YOUR
GROUP INSURANCE
PLAN

DAEMEN COLLEGE
CLASS 0001 0002 AND 0003
OPTIONAL LIFE, DENTAL, VSP VISION

CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE

The Guardian
7 Hanover Square
New York, New York 10004

We, The Guardian, certify that the employee named below is entitled to the insurance benefits provided by The Guardian described in this certificate, provided the eligibility and effective date requirements of the plan are satisfied.

Group Policy No.	Certificate No.	Effective Date
Issued To		

This CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE replaces any CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE previously issued under the above Plan or under any other Plan providing similar or identical benefits issued to the Planholder by The Guardian.

B110.0023

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

SECTION I The benefits described in Section I of this booklet are directly funded through and provided by your employer, and are not insured by Guardian.

Your employer, has the sole responsibility and liability for payment of these benefits. Guardian supplies administrative services, such as: claims services and preparation of employee benefit booklets.

As used in Section I of this booklet, the terms:

- "certificate" refers to this booklet describing the benefits directly funded through and provided by your employer;
- "insurance" and "insured" refers to the benefits directly funded through and provided by your employer;
- "plan", "we", "us" and "our" refer to the benefits that are directly funded through and provided by your employer, and are not insured by Guardian;
- "premium," "premiums," and "premium charge" refer to payments required from you for coverage under this plan; and
- "proof of insurability" refers to any evidence of your good health which may be required under this plan.

All terms and provisions, maximums or limitations set forth in Section I of this Certificate Booklet will be applicable to the benefits described in Section I of this booklet and provided by your employer.

SECTION II These benefits are purchased and provided through a group insurance plan issued by Guardian to your employer.

B115.0127

SECTION I: Employer-Funded Benefits Not Insured By Guardian

B115.0002

An Important Notice About Continuation Rights

The following "Federal Continuation Rights" section may not apply to the employer's plan. You must contact your employer to find out if: (a) the employer is subject to the "Federal Continuation Rights" section, and therefore; (b) the section applies to you.

B235.0109

YOUR CONTINUATION RIGHTS

Federal Continuation Rights

Important Notice

This section applies only to any dental, out-of-network point-of-service medical, medical expense, prescription drug or vision coverages which are part of this plan. In this section, these coverages are referred to as "group health benefits."

This section does not apply to any coverage for loss of income due to disability. This coverage can not be continued under this section.

Under this section, "qualified continuee" means any person who, on the day before any event which would qualify him or her for continuation under this section, is covered for group health benefits under this plan as: (a) a covered actived employee or qualified retiree; (b) the spouse of a covered active employee or qualified retiree; or (c) the dependent child of a covered active employee or qualified retiree. A child born to, or adopted by, the covered active employee or qualified retiree during a continuation period is also a qualified continuee. Any other person who becomes covered under this plan during a continuation provided by this section is not a qualified continuee.

If Your Group Health Benefits End

If you are a qualified continuee and your group health benefits end due to your termination of employment or reduction of work hours, you may elect to continue such benefits for up to 18 months, if you were not terminated due to gross misconduct.

The continuation: (a) may cover you or any other qualified continuee; and (b) is subject to "When Continuation Ends".

Extra Continuation for Disabled Qualified Continuees

If a qualified continuee is determined to be disabled under Title II or Title XVI of the Social Security Act on or during the first 60 days after the date his or her group health benefits would otherwise end due to your termination of employment or reduction of work hours, and such disability lasts at least until the end of the 18 month period of continuation coverage, he or she or any member of that person's family who is a qualified continuee may elect to extend his or her 18 month continuation period explained above for up to an extra 11 months.

To elect the extra 11 months of continuation, a qualified continuee must give your employer written proof of Social Security's determination of the disabled qualified continuee's disability as described in "The Qualified Continuee's Responsibilities". If, during this extra 11 month continuation period, the qualified continuee is determined to be no longer disabled under the Social Security Act, he or she must notify your employer within 30 days of such determination, and continuation will end, as explained in "When Continuation Ends."

This extra 11 month continuation is subject to "When Continuation Ends".

