date; or
- 2) The first day of the month following 30 days of employment - if You start working for the Employer after the Policy Effective Date.

The time period(s) referenced above are continuous.

### **Elimination Period:**

90 day(s)

**Maximum Monthly Benefit:** \$6,000

**Minimum Monthly Benefit:** \$100

**Benefit Percentage:** 60%

### **Maximum Duration of Benefits**

#### **Maximum Duration of Benefits Table**

| <b>Age When Disabled</b> | <b>Benefits Payable</b>                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Prior to Age 63          | To Normal Retirement Age or 48 months, if greater |
| Age 63                   | To Normal Retirement Age or 42 months, if greater |
| Age 64                   | 36 months                                         |
| Age 65                   | 30 months                                         |
| Age 66                   | 27 months                                         |
| Age 67                   | 24 months                                         |
| Age 68                   | 21 months                                         |
| Age 69 and over          | 18 months                                         |

Normal Retirement Age means the Social Security Normal Retirement Age as stated in the 1983 revision of the United States Social Security Act. It is determined by Your date of birth as follows:

#### **Year of Birth**

#### **Normal Retirement Age**

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1937 or before | 65             |
| 1938           | 65 + 2 months  |
| 1939           | 65 + 4 months  |
| 1940           | 65 + 6 months  |
| 1941           | 65 + 8 months  |
| 1942           | 65 + 10 months |
| 1943 thru 1954 | 66             |
| 1955           | 66 + 2 months  |
| 1956           | 66 + 4 months  |
| 1957           | 66 + 6 months  |
| 1958           | 66 + 8 months  |
| 1959           | 66 + 10 months |
| 1960 or after  | 67             |

**Additional Benefit:**

**Family Care Credit Benefit**

see benefit

**Survivor Income Benefit**

We will pay the Survivor Income Benefit:

- 1) to the beneficiary You designated: or
- 2) if no beneficiary has been designated:
  - a) to Your Surviving Spouse;
  - b) if no Surviving Spouse, in equal shares to Your Surviving Children;
  - c) if no Surviving Spouse or Surviving Children, to Your estate.

**Workplace Modification Benefit**

see benefit

## **ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT**

**Eligible Persons:** *Who is eligible for coverage?*

All persons in the class or classes shown in the Schedule of Insurance will be considered Eligible Persons.

**Eligibility for Coverage:** *When will I become eligible?*

You will become eligible for coverage on the later of:

- 1) the Policy Effective Date; or
- 2) the date on which You complete the Eligibility Waiting Period for Coverage shown in the Schedule of Insurance, if applicable.

**Enrollment:** *How do I enroll for coverage?*

To enroll for coverage You must:

- 1) complete and sign a group insurance enrollment form which is satisfactory to Us; and
- 2) deliver it to Your Employer.

You have the option to enroll electronically. Your Employer will provide instructions.

If You do not enroll within 31 days after becoming eligible under The Policy, or if You were eligible to enroll under the Prior Policy and did not do so, and later choose to enroll:

- 1) You must give Us Evidence of Insurability satisfactory to Us; and
- 2) You may only enroll:
  - a) during an Annual Enrollment Period designated by the Policyholder; or
  - b) within 31 days of the date You have a Change in Family Status.

The dates of the Annual Enrollment Period are shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**Evidence of Insurability:** *What is Evidence of Insurability and what happens if Evidence of Insurability is not satisfactory to Us?*

Evidence of Insurability must be satisfactory to Us and may include, but will not be limited to:

- 1) a completed and signed application approved by Us;
- 2) a medical examination;
- 3) attending Physicians' statements; and
- 4) any additional information We may require.

All Evidence of Insurability will be furnished at Your expense. We will then determine if You are insurable under The Policy.

If Your Evidence of Insurability is not satisfactory to Us:

- 1) Your Monthly Benefit will equal the amount for which You were eligible without providing Evidence of Insurability, provided You enrolled within 31 days of the date You were first eligible to enroll; and
- 2) You will not be covered under The Policy if You enrolled more than 31 days after the date You were first eligible to enroll.

**Change in Family Status:** *What constitutes a Change in Family Status?*

A Change in Family Status occurs when:

- 1) You get married;
- 2) You and Your spouse divorce;
- 3) Your child is born or You adopt or become the legal guardian of a child;
- 4) Your spouse dies;
- 5) Your child is no longer financially dependent on You or dies;
- 6) Your spouse is no longer employed, which results in a loss of group insurance; or
- 7) You have a change in classification from part-time to full-time or from full-time to part-time.

## PERIOD OF COVERAGE

**Effective Date:** *When does my coverage start?*

Your coverage will start on the earliest of:

- 1) the date You become eligible, if You enroll or have enrolled by then;
- 2) the date on which You enroll, if You do so within 31 days after the date You are eligible;
- 3) the date We approve Your Evidence of Insurability, for benefit amounts requiring Evidence of Insurability; or
- 4) the Policy Anniversary Date following the Annual Enrollment Period if You enroll, for benefit amounts not requiring Evidence of Insurability, during an Annual Enrollment Period.

**Deferred Effective Date:** *When will my effective date for coverage or a change in my coverage be deferred?*

If You are absent from work due to:

- 1) accidental bodily injury;
- 2) sickness;
- 3) Mental Illness;
- 4) Substance Abuse; or
- 5) pregnancy;

on the date Your insurance, or increase in coverage, would otherwise have become effective, Your insurance, or increase in coverage will not become effective until You are Actively at Work one full day.

**Changes in Coverage:** *Can I change my benefit options?*

You may change Your benefit option only:

- 1) during an Annual Enrollment Period; or
- 2) within 31 days of a Change in Family Status.

At such time You may decrease coverage, or increase coverage to a higher option. An increase in coverage will be subject to Your submission of an application that meets Our approval.

*When will a requested change in benefit option take effect?*

If You enroll for a change in benefit option during an Annual Enrollment Period, the change will take effect on the later of:

- 1) the Policy Anniversary Date following the Annual Enrollment Period; or
- 2) the date We approve Your Evidence of Insurability if You are required to submit Evidence of Insurability.

If You enroll for a change in benefit option within 31 days following a Change in Family Status, the change will take effect on the later of:

- 1) the date You enroll for the change; or

- 2) the date We approve Your Evidence of Insurability if You are required to submit Evidence of Insurability.

Any such increase in coverage is subject to the following provisions:

- 1) Deferred Effective Date; and
- 2) Pre-existing Conditions Limitation.

*Do coverage amounts change if there is a change in my class or my rate of pay?*

Your coverage may increase or decrease on the date there is a change in Your class or Pre-disability Earnings. However, no increase in coverage will be effective unless on that date You:

- 1) are an Active Employee; and
- 2) are not absent from work due to being Disabled. If You were so absent from work, the effective date of such increase will be deferred until You are Actively at Work for one full day.

No change in Your Pre-disability Earnings will become effective until the date We receive notice of the change.

*What happens if the Employer changes The Policy?*

Any increase or decrease in coverage because of a change in The Policy will become effective on the date of the change, subject to the following provisions:

- 1) the Deferred Effective Date provision; and
- 2) Pre-existing Conditions Limitation.

**Continuity From A Prior Policy:** *Is there continuity of coverage from a Prior Policy?*

If You were:

- 1) insured under the Prior Policy; and
- 2) not eligible to receive benefits under the Prior Policy;

on the day before the Policy Effective Date, the Deferred Effective Date provision will not apply.

*Is my coverage under The Policy subject to the Pre-existing Condition Limitation?*

If You become insured under The Policy on the Policy Effective Date and were covered under the Prior Policy on the day before the Policy Effective Date, the Pre-existing Conditions Limitation will end on the earliest of:

- 1) the Policy Effective Date, if Your coverage for the Disability was not limited by a pre-existing condition restriction under the Prior Policy; or
- 2) the date the restriction would have ceased to apply had the Prior Policy remained in force, if Your coverage was limited by a pre-existing condition limitation under the Prior Policy.

The amount of the Monthly Benefit payable for a Pre-existing Condition in accordance with the above paragraph will be the lesser of:

- 1) the Monthly Benefit which was paid by the Prior Policy; or
- 2) the Monthly Benefit provided by The Policy.

The Pre-existing Conditions Limitation will apply after the Policy Effective Date to the amount of a benefit increase which results from a change from the Prior Policy to The Policy, a change in benefit options, a change of class or a change in The Policy.

*Do I have to satisfy an Elimination Period under The Policy if I was Disabled under the Prior Policy?*

If You received monthly benefits for disability under the Prior Policy, and You returned to work as a Full-time Active Employee before the Policy Effective Date, then, if within 6 months of Your return to work:

- 1) You have a recurrence of the same disability while covered under The Policy; and
- 2) there are no benefits available for the recurrence under the Prior Policy;

the Elimination Period, which would otherwise apply, will be waived if the recurrence would have been covered without any further elimination period under the Prior Policy.

**Termination:** *When will my coverage end?*

Your coverage will end on the earliest of the following:

- 1) the date The Policy terminates;
- 2) the date The Policy no longer insures Your class;
- 3) the date premium payment is due but not paid;
- 4) the last day of the period for which You make any required premium contribution;
- 5) the date Your Employer terminates Your employment; or
- 6) the date You cease to be a Full-time Active Employee in an eligible class for any reason;

unless continued in accordance with any of the Continuation Provisions.

**Continuation Provisions:** *Can my coverage be continued beyond the date it would otherwise terminate?*

Coverage can be continued by Your Employer beyond a date shown in the Termination provision, if Your Employer provides a plan of continuation which applies to all employees the same way. Continued coverage:

- 1) is subject to any reductions in The Policy;
- 2) is subject to payment of premium; and
- 3) terminates if:
  - a) The Policy terminates; or
  - b) coverage for Your class terminates.

In any event, Your benefit level, or the amount of earnings upon which Your benefits may be based, will be that in effect on the day before Your coverage was continued. Coverage may be continued in accordance with the above restrictions and as described below:

**Military Leave of Absence:** In the event of a military leave of absence, if You enter active full-time military service and notify Your Employer in writing of Your intention to continue coverage, Your coverage can be continued. You must provide timely premium contributions equal to that which would have been deducted from Your compensation for such coverage immediately prior to entering active full-time military service.

**Family and Medical Leave:** If You are granted a leave of absence, in writing, according to the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, or other applicable state or local law, Your coverage may be continued for up to 12 weeks, or 26 weeks if You qualify for Family Military Leave, or longer if required by other applicable law, following the date Your leave commenced. If the leave terminates prior to the agreed upon date, this continuation will cease immediately.

**Coverage while Disabled:** *Does my insurance continue while I am Disabled and no longer an Active Employee?*

If You are Disabled and You cease to be an Active Employee, Your insurance will be continued:

- 1) during the Elimination Period while You remain Disabled by the same Disability; and
- 2) after the Elimination Period for as long as You are entitled to benefits under The Policy.

**Waiver of Premium:** *Am I required to pay premiums while I am Disabled?*

No premium will be due for You:

- 1) after the Elimination Period; and
- 2) for as long as benefits are payable.

**Extension of Benefits for Disability:** *Do my benefits continue if The Policy terminates?*

If You are entitled to benefits while Disabled and The Policy terminates, benefits:

- 1) will continue as long as You remain Disabled by the same Disability; but
- 2) will not be provided beyond the date We would have ceased to pay benefits had the insurance remained in force.

Termination of The Policy for any reason will have no effect on Our liability under this provision.

## BENEFITS

**Disability Benefit:** *What are my Disability Benefits under The Policy?*

We will pay You a Monthly Benefit if You:

- 1) become Disabled while insured under The Policy;
- 2) are Disabled throughout the Elimination Period;
- 3) remain Disabled beyond the Elimination Period; and
- 4) submit Proof of Loss to Us.

Benefits accrue as of the first day after the Elimination Period and are paid monthly. However, benefits will not exceed the Maximum Duration of Benefits.

**Mental Illness and Substance Abuse Benefits:** *Are benefits limited for Mental Illness or Substance Abuse?*

If You are Disabled because of:

- 1) Mental Illness that results from any cause;
- 2) any condition that may result from Mental Illness;
- 3) alcoholism; or
- 4) the non-medical use of narcotics, sedatives, stimulants, hallucinogens, or any other such substance;

then, subject to all other provisions of The Policy, We will limit the Maximum Duration of Benefits.

Benefits will be payable:

- 1) for as long as You are confined in a hospital or other place licensed to provide medical care for the disabling condition; or
- 2) if not confined, or after You are discharged and still Disabled, for a total of 24 months for all such disabilities during Your lifetime.

**Recurrent Disability:** *What happens if I Recover but become Disabled again?*

Periods of Recovery during the Elimination Period will not interrupt the Elimination Period, if the number of days You return to work as an Active Employee are less than one-half (1/2) the number of days of Your Elimination Period.

Any day within such period of Recovery, will not count toward the Elimination Period.

After the Elimination Period, if You return to work as an Active Employee and then become Disabled and such Disability is:

- 1) due to the same cause; or
- 2) due to a related cause; and
- 3) within 6 months of the return to work,

the Period of Disability prior to Your return to work and the recurrent Disability will be considered one Period of Disability, provided The Policy remains in force.

If You return to work as an Active Employee for 6 months or more, any recurrence of a Disability will be treated as a new Disability. The new Disability is subject to a new Elimination Period and a new Maximum Duration of Benefits.

**Period of Disability** means a continuous length of time during which You are Disabled under The Policy.

**Recover or Recovery** means that You are no longer Disabled and have returned to work with The Employer and premiums are being paid for You.

**Calculation of Monthly Benefit:**

**Return to Work Incentive:** *How are my Disability benefits calculated?*

If You remain Disabled after the Elimination Period, but work while You are Disabled, We will determine Your Monthly Benefit for a period of up to 12 consecutive months as follows:

- 1) multiply Your Pre-disability Earnings by the Benefit Percentage for which You enrolled;
- 2) compare the result with the Maximum Benefit for which You enrolled; and
- 3) from the lesser amount, deduct Other Income Benefits.

The result is Your Monthly Benefit. Current Monthly Earnings will not be used to reduce Your Monthly Benefit. However, if the sum of Your Monthly Benefit and Your Current Monthly Earnings exceeds 100% of Your Pre-disability Earnings, We will reduce Your Monthly Benefit by the amount of excess.

The 12 consecutive month period will start on the last to occur of:

- 1) the day You first start work; or
- 2) the end of the Elimination Period.

If You are Disabled and not receiving benefits under the Return to Work Incentive, We will calculate Your Monthly Benefit as follows:

- 1) multiply Your Monthly Income Loss by the Benefit Percentage for which You enrolled;
- 2) compare the result with the Maximum Benefit for which You enrolled; and
- 3) from the lesser amount, deduct Other Income Benefits.

The result is Your Monthly Benefit.

**Calculation of Monthly Benefit:** *What happens if the sum of my Monthly Benefit, Current Monthly Earnings, and Other Income Benefits exceeds 100% of my Pre-disability Earnings?*

If the sum of Your Monthly Benefit, Current Monthly Earnings, and Other Income Benefits exceeds 100% of Your Pre-disability Earnings, We will reduce Your Monthly Benefit by the amount of the excess. However, Your Monthly Benefit will not be less than the Minimum Monthly Benefit.

If an overpayment occurs, We may recover all or any portion of the overpayment, in accordance with the Overpayment Recovery provision.

**Minimum Monthly Benefit:** *Is there a Minimum Monthly Benefit?*

Your Monthly Benefit will not be less than the Minimum Monthly Benefit shown in the Schedule of Insurance.



**Partial Month Payment:** *How is the benefit calculated for a period of less than a month?*

If a Monthly Benefit is payable for a period of less than a month, We will pay 1/30 of the Monthly Benefit for each day You were Disabled.

**Termination of Payment:** *When will my benefit payments end?*

Benefit payments will stop on the earliest of:

- 1) the date You are no longer Disabled;
- 2) the date You fail to furnish Proof of Loss;
- 3) the date You are no longer under the Regular Care of a Physician;
- 4) the date You refuse Our request that You submit to an examination by a Physician or other qualified medical professional;
- 5) the date of Your death;
- 6) the date You refuse to receive recommended treatment that is generally acknowledged by Physicians to cure, correct or limit the disabling condition;
- 7) the last day benefits are payable according to the Maximum Duration of Benefits Table;
- 8) the date Your Current Monthly Earnings:
  - a) are equal to or greater than 80% of Your Indexed Pre-disability Earnings if You are receiving benefits for being Disabled from Your Occupation; or
  - b) are greater than the lesser of the product of Your Indexed Pre-disability Earnings and the Benefit Percentage for which You enrolled or the Maximum Monthly Benefit if You are receiving benefits for being Disabled from Any Occupation;
- 9) the date no further benefits are payable under any provision in The Policy that limits benefit duration; or
- 10) the date You refuse to participate in a Rehabilitation program, or refuse to cooperate with or try:
  - a) modifications made to the work site or job process to accommodate Your identified medical limitations to enable You to perform the Essential Duties of Your Occupation;
  - b) adaptive equipment or devices designed to accommodate Your identified medical limitations to enable You to perform the Essential Duties of Your Occupation;
  - c) modifications made to the work site or job process to accommodate Your identified medical limitations to enable You to perform the Essential Duties of Any Occupation, if You were receiving benefits for being disabled from Any Occupation; or
  - d) adaptive equipment or devices designed to accommodate Your identified medical limitations to enable You to perform the Essential Duties of Any Occupation, if You were receiving benefits for being disabled from Any Occupation;provided a qualified Physician or other qualified medical professional agrees that such modifications, Rehabilitation program or adaptive equipment accommodate Your medical limitation.

**Family Care Credit Benefit:** *What if I must incur expenses for Family Care Services in order to participate in a Rehabilitation program?*

If You are working as part of a program of Rehabilitation, We will, for the purpose of calculating Your benefit, deduct the cost of Family Care from earnings received from work as a part of a program of Rehabilitation, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) Family Care means the care or supervision of:
  - a) Your children under age 13; or
  - b) a member of Your household who is intellectually or physically disabled and dependent upon You for support and maintenance;
- 2) the maximum monthly deduction allowed for each qualifying child or family member is:
  - a) \$350 during the first 12 months of Rehabilitation; and
  - b) \$175 thereafter;but in no event may the deduction exceed the amount of Your monthly earnings;
- 3) Family Care Credits may not exceed a total of \$2,500 during a calendar year;
- 4) the deduction will be reduced proportionally for periods of less than a month;
- 5) the charges for Family Care must be documented by a receipt from the caregiver;
- 6) the credit will cease on the first to occur of the following:
  - a) You are no longer in a Rehabilitation program; or
  - b) Family Care Credits for 24 months have been deducted during Your Disability; and
- 7) no Family Care provided by someone Related to the family member receiving the care will be eligible as a deduction under this provision.

Your Current Monthly Earnings after the deduction of Your Family Care Credit will be used to determine Your Monthly Income Loss. In no event will You be eligible to receive a Monthly Benefit under The Policy if Your Current Monthly Earnings before the deduction of the Family Care Credit exceed 80% of Your Indexed Pre-disability Earnings.

**Survivor Income Benefit:** *Will my survivors receive a benefit if I die while receiving Disability Benefits?*

If You were receiving a Monthly Benefit at the time of Your death, We will pay a Survivor Income Benefit, when We receive proof satisfactory to Us:

- 1) of Your death; and
- 2) that the person claiming the benefit is entitled to it.

We must receive the satisfactory proof for Survivor Income Benefits within 1 year of the date of Your death.

We will pay the Survivor Income Benefit:

- 1) to the beneficiary You designated;
- 2) if no beneficiary has been designated;
  - a) to Your Surviving Spouse;
  - b) if no Surviving Spouse, in equal shares to your Surviving Children;
  - c) if no Surviving Spouse or Surviving Children, to Your estate.

However, We will first apply the Survivor Income Benefit to any overpayment which may exist on Your claim.

If a minor child is entitled to benefits, We may, at Our option, make benefit payments to the person caring for and supporting the child until a legal guardian is appointed.

The Survivor Income Benefit amount is shown on the Schedule of Insurance.

**Surviving Spouse** means Your spouse who was not legally separated or divorced from You when You died.

**Surviving Children** means Your unmarried children, step children, legally adopted children who, on the date You die, are primarily dependent on You for support and maintenance and who are under age 19.

The term Surviving Children will also include any other children related to You by blood or marriage and who:

- 1) lived with You in a regular parent-child relationship; and
- 2) were eligible to be claimed as dependents on Your federal income tax return for the last tax year prior to Your death.

**Workplace Modification Benefit:** *Will the Rehabilitation program provide for modifications to my workplace to accommodate my return to work?*

We will reimburse Your Employer for the expense of reasonable Workplace Modifications to accommodate Your Disability and enable You to return to work as an Active Employee. You qualify for this benefit if:

- 1) Your Disability is covered by The Policy;
- 2) the Employer agrees to make modifications to the workplace in order to reasonably accommodate Your return to work and the performance of the Essential Duties of Your job; and
- 3) We approve, in writing, any proposed Workplace Modifications.

Benefits paid for such Workplace Modification shall not exceed \$25,000.