An additional 50% of the total cost of coverage also may be required from all qualified continuees who are members of the disabled qualified continuee's family by your employer during this extra 11 month continuation period, provided the disabled qualified continuee has extended coverage.

Special Continuance for Retired Employees and their Dependents

If your group health benefits end due to a bankruptcy proceeding under Title 11 of the United States Code involving the employer, you may elect to continue such benefits, provided that:

(a) you are or become a retired employee on or before the date group health benefits end; and

(b) you and your dependents were covered for group health benefits under this plan on the day before the bankruptcy proceeding under Title 11 of the United States Code.

The continuation can last for your lifetime. After your death, the continuation period for a dependent can last for up to 36 months.

For purposes of this special continuance, a substantial elimination of coverage for you and your dependents within one year before or after the start of such proceeding will be considered loss of coverage.

If you die before the bankruptcy proceeding under Title 11 of the United States Code, your surviving spouse and dependent children may elect to continue group health benefits on their own behalf, provided they were covered on the day before such proceedings. The continuation can last for your surviving spouse's lifetime.

This special continuance starts on the later of: (a) the date of the proceeding under Title 11; or (b) the day after the date group health benefits would have ended. It ends as described in "When Continuation Ends", except that a person's entitlement to Medicare will not end such continuance.

B235.0228

If You Die While Covered

If you die while covered, any qualified continuee whose group health benefits would otherwise end may elect to continue such benefits. The continuation can last for up to 36 months, subject to "When Continuation Ends".

If Your Marriage Ends

If your marriage ends due to legal divorce or legal separation, any qualified continuee whose group health benefits would otherwise end may elect to continue such benefits. The continuation can last for up to 36 months, subject to "When Continuation Ends".

If a Dependent Child Loses Eligibility

If a dependent child's group health benefits end due to his or her loss of dependent eligibility as defined in this plan, other than your coverage ending, he or she may elect to continue such benefits. However, such dependent child must be a qualified continuee. The continuation can last for up to 36 months, subject to "When Continuation Ends".

Concurrent Continuations

If a dependent elects to continue his or her group health benefits due to your termination of employment or reduction of work hours, the dependent may elect to extend his or her 18 month or 29 month continuation period to up to 36 months, if during the 18 month or 29 month continuation period, the dependent becomes eligible for 36 months of continuation due to any of the reasons stated above.

The 36 month continuation period starts on the date the 18 month continuation period started, and the two continuation periods will be deemed to have run concurrently.

Special Medicare Rule

If you become entitled to Medicare before a termination of employment or reduction of work hours, a special rule applies for a dependent. The continuation period for a dependent, after your later termination of employment or reduction of work hours, will be the longer of: (a) 18 months (29 months if there is a disability extension) from your termination of employment or reduction of work hours; or (b) 36 months from the date of your earlier entitlement to Medicare. If Medicare entitlement occurs more than 18 months before termination of employment or reduction of work hours, this special Medicare rule does not apply.

The Qualified Continuee's Responsibilities

A person eligible for continuation under this section must notify your employer, in writing, of: (a) your legal divorce or legal separation from your spouse; (b) the loss of dependent eligibility, as defined in this plan, of a covered dependent child; (c) a second event that would qualify a person for continuation coverage after a qualified continuee has become entitled to continuation with a maximum of 18 or 29 months; (d) a determination by the Social Security Administration that a qualified continuee entitled to receive continuation with a maximum of 18 months has become disabled during the first 60 days of such continuation; and (e) a determination by the Social Security Administration that a qualified continuee is no longer disabled.

Notice of an event that would qualify a person for continuation under this section must be given to your employer within 60 days of the latest of: (a) the date on which an event that would qualify a person for continuation under this section occurs; (b) the date on which the qualified continuee loses (or would lose) coverage under this plan as a result of the event; or (c) the date the qualified continuee is informed of the responsibility to provide notice to your employer and this plan's procedures for providing such notice.

Notice of a disability determination must be given to your employer by a qualified continuee within 60 days of the latest of: (a) the date of the Social Security Administration determination; (b) the date of the event that would qualify a person for continuation; (c) the date the qualified continuee loses or would lose coverage; or (d) the date the qualified continuee is informed of the responsibility to provide notice to your employer and this plan's procedures for providing such notice. But such notice must be given before the end of the first 18 months of continuation coverage.