We have the right, at Our expense, to have You examined or evaluated by:

- 1) a Physician or other health care professional; or
- 2) a vocational expert or rehabilitation specialist;

of Our choice so that We may evaluate the appropriateness of any proposed modification.

We will reimburse the Employer's costs for approved Workplace Modifications after:

- 1) the proposed modifications made on Your behalf are complete;
- 2) We have been provided written proof of the expenses incurred to provide such modification; and
- 3) You have returned to work as an Active Employee.

**Workplace Modification** means change in Your work environment, or in the way a job is performed, to allow You to perform, while Disabled, the Essential Duties of Your job. Payment of this benefit will not reduce or deny any benefit You are eligible to receive under the terms of The Policy.

## EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS

### **Exclusions:** *What Disabilities are not covered?*

The Policy does not cover, and We will not pay a benefit for, any Disability:

- 1) unless You are under the Regular Care of a Physician;
- 2) that is caused or contributed to by war or act of war, whether declared or not;
- 3) caused by Your commission of or attempt to commit a felony;
- 4) caused or contributed to by Your being engaged in an illegal occupation; or
- 5) caused or contributed to by an intentionally self-inflicted injury.

If You are receiving or are eligible for benefits for a Disability under a prior disability plan that:

- 1) was sponsored by Your Employer; and
- 2) was terminated before the Effective Date of The Policy;

no benefits will be payable for the Disability under The Policy.

### **Pre-existing Condition Limitation:** *Are benefits limited for Pre-existing Conditions?*

We will not pay any benefit, or any increase in benefits, under The Policy for any Disability that results from, or is caused or contributed to by, a Pre-existing Condition, unless, at the time You become Disabled You have been continuously insured under The Policy for 12 consecutive months.

**Pre-existing Condition** means:

- 1) any accidental bodily injury, sickness, Mental Illness, pregnancy, or episode of Substance Abuse; or
- 2) any manifestations, symptoms, findings, or aggravations related to or resulting from such accidental bodily injury, sickness, Mental Illness, pregnancy, or Substance Abuse;

for which You received Medical Care during the 3 consecutive month period that ends the day before:

- 1) Your effective date of coverage; or
- 2) the effective date of a Change in Coverage.

**Medical Care** is received when a Physician or other health care provider:

- 1) is consulted or gives medical advice; or
- 2) recommends, prescribes, or provides Treatment.

**Treatment** includes but is not limited to:

- 1) medical examinations, tests, attendance or observation; and
- 2) use of drugs, medicines, medical services, supplies or equipment.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

### **Notice of Claim:** *When should I notify the Company of a claim?*

You must give Us written notice of a claim within 30 days after Disability or loss occurs. Failure to give notice within such time shall not invalidate or reduce any claim if it shall be shown not to have been reasonably possible to give such notice and that notice was given as soon as was reasonably possible. Such notice must include Your name, Your address, and the Policy Number.

### **Claim Forms:** *Are special forms required to file a claim?*

We will send forms to You to provide Proof of Loss, within 15 days of receiving a Notice of Claim. If We do not send the forms within 15 days, You may submit any other written proof which fully describes the nature and extent of Your claim.

### **Proof of Loss:** *What is Proof of Loss?*

Proof of Loss may include but is not limited to the following:

- 1) documentation of:
  - a) the date Your Disability began;
  - b) the cause of Your Disability;
  - c) the prognosis of Your Disability;
  - d) Your Pre-disability Earnings, Current Monthly Earnings or any income, including but not limited to copies of Your filed and signed federal and state tax returns; and
  - e) evidence that You are under the Regular Care of a Physician;
- 2) any and all medical information, including x-ray films and photocopies of medical records, including histories, physical, mental or diagnostic examinations and treatment notes;

- 3) the names and addresses of all:
  - a) Physicians or other qualified medical professionals You have consulted;
  - b) hospitals or other medical facilities in which You have been treated; and
  - c) pharmacies which have filled Your prescriptions within the past three years;
- 4) Your signed authorization for Us to obtain and release:
  - a) medical, employment and financial information; and
  - b) any other information We may reasonably require;
- 5) disclosure of all information and documentation required by Us relating to Other Income Benefits;
- 6) proof that You and Your dependents have applied for all Other Income Benefits which are available; and
- 7) disclosure of all information and documentation required by Us in order to exercise Our Subrogation or Reimbursement rights.

You will not be required to claim any retirement benefits which You may only get on a reduced basis. All proof submitted must be satisfactory to Us.

**Additional Proof of Loss:** *What Additional Proof of Loss is the Company entitled to?*

To assist Us in determining if You are Disabled, or to determine if You meet any other term or condition of The Policy, We have the right to require You to:

- 1) meet and interview with Our representative; and
- 2) be examined by a Physician, vocational expert, functional expert, or other medical or vocational professional of Our choice.

Any such interview, meeting or examination will be:

- 1) at Our expense; and
- 2) as reasonably required by Us.

Your Additional Proof of Loss must be satisfactory to Us. Unless We determine You have a valid reason for refusal, We may deny, suspend or terminate Your benefits if You refuse to be examined or meet to be interviewed by Our representative.

**Sending Proof of Loss:** *When must Proof of Loss be given?*

Written Proof of Loss must be sent to Us within 90 days following the completion of the Elimination Period. If proof is not given by the time it is due, it will not affect the claim if:

- 1) it was not reasonably possible to give proof within the required time; and
- 2) proof is given as soon as reasonably possible; but
- 3) not later than 1 year after it is due, unless You are not legally competent.

We may request Proof of Loss throughout Your Disability, as reasonably required. In such cases, We must receive the proof within 30 days of the request.

**Claim Payment:** *When are benefit payments issued?*

When We determine that You;

- 1) are Disabled; and
- 2) eligible to receive benefits;

We will pay accrued benefits at the end of each month that You are Disabled. We may, at Our option, make an advance benefit payment based on Our estimated duration of Your Disability. If any payment is due after a claim is terminated, it will be paid as soon as Proof of Loss satisfactory to Us is received.

Benefits may be subject to interest payments as required by applicable law.

**Claims to be Paid:** *To whom will benefits for my claim be paid?*

All payments are payable to You. Any payments owed at Your death may be paid to Your estate. If any payment is owed to:

- 1) Your estate;
- 2) a person who is a minor; or
- 3) a person who is not legally competent;

then We may pay up to \$1,000 to a person who is Related to You and who, at Our sole discretion, is entitled to it. Any such payment shall fulfill Our responsibility for the amount paid.

**Claim Denial:** *What notification will I receive if my claim is denied?*

If a claim for benefits is wholly or partly denied, You will be furnished with written notification of the decision. This written notification will:

- 1) give the specific reason(s) for the denial;
- 2) make specific reference to The Policy provisions on which the denial is based;

- 3) provide a description of any additional information necessary to perfect a claim and an explanation of why it is necessary; and
- 4) provide an explanation of the review procedure.

**Claim Appeal:** *What recourse do I have if my claim is denied?*

On any claim, You or Your representative may appeal to Us for a full and fair review. To do so You:

- 1) must request a review upon written application within:
  - a) 180 days of receipt of claim denial if the claim requires Us to make a determination of disability; or
  - b) 60 days of receipt of claim denial if the claim does not require Us to make a determination of disability; and
- 2) may request copies of all documents, records, and other information relevant to Your claim; and
- 3) may submit written comments, documents, records and other information relating to Your claim.

We will respond to You in writing with Our final decision on the claim.

**Social Security:** *When must I apply for Social Security Benefits?*

You must apply for Social Security disability benefits when the length of Your Disability meets the minimum duration required to apply for such benefits. You must apply within 45 days from the date of Our request. If the Social Security Administration denies Your eligibility for benefits, You will be required:

- 1) to follow the process established by the Social Security Administration to reconsider the denial; and
- 2) if denied again, to request a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Hearing and Appeals.

**Benefit Estimates:** *How does the Company estimate Disability benefits under the United States Social Security Act?*

We reserve the right to reduce Your Monthly Benefit by estimating the Social Security disability benefits You or Your spouse and children may be eligible to receive.

When We determine that You or Your dependent may be eligible for benefits, We may estimate the amount of these benefits. We may reduce Your Monthly Benefit by the estimated amount.

Your Monthly Benefit will not be reduced by estimated Social Security disability benefits if:

- 1) You apply for Social Security disability benefits and pursue all required appeals in accordance with the Social Security provision; and
- 2) You have signed a form authorizing the Social Security Administration to release information about awards directly to Us; and
- 3) You have signed and returned Our reimbursement agreement, which confirms that You agree to repay all overpayments.

If We have reduced Your Monthly Benefit by an estimated amount and:

- 1) You or Your dependent are later awarded Social Security disability benefits, We will adjust Your Monthly Benefit when We receive proof of the amount awarded, and determine if it was higher or lower than Our estimate; or
- 2) Your application for Social Security disability benefits has been denied, We will adjust Your Monthly Benefit when You provide Us proof of final denial from which You cannot appeal from an Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Hearing and Appeals.

If Your Social Security benefits were lower than We estimated, and We owe You a refund, We will make such refund in a lump sum. If Your Social Security benefits were higher than We estimated, and if Your Monthly Benefit has been overpaid, You must make a lump sum refund to Us equal to all overpayments, in accordance with the Overpayment Recovery provision.

**Overpayment:** *When does an overpayment occur?*

An overpayment occurs:

- 1) when We determine that the total amount We have paid in benefits is more than the amount that was due to You under The Policy; or
- 2) when payment is made by Us that should have been made under another group policy.

This includes, but is not limited to, overpayments resulting from:

- 1) retroactive awards received from sources listed in the Other Income Benefits definition;
- 2) failure to report, or late notification to Us of any Other Income Benefit(s) or earned income;
- 3) misstatement;
- 4) fraud; or
- 5) any error We may make.

**Overpayment Recovery:** *How does the Company exercise the right to recover overpayments?*

We have the right to recover from You any amount that We determine to be an overpayment. You have the obligation to refund to Us any such amount. Our rights and Your obligations in this regard may also be set forth in the reimbursement agreement You will be required to sign when You become eligible for benefits under The Policy.

If benefits are overpaid on any claim, You must reimburse Us within 30 days.

If reimbursement is not made in a timely manner, We have the right to:

- 1) recover such overpayments from:
  - a) You;
  - b) any other organization;
  - c) any other insurance company;
  - d) any other person to or for whom payment was made; and
  - e) Your estate;
- 2) reduce or offset against any future benefits payable to You or Your survivors, including the Minimum Monthly Benefit, until full reimbursement is made. Payments may continue when the overpayment has been recovered;
- 3) refer Your unpaid balance to a collection agency; and
- 4) pursue and enforce all legal and equitable rights in court.

**Subrogation:** *What are Our subrogation rights?*

If You:

- 1) suffer a Disability caused, in full or in part, by the act or omission of any person or legal entity;
- 2) become entitled to and are paid benefits under The Policy in compensation for lost wages; and
- 3) do not initiate legal action for the recovery of such benefits from a Third Party in a reasonable period of time or notify Us that You do not intend to do so;

then We will be subrogated to any rights You may have against a Third Party and may, at Our option, bring legal action against or otherwise pursue a Third Party to recover any payments made by Us in connection with the Disability.

**Third Party** as used in this provision, means:

- 1) any person or legal entity whose act or omission, in full or in part, causes You to suffer a Disability for which benefits are paid or payable under The Policy; or
- 2) any insurer, including Your own, that provides benefits to You as a result of the act or omission which causes You to suffer a Disability for which benefits are paid or payable under The Policy.

**Reimbursement:** *What are Our reimbursement rights?*

We have the right to be reimbursed for any benefit payments made or required to be made under The Policy for a Disability for which You recover any funds from a Third Party.

If You recover any funds from a Third Party as:

- 1) a legal judgment;
- 2) an arbitration award; or
- 3) a settlement or otherwise;

You or Your attorney shall hold in constructive trust the lesser of:

- 1) the entire amount of the benefit payment(s) made or required to be made by Us; or
- 2) the total amount of the recovered funds;

less Our pro rata share of any reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs associated with the recovered funds. We have the right of first reimbursement regardless of:

- 1) whether You are made whole;
- 2) how the recovered funds are characterized; or
- 3) whether the particular funds recovered are still in Your possession.

By accepting benefit payment(s) under The Policy, You:

- 1) agree to cooperate fully with Our reimbursement rights, including disclosure of all information and documentation required by Us in order to exercise Our reimbursement rights; and
- 2) will not do anything to prejudice Our reimbursement rights.

You or Your attorney's failure to cooperate fully with Our reimbursement rights may result in denial or termination of Your benefits under The Policy.

**Third Party** as used in this provision, means:

- 1) any person or legal entity whose act or omission, in full or in part, causes You to suffer a Disability for which benefits are paid or payable under The Policy; or
- 2) any insurer, including Your own, that provides benefits to You as a result of the act or omission which causes You to suffer a Disability for which benefits are paid or payable under The Policy.

**Legal Actions:** *When can legal action be taken against Us?*

Legal action cannot be taken against Us:

- 1) sooner than 60 days after the date Proof of Loss is given; or
- 2) more than 3 years after the date Proof of Loss is required to be given according to the terms of The Policy.

**Insurance Fraud:** *How does the Company deal with fraud?*

Insurance Fraud occurs when You and/or Your Employer provide Us with false information or file a claim for benefits that contains any false, incomplete or misleading information with the intent to injure, defraud or deceive Us. It is a crime if You and/or Your Employer commit Insurance Fraud. We will use all means available to Us to detect, investigate, deter and prosecute those who commit Insurance Fraud. We will pursue all available legal remedies if You and/or Your Employer perpetrate Insurance Fraud.

**Misstatements:** *What happens if facts are misstated?*

If material facts about You were not stated accurately:

- 1) Your premium may be adjusted; and
- 2) the true facts will be used to determine if, and for what amount, coverage should have been in force.

No statement, except fraudulent misstatements, made by You relating to Your insurability will be used to contest the insurance for which the statement was made after the insurance has been in force for two years during Your lifetime. In order to be used, the statement must be in writing and signed by You.

All statements made by the Policyholder, the Employer or You under The Policy will be deemed representations and not warranties. No statement made to affect this insurance will be used in any contest unless it is in writing and a copy of it is given to the person who made it, or to his or her beneficiary or Your representative.

**Policy Interpretation:** *Who interprets the terms and conditions of The Policy?*

We have full discretion and authority to determine eligibility for benefits and to construe and interpret all terms and provisions of The Policy. This provision applies where the interpretation of The Policy is governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA).

**Physical Examinations and Autopsy:** *Will I be examined during the course of my claim?*

While a claim is pending We have the right at Our expense:

- 1) to have the person who has a loss examined by a Physician when and as often as reasonably necessary; and
- 2) to make an autopsy in case of death where it is not forbidden by law.

## DEFINITIONS

**Actively at Work** means at work with the Employer on a day that is one of the Employer's scheduled workdays. On that day, You must be performing for wage or profit all of the regular duties of Your Occupation:

- 1) in the usual way; and
- 2) for Your usual number of hours.

We will consider You Actively at Work on a day that is not a scheduled work day only if You were Actively at Work on the preceding scheduled work day.

**Active Employee** means an employee who works for the Employer on a regular basis in the usual course of the Employer's business. This must be at least the number of hours shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**Any Occupation** means any occupation for which You are qualified by education, training or experience, and that has an earnings potential greater than the lesser of:

- 1) the product of Your Indexed Pre-disability Earnings and the Benefit Percentage; or
- 2) the Maximum Monthly Benefit.

**Current Monthly Earnings** means monthly earnings You receive from:

- 1) Your Employer; and

2) other employment;  
while You are Disabled.

However, if the other employment is a job You held in addition to Your job with Your Employer, then during any period that You are entitled to benefits for being Disabled from Your Occupation, only the portion of Your earnings that exceeds Your average earnings from the other employer over the 6 month period just before You became Disabled will count as Current Monthly Earnings.

Current Monthly Earnings also includes the pay You could have received for another job or a modified job if:

- 1) such job was offered to You by Your Employer, or another employer, and You refused the offer; and
- 2) the requirements of the position were consistent with:
  - a) Your education, training and experience; and
  - b) Your capabilities as medically substantiated by Your Physician.

**Disability or Disabled** means You are prevented from performing one or more of the Essential Duties of:

- 1) Your Occupation, during the Elimination Period and for the 2 years following the Elimination Period, and as a result Your Current Monthly Earnings are less than 80% of Your Indexed Pre-disability Earnings; and
- 2) after that, Any Occupation.

Your Disability must result from:

- 1) accidental bodily injury;
- 2) sickness;
- 3) Mental Illness;
- 4) Substance Abuse; or
- 5) pregnancy.

Your failure to pass a physical examination required to maintain a license to perform the duties of Your Occupation, alone, does not mean that You are Disabled.

**Elimination Period** means the longer of the number of consecutive days at the beginning of any one period of Disability which must elapse before benefits are payable or the expiration of any Employer sponsored short term Disability benefits or salary continuation program, excluding benefits required by state law.

**Employer** means the Policyholder.

**Essential Duty** means a duty that:

- 1) is substantial, not incidental;
- 2) is fundamental or inherent to the occupation; and
- 3) cannot be reasonably omitted or changed.

Your ability to work the number of hours in Your regularly scheduled workweek is an Essential Duty.

**Indexed Pre-disability Earnings** means Your Pre-disability Earnings adjusted annually by adding the lesser of:

- 1) 10%; or
- 2) the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W).

The percentage change in the CPI-W means the difference between the current year's CPI-W as of July 31, and the prior year's CPI-W as of July 31, divided by the prior year's CPI-W. The adjustment is made January 1st each year after You have been Disabled for 12 consecutive month(s), provided You are receiving benefits at the time the adjustment is made.

The term Consumer Price Index (CPI-W) means the index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers published by the United States Department of Labor. It measures on a periodic (usually monthly) basis the change in the cost of typical urban wage earners' and clerical workers' purchase of certain goods and services. If the index is discontinued or changed, We may use another nationally published index that is comparable to the CPI-W.

**Mental Illness** means a mental disorder as listed in the current version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, published by the American Psychiatric Association. A Mental Illness may be caused by biological factors or result in physical symptoms or manifestations.

For the purpose of The Policy, Mental Illness does not include the following mental disorders outlined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders:

- 1) Intellectual disability;



- 2) Pervasive Developmental Disorders;
- 3) Motor Skills Disorder;
- 4) Substance-Related Disorders;
- 5) Delirium, Dementia, and Amnesic and Other Cognitive Disorders; or
- 6) Narcolepsy and Sleep Disorders related to a General Medical Condition.

**Monthly Benefit** means a monthly sum payable to You while You are Disabled, subject to the terms of The Policy.

**Monthly Income Loss** means Your Pre-disability Earnings minus Your Current Monthly Earnings.

**Other Income Benefits** means the amount of any benefit for loss of income, provided to You or Your family, as a result of the period of Disability for which You are claiming benefits under The Policy. This includes any such benefits for which You or Your family are eligible or that are paid to You or Your family, or to a third party on Your behalf, pursuant to any:

- 1) temporary, permanent disability, or impairment benefits under a Workers' Compensation Law, the Jones Act, occupational disease law, similar law or substitutes or exchanges for such benefits;
- 2) governmental law or program that provides disability or unemployment benefits as a result of Your job with Your Employer;
- 3) plan or arrangement of coverage, whether insured or not, which is received from Your Employer as a result of employment by or association with Your Employer or which is the result of membership in or association with any group, association, union or other organization;
- 4) mandatory "no fault" automobile insurance plan;
- 5) disability benefits under:
  - a) the United States Social Security Act or alternative plan offered by a state or municipal government;
  - b) the Railroad Retirement Act;
  - c) the Canada Pension Plan, the Canada Old Age Security Act, the Quebec Pension Plan or any provincial pension or disability plan; or
  - d) similar plan or act;
 that You, Your spouse and/or children, are eligible to receive because of Your Disability;
- 6) disability benefit from the Department of Veterans Affairs, or any other foreign or domestic governmental agency:
  - a) that begins after You become Disabled; or
  - b) that You were receiving before becoming Disabled, but only as to the amount of any increase in the benefit attributed to Your Disability; or
- 7) income You receive from an extended sick leave plan as described in Louisiana Revised Statutes 17:1202, 17:500.2 or any other act or law with similar intent.

Other Income Benefits also means the amount of any payments that are made to You or to Your family, or to a third party on Your behalf, pursuant to any:

- 1) disability benefit under Your Employer's Retirement Plan;
- 2) temporary, permanent disability or impairment benefits under a Workers' Compensation Law, the Jones Act, occupational disease law, similar law or substitutes or exchanges for such benefits;
- 3) portion of a judgment or settlement of a claim or lawsuit that represents or compensates for Your loss of earnings, less Our pro rata share of any associated reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs;
- 4) retirement benefit from a Retirement Plan that is wholly or partially funded by employer contributions, unless:
  - a) You were receiving it prior to becoming Disabled; or
  - b) You immediately transfer the payment to another plan qualified by the United States Internal Revenue Service for the funding of a future retirement;
 (Other Income Benefits will not include the portion, if any, of such retirement benefit that was funded by Your after-tax contributions.);
- 5) retirement benefits under:
  - a) the United States Social Security Act or alternative plan offered by a state or municipal government;
  - b) the Railroad Retirement Act;
  - c) the Canada Pension Plan, the Canada Old Age Security Act, the Quebec Pension Plan or any provincial pension or disability plan;
  - d) similar plan or act; or
- 6) income You receive from an extended sick leave plan as described in Louisiana Revised Statutes 17:1202, 17:500.2 or any other act or law with similar intent;

that You and Your spouse and children receive because of Your retirement, unless You were receiving them prior to becoming Disabled.

If You are paid Other Income Benefits in a lump sum or settlement, You must provide proof satisfactory to Us of:

- 1) the amount attributed to loss of income; and
- 2) the period of time covered by the lump sum or settlement.

We will pro-rate the lump sum or settlement over this period of time. If You cannot or do not provide this information, We will assume the entire sum to be for loss of income, and the time period to be 24 month(s). We may make a retroactive allocation of any retroactive Other Income Benefit. A retroactive allocation may result in an overpayment of Your claim.

The amount of any increase in Other Income Benefits will not be included as Other Income Benefits if such increase:

- 1) takes effect after the date benefits become payable under The Policy; and
- 2) is a general increase which applies to all persons who are entitled to such benefits.

**Physician** means a person who is:

- 1) a doctor of medicine, osteopathy, psychology or other legally qualified practitioner of a healing art that We recognize or are required by law to recognize;
- 2) licensed to practice in the jurisdiction where care is being given;
- 3) practicing within the scope of that license; and
- 4) not You or Related to You by blood or marriage.

**Pre-disability Earnings** means Your regular monthly rate of pay, not counting commissions, bonuses, tips and tokens, overtime pay or any other fringe benefits or extra compensation, in effect on the last day You were Actively at Work before You became Disabled.

However, if You were an hourly paid Active Employee before You became Disabled, Pre-disability Earnings means the product of:

- 1) the average number of hours You worked per month, not including overtime, over the most recent 12 month period immediately prior to the last day You were Actively at Work before You became Disabled, multiplied by:
- 2) Your hourly wage in effect immediately prior to the last day You were Actively at Work before You became Disabled.

**Prior Policy** means the long term disability insurance carried by the Employer on the day before the Policy Effective Date.

**Regular Care of a Physician** means that You are being treated by a Physician:

- 1) whose medical training and clinical experience are suitable to treat Your disabling condition; and
- 2) whose treatment is:
  - a) consistent with the diagnosis of the disabling condition;
  - b) according to guidelines established by medical, research, and rehabilitative organizations; and
  - c) administered as often as needed;to achieve the maximum medical improvement.

**Rehabilitation** means a process of Our working together with You in order for Us to plan, adapt, and put into use options and services to meet Your return to work needs. A Rehabilitation program may include, when We consider it to be appropriate, any necessary and feasible:

- 1) vocational testing;
- 2) vocational training;
- 3) alternative treatment plans such as:
  - a) support groups;
  - b) physical therapy;
  - c) occupational therapy; or
  - d) speech therapy;
- 4) work-place modification to the extent not otherwise provided;
- 5) job placement;
- 6) transitional work; and
- 7) similar services.

**Related** means Your spouse, or other adult living with You, or Your sibling, parent, step-parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, son, daughter, or grandchild.

**Retirement Plan** means a defined benefit or defined contribution plan that provides benefits for Your retirement and which is not funded wholly by Your contributions. It does not include:

- 1) a profit sharing plan;

- 2) thrift, savings or stock ownership plans;
- 3) a non-qualified deferred compensation plan; or
- 4) an individual retirement account (IRA), a tax sheltered annuity (TSA), Keogh Plan, 401(k) plan, 403(b) plan or 457 deferred compensation arrangement.

**Substance Abuse** means the pattern of pathological use of alcohol or other psychoactive drugs and substances characterized by:

- 1) impairments in social and/or occupational functioning;
- 2) debilitating physical condition;
- 3) inability to abstain from or reduce consumption of the substance; or
- 4) the need for daily substance use to maintain adequate functioning.

Substance includes alcohol and drugs but excludes tobacco and caffeine.

**The Policy** means the Policy which We issued to the Policyholder under the Policy Number shown on the face page.

**We, Our, or Us** means the insurance company named on the face page of The Policy.

**Your Occupation** means Your Occupation as it is recognized in the general workplace. Your Occupation does not mean the specific job You are performing for a specific employer or at a specific location.

**You or Your** means the person to whom this certificate is issued.

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**Maryland**

**The group insurance policy providing coverage under this certificate was issued in a jurisdiction other than Maryland and may not provide all of the benefits required by Maryland law.**

## State Notices

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN STATES:** There are state-specific requirements that may change the provisions described in the group insurance certificate. If you live in a state that has such requirements, those requirements will apply to your coverage. State-specific requirements that may apply to your coverage are summarized below. In addition, updated state-specific requirements are published on our website. You may access the website at [www.thehartford.com](http://www.thehartford.com). If you are unable to access this website, want to receive a printed copy of these requirements, or have any questions or complaints regarding any of these requirements or any aspect of your coverage, please contact your Employee Benefits Manager; or you may contact us as follows:

**The Hartford**  
**Group Benefits Division, Customer Service**  
**P.O. Box 2999**  
**Hartford, CT 06104-2999**  
**1-800-523-2233**  
**<https://www.thehartford.com/>**

If you have a complaint and contacts between you, us, your agent, or another representative have failed to produce a satisfactory solution to the problem, some states require we provide you with additional contact information. If your state requires such disclosure, the contact information is listed below with the other state requirements and notices.

We are providing notice that Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company is subject to economic and trade sanctions laws and regulations. These laws and regulations, including the laws and regulations administered and enforced by the United States Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC"), prevent Hartford Life and Accident from providing coverage to, and from paying benefits to, entities and individuals where prohibited by applicable law. In addition, these laws and regulations prohibit certain activities with respect to certain countries.

We have included this information to make you aware of the existence and potential impact of these economic and trade sanctions programs on your benefit program.

The Hartford complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. The Hartford does not exclude or treat people differently for any reason prohibited by law with respect to their race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

If your policy is governed under the laws of Maryland, any of the benefits, provisions or terms that apply to the state you reside in as shown below will apply only to the extent that such state requirements are more beneficial to you.

### **Alaska:**

1. If notice of Your **Conversion Right** is not received by You on the date Your or Your Dependent's coverage terminates, You have 15 days from the date You receive the notice.
2. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable.
3. The **Spouse** definition will always include domestic partners, civil unions, and any other legal union recognized by state law.

### **Arizona:**

1. **NOTICE:** The Certificate may not provide all benefits and protections provided by law in Arizona. Please read the Certificate carefully.

### **Arkansas:**

1. **NOTICE:** You have the right to file a complaint with the Arkansas Insurance Department (AID). You may call AID to request a complaint form at (800) 852-5494 or (501) 371-2640 or write the Department at:  
Arkansas Insurance Department  
1 Commerce Way, Suite 102  
Little Rock, AR 72202

### **California:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the General Provisions section of the Certificate, does not apply to you. The following requirement applies to you:

**Eligibility Determination:** *How will We determine Your or Your Dependent's eligibility for benefits?*

We, and not Your Employer or plan administrator, have the responsibility to fairly, thoroughly, objectively and timely investigate, evaluate and determine Your or Your Dependent's eligibility for benefits for any claim You or Your beneficiaries make on The Policy. We will:

- 1) obtain with Your or Your beneficiaries' cooperation and authorization if required by law, only such information that is necessary to evaluate Your or Your beneficiaries' claim and decide whether to accept or deny Your or Your beneficiaries' claim for benefits. We may obtain this information from Your or Your beneficiaries' Notice of Claim, submitted proofs of loss, statements, or other materials provided by You or others on Your behalf; or, at Our expense We may obtain necessary information, or have You or Your Dependent's physically examined when and as often as We may reasonably require while the claim is pending. In addition, and at Your or Your beneficiaries' option and at Your or Your beneficiaries' expense, You or Your beneficiaries may provide Us and We will consider any other information, including but not limited to, reports from a Physician or other expert of Your or Your beneficiaries' choice. You or Your beneficiaries should provide Us with all information that You or Your beneficiaries want Us to consider regarding Your or Your beneficiaries' claim;
- 2) As part of Our routine operations, We will apply the terms of The Policy for making decisions, including decisions on eligibility, receipt of benefits and claims or explaining policies, procedures and processes;
- 3) if We approve Your claim, We will review Our decision to approve Your or Your beneficiaries claim for benefits as often as is reasonably necessary to determine Your or Your Dependent's continued eligibility for benefits;
- 4) if We deny Your or Your beneficiaries' claim, We will explain in writing to You or Your beneficiaries the basis for an adverse determination in accordance with The Policy as described in the provision entitled **Claim Denial**.

In the event We deny Your or Your beneficiaries' claim for benefits, in whole or in part, You or Your beneficiaries can appeal the decision to Us. If You or Your beneficiaries choose to appeal Our decision, the process You or Your beneficiaries must follow is set forth in The Policy provision entitled **Claim Appeal**. If You or Your beneficiaries do not appeal the decision to Us, then the decision will be Our final decision.

## 2. For Your Questions and Complaints:

State of California Insurance Department  
Consumer Communications Bureau  
300 South Spring Street, South Tower  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
**Toll Free:** 1(800) 927-HELP  
**TDD Number:** 1(800) 482-4833  
**Web Address:** [www.insurance.ca.gov](http://www.insurance.ca.gov)

### Colorado:

1. The **Suicide** provision will only exclude amounts of life insurance in effect within the first year of coverage or within the first year following an increase in coverage.
2. The **Dependent Child(ren)** definition will always include children related to You by civil union.
3. The **Spouse** definition will always include civil unions.
4. Entering a civil union, terminating a civil union, the death of a party to a civil union or a party to a civil union losing employment, which results in a loss of group insurance, will all constitute as a **Change in Family Status**.
5. The **Claim Appeal** provision will always include the following:

In addition, if a claim for benefits is wholly or partially denied and all administrative remedies have been exhausted, You are entitled to pursue such claim anew, from the beginning, in a court with jurisdiction and entitled to a trial by jury.

### Florida:

1. **Legal Actions** cannot be taken against Us more than 5 years after the date Proof of Loss is required to be furnished according to the terms of The Policy.
2. **NOTICE: The benefits of the policy providing you coverage may be governed primarily by the laws of a state other than Florida.**

### Georgia:

1. **NOTICE:** The laws of the state of Georgia prohibit insurers from unfairly discriminating against any person based upon his or her status as a victim of family abuse.

**Idaho:**

1. **For Your Questions and Complaints:**  
Idaho Department of Insurance  
Consumer Affairs  
700 W State Street, 3rd Floor  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0043  
**Toll Free:** 1-800-721-3272  
**Web Address:** [www.DOI.Idaho.gov](http://www.DOI.Idaho.gov)

**Illinois:**

1. You may file a consumer complaint online at the Illinois Department of Insurance's website or by mail. The Department maintains a Consumer Division in Chicago at 115 S. LaSalle Street, 13th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60603; and in Springfield at 320 West Washington Street, Springfield, Illinois 62767.

This notice is to advise you that should any complaints arise regarding this insurance, you may contact the following:

Illinois Department of Insurance  
320 W. Washington Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62767-0001

Illinois Department of Insurance  
115 S. LaSalle Street  
13th Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60603

**Consumer Complaints:** [DOI.Complaints@illinois.gov](mailto:DOI.Complaints@illinois.gov); toll-free: 1(866) 445-5364

**Officer of Consumer Health Insurance:** [DOI.Complaints@illinois.gov](mailto:DOI.Complaints@illinois.gov); toll-free: 1(877) 527-9431

2. In accordance with Illinois law, insurers are required to provide the following **NOTICE** to applicants of insurance policies issued in Illinois.

**STATE OF ILLINOIS**  
**The Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act**  
**Effective June 1, 2011**

The Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act ("the Act") creates a legal relationship between two persons of the same or opposite sex who form a civil union. The Act provides that the parties to a civil union are entitled to the same legal obligations, responsibilities, protections and benefits that are afforded or recognized by the laws of Illinois to spouses. The law further provides that a party to a civil union shall be included in any definition or use of the terms "spouse," "family," "immediate family," "dependent," "next of kin," and other terms descriptive of spousal relationships as those terms are used throughout Illinois law. This includes the terms "marriage" or "married," or variations thereon. Insurance policies are required to provide identical benefits and protections to both civil unions and marriages. If policies of insurance provide coverage for children, the children of civil unions must also be provided coverage. The Act also requires recognition of civil unions or same sex civil unions or marriages legally entered into in other jurisdictions.

For more information regarding the Act, refer to 750 ILCS 75/1 *et seq.* Examples of the interaction between the Act and existing law can be found in the Illinois Insurance Facts, Civil Unions and Insurance Benefits document available on the Illinois Department of Insurance's website at <http://insurance.illinois.gov/>.

**Indiana:**

1. **For Your Questions and Complaints:**  
Public Information/Market Conduct  
Indiana Department of Insurance  
311 W. Washington St. Suite 300  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2787  
1(317) 232-2395

**Louisiana:**

1. The age limit stated in the **Continuation for Dependent Child(ren)** with Disabilities provision is increased to 21,



if less than 21.

2. The following requirement applies to you:

**Reinstatement after Military Service:** *Can coverage be reinstated after return from active military service?*

If Your or Your Dependents' coverage ends because You or Your Dependents enter active military service, coverage may be reinstated, provided You request such reinstatement upon Your or Your Dependents' release from active military service.

The reinstated coverage will:

- 1) be the same coverage amounts in force on the date coverage ended;
- 2) not be subject to any Eligibility Waiting Period for Coverage or Evidence of Insurability; and
- 3) be subject to all the terms and provisions of The Policy.

**Maine:**

1. **NOTICE:** The laws of the State of Maine require notification of the right to designate a third party to receive notice of cancellation, to change such a designation and, to have the Policy reinstated if the insured suffers from cognitive impairment or functional incapacity and the ground for cancellation was the insured's nonpayment of premium or other lapse or default on the part of the insured.

Within 10 days after a request by an insured, a Third Party Notice Request Form shall be mailed or personally delivered to the insured.

**Massachusetts:**

1. The definition of **Terminal Illness or Terminally Ill** shown in the **Accelerated Benefit** cannot exceed 24 months.
2. **NOTICE: As of January 1, 2009, the Massachusetts Health Care Reform Law requires that Massachusetts residents, eighteen (18) years of age and older, must have health coverage that meets the Minimum Creditable Coverage standards set by the Commonwealth Health Insurance Connector, unless waived from the health insurance requirement based on affordability or individual hardship. For more information call the Connector at 1-877-MA-ENROLL or visit the Connector website ([www.mahealthconnector.org](http://www.mahealthconnector.org)).**

This plan is not intended to provide comprehensive health care coverage and **does not meet Minimum Creditable Coverage standards**, even if it does include services that are not available in the insured's other health plans.

**If you have questions about this notice, you may contact the Division of Insurance by calling (617) 521-7794 or visiting its website at [www.mass.gov/doi](http://www.mass.gov/doi).**

**Michigan:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable.

**Minnesota:**

1. You or Your Dependents must be on a documented military leave of absence in order to qualify for the Military Leave of Absence continuation shown in the **Continuation Provisions**.
2. If there are 25 or more residents of Minnesota who are covered under The Policy, or there are fewer than 25 residents and those residents constitute 25% or more of the total number of people covered under The Policy, the Lay Off continuation shown in the **Continuation Provisions** shall not apply to you. The following requirement applies to you:

**Minnesota Coverage Continuation:** If You are voluntarily or involuntarily terminated or Laid Off by the Employer, You may elect to continue Your Life Insurance coverage (including Dependent Life coverage) by making premium payments to the Employer for the cost of continued coverage. Continued coverage will take effect on the date Your coverage would otherwise have ended and must be elected within 60 days from:

- 1) the date Your coverage would otherwise terminate; or
  - 2) the date You receive a written notice of Your right to continue coverage from the Employer;
- whichever is later.

The amount of premium charged may not exceed 102% of the premium paid for other similarly situated employees who are Actively at Work. The Employer will inform You of:

- 1) Your right to continue coverage;
- 2) the amount of premium; and

- 3) how, where and by when payment must be made.

Upon request, the Employer will provide You Our written verification of the cost of coverage.

Coverage will be continued until the earliest of:

- 1) the date You are covered under another group policy;
- 2) the date the required premium is due but not paid; or
- 3) the last day of the 18th month following the date of termination or Lay Off.

Upon the termination of continued coverage, You may:

- 1) exercise Your Conversion Right; or
- 2) continue coverage under a group Portability policy; and
- 3) qualify for Retiree coverage.

Minnesota law requires that if Your coverage ends because the Employer fails to notify You of Your right to continue coverage or fails to pay the premium after timely receipt, the Employer will be liable for benefit payments to the extent We would have been liable had You still been covered.

3. If the following paragraph appears in the **Accelerated Benefit** provision, it does not apply to you:

In the event:

- 1) You are required by law to accelerate benefits to meet the claims of creditors; or
- 2) if a government agency requires You to apply for benefits to qualify for a government benefit or entitlement;

You will still be required to satisfy all the terms and conditions herein in order to receive an Accelerated Benefit

4. If there are 25 or more residents of Minnesota who are covered under The Policy and those 25 residents constitute 25% or more of the total number of people covered under The Policy, You are not required to be insured under The Policy for a specified period of time in order to exercise the **Conversion Right**.

#### Missouri:

1. The period in which You must remain Disabled to qualify for **Waiver of Premium** cannot exceed 180 days.
2. If Waiver of Premium is approved and You have completed the elimination period, We will retroactively refund to You, or to Your estate if You have died, any premiums paid during the period You have been continuously Disabled.
3. The **Suicide** provision will only exclude amounts of life insurance in effect within the first year of coverage or within the first year following an increase in coverage.

#### Montana:

1. The time period in which You are required to be insured under The Policy in order to exercise the **Conversion Right** cannot exceed 3 years.
2. If You are eligible to receive the **Felonious Assault Benefit**, We will not exclude for losses that result from a Felonious Assault committed by a member of Your family or a member of the household in which You live.
3. **NOTICE:** Conformity with Montana statutes: The provisions of the certificate conform to the minimum requirements of Montana law and control over any conflicting statutes of any state in which the insured resides on or after the effective date of the certificate.

#### New Hampshire:

1. Your Spouse may be eligible to continue his or her Life Insurance coverage in the event of divorce or separation as shown in the **Spouse Continuation** below:

**Spouse Continuation:** *Can coverage for my Spouse be continued in the event of divorce or separation?*

If:

- 1) You are a resident of New Hampshire;
- 2) You get a divorce or legal separation from a Spouse that is covered under The Policy; and
- 3) the final decree of divorce or legal separation does not expressly prohibit it;

Your former Spouse may continue his or her coverage.

We must receive Your Spouse's written request and the required premium to continue his or her coverage within 30 days of the final decree of divorce or legal separation.

Solely for the purpose of continuing the coverage, Your Spouse will be considered the insured person. However, Your former Spouse's coverage will not continue beyond the earliest of:

- 1) the 3-year anniversary of the final decree of divorce or legal separation;
- 2) the remarriage of the former Spouse;
- 3) Your death;
- 4) an earlier time as provided by the final decree of divorce or legal separation; or
- 5) a date the coverage would otherwise have ended under the Dependent Termination Provision.

**New Mexico:**

**1. For Your Questions and Complaints:**

Office of Superintendent of Insurance  
 Consumer Assistance Bureau  
 P.O. Box 1689  
 Santa Fe, NM 87504-1689  
 1(855) 427-5674

**New York:**

1. If the definition of **Spouse** requires the completion of a domestic partner affidavit, the requirement applies to you: The domestic partner affidavit must be notarized and requires that You and Your domestic partner meet all of the following criteria:
  - 1) you are both legally and mentally competent to consent to contract in the state in which you reside;
  - 2) you are not related by blood in a manner that would bar marriage under laws of the state in which you reside;
  - 3) you have been living together on a continuous basis prior to the date of the application;
  - 4) neither of you have been registered as a member of another domestic partnership within the last six months; and
  - 5) you provide proof of cohabitation (e.g., a driver's license, tax return or other sufficient proof).