B235.0181

Your Employer's Responsibilities

Your employer must notify the qualified continuee, in writing, of: (a) his or her right to continue this plan's group health benefits; (b) the payments he or she must make to continue such benefits; and (c) the times and manner in which such payments must be made.

If your employer determines that an individual is not eligible for continued group health benefits under this plan, they must notify the individual with an explanation of why such coverage is not available. This notice must be provided within the time frame described above.

If a qualified continuee's continued group health benefits under this plan are cancelled prior to the maximum continuation period, your employer must notify the qualified continuee as soon as practical following determination that the continued group health benefits shall terminate.

Election of Continuation

To continue his or her group health benefits, the qualified continuee must give your employer written notice that he or she elects to continue. This must be done by the later of: (a) 60 days from the date a qualified continuee receives notice of his or her continuation rights from your employer as described above; or (b) the date coverage would otherwise end. And the qualified continuee must make his or her first payment in a timely manner.

The subsequent payments must be paid to your employer, by the qualified continuee, in advance, at the times and in the manner specified by your employer. No further notice of when payments are due will be given.

The payment will be the total cost of coverage for the group health benefits had the qualified continuee stayed covered under the group plan on a regular basis. It includes any amount that would have been paid by your employer. Except as explained in "Extra Continuation for Disabled Qualified Continuees", an additional charge of two percent of the total cost of coverage may also be required by your employer.

If the qualified continuee fails to give your employer notice of his or her intent to continue, or fails to make any required payments in a timely manner, he or she waives his or her continuation rights.

Grace in Payment

A qualified continuee's payment is timely if, with respect to the first payment after the qualified continuee elects to continue, such payment is made no later than 45 days after such election. In all other cases, such payment is timely if it is made within 31 days of the specified due date. If timely payment is made to the plan in an amount that is not significantly less than the amount the plan requires to be paid for the period of coverage, then the amount paid is deemed to satisfy the requirement for the payment that must be made; unless your employer notifies the qualified continuee of the amount of the deficiency and grants an additional 30 days for payment of the deficiency to be made. Payment is calculated to be made on the date on which it is sent to your employer.

When Continuation Ends

A qualified continuee's continued group health benefits end on the first of the following:

(1) with respect to continuation upon your termination of employment or reduction of work hours, the end of the 18 month period which starts on the date the group health benefits would otherwise end;

(2) with respect to a qualified continuee who has an additional 11 months of continuation due to disability, the earlier of: (a) the end of the 29 month period which starts on the date the group health benefits would otherwise end; or (b) the first day of the month which coincides with or next follows the date which is 30 days after the date on which a final determination is made that the disabled qualified continuee is no longer disabled under Title II or Title XVI of the Social Security Act;

(3) with respect to continuation upon your death, your legal divorce, or legal separation, or the end of a covered dependent's eligibility, the end of the 36 month period which starts on the date the group health benefits would otherwise end;

(4) the date the employer ceases to provide any group health plan to any employee;

(5) the end of the period for which the last payment is made;

(6) the date, after the date of election, he or she becomes covered under any other group health plan which does not contain any pre-existing condition exclusion or limitation affecting him or her; or

(7) the date, after the date of election, he or she becomes entitled to Medicare.

B235.0190

Uniformed Services Continuation Rights

If you enter or return from military service, you may have special rights under this *plan* as a result of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 ("USERRA").

If your group health benefits under this *plan* would otherwise end because you enter into active military service, this *plan* will allow you, or your dependents, to continue such coverage in accord with the provisions of USERRA. As used here, "group health benefits" means any dental, out-of-network point-of service medical, major medical, prescription drug or vision coverages which are part of this *plan.*

Coverage under this plan may be continued while you are in the military for up to a maximum period of 24 months beginning on the date of absence from work. Continued coverage will end if you fail to return to work in a timely manner after military service ends as provided under USERRA. You should contact your employer for details about this continuation provision including required premium payments.

B235.0194

ELIGIBILITY FOR DENTAL COVERAGE

B489.0002

Employee Coverage

Eligible Employees

To be eligible for *employee* coverage you must be an active *full-time employee* or a *qualified retiree.* And you must belong to a class of *employees* covered by this *plan.*

Other Conditions

If you must pay all or part of the cost of *employee* coverage, we won't insure you until you enroll and agree to make the required payments. If you do this: (a) more than 31 days after you first become eligible; or (b) after you previously had coverage which ended because you failed to make a required payment, we consider you to be a late entrant.

If you initially waived dental coverage under this *plan* because you were covered under another group *plan,* and you now elect to enroll in the dental coverage under this *plan,* the Penalty for Late Entrants provision will not apply to you with regard to dental coverage provided your coverage under the other *plan* ends due to one of the following events: (a) termination of your spouse's employment; (b) loss of eligibility under your spouse's *plan;* (c) divorce; (d) death of your spouse; or (e) termination of the other *plan.*

But you must enroll in the dental coverage under this *plan* within 30 days of the date that any of the events described above occur.

B489.0123

When Your Coverage Starts

Employee benefits are scheduled to start on your effective date.

But you must be actively at work on a *full-time* basis unless you are a *qualified retiree,* on the scheduled effective date. And you must have met all of the applicable conditions explained above, and any applicable waiting period. If you are an active *full-time employee* and are not actively at work on the date your insurance is scheduled to start, we will postpone your coverage until the date you return to active *full-time* work.

If you are a *qualified retiree,* you can not be confined in a health care facility on the scheduled effective date of coverage. If you are confined on that date, we will postpone your coverage until the day after you are discharged. And you must also have met all of the applicable conditions of eligibility and any applicable waiting period in order for coverage to start.

Sometimes, your effective date is not a regularly scheduled work day. But coverage will still start on that date if you were actively at work on a *full-time* basis on your last regularly scheduled work day.

B489.0067

When Your Coverage Ends

If you are an active *full-time employee,* your coverage ends on the last day of the month in which your active *full-time* service ends for any reason, other than disability. Such reasons include retirement (except for *qualified retirees),* layoff, leave of absence and the end of employment.

Your coverage ends on the date you die.

It also ends on the date you stop being a member of a class of *employees* eligible for insurance under this *plan,* or when this *plan* ends for all *employees.* And it ends when this *plan* is changed so that benefits for the class of *employees* to which you belong ends.

If you are required to pay all or part of the cost of this coverage and you fail to do so, your coverage ends. It ends on the last day of the period for which you made the required payments, unless coverage ends earlier for other reasons.

Read this booklet carefully if your coverage ends. You may have the right to continue certain group benefits for a limited time.

B489.0077

Your Right To Continue Group Coverage During A Family Leave Of Absence

Important Notice

This section may not apply. You must contact your *employer* to find out if your *employer* must allow for a leave of absence under federal law. In that case the section applies.

If Your Group Coverage Would End

Group coverage may normally end for an *employee* because he or she ceases work due to an approved leave of absence. But, the *employee* may continue his or her group coverage if the leave of absence has been granted: (a) to allow the *employee* to care for a seriously injured or ill spouse, child, or parent; (b) after the birth or adoption of a child; (c) due to the *employee's* own serious health condition; or (d) because of any serious injury or illness arising out of the fact that a spouse, child, parent, or next of kin, who is a covered servicemember, of the *employee* is on active duty (or has been notified of an impending call or order to active duty) in the Armed Forces in support of a contingency operation. The *employee* will be required to pay the same share of the premium as he or she paid before the leave of absence.

When Continuation Ends

Coverage may continue until the earliest of the following:

- The date you return to active work.
- The end of a total leave period of 26 weeks in one 12 month period, in the case of an *employee* who cares for a covered servicemember. This 26 week total leave period applies to all leaves granted to the *employee* under this section for all reasons.
- The end of a total leave period of 12 weeks in: (a) any 12 month period, in the case of any other *employee;* or (b) any later 12 month period in the case of an *employee* who cares for a covered servicemember.
- The date on which your coverage would have ended had you not been on leave.
- The end of the period for which the premium has been paid.