The domestic partner affidavit further requires that You and Your domestic partner provide proof of financial interdependence in the form of at least two of the following:

- 1) a joint bank account;
- 2) a joint credit card or charge card;
- 3) joint obligation on a loan;
- 4) status as an authorized signatory on the partner's bank account, credit card or charge card;
- 5) joint ownership of holdings or investments, residence, real estate other than residence, major items of personal property (e.g., appliances, furniture), or a motor vehicle;
- 6) listing of both partners as tenants on the lease of the shared residence;
- 7) shared rental payments of residence (need not be shared 50/50)
- 8) listing of both partners as tenants on a lease, or shared rental payments, for property other than residence;
- 9) a common household and shared household expenses (e.g., grocery bills, utility bills, telephone bills, etc. and need not be shared 50/50);
- 10) shared household budget for purposes of receiving government benefits;
- 11) status of one as representative payee for the other's government benefits;
- 12) joint responsibility for child care (e.g., school documents, guardianship);
- 13) shared child-care expenses (e.g., babysitting, day care, school bills, etc. and need not be shared 50/50);
- 14) execution of wills naming each other as executor and/or beneficiary;
- 15) designation as beneficiary under the other's life insurance policy;
- 16) designation as beneficiary under the other's retirement benefits account;
- 17) mutual grant of durable power of attorney;
- 18) mutual grant of authority to make health care decisions (e.g., health care power of attorney);
- 19) affidavit by creditor or other individual able to testify to partners' financial interdependence;
- 20) other item(s) of proof sufficient to establish economic interdependency under the circumstances of the particular case.

**North Carolina:**

1. **NOTICE:** UNDER NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE SECTION 58-50-40, NO PERSON, EMPLOYER, FINANCIAL AGENT, TRUSTEE, OR THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PAYMENT OF GROUP LIFE INSURANCE, GROUP HEALTH OR GROUP HEALTH PLAN PREMIUMS, SHALL:
  - 1) CAUSE THE CANCELLATION OR NONRENEWAL OF GROUP LIFE INSURANCE, GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE, HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR DENTAL SERVICE CORPORATION PLAN, MULTIPLE EMPLOYER WELFARE ARRANGEMENT, OR GROUP HEALTH PLAN COVERAGES AND THE CONSEQUENTIAL LOSS OF THE COVERAGES OF THE PERSON INSURED, BY WILLFULLY FAILING TO PAY THOSE PREMIUMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE INSURANCE OR PLAN CONTRACT; AND
  - 2) WILLFULLY FAIL TO DELIVER, AT LEAST 45 DAYS BEFORE THE TERMINATION OF THOSE COVERAGES, TO ALL PERSONS COVERED BY THE GROUP POLICY WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE PERSON'S INTENTION TO STOP PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS. VIOLATION OF THIS LAW IS A FELONY. ANY PERSON VIOLATING THIS LAW IS ALSO SUBJECT TO A COURT ORDER REQUIRING THE PERSON TO COMPENSATE PERSONS INSURED FOR EXPENSES OR LOSSES INCURRED AS A RESULT OF THE TERMINATION OF THE INSURANCE.

### **IMPORTANT TERMINATION INFORMATION**

**YOUR INSURANCE MAY BE CANCELLED BY THE COMPANY. PLEASE READ THE TERMINATION PROVISION IN THE CERTIFICATE.**

**THE CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE PROVIDES COVERAGE UNDER A GROUP MASTER POLICY. THE CERTIFICATE PROVIDES ALL OF THE BENEFITS MANDATED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA INSURANCE CODE, BUT YOU MAY NOT RECEIVE ALL OF THE PROTECTIONS PROVIDED BY A POLICY ISSUED IN NORTH CAROLINA AND GOVERNED BY ALL OF THE LAWS OF NORTH CAROLINA.**

#### **North Dakota:**

1. The **Suicide** provision will only exclude amounts of life insurance in effect within the first year of coverage or within the first year following an increase in coverage.

#### **Ohio:**

1. Any references to the **Accelerated Benefit** shall be changed to the **Accelerated Death Benefit**.

#### **Oregon:**

1. The **Spouse** definition will include Your domestic partner provided You have registered as domestic partners with a government agency or office where such registration is available. You will not be required to provide proof of such registration.
2. The **Dependent Child(ren)** definition will include children related to You by domestic partnership.
3. The following Jury Duty continuation applies for Employers with 10 or more employees:

Jury Duty: If You are scheduled to serve or are required to serve as a juror, Your coverage may be continued until the last day of Your Jury Duty, provided You:

- 1) elected to have Your coverage continued; and
- 2) provided notice of the election to Your Employer in accordance with Your Employer's notification policy.

#### **Rhode Island:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable.

#### **South Carolina:**

1. The dollar amount stated in the third paragraph of the **Claims to be Paid** provision is changed to \$2,000, if greater than \$2,000.
2. If the **Continuity from a Prior Policy for Disability Extension** provision is included in the Certificate and You qualify for continued coverage, Your Amount of Insurance will be the greater of the amount of life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment principal sum that You had under the Prior Policy or the amount shown in the Schedule of Insurance. This Amount of Insurance will be reduced by any coverage amount that is in force, paid or payable under the Prior Policy or that would have been payable under the Prior Policy had timely election been made.
3. If The Policy Terminates or Your Employer ceases to be a Participating Employer and You have been approved for the **Waiver of Premium**, Your coverage under the terms of this provision will not be affected. Your

Dependent coverage will continue for a period of 12 months from the date of Policy termination and will be subject to the terms and conditions of The Policy.

4. If The Policy Terminates or Your Employer ceases to be a Participating Employer and You have been approved for the **Disability Extension**, Your and Your Dependent's coverage will be continued for a period of up to 12 months from the date The Policy terminated or Your Employer ceased to be a Participating Employer, as long as premiums are paid when due. Coverage during this period will be subject to the other terms and conditions of the **Disability Extension Ceases** provision. When this extension period is exhausted, You may be eligible to exercise the **Conversion Right** for You and Your Dependent's coverage. **Portability Benefits** will not be available

#### **South Dakota:**

1. The definition of **Physician** can include You or a person Related to You by blood or marriage in the event that the Physician is the only one in the area and is acting within the scope of their normal employment.

#### **Texas:**

1. The **Policy Interpretation** provision, if shown in the **General Provisions** section of the Certificate, is not applicable.
2. **NOTICE:**

#### **Have a complaint or need help?**

If you have a problem with a claim or your premium, call your insurance company first. If you can't work out the issue, the Texas Department of Insurance may be able to help.

Even if you file a complaint with the Texas Department of Insurance, you should also file a complaint or appeal through your insurance company. If you don't, you may lose your right to appeal.

#### **Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company**

To get information or file a complaint with your insurance company:

**Call: Customer Service at 860-547-5000**

**Toll-free: 1-800-523-2233**

Online: <https://www.thehartford.com/contact-the-hartford>

Email: [GBD.Customerservice@hartfordlife.com](mailto:GBD.Customerservice@hartfordlife.com)

Mail: The Hartford, Group Benefits Division, P.O. Box 2999, Hartford, CT 06104-2999

#### **The Texas Department of Insurance**

To get help with an insurance question or file a complaint with the state:

**Call with a question: 1-800-252-3439**

File a complaint: [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

Email: [ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov)

Mail: MC 111-1A, P.O. Box 12030, Austin, TX 78711-2030

#### **¿Tiene una queja o necesita ayuda?**

Si tiene un problema con una reclamación o con su prima de seguro, llame primero a su compañía de seguros. Si no puede resolver el problema, es posible que el Departamento de Seguros de Texas (Texas Department of Insurance, por su nombre en inglés) pueda ayudar.

Aun si usted presenta una queja ante el Departamento de Seguros de Texas, también debe presentar una queja a través del proceso de quejas o de apelaciones de su compañía de seguros. Si no lo hace, podría perder su derecho para apelar.

#### **Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company**

Para obtener información o para presentar una queja ante su compañía de seguros:

**Llame a: servicio al cliente al 860-547-5000**

**Teléfono gratuito: 1-800-523-2233**

En línea: <https://www.thehartford.com/contact-the-hartford>

Correo electrónico: [GBD.Customerservice@hartfordlife.com](mailto:GBD.Customerservice@hartfordlife.com)

Dirección postal: The Hartford, Group Benefits Division, P.O. Box 2999, Hartford, CT 06104-2999

### **El Departamento de Seguros de Texas**

Para obtener ayuda con una pregunta relacionada con los seguros o para presentar una queja ante el estado:

**Llame con sus preguntas al: 1-800-252-3439**

Presente una queja en: [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

Correo electrónico: [ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov)

Dirección postal: MC 111-1A, P.O. Box 12030, Austin, TX 78711-2030

### **Utah:**

1. We will send **Claim Forms** within 15 days of receiving a Notice of Claim. If We do not send the forms within 15 days, any other written proof which fully describes the nature and extent of the claim may be submitted.
2. If the **Sending Proof of Loss** provision provides a timeframe in which proof must be submitted before it affects Your claim, this time limitation shall not apply to You.
3. When We determine that benefits are payable, We will make **Claim Payments** within no more than 45 days after **Proof of Loss** is received.
4. Any reference to fraud within the **Incontestability** provision does not apply to You.
5. A Sickness or Injury continuation of at least 6 months must be included in the **Continuation Provisions**.

### **Vermont:**

1. The following requirement applies:

**Purpose:** This requirement is intended to provide benefits for parties to a civil union. Vermont law requires that insurance contracts and policies offered to married persons and their families be made available to parties to a civil union and their families. In order to receive benefits in accordance with this requirement, the civil union must have been established in the state of Vermont according to Vermont law.

**General Definitions, Terms, Conditions and Provisions:** The general definitions, terms, conditions or any other provisions of the policy, contract, certificate and/or riders and endorsements are hereby superseded as follows:

- 1) Terms that mean or refer to a marital relationship or that may be construed to mean or refer to a marital relationship: such as "marriage", "spouse", "husband", "wife", "dependent", "next of kin", "relative", "beneficiary", "survivor", "immediate family" and any other such terms include the relationship created by a civil union.
- 2) Terms that mean or refer to a family relationship arising from a marriage such as "family", "immediate family", "dependent", "children", "next of kin", "relative", "beneficiary", "survivor" and any other such terms include the family relationship created by a civil union.
- 3) Terms that mean or refer to the inception or dissolution of a marriage, such as "date of marriage", "divorce decree", "termination of marriage" and any other such terms include the inception or dissolution of a civil union.
- 4) "Dependent" means a spouse, a party to a civil union, and/or a child or children (natural, stepchild, legally adopted or a minor who is dependent on the insured for support and maintenance) who is born to or brought to a marriage or to a civil union.
- 5) "Child or covered child" means a child (natural, step-child, legally adopted or a minor who is dependent on the insured for support and maintenance) who is born to or brought to a marriage or to a civil union.

**Cautionary Disclosure:** THIS NOTICE IS ISSUED TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF VERMONT LAW AS EXPLAINED IN THE "PURPOSE" PARAGRAPH OF THE NOTICE. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OR ANOTHER STATE GOVERNMENT MAY NOT RECOGNIZE THE BENEFITS GRANTED UNDER THIS NOTICE. YOU ARE ADVISED TO SEEK EXPERT ADVICE TO DETERMINE YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THIS CONTRACT

2. Interest on a **Claim Payment** is payable from the date of death until the date payment is made at an interest rate

of 6% annually or Our corporate interest rate, whichever is greater.

**Virginia:**

1. **For Your Questions and Complaints:**  
**State Corporation Commission**  
**Life and Health Division**  
**Bureau of Insurance**  
P.O. Box 1157  
Richmond, VA 23218  
1(804) 371-9691 (inside Virginia)  
1(877) 310-6560 (outside Virginia)

**Washington:**

1. The following **Disputed Diagnosis** requirement applies to You:

**Disputed Diagnosis:** *What happens if a dispute occurs over whether I am Terminally Ill or my Dependent is Terminally Ill?*

If Your or Your Dependent's attending Physician, and a Physician appointed by Us, disagree on whether You or Your Dependent are Terminally Ill, Our Physician's opinion will not be binding upon You or Your Dependent. The two parties shall attempt to resolve the matter promptly and amicably. If the disagreement is not resolved, You or Your Dependent have the right to mediation or binding arbitration conducted by a disinterested third party who has no ongoing relationship with either You or Your Dependent or Us. Any such arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the laws of the State of Washington. As part of the final decision, the arbitrator or mediator shall award the costs of the arbitrator to one party or the other, or may divide the costs equally or otherwise.

2. A Labor Dispute continuation of at least 6 months must be included in the **Continuations Provisions**.
3. The **Dependent Child(ren)** definition will always include children related to You by domestic partnership.
4. The definition of **Spouse** will always include domestic partners.
5. The provision titled **Suicide** does not apply to you.

**Wisconsin:**

1. **For Your Questions and Complaints:**  
To request a Complaint Form:  
Office of the Commissioner of Insurance  
Complaints Department  
P.O. Box 7873  
Madison, WI 53707-7873  
1(800) 236-8517 (within Wisconsin)  
1(608) 266-0103 (outside of Wisconsin)

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**Group Term Life Insurance Accelerated Benefit**



**HARTFORD LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY**

**One Hartford Plaza**

**Hartford, Connecticut 06155**

**(A stock insurance company)**

**The Hartford® is The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc. and its subsidiaries.**

**CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE**

**Policyholder:** Pafford Emergency Medical Services, Inc.

**Policy Number:** GL-715891

**Policy Effective Date:** January 1, 2026

**Policy Anniversary Date:** January 1

We have issued The Policy to the Policyholder. Our name, the Policyholder's name and the Policy Number are shown above. The provisions of The Policy, which are important to You, are summarized in this certificate consisting of this form and any additional forms which have been made a part of this certificate. This certificate replaces any other certificate We may have given to You earlier under The Policy. The Policy alone is the only contract under which payment will be made. Any difference between The Policy and this certificate will be settled according to the provisions of The Policy on file with Us at Our home office. The Policy may be inspected at the office of the Policyholder.

Signed for the Company

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kevin Barnett".

**Kevin Barnett, Secretary**

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Fish".

**Michael J. Fish, President**

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*A note on capitalization in this Certificate:*

Capitalization of a term, not normally capitalized according to the rules of standard punctuation, indicates a word or phrase that is a defined term in The Policy or refers to a specific provision contained herein.

This certificate provides Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment coverage. It also provides accelerated benefits that may be taxable. Assistance should be sought from a personal tax advisor.

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## SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE

**Cost of coverage:****Non-Contributory Coverage:**

Basic Life Insurance  
Basic Accidental Death and Dismemberment

**Contributory Coverage:**

Supplemental Life Insurance  
Supplemental Dependent Life Insurance  
Supplemental Accidental Death and Dismemberment

**Disclosure of Fees:**

We may reduce or adjust premiums, rates, fees and/or other expenses for programs under The Policy.

**Disclosure of Services:**

In addition to the insurance coverage, We may offer noninsurance benefits and services to Active Employees.

**Disclosure of Payment to the Policyholder:**

We have agreed to make payment to the Policyholder for reimbursement of cost(s) associated with:

- 1) audit;
- 2) marketing communication services; and
- 3) other administrative expenses.

**Eligible Class(es) For Coverage:** All Full-time Active Employees who are citizens or legal residents of the United States, its territories and protectorates; excluding temporary, leased or seasonal employees.

Full-time Employment: at least 30 hours weekly

**Annual Enrollment Period:** as determined by Your Employer on a yearly basis.

**Eligibility Waiting Period for Coverage:**

- 1) None - if You are working for the Employer on the Policy Effective Date; or
- 2) The first day of the month following 30 day(s) of employment - if You start working for the Employer after the Policy Effective Date.

The time period(s) referenced above is continuous.

### Life Insurance Benefit

#### Basic Amount of Life Insurance:

**Maximum Amount**

\$40,000

#### Supplemental Amount of Life Insurance

**Guaranteed Issue Amount****Maximum Amount**

The amount You elect in increments of \$10,000, subject to a maximum of \$250,000 and a minimum of \$10,000.

The amount You elect in increments of \$10,000, subject to a maximum of \$300,000 and a minimum of \$10,000.

### Dependent Life Insurance Benefit

#### Supplemental Amount of Dependent Life Insurance

|                                                                        | <b>Guaranteed Issue Amount</b>                                                                            | <b>Maximum Amount</b>                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Spouse                                                                 | The amount You elect in increments of \$5,000, subject to a minimum of \$5,000 and a maximum of \$25,000. | The amount You elect in increments of \$5,000, subject to a minimum of \$5,000 and a maximum of \$150,000. |
| Dependent<br>Children:<br>live birth but under<br>age 15 day(s)        |                                                                                                           | \$500                                                                                                      |
| Dependent<br>Children:<br>Age 15 day(s) but<br>under age 26<br>year(s) |                                                                                                           | The amount You elect in increments of \$1,000, subject to a minimum of \$1,000 and a maximum of \$10,000.  |

The amount of Spouse Supplemental coverage may never exceed 50% of the Supplemental Amount of Life Insurance in force for the employee.

### **Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit**

#### **Basic Principal Sum**

#### **Maximum Amount**

\$40,000

#### **Supplemental Principal Sum**

#### **Maximum Amount**

The amount You elect in increments of \$10,000, subject to a maximum of \$300,000 and a minimum of \$10,000.

### **Dependent Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit**

#### **Supplemental Principal Sum**

#### **Maximum Amount**

|                                                                        |                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Spouse                                                                 | The amount You elect in increments of \$5,000, subject to a minimum of \$5,000 and a maximum of \$150,000. |
| Dependent<br>Children:<br>live birth but under<br>age 15 day(s)        | \$500                                                                                                      |
| Dependent<br>Children:<br>Age 15 day(s) but<br>under age 26<br>year(s) | The amount You elect in increments of \$1,000, subject to a minimum of \$1,000 and a maximum of \$10,000.  |

### **Reduction in Amount of Life Insurance**

We will reduce the Amount of Life Insurance for You and Your Dependents by any Amount of Life Insurance in force, paid or payable:

- 1) in accordance with the Conversion Right;
- 2) under the Portability Provision; or
- 3) under the Prior Policy.

### **Reduction in Coverage Due to Age**

We will reduce the Life Insurance Benefit and Principal Sum for You and Your Spouse by 50% on the Policy Anniversary Date following the date You attain age 70.

The reduced amount of coverage will be rounded to the next higher multiple of \$500, if not already a multiple of \$500. An appropriate adjustment in premium will be made.

These reductions also apply if:

- 1) You or Your Spouse become covered under The Policy; or
- 2) Your or Your Spouse's coverage increases;

on or after the date You attain age 70.

### **Additional Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefits**

#### **Seat Belt Benefit**

Percentage of Accidental Death and Dismemberment Principal Sum: 10%

Maximum Amount: \$10,000

Minimum Amount: \$1,000

#### **Air Bag Benefit**

Percentage of Accidental Death and Dismemberment Principal Sum: 5%

Maximum Amount: \$5,000

#### **Repatriation Benefit**

Percentage of Accidental Death and Dismemberment Principal Sum: 5%

Maximum Amount: \$5,000

#### **Child Education Benefit**

Percentage of Accidental Death and Dismemberment Principal Sum: 5%

Maximum Amount: \$5,000

Minimum Amount: \$2,500

#### **Day Care Benefit**

Percentage of Accidental Death and Dismemberment Principal Sum: 5%

Maximum Amount: \$5,000

Minimum Amount: \$2,500

#### **Rehabilitation Benefit**

Percentage of Accidental Death and Dismemberment Principal Sum: 5%

Maximum Amount: \$5,000

#### **Spouse Education Benefit**

Percentage of Accidental Death and Dismemberment Principal Sum: 5%

Maximum Amount: \$5,000

Minimum Amount: \$2,500

#### **Adaptive Home and Vehicle Benefit**

Percentage of Accidental Death and Dismemberment Principal Sum: 5%

Maximum Amount: \$5,000

## **ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT**

**Eligible Persons:** *Who is eligible for coverage?*

All persons in the class or classes shown in the Schedule of Insurance will be considered Eligible Persons.

**Eligibility for Coverage:** *When will I become eligible?*

You will become eligible for coverage on the later of:

- 1) the Policy Effective Date;
- 2) the date You become a member of an Eligible Class; or
- 3) the date You complete the Eligibility Waiting Period for Coverage shown in the Schedule of Insurance, if applicable.

**Eligibility for Dependent Coverage:** *When will I become eligible for Dependent Coverage?*

You will become eligible for Dependent coverage on the later of:

- 1) the date You become insured for employee coverage; or
- 2) the date You acquire Your first Dependent.

You may not elect coverage for Your Dependent if such Dependent is covered as an Active Employee under The Policy. No person can be insured as a Dependent of more than one employee under The Policy.

**Enrollment:** *How do I enroll for coverage?*

For Non-Contributory Coverage, Your Employer will automatically enroll You. However, You will be required to complete a beneficiary designation form.

To enroll for Contributory Coverage, You must:

- 1) complete and sign a group insurance enrollment form which is satisfactory to Us, for Your and Your Dependent's coverage; and
- 2) deliver it to Your Employer.

You have the option to enroll electronically. Your Employer will provide instructions.

If You do not enroll for Your coverage and/or Your Dependent's coverage within 31 days after becoming eligible under The Policy, or if You were eligible to enroll under the Prior Policy and did not do so, and later choose to enroll, You may enroll for Your coverage and/or Your Dependent's coverage only:

- 1) during an Annual Enrollment Period designated by the Policyholder; or
- 2) within 31 days of the date You have a Change in Family Status.

Enrollment may be subject to the Evidence of Insurability Requirements provision.

**Evidence of Insurability Requirements:** *When will I first be required to provide Evidence of Insurability?*

We require Evidence of Insurability for initial coverage, if You:

- 1) enroll more than 31 days after the date You are first eligible to enroll, including electing initial coverage after a Change in Family Status;
- 2) enroll for an Amount of Life Insurance greater than the Supplemental Guaranteed Issue Amount, regardless of when You enroll for coverage; or
- 3) were eligible for any coverage under the Prior Policy, but did not enroll and later choose to enroll for that coverage under The Policy.

If Your Evidence of Insurability is not satisfactory to Us:

- 1) Your Amount of Life Insurance will equal the amount for which You were eligible without providing Evidence of Insurability, provided You enrolled within 31 days of the date You were first eligible to enroll; and
- 2) You will not be covered under The Policy if You enrolled more than 31 days after the date You were first eligible to enroll.

**Dependent Evidence of Insurability Requirements:** *When will my Dependents first be required to provide Evidence of Insurability?*

We require Evidence of Insurability, satisfactory to Us, for initial coverage, if You:

- 1) enroll for Your Dependents' coverage more than 31 days after the date You are first eligible to enroll, including electing initial coverage after a Change in Family Status;
- 2) enroll for an Amount of Supplemental Dependent Life Insurance greater than the Supplemental Dependents' Guaranteed Issue Amount, regardless of when You enroll for coverage; or
- 3) were eligible for any coverage under the Prior Policy, but did not enroll and later choose to enroll for that coverage under The Policy.

However, no Evidence of Insurability will be required if the Amount of Life Insurance for Your Dependent Child(ren) is \$15,000 or less.

If Your Dependents' Evidence of Insurability is not satisfactory to Us:

- 1) Your Dependents' Amount of Life Insurance will equal the amount for which Your Dependents were eligible without providing Evidence of Insurability, provided You enrolled Your Dependents within 31 days of the date You were first eligible to enroll;
- 2) Your Dependents will not be covered under The Policy if You enrolled Your Dependents more than 31 days after the date You were first eligible to enroll.

**Evidence of Insurability:** *What is Evidence of Insurability?*

Evidence of Insurability must be satisfactory to Us and may include, but will not be limited to:

- 1) a completed and signed application approved by Us;
- 2) a medical examination, if requested;
- 3) an attending Physicians' statement, if requested; and
- 4) any additional information We may require.

Evidence of Insurability will be furnished at Your expense. We will then determine if You or Your Dependents are insurable for initial coverage or an increase in coverage as described in the Increase in Amount of Life Insurance provision.

You will be notified in writing of Our determination of any Evidence of Insurability submission.

**Change in Family Status:** *What constitutes a Change in Family Status?*

A Change in Family Status occurs when:

- 1) You get married;
- 2) You and Your spouse divorce;
- 3) Your child is born or You adopt or become the legal guardian of a child;
- 4) Your spouse dies;
- 5) Your child dies;
- 6) Your spouse is no longer employed, which results in a loss of group insurance; or
- 7) You have a change in classification from part-time to full-time or from full-time to part-time.

## **PERIOD OF COVERAGE**

**Effective Date:** *When does my coverage start?*

Non-Contributory Coverage will start on the date You become eligible.

Contributory Coverage, for which Evidence of Insurability is not required, will start on the latest to occur of:

- 1) the date You become eligible, if You enroll on or before that date;
- 2) the Policy Anniversary Date on or next following the last day of the Annual Enrollment Period, if You enroll during an Annual Enrollment Period; or
- 3) the date You enroll, if You do so within 31 days from the date You are eligible.

Any coverage for which Evidence of Insurability is required, will become effective on the later of:

- 1) the date You become eligible; or
- 2) the date We approve Your Evidence of Insurability.

All Effective Dates of coverage are subject to the Deferred Effective Date provision.

**Deferred Effective Date:** *When will my effective date for coverage or a change in my coverage be deferred?*

If, on the date You are to become covered:

- 1) under The Policy;
- 2) for increased benefits; or
- 3) for a new benefit;

You are not Actively at Work due to a physical or mental condition, such coverage will not start until the date You are Actively at Work.

**Continuity from a Prior Policy:** *Is there continuity of coverage from a Prior Policy?*

Your initial coverage under The Policy will begin, and will not be deferred if, on the day before the Policy Effective Date, You were:

- 1) insured under the Prior Policy; and
- 2) Actively at Work;

but on the Policy Effective Date, You were not Actively at Work, and would otherwise meet the Eligibility requirements of The Policy. However, Your Amount of Insurance will be the lesser of the amount of life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment principal sum:

- 1) You had under the Prior Policy; or
- 2) shown in the Schedule of Insurance;

reduced by any coverage amount:

- 1) that is in force, paid or payable under the Prior Policy; or
- 2) that would have been so payable under the Prior Policy had timely election been made.

Such amount of insurance under this provision is subject to any reductions in The Policy and will not increase.

Coverage provided through this provision ends on the first to occur of:

- 1) the last day of a period of 12 consecutive months after the Policy Effective Date;
- 2) the date Your insurance terminates for any reason shown under the Termination provision;
- 3) the last day You would have been covered under the Prior Policy, had the Prior Policy not terminated; or
- 4) the date You are Actively at Work.

However, if the coverage provided through this provision ends because You are Actively at Work, You may be covered as an Active Employee under The Policy.

**Dependent Effective Date:** *When does Dependent coverage start?*

Contributory Coverage, for which Evidence of Insurability is not required, will start on the latest to occur of:

- 1) the date You become eligible for Dependent coverage, if You have enrolled on or before that date; or
- 2) the Policy Anniversary Date on or next following the last day of the Annual Enrollment Period, if You enroll during an Annual Enrollment Period; or
- 3) the date You enroll, if You do so within 31 days from the date You are eligible for Dependent coverage.

Coverage for which Evidence of Insurability is required, will become effective on the later of:

- 1) the date You become eligible for Dependent coverage; or
- 2) the date We approve Your Dependents' Evidence of Insurability.

In no event will Dependent coverage become effective before You become insured.

**Dependent Deferred Effective Date:** *When will the effective date for Dependent coverage or a change in coverage be deferred?*

If, on the date Your Dependent, other than a newborn, is to become covered:

- 1) under The Policy;
- 2) for increased benefits; or
- 3) for a new benefit; and

he or she is:

- 1) confined in a hospital; or
- 2) Confined Elsewhere

such coverage will not start until he or she:

- 1) is discharged from the hospital; or
- 2) is no longer Confined Elsewhere;

and has engaged in all the normal and customary activities of a person of like age and gender, in good health, for at least 15 consecutive days.

This Deferred Effective Date provision will not apply to disabled children who qualify under the definition of Dependent Child(ren).

**Confined Elsewhere** means Your Dependent is unable to perform, unaided, the normal functions of daily living, or leave home or other place of residence without assistance.

**Dependent Continuity from a Prior Policy:** *Is there continuity of coverage from a Prior Policy for my Dependents?*

If on the day before the Policy Effective Date, You were covered with respect to Your Dependents under the Prior Policy, the Deferred Effective Date provision will not apply to initial coverage under The Policy for such Dependents. However,



the Dependent Amount of Insurance and Accidental Death and Dismemberment Principal Sum will be the lesser of the amount of life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment principal sum:

- 1) Your Dependents had under the Prior Policy; or
- 2) shown in the Schedule of Insurance;

reduced by any coverage amount:

- 1) that is in force, paid or payable under the Prior Policy; or
- 2) that would have been so payable under the Prior Policy had timely election been made.

**Change in Coverage:** *When may I change my coverage or coverage for my Dependents?*

After Your initial enrollment You may increase or decrease coverage for You or Your Dependents or add a new Dependent to Your existing Dependent coverage:

- 1) during any Annual Enrollment Period designated by the Policyholder; or
- 2) within 31 days of the date of a Change in Family Status.

**Effective Date for Changes in Coverage:** *When will changes in coverage become effective?*

Any decrease in coverage will take effect on the date of the change.

Any increase in coverage will take effect on the latest of:

- 1) the date of the change;
- 2) the date requirements of the Deferred Effective Date provision are met;
- 3) the date Evidence of Insurability is approved, if required; or
- 4) the Policy Anniversary Date on or next following the last day of the Annual Enrollment Period, except for an increase as a result of a Change in Family Status.

**Increase in Amount of Life Insurance:** *If I request an increase in the Amount of Life Insurance, must I provide Evidence of Insurability?*

If You or Your Dependents are:

- 1) already enrolled for an Amount of Supplemental Life Insurance under The Policy, then You and Your Dependents must provide Evidence of Insurability for:
  - a) an increase of more than two increments if You are enrolling during an Annual Enrollment Period; or
  - b) any increase, if You are enrolling due to a Change in Family Status
- 2) not already enrolled for an Amount of Supplemental Life Insurance under The Policy, You and Your Dependents must provide Evidence of Insurability for:
  - a) an amount greater than two increments of Supplemental Life Insurance coverage, if You are enrolling during an Annual Enrollment Period; or
  - b) any amount if You are enrolling due to a Change in Family Status;including an initial amount.

In any event, if the Amount of Life Insurance You request is greater than the Guaranteed Issue Amount, You or Your Dependents, as applicable, must provide Evidence of Insurability.

If Your Evidence of Insurability is not satisfactory to Us, the Amount of Life Insurance You had in effect on the date immediately prior to the date You requested the increase will not change.

If Your Dependents' Evidence of Insurability is not satisfactory to Us, the Amount of Life Insurance he or she had in effect on the date immediately prior to the date You requested the increase will not change.

**Increase in Amount of Life Insurance:** *If my Amount of Life Insurance increases because my Earnings increase, must I provide Evidence of Insurability?*

If Your Amount of Life Insurance is based on a multiple of Your Earnings, You must provide Evidence of Insurability if Your Earnings increase such that Your Amount of Life Insurance is greater than the Guaranteed Issue Amount. An increase in Earnings which causes an increase in Your Amount of Life Insurance will be accompanied by a corresponding increase in the amount of premium due for this coverage.

However, if:

- 1) You do not submit Evidence of Insurability; or
- 2) Your Evidence of Insurability is not satisfactory to Us,

Your Amount of Life Insurance:

- 1) will increase, but only up to the amount for which You were eligible without having to provide Evidence of Insurability; and

- 2) will not increase again, or beyond that amount, until Your Evidence of Insurability is approved.

**Termination:** *When will my coverage end?*

Your coverage will end on the earliest of the following:

- 1) the date The Policy terminates;
- 2) the date You are no longer in a class eligible for coverage, or The Policy no longer insures Your class;
- 3) the date the premium payment is due but not paid; or
- 4) the date You are no longer Actively at Work;

unless continued in accordance with any one of the Continuation Provisions. However, in the event Your employment is terminated, Your coverage will end on the last day of the month in which the termination occurred.

**Reinstatement after Military Service:** *Can coverage be reinstated after return from active military service?*

If Your or Your Dependents' coverage ends because You or Your Dependents enter active military service, coverage for You and Your previously covered Dependents may be reinstated, provided You or Your Dependents request such reinstatement upon Your or Your Dependents' release from active military service.

The reinstated coverage will:

- 1) be the same coverage amounts in force on the date coverage ended;
- 2) not be subject to any Eligibility Waiting Period for Coverage or Evidence of Insurability; and
- 3) be subject to all the terms and provisions of The Policy.

**Dependent Termination:** *When does coverage for my Dependent end?*

Coverage for Your Dependent will end on the earliest to occur of:

- 1) the date Your coverage ends;
- 2) the date the required premium is due but not paid;
- 3) the date You are no longer eligible for Dependent coverage;
- 4) the date We or the Employer terminate Dependent coverage; or
- 5) the date the Dependent no longer meets the definition of Dependent,

unless continued in accordance with the Continuation Provisions.

**Continuation Provisions:** *Can my coverage and my Dependent's coverage be continued beyond the date it would otherwise terminate?*

Coverage under The Policy may be continued, at Your Employer's option, beyond a date shown in the Termination provision, provided Your Employer provides a plan of continuation which applies to all employees the same way.

The amount of continued coverage applicable to You or Your Dependents will be the amount of coverage in effect on the date immediately before coverage would otherwise have ended. Continued coverage:

- 1) is subject to any reductions in The Policy;
- 2) is subject to payment of premium;
- 3) may be continued up to the maximum time shown in the provisions; and
- 4) terminates if The Policy terminates.

In no event will the amount of insurance increase while coverage is continued in accordance with the following provisions. The Continuation Provisions shown below may not be applied consecutively.

In no event will coverage under the following Continuation Provisions, when combined, extend longer than 12 months from the date You were last Actively at Work: Leave of Absence, Military Leave of Absence, Lay Off, Disability Insurance, Sickness or Injury or Family Medical Leave.

In all other respects, the terms of Your coverage and coverage for Your Dependents remain unchanged.

**Leave of Absence:** If You are on a documented leave of absence, other than Family and Medical Leave or Military Leave of Absence, Your coverage (including Dependent Life coverage) may be continued until the last day of the month following the month in which the leave of absence commenced. If the leave terminates prior to the agreed upon date, this continuation will cease immediately.

**Military Leave of Absence:** In the event of a military leave of absence, if You or Your Dependent enter active full-time military service and notify Your Employer in writing of Your intention to continue coverage, Your coverage (including Dependent Life coverage) can be continued. You must provide timely premium contributions equal to that which would have been deducted from Your compensation for such coverage immediately prior to entering active full-time military service.

**Lay Off:** If You are temporarily laid off by the Employer due to lack of work, all of Your coverage (including Dependent Life coverage) may be continued for 3 months after the month in which the lay off commenced. If the lay off becomes permanent, this continuation will cease immediately.

**Status Change:** If You are:

- 1) employed by the Policyholder; and
- 2) no longer in an Eligible Class due to a reduction in the number of scheduled hours You work;

Your coverage (including Dependent Life coverage) may be continued until the last day of the third consecutive month after the month Your scheduled hours were reduced.

**Disability Insurance:** If You are working for the Policyholder and:

- 1) are covered by;
- 2) are receiving benefits under;
- 3) meet the definition of disabled under; and
- 4) are earning at least 20%, but less than 80%, of Your pre-disability earnings, as defined by;

a group long term disability insurance policy, issued by Us to Your Employer, Your coverage (including Dependent Life coverage) may be continued for a period of 12 consecutive months from the date You were last Actively at Work while You remain disabled.

**Sickness or Injury:** If You are not Actively at Work due to sickness or injury, all of Your coverages (including Dependent Life coverage) may be continued:

- 1) for a period of 12 consecutive months from the date You were last Actively at Work; or
- 2) if such absence results in a leave of absence in accordance with state or federal family and medical leave laws, then the combined continuation period will not exceed 12 consecutive months.

**Family and Medical Leave:** If You are granted a leave of absence, in writing, according to the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, or other applicable state or local law, Your coverage(s) (including Dependent Life coverage) may be continued for up to 12 weeks, or 26 weeks if You qualify for Family Military Leave, or longer if required by other applicable law, following the date Your leave commenced. If the leave of absence ends prior to the agreed upon date, this continuation will cease immediately.

**Continuation for Dependent Child(ren) with Disabilities:** *Will coverage for Dependent Child(ren) with Disabilities be continued?*

If Your Dependent Child(ren) reach the age at which they would otherwise cease to be a Dependent as defined, and they are:

- 1) age 26 or older; and
- 2) disabled; and
- 3) primarily dependent upon You for financial support;

then Dependent Child(ren) coverage will not terminate solely due to age. However:

- 1) You must submit proof satisfactory to Us of such Dependent Child(ren)'s disability within 31 days of the date he or she reaches such age; and
- 2) such Dependent Child(ren) must have become disabled before attaining age 26.

Coverage under The Policy will continue as long as:

- 1) You remain insured;
- 2) the child continues to meet the required conditions; and
- 3) any required premium is paid when due.

However, no increase in the Amount of Life Insurance for such Dependent Child(ren) will be available.

We have the right to require proof, satisfactory to Us, as often as necessary during the first two years of continuation, that the child continues to meet these conditions. We will not require proof more often than once a year after that.

**Waiver of Premium:** *Does coverage continue if I am Disabled?*

Waiver of Premium is a provision which allows You to continue Your coverage without paying premium, while You are Disabled and qualify for Waiver of Premium.

If You qualify for Waiver of Premium, the amount of continued coverage:

- 1) will be the amount in force on the date You cease to be an Active Employee;
- 2) will be subject to any reductions provided by The Policy; and
- 3) will not increase.

**Eligible Coverages:** *What coverages are eligible under this provision?*

This provision applies only to:

- 1) Your Basic Life Insurance; and
- 2) Your Supplemental Life Insurance.

You are not eligible to apply for both the Portability Benefit and Waiver of Premium for the same coverage amount.

**Disabled:** *What does Disabled mean?*

Disabled means You are prevented by injury or sickness from doing any work for which You are, or could become, qualified by:

- 1) education;
- 2) training; or
- 3) experience.

In addition, You will be considered Disabled if You have been diagnosed with a life expectancy of 12 months or less.

**Conditions for Qualification:** *What conditions must I satisfy before I qualify for this provision?*

To qualify for Waiver of Premium You must:

- 1) be covered under The Policy and be under age 60 when you become Disabled;
- 2) be Disabled and provide Proof of Loss that You have been Disabled for 9 consecutive months, starting on the date You were last Actively at Work or provide proof that You have been diagnosed with a life expectancy of 12 months or less; and
- 3) provide such proof within one year of Your last day of work as an Active Employee.

In any event, You must have been Actively at Work under The Policy to qualify for Waiver of Premium.

**When Premiums are Waived:** *When will premiums be waived?*

If We approve Waiver of Premium, We will notify You of the date We will begin to waive premium. In any case, We will not waive premiums for the first 9 months You are Disabled. We have the right to:

- 1) require Proof of Loss that You are Disabled; and
- 2) have You examined at reasonable intervals during the first 2 years after receiving initial Proof of Loss, but not more than once a year after that.

If You fail to submit any required Proof of Loss or refuse to be examined as required by Us, then Waiver of Premium ceases.

However, if We deny Waiver of Premium, You may be eligible to:

- 1) continue coverage under the Portability Benefit; or
- 2) convert coverage in accordance with the Conversion Right.

If You cease to be Disabled and return to work for a total of 5 days or less during the first 9 months that You are Disabled, the 9 month waiting period will not be interrupted. Except for the 5 days or less that You worked, You must be Disabled by the same condition for the total 9 month period. If You return to work for more than 5 days, You must satisfy a new waiting period.

**Benefit Payable before Approval of Waiver of Premium:** *What if I die before I qualify for Waiver of Premium?*

If You die within one year of Your last day of work as an Active Employee, but before You qualify for Waiver of Premium, We will pay the Amount of Life Insurance which is in force for You provided:

- 1) You were continuously Disabled;
- 2) the Disability lasted or would have lasted 9 month(s) or more; and
- 3) premiums had been paid for coverage.

**Waiver Ceases:** *When will Waiver of Premium cease?*

We will waive premium payments and continue Your coverage, while You remain Disabled, until the date You attain age 65.

*What happens when Waiver of Premium ceases?*

When the Waiver of Premium ceases:

- 1) if You return to work in an Eligible Class, as an Active Employee, then You may again be eligible for coverage as long as premiums are paid when due; or
- 2) if You do not return to work in an Eligible Class, coverage will end and You may be eligible to exercise the Conversion Right if You do so within the time limits described in such provision. The Amount of Life Insurance

that may be converted will be subject to the terms and conditions of the Conversion Right. Portability will not be available.

**Effect of Policy Termination:** *What happens to the Waiver of Premium if The Policy terminates?*

If The Policy terminates before You qualify for Waiver of Premium:

- 1) You may be eligible to exercise the Conversion Right, provided You do so within the time limits described in such provision; and
- 2) You may still be approved for Waiver of Premium if You qualify.

If The Policy terminates after You qualify for Waiver of Premium:

- 1) Your Dependent coverage will terminate; and
- 2) Your coverage under the terms of this provision will not be affected.

## **BENEFITS**

**Life Insurance Benefit:** *When is the Life Insurance Benefit payable?*

If You or Your Dependents die while covered under The Policy, We will pay the deceased person's Life Insurance Benefit after We receive Proof of Loss, in accordance with the Proof of Loss provision.

The Life Insurance Benefit will be paid according to the General Provisions of The Policy.

**Suicide:** *What benefit is payable if death is a result of suicide?*

If You or Your Dependent commit suicide while sane or insane, We will not pay any Supplemental Amount of Life Insurance or Supplemental Amount of Dependent Life Insurance for the deceased person which was elected within the 2 year period immediately prior to the date of death. This applies to initial coverage and elected increases in coverage.

This 2 year period includes the time group life insurance coverage was in force under the Prior Policy.

Any premium paid by You during this 2 year period for initial amounts of Supplemental Life Insurance or elected increases in Supplemental Life Insurance, will be returned to Your beneficiary.

**Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit:** *When is the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit payable?*

If You or Your Dependents sustain an Injury which results in any of the following Losses within 365 days of the date of accident, and the accident occurs while You are covered under this benefit, We will pay the injured person's amount of Principal Sum, or a portion of such Principal Sum, as shown opposite the Loss after We receive Proof of Loss in accordance with the Proof of Loss provision.