Definitions As used in this section, the terms listed below have the meanings shown below:

- **Active Duty:** This term means duty under a call or order to active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States.
- **Contingency Operation:** This term means a military operation that: (a) is designated by the Secretary of Defense as an operation in which members of the armed forces are or may become involved in military actions, operations, or hostilities against an enemy of the United States or against an opposing military force; or (b) results in the call or order to, or retention on, active duty of members of the uniformed services under any provision of law during a war or during a national emergency declared by the President or Congress.
- **Covered Servicemember:** This term means a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who for a serious injury or illness: (a) is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy; (b) is otherwise in outpatient status; or (c) is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list.
- **Next Of Kin:** This term means the nearest blood relative of the *employee.*
- **Outpatient Status:** This term means, with respect to a covered servicemember, that he or she is assigned to: (a) a military medical treatment facility as an outpatient; or (b) a unit established for the purpose of providing command and control of members of the Armed Forces receiving medical care as outpatients.
- **Serious Injury Or Illness:** This term means, in the case of a covered servicemember, an injury or illness incurred by him or her in line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces that may render him or her medically unfit to perform the duties of his or her office, grade, rank, or rating.

B449.0727

Dependent Coverage

B200.0271

Eligible Dependents For Dependent Dental Benefits Your *eligible dependents* are: (a) your legal spouse; (b) your unmarried dependent children who are under age 19; and (c) your unmarried dependent children from age 19 until their 23rd birthday, who are enrolled as full-time students at accredited schools.

An unmarried dependent child who is not able to remain enrolled as a full-time student due to a *medically necessary* leave of absence may continue to be an *eligible dependent* until the earlier of: (a) the date that is one year after the first day of the *medically necessary* leave of absence; or (b) the date on which coverage would otherwise end under this *plan.* You must provide written certification by a treating physician which states that the child is suffering from a serious illness or injury and that the leave of absence is *medically necessary.*

B489.0301

Adopted And Step-Children

Your "unmarried dependent children" include your dependent legally adopted children and, if they depend on you for most of their support and maintenance, your step-children. We treat a child as legally adopted from the time the child is placed in the home for the purpose of adoption. We treat such a child this way whether or not a final adoption order is ever issued.

Dependents Not Eligible

We exclude any dependent who is insured by this plan as *an employee.* And we exclude any dependent who is on active duty in any armed force.

B489.0003

Handicapped Children

You may have an unmarried child with a mental or physical handicap, or developmental disability, who can't support himself or herself. Subject to all of the terms of this coverage and the *plan,* such a child may stay eligible for dependent benefits past this coverage's age limit.

The child will stay eligible as long as he or she stays unmarried and unable to support himself or herself, if: (a) his or her conditions started before he or she reached this coverage's age limit; (b) he or she became insured by this coverage before he or she reached the age limit, and stayed continuously insured until he or she reached such limit; and (c) he or she depends on you for most of his or her support and maintenance.

But, for the child to stay eligible, you must send us written proof that the child is handicapped and depends on you for most of his or her support and maintenance. You have 31 days from the date the child reaches the age limit to do this. We can ask for periodic proof that the child's condition continues. But, after two years, we can't ask for this proof more than once a year.

The child's coverage ends when yours does.

B449.0042

Waiver Of Dental Late Entrants Penalty

If you initially waived dental coverage for your spouse or eligible dependent children under this plan because they were covered under another group plan, and you now elect to enroll them in the dental coverage under this plan, the Penalty for Late Entrants provision will not apply to them with regard to dental coverage provided their coverage under the other plan ends due to one of the following events: (a) termination of your spouse's employment; (b) loss of eligibility under your spouse's plan; (c) divorce; (d) death of your spouse; or (e) termination of the other plan.

But you must enroll your spouse or eligible dependent children in the dental coverage under this plan within 30 days of the date that any of the events described above occur.

In addition, the Penalty for Late Entrants provision for dental coverage will not apply to your spouse or eligible dependent children if: (a) you are under legal obligation to provide dental coverage due to a court-order; and (b) you enroll them in the dental coverage under this plan within 30 days of the issuance of the court-order.

B200.0749

When Dependent Coverage Starts

In order for your dependent coverage to begin you must already be insured for employee coverage or enroll for employee and dependent coverage at the same time. Subject to the "Exception" stated below and to all of the terms of this *plan,* the date your dependent coverage starts depends on when you elect to enroll your *initial dependents* and agree to make any required payments.

If you do this on or before your *eligibility date,* the dependent's coverage is scheduled to start on the later of the first of the month which coincides with or next follows your *eligibility date* and the date you become insured for employee coverage.

If you do this within the *enrollment period,* the coverage is scheduled to start on the later of the first of the month which coincides with or next follows the date you sign the enrollment form; and the date you become insured for employee coverage.

If you do this after the *enrollment period* ends, each of your *initial dependents* is a late entrant and is subject to any applicable late entrant penalties. The dependent's coverage is scheduled to start on the first of the month which coincides with or next follows the date you sign the enrollment form.

Once you have dependent coverage for your *initial dependents,* you must notify us when you acquire any new dependents and agree to make any additional payments required for their coverage.

If you do this within 31 days of the date the *newly acquired dependent* becomes eligible, the dependent's coverage will start on the date the dependent first becomes eligible. If you fail to notify us on time, the *newly acquired dependent,* when enrolled, is a late entrant and is subject to any applicable late entrant penalties. The late entrant's coverage is scheduled to start on the date you sign the enrollment form.

B489.0055

Exception

If a dependent, other than a newborn child, is confined to a *hospital* or other health care facility; or is home-confined; or is unable to carry out the normal activities of someone of like age and sex on the date his dependent benefits would otherwise start, we will postpone the effective date of such benefits until the day after his discharge from such facility; until home confinement ends; or until he resumes the normal activities of someone of like age and sex.

B200.0692

Newborn And Adopted Children

We cover your newborn child for dependent benefits, from the moment of birth. We also cover your adopted child for dependent benefits from the moment of birth if you take physical custody of the child upon such child's release from the hospital and you file a petition for adoption within 30 days of the child's birth.

We do this only if: (a) you are already covered for dependent child coverage when the child is born, adopted or placed for adoption; or (b) you enroll the child and agree to make any required premium payments within 31 days of the date the child is born, adopted or placed for adoption. If you fail to do this, once the child is enrolled, the child is a late entrant, is subject to any applicable late entrant penalties, and will be covered as of the date you sign the enrollment form.

B489.0027

When Dependent Coverage Ends

Dependent coverage ends for all of your dependents when your coverage ends.

If a surviving dependent elects to continue his or her dependent benefits under this *plan's* "Federal Continuation Rights" provision, or under any other continuation provision of this *plan,* if any, this free continuation period will be provided as the first six months of such continuation. Premiums required to be paid by, or on behalf of a surviving dependent will be waived for the first six months of continuation, subject to restrictions (a), (b) and (c) above. After the first six months of continuation, the remainder of the continuation period, if any, will be subject to the premium requirements, and all of the terms of the "Federal Continuation Rights" or other continuation provisions.

Dependent coverage also ends for all of your dependents when you stop being a member of a class of *employees* eligible for such coverage. And it ends when this *plan* ends, or when dependent coverage is dropped from this *plan* for all *employees* or for an *employee's* class.

If you are required to pay all or part of the cost of dependent coverage, and you fail to do so, your dependent coverage ends. It ends on the last day of the period for which you made the required payments, unless coverage ends earlier for other reasons.

An individual dependent's coverage ends when he or she stops being an *eligible dependent.* This happens to a child at 12:01 a.m. on the date the child attains this *plan's* age limit, when he or she marries, when a child covered as a student is no longer an active *full-time* student, or when a step-child is no longer dependent on you for support and maintenance. It happens to a spouse when a marriage ends in legal divorce or annulment. But, if a child who is enrolled as a *full-time* student must take a medical leave of absence from school due to sickness, his or her coverage may be continued. Such coverage may be continued for up to one year from the last day the child attended school, but not beyond the date coverage would otherwise end under this *plan* if he or she did not take the medical leave of absence; provided: (a) we receive a *doctor's* certification of the sickness which requires the leave of absence; (b) the group *plan* remains in force; and (c) all required premiums for the child's coverage continue to be paid.