This benefit will be paid according to the General Provisions of The Policy.

We will not pay more than the Principal Sum, to any one person, for all Losses due to the same accident. Your amount of Principal Sum is shown in the Schedule of Insurance. The amount of Your Dependents' Principal Sum is shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**For Loss of:**

**Benefit:**

|                                                             |                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Life.....                                                   | Principal Sum                   |
| Both Hands or Both Feet or Sight of Both Eyes.....          | Principal Sum                   |
| One Hand and One Foot.....                                  | Principal Sum                   |
| Speech and Hearing in Both Ears.....                        | Principal Sum                   |
| Either Hand or Foot and Sight of One Eye.....               | Principal Sum                   |
| Movement of Both Upper and Lower Limbs (Quadriplegia) ..... | Principal Sum                   |
| Movement of Four Entire Limbs.....                          | Principal Sum                   |
| Movement of Both Lower Limbs (Paraplegia).....              | Three-Quarters of Principal Sum |
| Movement of Three Entire Limbs.....                         | Three-Quarters of Principal Sum |
| Movement of Three Limbs (Triplegia) .....                   | Three-Quarters of Principal Sum |
| Movement of Two Entire Limbs.....                           | Two-Thirds of Principal Sum     |
| Movement of One Entire Limb.....                            | One-Half of Principal Sum       |
| Movement of the Upper And Lower Limbs                       |                                 |
| of One Side of the Body (Hemiplegia).....                   | One-Half of Principal Sum       |
| Either Hand or Foot.....                                    | One-Half of Principal Sum       |

|                                             |                              |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Sight of One Eye.....                       | One-Half of Principal Sum    |
| Speech or Hearing in Both Ears. ....        | One-Half of Principal Sum    |
| Movement of One Limb (Uniplegia).....       | One-Quarter of Principal Sum |
| Thumb and Index Finger of Either Hand ..... | One-Quarter of Principal Sum |

**Loss** means with regard to:

- 1) hands and feet, actual severance through or above wrist or ankle joints;
- 2) sight, speech and hearing, entire and irrecoverable loss thereof;
- 3) thumb and index finger, actual severance through or above the metacarpophalangeal joints;
- 4) movement, complete and irreversible paralysis of such limbs; or
- 5) movement, complete, permanent and irreversible paralysis, as determined by a Physician, of an Entire Limb or Limbs which has continued without interruption for a period of not less than 12 consecutive months.

**Entire Limb** means with regard to:

- 1) the arm, the total areas from shoulder joint to finger tips;
- 2) the leg, the total area from hip joint to toes.

**Double Indemnity While On a Common Carrier Benefit:** *When is the Double Indemnity while On a Common Carrier Benefit payable?*

If the Injury occurs while the injured person is On a Common Carrier, We will double the Principal Sum payable. However, in no event will the Principal Sum be increased by more than the Common Carrier Limit.

**Exposure and Disappearance:** *What if Loss is due to exposure or disappearance?*

Exposure to the elements will be presumed to be Injury if:

- 1) it results from the forced landing, stranding, sinking or wrecking of a conveyance in which You or Your Dependents were an occupant at the time of the accident; and
- 2) The Policy would have covered an Injury resulting from the accident.

We will presume that You or Your Dependents suffered Loss of life if:

- 1) the person's body has not been found within one year after the disappearance of a conveyance in which he or she was an occupant at the time of its disappearance;
- 2) the disappearance of the conveyance was due to its accidental forced landing, stranding, sinking or wrecking; and
- 3) The Policy would have covered Injury resulting from the accident.

**Seat Belt and Air Bag Benefit:** *When is the Seat Belt and Air Bag Benefit payable?*

If You or Your Dependents sustain an Injury that results in a Loss payable under the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit, We will pay an additional Seat Belt and Air Bag Benefit if the Injury occurred while the injured person was:

- 1) a passenger riding in; or
- 2) the licensed operator of;

a properly registered Motor Vehicle and was wearing a Seat Belt at the time of the Accident as verified on the police accident report.

This Benefit will be paid:

- 1) after We receive Proof of Loss, in accordance with the Proof of Loss provision; and
- 2) according to the General Provisions of The Policy.

If a Seat Belt Benefit is payable, We will also pay an Air Bag Benefit if the injured person was:

- 1) positioned in a seat equipped with a factory-installed Air Bag; and
- 2) properly strapped in the Seat Belt when the Air Bag inflated.

The Seat Belt Benefit is the lesser of:

- 1) an amount resulting from multiplying the injured person's amount of Principal Sum by the Seat Belt Benefit Percentage; or
- 2) the Maximum Amount for this Benefit.

The Air Bag Benefit is the lesser of:

- 1) an amount resulting from multiplying the injured person's amount of Principal Sum by the Air Bag Benefit Percentage; or
- 2) the Maximum Amount for this Benefit.

If it cannot be determined that the injured person was wearing a Seat Belt at the time of Accident, a Minimum Benefit will be payable under the Seat Belt Benefit.

**Accident**, for the purpose of this Benefit only, means the unintentional collision of a Motor Vehicle during which the injured person was wearing a Seat Belt.

**Air Bag** means an inflatable supplemental passive restraint system installed by the manufacturer of the Motor Vehicle or its proper replacement parts installed as required by the Motor Vehicle's manufacturer's specifications that inflates upon collision to protect an individual from Injury and death. An Air Bag is not considered a Seat Belt.

**Seat Belt** means:

- 1) an unaltered belt, lap restraint, or lap and shoulder restraint installed by the manufacturer of the Motor Vehicle, or proper replacement parts installed as required by the Motor Vehicle's manufacturer's specifications; or
- 2) a child restraint device that meets the standards of the National Safety Council and is properly secured and used in accordance with applicable state law and installed according to the recommendations of its manufacturer for children of like age and weight.

The Seat Belt and Air Bag Benefit will not be payable if the injured person was operating the Motor Vehicle at the time of Injury while:

- 1) Intoxicated; or
- 2) taking drugs, including but not limited to sedatives, narcotics, barbiturates, amphetamines, or hallucinogens, unless as prescribed by or administered by a Physician.

**Intoxicated** means:

- 1) the blood alcohol content;
- 2) the results of other means of testing blood alcohol level; or
- 3) the results of other means of testing other substances;

that meet or exceed the legal presumption of intoxication, or under the influence, under the laws of the state where the accident occurred. If the accident occurred outside the United States, intoxication will be presumed if the person's blood alcohol level meets or exceeds .08 grams per deciliter.

The specific amounts for this Benefit are shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**Repatriation Benefit:** *When is the Repatriation Benefit payable?*

If You or Your Dependents sustain an Injury that results in Loss of life payable under the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit, We will pay an additional Repatriation Benefit, if the death occurs outside the territorial limits of the state or country of the deceased person's place of permanent residence. We will only pay a benefit if the deceased person's body is transported across state lines or country borders.

This Benefit will be paid:

- 1) after We receive Proof of Loss, in accordance with the Proof of Loss provision; and
- 2) according to the General Provisions of The Policy.

The Repatriation Benefit will pay the least of:

- 1) the actual expenses incurred for:
  - a) preparation of the body for burial or cremation; and
  - b) transportation of the body to the place of burial or cremation;
- 2) the amount resulting from multiplying the deceased person's amount of Principal Sum by the Repatriation Benefit Percentage; or
- 3) the Maximum Amount for this Benefit.

The specific amounts for this Benefit are shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**Child Education Benefit:** *When is the Child Education Benefit payable?*

If You sustain an Injury that results in Loss of life payable under the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit, We will pay an additional Child Education Benefit to Your Dependent Child(ren).

This Benefit will be paid:

- 1) after We receive proof that Your Dependent Child(ren) qualify as a Student, as defined in this Benefit; and

- 2) according to the General Provisions of The Policy.

If You die, the Child Education Benefit provides an annual amount equal to the lesser of:

- 1) the amount resulting from multiplying Your Principal Sum by the Child Education Benefit Percentage; or
- 2) the Maximum Amount for this Benefit.

The Child Education Benefit is payable to each of Your Dependent Child(ren):

- 1) on the date; and
- 2) for whom;

We have received proof satisfactory to Us that he or she is a Student.

If he or she is a minor, We will pay the benefit to the Student's legal guardian.

We will pay the Child Education Benefit to a qualifying Student until the first to occur of:

- 1) Our payment of the fourth Child Education Benefit to or on behalf of that person; or
- 2) the end of the 12th consecutive month during which We have not received proof satisfactory to Us that he or she is a Student.

We will not pay more than one Child Education Benefit to any one Student during any one school year.

We will pay the Minimum Amount for this Benefit in accordance with the Claims to be Paid provision of The Policy if:

- 1) a Principal Sum is payable because of Your death; and
- 2) no person qualifies as a Student.

**Student** means Your Dependent Child(ren) who is covered on the date of Your death and:

- 1) is a full-time (at least 12 course credit hours per semester) post-high school student at an accredited institution of learning on the date of Your death; or
- 2) became a full-time (at least 12 course credit hours per semester) post-high school student at an accredited institution of learning within 365 days after Your death and was a student in the 12th grade on the date of Your death.

If the institution establishes full-time status in any other manner, We reserve the right to determine whether the student qualifies as a Student.

The specific amounts for this Benefit are shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**Day Care Benefit:** *When is the Day Care Benefit payable?*

If You sustain an Injury that results in Loss of life payable under the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit, We will pay an additional Day Care Benefit for each of Your Dependent Children if such Dependent Child is under age 7 at the time of Your death.

This Benefit will be paid:

- 1) after We receive proof of enrollment in a Day Care Program as described in this Benefit; and
- 2) according to the General Provisions of The Policy.

We will make one Day Care Benefit payment each year, for a maximum of 4 Day Care Benefit payments, for each Dependent Child. The Benefit will be paid to the person who has primary responsibility for the Dependent Child's Day Care expenses.

Proof of enrollment satisfactory to Us for each Dependent Child in a Day Care Program includes, but will not be limited to, the following:

- 1) a copy of the Dependent Child's approved enrollment application in a Day Care Program;
- 2) cancelled check(s) evidencing payment to a Day Care facility or Day Care provider;
- 3) a letter from the Day Care facility or Day Care provider stating that the Dependent Child:
  - a) is attending a Day Care Program; or
  - b) has been enrolled in a Day Care Program and will be attending within 365 days of the date of the death.

Proof of enrollment must be sent to Us prior to the last day of the 12th month following the date of death.

If You die, the Day Care Benefit provides an annual amount equal to the lesser of:

- 1) the amount resulting from multiplying Your Principal Sum by the Day Care Benefit Percentage; or



- 2) the Maximum Amount for this Benefit.

We will pay the Minimum Amount for this Benefit in accordance with the Claims to be Paid provision for payment of benefits for Loss of life if:

- 1) a Principal Sum is payable because of Your death; and
- 2) no person qualifies as a Dependent Child eligible for the Day Care Benefit.

**Day Care or Day Care Program** means a program of child care which:

- 1) is operated in a private home, school or other facility;
- 2) provides, and makes a charge for, the care of children; and
- 3) is licensed as a day care center or is operated by a licensed day care provider, if such licensing is required by the state or jurisdiction in which it is located; or
- 4) if licensing is not required, provides childcare on a daily basis for 12 months a year.

The specific amounts for this Benefit are shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**Rehabilitation Benefit:** *When is the Rehabilitation Benefit payable?*

If You sustain an Injury which results in a Loss other than Loss of life, payable under the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit, We will pay an additional Rehabilitation Benefit for Rehabilitative Program Expenses Incurred within one (1) year of the date of accident.

This Benefit will be paid:

- 1) after We receive proof of Expenses Incurred for a Rehabilitative Program, in accordance with the Proof of Loss provision; and
- 2) according to the General Provisions of The Policy.

The Rehabilitation Benefit provides an amount equal to the least of:

- 1) the actual Expense Incurred for a Rehabilitative Program;
- 2) the amount resulting from multiplying Your amount of Principal Sum by the Rehabilitation Benefit Percentage; or
- 3) the Maximum Amount for this Benefit.

**Rehabilitative Program** means any training which:

- 1) is required due to Your Injury; and
- 2) prepares You for an occupation for which You were not previously trained.

**Expense Incurred** means the actual cost of:

- 1) training; and
- 2) materials needed for the training.

The specific amounts for this Benefit are shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**Spouse Education Benefit:** *When is the Spouse Education Benefit payable?*

If You sustain an Injury that results in a Loss of life payable under the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit, We will pay an additional Spouse Education Benefit to Your surviving Spouse.

This Benefit will be paid:

- 1) after We receive proof satisfactory to Us that the Spouse has enrolled in an Occupational Training program; and
- 2) according to the General Provisions of The Policy.

The Spouse Education Benefit is the least of;

- 1) the Expense Incurred for Occupational Training;
- 2) the amount resulting from multiplying Your Principal Sum by the Spouse Education Benefit Percentage; or
- 3) the Maximum Amount for this Benefit.

If a Principal Sum is payable because of Your death and there is no surviving Spouse, We will pay the Minimum Amount for this Benefit in accordance with the Claims to be Paid provision.

Your surviving Spouse must enroll in Occupational Training:

- 1) for the purpose of obtaining an independent source of income; and
- 2) within one (1) year of Your death.

**Occupational Training** means any:

- 1) educational;
- 2) professional; or
- 3) trade training;

program which prepares the Spouse for an occupation for which he or she was not previously qualified.

**Expense Incurred** means:

- 1) the actual tuition charged, exclusive of room and board; and
- 2) the actual cost of the materials needed;

for the Occupational Training.

The expense must be incurred within two (2) years of the date of Your death.

The specific amounts for this Benefit are shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**Adaptive Home and Vehicle Benefit:** *When is the Adaptive Home and Vehicle Benefit payable?*

If You sustain an Injury that results in a Loss, other than Loss of life, payable under the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit, We will pay an additional Adaptive Home and Vehicle Benefit.

This Benefit will be paid:

- 1) after We receive Proof of Loss, in accordance with the Proof of Loss provision; and
- 2) according to the General Provisions of The Policy.

The Adaptive Home and Vehicle Benefit pays a benefit for the one-time cost of alterations to Your:

- 1) principal residence; and/or
- 2) private automobile;

to make the residence accessible and/or the private automobile drivable or rideable for You. The costs must be incurred within two years from the date of accident.

We will pay the Adaptive Home and Vehicle Benefit if:

- 1) such home alterations are:
  - a) made by a person or persons with experience in such alterations; and
  - b) recommended by a recognized organization associated with the Injury; and/or
- 2) such vehicle modifications are:
  - a) carried out by a person or persons with experience in such matters; and
  - b) approved by the Motor Vehicle Department.

The Adaptive Home and Vehicle Benefit will provide an amount equal to the least of:

- 1) the actual cost of the alterations;
- 2) the amount resulting from multiplying Your amount of Principal Sum by the Adaptive Home and Vehicle Benefit Percentage; or
- 3) the Maximum Amount for this Benefit.

The specific amounts for this Benefit are shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**Accelerated Benefit:** *What is the benefit? This benefit is not available for Dependents.*

In the event that You are diagnosed as Terminally Ill, while You are:

- 1) covered under The Policy for an Amount of Life Insurance of at least \$10,000; and
- 2) under age 60;

We will pay the Accelerated Benefit in a lump sum amount as shown below, provided We receive proof of such Terminal Illness.

The Accelerated Benefit will not be available to You unless You have been Actively at Work under The Policy.

You must request in writing that a portion of Your Amount of Life Insurance be paid as an Accelerated Benefit.

The Amount of Life Insurance payable upon Your death will be reduced by any Accelerated Benefit Amount paid under this benefit. In addition, Your remaining Amount of Life Insurance will be subject to any reductions in The Policy and will not increase once an Accelerated Benefit has been paid. Any premium required will be based on the amount of Your life insurance remaining after the Accelerated Benefit is paid under this benefit. There will be no effect on the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit Principal Sum after the Accelerated Benefit Amount is paid under this benefit.

You may request a minimum Accelerated Benefit amount of \$3,000 and a maximum of \$500,000. However, in no event will the Accelerated Benefit Amount exceed 80% of Your Amount of Life Insurance. This option may be exercised only once.

For example, if You are covered for a Life Insurance Benefit Amount under The Policy of \$100,000 and are Terminally Ill, You can request any portion of the Amount of Life Insurance Benefits from \$10,000 to \$80,000 to be paid now instead of to Your beneficiary upon death. However, if You decide to request only \$30,000 now, You cannot request the additional \$50,000 in the future.

If You submit proof satisfactory to Us of Your Terminal Illness You will also meet the definition of Disabled for Waiver of Premium.

Any benefits received under this benefit may be taxable. You should consult a personal tax advisor for further information.

In the event:

- 1) You are required by law to accelerate benefits to meet the claims of creditors; or
  - 2) if a government agency requires You to apply for benefits to qualify for a government benefit or entitlement;
- You will still be required to satisfy all the terms and conditions herein in order to receive an Accelerated Benefit.

If You have executed an assignment of rights and interest with respect to Your Amount of Life Insurance, in order to receive the Accelerated Benefit, We must receive a release from the assignee before any benefits are payable.

Amount of Life Insurance as used in this benefit means Basic and Supplemental Life Insurance.

**Terminal Illness or Terminally Ill** means a life expectancy of 12 months or less.

**Proof of Terminal Illness and Examinations:** *Must proof of Terminal Illness be submitted?*

We reserve the right to require satisfactory Proof of Terminal Illness on an ongoing basis. Any diagnosis submitted must be provided by a Physician.

If You do not submit proof of Terminal Illness satisfactory to Us, or if You refuse to be examined by a Physician, as We may require, then We will not pay an Accelerated Benefit.

**Conversion Right:** *If coverage under The Policy ends, do I have a right to convert?*

If Life Insurance coverage or any portion of it under The Policy reduces or terminates for any reason shown in the Termination provision, except nonpayment of premium, You and Your Dependents may have the right to convert the coverage that terminated to an individual conversion policy without providing Evidence of Insurability. Conversion is not available for:

- 1) the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefits; or
  - 2) any Amount of Life Insurance for which You or Your Dependents were eligible and not covered;
- under The Policy.

If coverage under The Policy terminates because:

- 1) The Policy is terminated; or,
  - 2) coverage for an Eligible Class is terminated;
- then You or Your Dependent must have been insured under The Policy or Prior Policy for 5 years or more, in order to be eligible to convert coverage. The amount which may be converted under these circumstances is limited to the lesser of:
- 1) \$10,000; or
  - 2) the Life Insurance Benefit under The Policy less any Amount of Life Insurance for which You or Your Dependent may become eligible under any group life insurance policy issued or reinstated within 31 days of termination of group life coverage.

If coverage under The Policy terminates for any other reason shown in the Termination provision, except nonpayment of premium, the full amount of coverage which ended may be converted.

**Insurer**, as used in this provision, means Us or another insurance company which has agreed to issue conversion policies according to this Conversion Right.

**Conversion:** *How do I convert my coverage or my Dependents' coverage?*

To convert Your coverage or coverage for Your Dependents, You must:

- 1) apply in writing to Us; and
- 2) submit the required premium with the application.

You have the option to convert by voice recording or electronically.

Your application and first premium payment must be received by Us or postmarked within 31 days after Life Insurance terminates. Requests for Conversion may still be accepted by Us if received or postmarked beyond 31 days if:

- 1) You were not given written notice of your right to convert within 15 days of Your Life Insurance terminating; and
- 2) it is received by Us or postmarked no later than 20 days after You were given notice of Your right to convert.

However, even if You were notified late, We will not accept Your application if it is received or postmarked more than 91 days after Life Insurance terminates.

If conversion is applied for or the application is postmarked more than 31 days after Life Insurance terminates, the person who is applying for conversion must be living at that time. We will not accept a conversion application on behalf of a deceased person more than 31 days after Life Insurance terminates.

Any individual policy issued to You or Your Dependents under the Conversion Right:

- 1) will be effective as of the 32<sup>nd</sup> day after the date coverage ends; and
- 2) will be in lieu of coverage for this amount under The Policy.

**Conversion Policy Provisions:** *What are the Conversion Policy provisions?*

The Conversion Policy will:

- 1) be issued on any one of the Life Insurance policy forms the Insurer is issuing for this purpose at the time of conversion; and
- 2) base premiums on the Insurer's rates in effect for new applicants of Your class and age at the time of conversion.

The Conversion Policy will not provide:

- 1) the same terms and conditions of coverage as The Policy;
- 2) any benefit other than the Life Insurance Benefit; and
- 3) term insurance.

However, Conversion is not available for any Amount of Life Insurance which was, or is being continued:

- 1) in accordance with the Waiver of Premium provision;
- 2) under a certificate of insurance issued in accordance with the Portability provision; or
- 3) in accordance with the Continuation Provisions;

until such coverage ends.

**Death within the Conversion Period:** *What if I or my Dependents die before coverage is converted?*

We will pay the deceased person's Amount of Life Insurance You would have had the right to apply for under this provision if:

- 1) coverage under The Policy terminates; and
- 2) You or Your Dependent die within 31 days of the date coverage terminates; and
- 3) We receive Proof of Loss.

If the Conversion Policy has already taken effect, no Life Insurance Benefit will be payable under The Policy for the amount converted.

**Effect of Waiver of Premium on Conversion:** *What happens to the Conversion Policy if Waiver of Premium is later approved?*

If You apply and are approved for Waiver of Premium after an individual Conversion Policy has been issued, any benefit payable at Your or Your Dependent's death under The Policy will be paid only if the individual Conversion Policy is surrendered. The Insurer will refund the premium paid for such Conversion Policy.

**Portability Benefits:** *What is Portability?*

Portability is a provision which allows You and Your Dependents to continue coverage under a group Portability policy when coverage would otherwise end due to certain Qualifying Events. Portability applies to Basic and Supplemental Life and the Accidental Death Principal Sum.

**Qualifying Events:** *What are Qualifying Events?*

Qualifying Events for You are:

- 1) Your employment terminates prior to age 85;

- 2) You retire; or
  - 3) Your membership in an Eligible Class under The Policy ends due to the exhaustion of Your Leave of Absence, Military Leave of Absence, Lay Off or Family Medical Leave;
- provided the Qualifying Event occurs prior to age 85.

Qualifying Events for Your Dependents are:

- 1) Your employment terminates prior to age 85;
  - 2) You retire;
  - 3) Your death;
  - 4) Your membership in a class eligible for Dependents' coverage ends due to the exhaustion of Your Leave of Absence, Military Leave of Absence, Lay Off or Family Medical Leave; or
  - 5) he or she no longer meets the definition of Dependent, however, a Dependent Child(ren) who reaches the limiting age under The Policy is not eligible for Portability;
- provided the Qualifying Event occurs prior to age 85.

In order for Dependent Child(ren) coverage to be continued under this provision, You or Your Spouse must elect to continue coverage due to Your own Qualifying Event.

**Electing Portability: *How do I elect Portability?***

You may elect Portability for Your coverage after Your Life Insurance coverage ends due to a Qualifying Event. You may also elect Portability for Your Dependent coverage if Your Dependent coverage ends due to a Qualifying Event. The Policy must still be in force in order for Portability to be available. Portability will not be available to You or Your Dependents unless You have been Actively at Work under The Policy.

To elect Portability for You or Your Dependents, You must:

- 1) apply in writing; and
- 2) submit the required premium with the application.

You have the option to elect Portability by voice recording or electronically.

Your application and first premium payment must be received by Us or postmarked within 31 days after Life Insurance terminates. Requests for Portability may still be accepted by Us if received or postmarked beyond 31 days if:

- 1) You were not given notice of your right to port within 15 days of Your Life Insurance terminating; and
- 2) it is received by Us or postmarked no later than 20 days after You were given notice of Your right to port.

However, even if You were notified late, We will not accept your application if it is received or postmarked more than 91 days after Life Insurance terminates.

If Portability is applied for or the application is postmarked more than 31 days after Life Insurance terminates, the person who is applying for portability must be living at that time. We will not accept a portability application on behalf of a deceased person more than 31 days after Life Insurance terminates.

After We verify eligibility for coverage, We will issue a certificate of insurance under a Portability policy. The Portability coverage will be:

- 1) issued on one of the forms then being issued by Us for Portability purposes; and
- 2) effective on the 32<sup>nd</sup> day following the date Your or Your Dependent's coverage ends.

The terms and conditions of coverage under the Portability policy will not be the same terms and conditions that are applicable to coverage under The Policy.

Evidence of Insurability may be required for amounts elected over the Portability Guaranteed Issue Amount of \$250,000 for You and \$50,000 for Your Spouse. If Evidence of Insurability is not satisfactory to Us, the coverage under the Portability policy will be limited to amounts under the Portability Guaranteed Issue Amount. However, You may be able to convert Your remaining coverage as described in the Conversion Right provision under The Policy.

**Limitations: *What limitations apply to this benefit?***

You may elect to continue up to 50%, 75% or 100% of the Amount of Life Insurance which is ending for You or Your Dependents. This amount will be rounded to the next higher multiple of \$1,000, if not already a multiple of \$1,000. However, the Amount of Life Insurance that may be continued will not exceed:

- 1) \$500,000 for You;
- 2) \$50,000 for Your Spouse; or
- 3) \$10,000 for Your Dependent Child(ren).

If You elect to continue 50% or 75%, or 100% now, You may not increase the elected amount at a later date.

Portability is not available for any Amount of Life Insurance for which You or Your Dependents were not eligible and covered.

In addition Portability is not available if You or Your Dependents are entering active military service or if You were not Actively at Work due to sickness or Injury on the day prior to termination of coverage.

**Effect of Portability on Other Provisions:** *How does Portability affect other Provisions?*

Portability is not available for any Amount of Life Insurance which was, or is being, continued in accordance with the:

- 1) Conversion Right;
- 2) Waiver of Premium provision; or
- 3) Continuation provisions;

under The Policy. However, if:

- 1) You elect to continue only a portion of terminated coverage under this Portability Benefit; or
- 2) the Amount of Life Insurance exceeds the maximum Portability amount;

then the Conversion Right may be available for the remaining amount.

## EXCLUSIONS

**Exclusions:** (Applicable to all benefits except the Life Insurance Benefit and the Accelerated Benefit) *What is not covered under The Policy?*

The Policy does not cover any loss caused or contributed to by:

- 1) anaphylactic shock;
- 2) any form of auto-erotic asphyxiation;
- 3) failure to wear a Seat Belt while driving or riding as a passenger in a Motor Vehicle;
- 4) intentionally self-inflicted Injury;
- 5) stroke or cerebrovascular accident or event, cardiovascular accident or event, myocardial infarction or heart attack, coronary thrombosis or aneurysm;
- 6) suicide or attempted suicide, whether sane or insane;
- 7) war or act of war, whether declared or not;
- 8) Injury sustained while on full-time active duty as a member of the armed forces (land, water, air) of any country or international authority except Reserve or National Guard Service;
- 9) Injury sustained while taking drugs, including but not limited to sedatives, narcotics, barbiturates, amphetamines, or hallucinogens, unless as prescribed by or administered by a Physician;
- 10) Injury sustained while committing or attempting to commit a felony;
- 11) Injury sustained while Intoxicated;
- 12) Injury sustained while driving while Intoxicated;
- 13) Injury sustained by illegal fireworks or the use of any legal fireworks when not following the manufacturer's lighting instructions;
- 14) driving and violating any applicable cellular device use or distracted driving laws; or
- 15) failure to wear a helmet while On or riding as a passenger On a motorcycle, bicycle, all-terrain vehicle (ATV) or any other type of motor bike.

**Intoxicated** means:

- 1) the blood alcohol content;
- 2) the results of other means of testing blood alcohol level; or
- 3) the results of other means of testing other substances;

that meet or exceed the legal presumption of intoxication, or under the influence, under the laws of the state where the accident occurred. If the accident occurred outside of the United States, intoxication will be presumed if the person's blood alcohol level meets or exceeds .08 grams per deciliter.

**Reserve or National Guard Service** means You or Your Dependents are:

- 1) attending or en route to or from any active duty training of less than sixty (60) days;
- 2) attending or en route to or from a service school of any duration;
- 3) taking part in any authorized inactive duty training; or
- 4) taking part as a unit member in a parade or exhibition authorized by official orders.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

### **Notice of Claim:** *When should I notify the Company of a claim?*

You, or the person who has the right to claim benefits, must give Us written notice of a claim within 30 days after:

- 1) the date of death; or
- 2) the date of loss.

If notice cannot be given within that time, it must be given as soon as reasonably possible after that. Such notice must include the claimant's name, address, and the Policy Number.

### **Claim Forms:** *Are special forms required to file a claim?*

We will send forms to the claimant to provide Proof of Loss, within 15 days of receiving a Notice of Claim. If We do not send the forms within 15 days, the claimant may submit any other written proof which fully describes the nature and extent of the claim.

### **Proof of Loss:** *What is Proof of Loss?*

Proof of Loss may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- 1) a completed claim form;
- 2) a certified copy of the death certificate (if applicable);
- 3) Your Enrollment form;
- 4) Your Beneficiary Designation (if applicable);
- 5) documentation of:
  - a) the date Your disability began;
  - b) the cause of Your disability; and
  - c) the prognosis of Your disability;
- 6) any and all medical information, including x-ray films and photocopies of medical records, including histories, physical, mental or diagnostic examinations and treatment notes;
- 7) the names and addresses of all:
  - a) Physicians or other qualified medical professionals You have consulted;
  - b) hospitals or other medical facilities in which You have been treated; and
  - c) pharmacies which have filled Your prescriptions within the past three years;
- 8) Your signed authorization for Us to obtain and release medical, employment, and financial information (if applicable); or
- 9) any additional information required by Us to adjudicate the claim.

All proof submitted must be satisfactory to Us.

### **Sending Proof of Loss:** *When must Proof of Loss be given?*

Written Proof of Loss should be sent to Us:

- 1) with respect to the Life Insurance Benefits within 365 days; and
- 2) with respect to the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefits within 90 days;

after the loss. However, all claims should be submitted to Us within 90 days of the date coverage ends.

If proof is not given by the time it is due, it will not affect the claim if:

- 1) it was not reasonably possible to give proof within the required time; and
- 2) proof is given as soon as reasonably possible; but
- 3) not later than 1 year after it is due unless You, or the person who has the right to claim benefits, are not legally competent.

### **Physical Examination and Autopsy:** *Can We have a claimant examined or request an autopsy?*

While a claim is pending We have the right at Our expense:

- 1) to have the person who has a loss examined by a Physician when and as often as We reasonably require; and
- 2) to have an autopsy performed in case of death where it is not forbidden by law.

### **Claim Payment:** *When are benefit payments issued?*

When We determine that benefits are payable, We will pay the benefits in accordance with the Claims to be Paid provision, but not more than 30 days after such Proof of Loss is received.

Benefits may be subject to interest payments as required by applicable law.

### **Claims to be Paid:** *To whom will benefits for my claim be paid?*

Life Insurance Benefits and benefits for loss of life under the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit will be paid in

accordance with the life insurance Beneficiary Designation provided it does not contradict the Claim Payment provision.

If no beneficiary is named, or if no named beneficiary survives You, We may, at Our option, pay:

- 1) the executors or administrators of Your estate;
- 2) all to Your surviving spouse;
- 3) if Your spouse does not survive You, in equal shares to Your surviving children;
- 4) if no child survives You, in equal shares to Your surviving parents; or
- 5) if no parent survives You, in equal shares to Your surviving siblings.

In addition, We may, at Our option, pay a portion of Your Life Insurance Benefit up to \$500 to any person equitably entitled to payment by reason of having incurred expenses on Your behalf or because of expenses from Your burial. Payment to any person, as shown above, will release Us from liability for the amount paid.

If any beneficiary is a minor, We may pay his or her share, until a legal guardian of the minor's estate is appointed, to a person who at Our option and in Our opinion is providing financial support and maintenance for the minor. We will pay:

- 1) \$200 at Your death; and
- 2) monthly installments of not more than \$200.

Payment to any person as shown above will release Us from all further liability for the amount paid.

We will pay the Life Insurance Benefit and benefits for loss of life under the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit at Your Dependents' death to You, if living. Otherwise, it will be paid, at Our option, to Your surviving spouse or the executor or administrator of Your estate.

If benefits are payable and meet Our guidelines, then You, or Your beneficiary, may elect to receive benefits in a lump sum payment or may elect to receive benefits through a draft book account. The draft book account will be owned by:

- 1) You, if living; or
- 2) Your beneficiary, in the event of Your death.

However, an account will not be established for:

- 1) a benefit payable to Your estate; or
- 2) an amount that is less than \$10,000.

We will make any payments, other than for loss of life, to You. We may make any such payments owed at Your death to Your estate. If any payment is owed to:

- 1) Your estate;
- 2) a person who is a minor; or
- 3) a person who is not legally competent,

then We may pay up to \$1,000 to a person who is related to You and who, at Our sole discretion, is entitled to it. Any such payment shall fulfill Our responsibility for the amount paid.

**Beneficiary Designation:** *How do I designate or change my beneficiary?*

You may designate or change a beneficiary by doing so in writing on a form satisfactory to Us and filing the form with the Employer. Only satisfactory forms sent to the Employer prior to Your death will be accepted.

Beneficiary designations will become effective as of the date You signed and dated the form, even if You have since died. We will not be liable for any amounts paid before receiving notice of a beneficiary change from the Employer.

In no event may a beneficiary be changed by a power of attorney.

**Claim Denial:** *What notification will my beneficiary or I receive if a claim is denied?*

If a claim for benefits is wholly or partly denied, You or Your beneficiary will be furnished with written notification of the decision. This written notification will:

- 1) give the specific reason(s) for the denial;
- 2) make specific reference to the provisions upon which the denial is based;
- 3) provide a description of any additional information necessary to perfect a claim and an explanation of why it is necessary; and
- 4) provide an explanation of the review procedure.

**Claim Appeal:** *What recourse do my beneficiary or I have if a claim is denied?*

On any claim, the claimant or his or her representative may appeal to Us for a full and fair review. To do so, he or she:



- 1) must request a review upon written application within:
  - a) 180 days of receipt of claim denial if the claim requires Us to make a determination of disability; or
  - b) 60 days of receipt of claim denial if the claim does not require Us to make a determination of disability; and
- 2) may request copies of all documents, records, and other information relevant to the claim; and
- 3) may submit written comments, documents, records and other information relating to the claim.

We will respond in writing with Our final decision on the claim.

**Policy Interpretation:** *Who interprets the terms and conditions of the Policy?*

We have full discretion and authority to determine eligibility for benefits and to construe and interpret all terms and provisions of The Policy. This provision applies where the interpretation of The Policy is governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA). This authority should not be construed to limit the legal action that may be taken by a Covered Person in accordance with any applicable state or federal law.

**Incontestability:** *When can the Life Insurance Benefit of The Policy be contested?*

Except for non-payment of premiums, Your or Your Dependent's Life Insurance Benefit cannot be contested after two years from its effective date.

No statement made by You or Your Spouse relating to Your or Your Spouse's insurability will be used to contest Your insurance for which the statement was made after Your insurance has been in force for two years. In order to be used, the statement must be in writing and signed by You and Your Spouse.

No statement made relating to Your Dependents being insurable will be used to contest their insurance for which the statement was made after their insurance has been in force for two years. In order to be used, the statement must be in writing and signed by You or Your representative.

All statements made by the Policyholder, the Employer or You or Your Spouse under The Policy will be deemed representations and not warranties. No statement made to affect this insurance will be used in any contest unless it is in writing and a copy of it is given to the person who made it, or to his or her beneficiary or Your representative.

**Assignment:** *Are there any rights of assignment?*

Except for the dismemberment benefits under the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit, You have the right to absolutely assign all of Your rights and interest under The Policy including, but not limited to the following:

- 1) the right to make any contributions required to keep the insurance in force;
- 2) the right to convert; and
- 3) the right to name and change a beneficiary.

We will recognize any absolute assignment made by You under The Policy, provided:

- 1) it is duly executed; and
- 2) a copy is acknowledged and on file with Us.

We and the Policyholder assume no responsibility:

- 1) for the validity or effect of any assignment; or
- 2) to provide any assignee with notices which We may be obligated to provide to You.

You do not have the right to collaterally assign Your rights and interest under The Policy.

**Legal Actions:** *When can legal action be taken against us?*

Legal action cannot be taken against Us:

- 1) sooner than 180 days after the date written Proof of Loss is furnished; or
- 2) more than 3 years after the date Proof of Loss is required to be furnished according to the terms of The Policy.

**Workers' Compensation:** *How does The Policy affect Workers' Compensation coverage?*

The Policy does not replace Workers' Compensation or affect any requirement for Workers' Compensation coverage.

**Insurance Fraud:** *How does the Company deal with fraud?*

Insurance fraud occurs when You, Your Dependents and/or the Employer provide Us with false information or file a claim for benefits that contains any false, incomplete or misleading information with the intent to injure, defraud or deceive Us. It is a crime if You, Your Dependents and/or the Employer commit insurance fraud. We will use all means available to Us

to detect, investigate, deter and prosecute those who commit insurance fraud. We will pursue all available legal remedies if You, Your Dependents and/or the Employer perpetrate insurance fraud.

**Misstatements:** *What happens if facts are misstated?*

If material facts about You or Your Dependents were not stated accurately:

- 1) the premium may be adjusted; and
- 2) the true facts will be used to determine if, and for what amount, coverage should have been in force.

## DEFINITIONS

**Active Employee** means an employee who works for the Employer on a regular basis in the usual course of the Employer's business. This must be at least the number of hours shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**Actively at Work** means at work with Your Employer on a day that is one of Your Employer's scheduled workdays. On that day, You must be performing for wage or profit all of the regular duties of Your job:

- 1) in the usual way; and
- 2) for Your usual number of hours.

We will also consider You to be Actively At Work on any regularly scheduled vacation day, paid time off day, personal day or holiday, only if You were Actively At Work on the preceding scheduled work day.

**Common Carrier** means a conveyance operated by a concern, other than the Policyholder, organized and licensed for the transportation of passengers for hire and operated by that concern.

**Contributory Coverage** means coverage for which You are required to contribute toward the cost. Contributory Coverage is shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**Dependent Child(ren)** means:

Your children, stepchildren, legally adopted children, or any other children related to You by blood or marriage provided such children are:

- 1) from live birth but not yet 26 years; or
- 2) age 26 or older and disabled. Such children must have become disabled before attaining age 26. You must submit proof, satisfactory to Us, of such children's disability.

Any child who is in active full-time military service cannot be a Dependent Child.

**Dependents** means Your Spouse and Your Dependent Child(ren). A dependent must be a citizen or legal resident of the United States of America, Puerto Rico, Guam and any other locations where We may legally provide such coverage.

**Employer** means the Policyholder.

**Guaranteed Issue Amount** means the Amount of Life Insurance for which We do not require Evidence of Insurability. The Guaranteed Issue Amount is shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**Injury** means bodily injury resulting:

- 1) directly from an accident; and
- 2) independently of all other causes;

which occurs while You or Your Dependents are covered under The Policy.

Loss resulting from:

- 1) sickness or disease, except a pus-forming infection which occurs through an accidental wound; or
- 2) medical or surgical treatment of a sickness or disease;

is not considered as resulting from Injury.

**Motor Vehicle** means a self-propelled, four (4) or more wheeled:

- 1) private passenger: car, station wagon, van or sport utility vehicle;
- 2) motor home or camper; or
- 3) pick-up truck;

not being used as a Common Carrier.

A Motor Vehicle does not include farm equipment, snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, lawnmowers or any other type of equipment vehicles.

**Non-Contributory Coverage** means coverage for which You are not required to contribute toward the cost. Non-Contributory Coverage is shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**Normal Retirement Age** means the Social Security Normal Retirement Age under the most recent amendments to the United States Social Security Act. It is determined by Your date of birth, as follows:

| Year of Birth     | Normal Retirement Age | Year of Birth | Normal Retirement Age |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 1937 or before    | 65                    | 1955          | 66 + 2 months         |
| 1938              | 65 + 2 months         | 1956          | 66 + 4 months         |
| 1939              | 65 + 4 months         | 1957          | 66 + 6 months         |
| 1940              | 65 + 6 months         | 1958          | 66 + 8 months         |
| 1941              | 65 + 8 months         | 1959          | 66 + 10 months        |
| 1942              | 65 + 10 months        | 1960 or after | 67                    |
| 1943 through 1954 | 66                    |               |                       |

**On** means, when used with reference to any conveyance (land, water or air), in or on, boarding or alighting from the conveyance.

**Physician** means a person who is:

- 1) a doctor of medicine, Osteopathy, Psychology or other legally qualified practitioner of a healing art that We recognize or are required by law to recognize;
- 2) licensed to practice in the jurisdiction where care is being given;
- 3) practicing within the scope of that license; and
- 4) not You or Related to You by blood or marriage.

**Prior Policy** means the group life insurance policy carried by the Employer on the day before the Policy Effective Date and will only include the coverage which is transferred to Us.

**Related** means Your Spouse, or other adult living with You, or Your sibling, parent, step-parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, son, daughter, or grandchild.

**Spouse** means Your spouse who:

- 1) is not divorced from You; and
- 2) is not in active full-time military service.

**The Policy** means the Policy which We issued to the Policyholder under the Policy Number shown on the face page.

**We, Us or Our** means the insurance company named on the face page of The Policy.

**You or Your** means the person to whom this Certificate of Insurance is issued.

**SUMMARY OF THE LOUISIANA LIFE AND HEALTH  
INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION LAW AND  
NOTICE CONCERNING COVERAGE  
LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS**

Residents of Louisiana who purchase life insurance, annuities or health insurance should know that the insurance companies licensed in this state to write these types of insurance are required by law to be members of the Louisiana Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association (LLHIGA). The purpose of LLHIGA is to assure that policyholders will be protected, within limits, in the unlikely event that a member insurer becomes financially unable to meet its obligations. If this happens, LLHIGA will assess its other member insurance companies for the money to pay the claims of insured persons who live in this state, and in some cases, to keep coverage in force. However, the valuable extra protection provided by these insurers through LLHIGA is limited. As noted in the disclaimer below, this protection is not a substitute for consumers' care in selecting companies that are well-managed and financially stable.

**DISCLAIMER**

The Louisiana Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association provides coverage of claims under some types of policies if the insurer becomes impaired or insolvent. *COVERAGE MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR POLICY.* Even if coverage is provided, there are significant limits and exclusions. Coverage is generally conditioned upon residence in this state. Other conditions may also preclude coverage.

Insurance companies and insurance agents are prohibited by law from using the existence of the association or its coverage to sell you an insurance policy.

You should not rely on the availability of coverage under the Louisiana Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association when selecting an insurer.

The Louisiana Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association or the Department of Insurance will respond to any questions you may have which are not answered by this document.

**LLHIGA**  
P.O. Box 3337  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

**Department of Insurance**  
P.O. Box 94214  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9214

The state law that provides for this safety-net coverage is called the Louisiana Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association Law (the law), and is set forth at R.S. 22:2081 *et seq.* The following is a brief summary of this law's coverages, exclusions and limits. This summary does not cover all provisions of the law; nor does it in any way change any person's rights or obligations under the law or the rights or obligations of LLHIGA.

**COVERAGE**

Generally, individuals will be protected by the Louisiana Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association if they live in this state and hold a covered life, health, or annuity policy, plan or contract, issued by an insurer (including a health maintenance organization) authorized to conduct business in Louisiana. The beneficiaries, payees or assignees of insured persons may also be protected as well even if they live in another state unless they are afforded coverage by the guaranty association of another state, or other circumstances described under the law are applicable.

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## **EXCLUSIONS FROM COVERAGE**

A person who holds a covered life, health, or annuity policy, plan or contract, is not protected by LLHIGA if:

1. He is eligible for protection under the laws of another state (This may occur when the insolvent insurer was incorporated in another state whose guaranty association protects insureds who live outside that state.);
2. The insurer was not authorized to do business in this state;
3. His policy was issued by a profit or nonprofit hospital or medical service organization, a fraternal benefit society, a mandatory state pooling plan, a mutual assessment company or similar plan in which the policyholder is subject to future assessments, an insurance exchange, an organization that issues charitable gift annuities as is defined in R.S. 22:952(A)(3), or any entity similar to any of these.

LLHIGA also does not provide coverage for:

1. Any policy or portion of a policy which is not guaranteed by the insurer or for which the individual has assumed the risk, such as a variable contract sold by prospectus;
2. Any policy of reinsurance (unless an assumption certificate was issued);
3. Interest rate or crediting rate yields, or similar factors employed in calculating changes in value, that exceed an average rate;
4. Dividends, premium refunds, or similar fees or allowances described under the Law;
5. Credits given in connection with the administration of a policy by a group contract holder;
6. Employers', associations' or similar entities' plans to the extent they are self-funded (that is, not insured by an insurance company, even if an insurance company administers them) or uninsured;
7. Unallocated annuity contracts (which give rights to group contract holders, not individuals), except unallocated annuity contracts and defined contribution government plans qualified under section 403(b) of the United States Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. § 403(b));
8. An obligation that does not arise under the express written terms of the policy or contract issued by the insurer to the policy owner or contract owner, including but not limited to, claims described under the law;
9. A policy or contract providing any hospital, medical, prescription drug or other health care benefits pursuant to "Medicare Part A Coverage", "Medicare Part B Coverage", "Medicare Part C coverage" or "Medicare Part D coverage" and any regulations issued pursuant to those parts;
10. Interest or other changes in value to be determined by the use of an index or other external references but which have not been credited to the policy or contract or as to which the policy or contract owner's rights are subject to forfeiture, as of the date the member insurer becomes an impaired or insolvent insurer, whichever is earlier.

## **LIMITS ON AMOUNTS OF COVERAGE**

The Louisiana Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association Law also limits the amount that LLHIGA is obligated to pay out. The benefits for which LLHIGA may become liable shall in no event exceed the lesser of the following:

1. LLHIGA cannot pay more than what the insurance company would owe under a policy or contract if it were not an impaired or insolvent insurer.
2. For any one insured life, regardless of the number of policies or contracts there are with the same company, LLHIGA will pay a maximum of \$300,000 in life insurance death benefits, but not more than \$100,000 in net cash surrender and net cash withdrawal values for life insurance.
3. For any one insured life, regardless of the number of policies or contracts there are with the same company, LLHIGA will pay a maximum of \$500,000 in health insurance benefits, and LLHIGA will pay a maximum of \$250,000 in present value of annuities, including net cash surrender and net cash withdrawal values.

In no event, regardless of the number of policies and contracts there were with the same company, and no matter how many different types of coverages, LLHIGA shall not be liable to expend more than \$500,000 in the aggregate with respect to any one individual.

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**ERISA INFORMATION  
THE FOLLOWING NOTICE  
CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

This employee welfare benefit plan (Plan) is subject to certain requirements of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended. ERISA requires that you receive a Statement of ERISA Rights, a description of Claim Procedures, and other specific information about the Plan. This document serves to meet ERISA requirements and provides important information about the Plan.

The benefits described in your booklet-certificate (Booklet) are provided under a group insurance policy (Policy) issued by the Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company (Insurance Company) and are subject to the Policy's terms and conditions. The Policy and Booklet are incorporated into, and form a part of, the Plan. The Plan has designated and named the Insurance Company as the claims fiduciary for benefits provided under the Policy. The Plan has granted the Insurance Company full discretion and authority to determine eligibility for benefits and to construe and interpret all terms and provisions of the Policy, to the extent permitted by applicable state law.

A copy of the Plan is available for your review during normal working hours in the office of the Plan Administrator.

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**1. Plan Name**

For employees of Pafford Emergency Medical Services, Inc.:

Group Basic Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plan

Group Supplemental Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plan

Group Basic Term Life Plan

Group Supplemental Dependent Life Plan

Group Supplemental Term Life Plan

Group Long Term Disability Plan

Group Short Term Disability Plan

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**2. Plan Number**

Group ADD - 501

Group Life - 501

Group Long Term Disability - 501

Group Short Term Disability - 501

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**3. Employer/Plan Sponsor**

PAFFORD EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC.  
2100 FLOYD PARK DR  
SUITE 1  
RUSTON, LA 71270

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**4. Employer Identification Number**

72-1451789

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**5. Type of Plan**

Welfare Benefit Plan providing:

Group Basic Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance

Group Supplemental Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance

Group Basic Term Life Insurance

Group Supplemental Dependent Life Insurance

Group Supplemental Term Life Insurance

Group Long Term Disability Insurance

Group Short Term Disability Insurance

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**6. Plan Administrator**

PAFFORD EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC.  
2100 FLOYD PARK DR  
SUITE 1  
RUSTON, LA 71270

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**7. Agent for Service of Legal Process**

For the Plan

PAFFORD EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC.  
2100 FLOYD PARK DR  
SUITE 1  
RUSTON, LA 71270

For the Policy:

Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company  
One Hartford Plaza  
Hartford, Connecticut 06155

In addition to the above, Service of Legal Process may be made on a plan trustee or the plan administrator.

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**8. Sources of Contributions**

**(Group Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment)** Basic and supplemental coverage are being offered under a single ERISA plan. The Employer may pay some or all of the premium for the basic coverage. Coverages described in the certificate/policy as noncontributory or as being paid by the Employer, if any, are those paid for directly by the Employer such that you may have no direct out of pocket expense for such coverage. However, employees who elect supplemental coverage will be required to contribute specified amounts to the plan. Any amounts paid by employees may be used to pay any benefit or expense under the plan and may be used to reduce what the Employer pays for basic coverage.

**(Group Short Term Disability and Group Long Term Disability)** The Employer pays the premium for the insurance, but may allocate part of the cost to the employee, or the employee may pay the entire premium. The Employer determines the portion of the cost to be paid by the employee. The insurance company/provider determines the cost according to the rate structure reflected in the Policy of Incorporation.

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**9. Type of Administration** The plan is administered by the Plan Administrator with benefits provided in accordance with the provisions of the applicable group plan.



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10. The Plan and its records are kept on a Policy Year basis.

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**11. Labor Organizations**

None

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**12. Names and Addresses of Trustees**

None

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**13. Plan Amendment Procedure**

The Plan Administrator reserves full authority, at its sole discretion, to terminate, suspend, withdraw, reduce, amend or modify the Plan, in whole or in part, at any time, without prior notice.

The Employer also reserves the right to adjust your share of the cost to continue coverage by the same procedures.

## **STATEMENT OF ERISA RIGHTS**

As a participant in the Plan you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended. ERISA provides that all Plan participants shall be entitled to:

### **1. Receive Information About Your Plan and Benefits**

- a) Examine, without charge, at the Plan Administrator's office and at other specified locations, such as worksites and union halls, all documents governing the Plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the Plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.
- b) Obtain, upon written request to the Plan Administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the Plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated summary Plan description. The administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.
- c) Receive a summary of the Plan's annual financial report. The Plan Administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary annual report.

### **2. Prudent Actions by Plan Fiduciaries**

In addition to creating rights for Plan participants ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the employee benefit Plan. The people who operate your Plan, called "fiduciaries" of the Plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other Plan participants and beneficiaries. No one, including your employer, your union, or any other person, may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a welfare benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

### **3. Enforce Your Rights**

If your claim for a welfare benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge, and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules. Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of Plan documents or the latest annual report from the Plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in a Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the Plan Administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to \$110 a day until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the administrator. If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a state or Federal court. If the Plan requires you to complete administrative appeals prior to filing in court, your right to file suit in state or Federal court may be affected if you do not complete the required appeals. If it should happen that Plan fiduciaries misuse the Plan's money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a Federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

### **4. Assistance with Your Questions**

If you have any questions about your Plan, you should contact the Plan Administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the Plan Administrator, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration (formerly known as the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration), U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

## **CLAIM PROCEDURES**

The Plan has designated and named the Insurance Company as the claims fiduciary for benefits provided under the Policy. The Plan has granted the Insurance Company full discretion and authority to determine eligibility for benefits and to construe and interpret all terms and provisions of the Policy, to the extent permitted by applicable state law.

## Claim Procedures for Claims Requiring a Determination of Disability

Claims and appeals for disability benefits will be adjudicated in a manner designed to ensure the independence and impartiality of the persons involved in making the decision. Accordingly, decisions regarding hiring, compensation, termination, promotion or other similar matters with respect to any individual (such as a claims adjudicator or medical or vocational expert) shall not be made based upon the likelihood that the individual will support the denial of benefits.

If the Insurance Company fails to strictly adhere to all the requirements of ERISA with respect to a claim, you are deemed to have exhausted the administrative remedies available under the Plan, with certain exceptions. Accordingly, you are entitled to bring a civil action to pursue any available remedies under section 502(a) of ERISA on the basis that the Insurance Company has failed to provide a reasonable claims procedure that would yield a decision on the merits of the claim. If you choose to bring a civil action to pursue remedies under section 502(a) of ERISA under such circumstances, your claim or appeal is deemed denied on review without the exercise of discretion by an appropriate fiduciary. However, the administrative remedies available under the Plan will not be deemed exhausted based on *de minimis* violations that do not cause, and are not likely to cause, prejudice or harm to you so long as the Insurance Company demonstrates that the violation was for good cause or due to matters beyond the control of the Insurance Company and that the violation occurred in the context of an ongoing, good faith exchange of information between the Insurance Company and you. This exception is not available if the violation is part of a pattern or practice of violations by the Insurance Company. Before filing a civil action, you may request a written explanation of the violation from the Insurance Company, and the Insurance Company must provide such explanation within 10 days, including a specific description of its bases, if any, for asserting that the violation should not cause the administrative remedies available under the Plan to be deemed exhausted. If a court rejects your request for immediate review on the basis that the Insurance Company met the standards for the exception, your claim shall be considered as re-filed on appeal upon the Insurance Company's receipt of the decision of the court. Within a reasonable time after the receipt of the decision, the Insurance Company shall provide you with notice of the resubmission.

### Claims for Benefits

If you or your authorized representative would like to file a claim for benefits for yourself or your insured dependents, you or your authorized representative should obtain a claim form(s) from your Employer or Plan Administrator. The applicable section of such form(s) must be completed by (1) you, (2) the Employer or Plan Administrator and (3) the attending physician or hospital. Following completion, the claim form(s) must be forwarded to the Insurance Company's claim representative. The Insurance Company will evaluate your claim and determine if benefits are payable.

The Insurance Company will make a decision no more than 45 days after receipt of your properly filed claim. The time for decision may be extended for two additional 30 day periods provided that, prior to any extension period, the Insurance Company notifies you in writing that an extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the Insurance Company, identifies those matters and gives the date by which it expects to render its decision. If your claim is extended due to your failure to submit information necessary to decide your claim, the time for decision may be tolled from the date on which the notification of the extension is sent to you until the date the Insurance Company receives your response to our request. If the Insurance Company approves your claim, the decision will contain information sufficient to reasonably inform you of that decision.

Any adverse benefit determination will be in writing and include: 1) the specific reason or reasons for the decision; 2) specific references to the Policy provisions on which the decision is based; 3) a description of any additional material or information necessary for you to perfect the claim and an explanation of why such material or information is necessary; 4) a description of the Insurance Company's review procedures and time limits applicable to such procedures; 5) a statement that you have the right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA after you appeal the decision and after you receive a written denial on appeal; 6) a discussion of the decision, including an explanation of the basis for disagreeing with or not following: (a) the views presented by you to the Insurance Company of health care professionals treating you and vocational professionals who evaluated you, (b) the views of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the Insurance Company in connection with the adverse benefit determination, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the benefit determination, and (c) a disability determination regarding you presented by you to the Insurance Company made by the Social Security Administration; 7) if the adverse benefit determination is based on a medical necessity or experimental treatment or similar exclusion or limit, either an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination, applying the terms of the Plan to your medical circumstances, or a statement that such explanation will be provided free of charge upon request; 8) either the specific internal rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar criteria of the Insurance Company relied upon in making the adverse determination or, alternatively, a statement that such rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar criteria of the Insurance Company do not exist; 9) a statement that you are entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information relevant to your claim for benefits; and

10) a statement prominently displayed in any applicable non-English language clearly indicating how to access the language services provided by the Insurance Company.

#### Appealing Denials of Claims for Benefits

On any wholly or partially denied claim, you or your representative must appeal once to the Insurance Company for a full and fair review. You must complete this claim appeal process before you file an action in court, with the exception of an action under the deemed exhausted process described above. Your appeal request must be in writing and be received by the Insurance Company no later than the expiration of 180 days from the date you received your claim denial. As part of your appeal:

1. you may request, free of charge, copies of all documents, records, and other information relevant to your claim; and
2. you may submit written comments, documents, records and other information relating to your claim.

The Insurance Company's review on appeal shall take into account all comments, documents, records and other information submitted by you relating to the claim, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial benefit determination.

Before the Insurance Company can issue an adverse benefit determination on review, the Insurance Company shall provide you, free of charge, with any new or additional evidence considered, relied upon, or generated by the Insurance Company (or at the direction of the Insurance Company) in connection with the claim; such evidence must be provided as soon as possible and sufficiently in advance of the date on which the notice of adverse benefit determination on review is required to be provided to give you a reasonable opportunity to respond prior to that date.

Before the Insurance Company can issue an adverse benefit determination on review based on a new or additional rationale, the Insurance Company shall provide you, free of charge, with the rationale; the rationale must be provided as soon as possible and sufficiently in advance of the date on which the notice of adverse benefit determination on review is required to be provided to give you a reasonable opportunity to respond prior to that date.

The Insurance Company will make a final decision no more than 45 days after it receives your timely appeal. The time for final decision may be extended for one additional 45 day period provided that, prior to the extension, the Insurance Company notifies you in writing that an extension is necessary due to special circumstances, identifies those circumstances and gives the date by which it expects to render its decision. If your claim is extended due to your failure to submit information necessary to decide your claim on appeal, the time for decision shall be tolled from the date on which the notification of the extension is sent to you until the date the Insurance Company receives your response to the request.

The individual reviewing your appeal shall give no deference to the initial benefit decision and shall be an individual who is neither the individual who made the initial benefit decision, nor the subordinate of such individual. The review process provides for the identification of the medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained in connection with an initial adverse decision, without regard to whether that advice was relied upon in making that decision. When deciding an appeal that is based in whole or part on medical judgment, the Insurance Company will consult with a medical professional having the appropriate training and experience in the field of medicine involved in the medical judgment and who is neither an individual consulted in connection with the initial benefit decision, nor a subordinate of such individual. If the Insurance Company grants your claim appeal, the decision will contain information sufficient to reasonably inform you of that decision.

However, any final adverse benefit determination on review will be in writing and include: 1) the specific reason or reasons for the decision; 2) specific references to the Policy provisions on which the decision is based; 3) a statement that you are entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records, and other information relevant to your claim; 4) a statement (a) that you have the right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA, and (b) describing any applicable contractual limitations period that applies to your right to bring such an action, including the calendar date on which the contractual limitations period expires for the claim; 5) a discussion of the decision, including an explanation of the basis for disagreeing with or not following: (a) the views presented by you to the Insurance Company of health care professionals treating you and vocational professionals who evaluated you, (b) the views of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the Insurance Company in connection with the adverse benefit determination, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the benefit determination, and (c) a disability determination regarding you presented by you to the Insurance Company made by the Social Security Administration; 6) if the adverse benefit determination is based on a medical necessity or experimental treatment or similar exclusion or limit, either an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination, applying the terms of the Plan to your medical circumstances, or a statement that such explanation will be provided free of charge upon request; 7) either the specific internal rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar criteria of the Insurance

Company relied upon in making the adverse determination or, alternatively, a statement that such rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar criteria of the Plan do not exist; 8) a statement prominently displayed in any applicable non-English language clearly indicating how to access the language services provided by the Insurance Company; and 9) any other notice(s), statement(s) or information required by applicable law.

### **Claim Procedures for Claims Not Requiring a Determination of Disability**

Claims and appeals for benefits will be adjudicated in a manner designed to ensure the independence and impartiality of the persons involved in making the decision. Accordingly, decisions regarding hiring, compensation, termination, promotion or other similar matters with respect to any individual (such as a claims adjudicator or medical expert) shall not be made based upon the likelihood that the individual will support the denial of benefits.

#### **Claims for Benefits**

If you or your authorized representative would like to file a claim for benefits for yourself or your insured dependents, you or your authorized representative should obtain a claim form(s) from your Employer or Plan Administrator. The applicable section of such form(s) must be completed by (1) you, (2) the Employer or Plan Administrator and (3) the attending physician or hospital. Following completion, the claim form(s) must be forwarded to the Insurance Company's claim representative. The Insurance Company will evaluate your claim and determine if benefits are payable.

The Insurance Company will make a decision no more than 90 days after receipt of your properly filed claim. However, if the Insurance Company determines that special circumstances require an extension, the time for its decision will be extended for an additional 90 days, provided that, prior to the beginning of the extension period, the Insurance Company notifies you in writing of the special circumstances and gives the date by which it expects to render its decision. If extended, a decision shall be made no more than 180 days after your claim was received. If the Insurance Company approves your claim, the decision will contain information sufficient to reasonably inform you of that decision.

However, any adverse benefit determination will be in writing and include: 1) specific reasons for the decision; 2) specific references to Policy provisions on which the decision is based; 3) a description of any additional material or information necessary for you to perfect the claim and an explanation of why such material or information is necessary; 4) a description of the review procedures and time limits applicable to such, and 5) a statement that you have the right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA after you appeal our decision and after you receive a written denial on appeal.

#### **Appealing Denials of Claims for Benefits**

On any wholly or partially denied claim, you or your representative must appeal once to the Insurance Company for a full and fair review. You must complete this claim appeal process before you file an action in court. Your appeal request must be in writing and be received by the Insurance Company no later than the expiration of 60 days from the date you received your claim denial. As part of your appeal:

1. you may request, free of charge, copies of all documents, records, and other information relevant to your claim; and
2. you may submit written comments, documents, records and other information relating to your claim.

The Insurance Company's review on appeal shall take into account all comments, documents, records and other information submitted by you relating to the claim, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial benefit determination.

The Insurance Company will make a final decision no more than 60 days after it receives your timely appeal. However, if the Insurance Company determines that special circumstances require an extension, the time for its decision will be extended for an additional 60 days, provided that, prior to the beginning of the extension period, the Insurance Company notifies you in writing of the special circumstances and gives the date by which it expects to render its decision. If extended, a decision shall be made no more than 120 days after your appeal was received. If the Insurance Company grants your claim appeal, the decision will contain information sufficient to reasonably inform you of that decision.

However, any final adverse benefit determination on review will be in writing and include: 1) specific reasons for the decision and specific references to the Policy provisions on which the decision is based, 2) a statement that you are entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records and other information relevant to the claim, 3) a statement of your right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA, and 4) any other notice(s), statement(s) or information required by applicable law.

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