Read this *plan* carefully if dependent coverage ends for any reason. Dependents may have the right to continue certain group benefits for a limited time.

B509.0032-R

CERTIFICATE AMENDMENT

This rider amends the "Dependent Coverage" provisions as follows:

An employee's domestic partner will be eligible for dental coverage under this plan. Coverage will be provided subject to all the terms of this plan and to the following limitations:

To qualify for such coverage, both the employee and his or her domestic partner must:

- be 18 years of age or older;
- be unmarried, constitute each other's sole domestic partner and not have had another domestic partner in the last 12 months;
- share the same permanent address for at least 12 consecutive months and intend to do so indefinitely;
- share joint financial responsibility for basic living expenses including food, shelter and medical expenses;
- not be related by blood to a degree that would prohibit marriage in the employee's state of residence; and
- be financially interdependent which must be demonstrated by at least four of the following:
  a. ownership of a joint bank account;
  b. ownership of a joint credit account;
  c. evidence of a joint mortgage or lease;
  d. evidence of joint obligation on a loan;
  e. joint ownership of a residence;
  f. evidence of common household expenses such as utilities or telephone;
  g. execution of wills naming each other as executor and/or beneficiary;
  h. granting each other durable powers of attorney;
  i. granting each other health care powers of attorney;
  j. designation of each other as beneficiary under a retirement benefit account; or
  k. evidence of other joint financial responsibility.

The employee must complete a "Declaration of Domestic Partnership" attesting to the relationship.

The domestic partner's dependent children will be eligible for coverage under this plan on the same basis as if the children were the employee's dependent children.

Coverage for the domestic partner and his or her dependent children ends when the domestic partner no longer meets the qualifications of a domestic partner as indicated above. Upon termination of a domestic partnership, a "Statement of Termination" must be completed and filed with the employer. Once the employee submits a "Statement of Termination," he or she may not enroll another domestic partner for a period of 12 months from the date of the previous termination.

And, the domestic partner and his or her children will be not eligible for:

a. survivor benefits upon the employee's death as explained under the "When Dependent Coverage Ends" section; or

b. continuation of dental coverage as explained under the "Federal Continuation Rights" section and under any other continuation rights section of this plan, unless the employee is also eligible for and elects continuation.

This rider is a part of this plan. Except as stated in this rider, nothing contained in this rider changes or affects any other terms of this plan.

B210.0016

DENTAL HIGHLIGHTS

This page provides a quick guide to some of the Dental Expense Insurance *plan* features which people most often want to know about. But it's not a complete description of your Dental Expense Insurance *plan.* Read the following pages carefully for a complete explanation of what we pay, limit and exclude.

- **Benefit Year Cash Deductible for Non-Orthodontic Services** . . None

B497.0067

- **Payment Rates:**

For Group I Services 100%
For Group II Services 80%
For Group III Services 60%
For Group IV Services 50%

B497.0086

- **Benefit Year Payment Limit for Non-Orthodontic Services**

For Group I, II and III Services . . . . . Up to $1,000.00

- **Lifetime Payment Limit for Orthodontic Treatment**

For Group IV Services . . . . . Up to $900.00

B497.0105

Group Enrollment Period

A group enrollment period is held each year. The group enrollment period is a time period agreed to by your employer and us. During this period, you may elect to enroll in dental insurance under this *plan.* Coverage starts on the first day of the month that next follows the date of enrollment. You and your *eligible dependents* are not subject to late entrant penalties if you enroll during the group enrollment period.

B497.2407

DENTAL EXPENSE INSURANCE

This insurance will pay many of your and your covered dependents' dental expenses. What we pay and the terms for payment are explained below.

B490.0036

DentalGuard Preferred - This Plan's Dental Preferred Provider Organization

This *plan* is designed to provide high quality dental care while controlling the cost of such care. To do this, the *plan* encourages a *covered person* to seek dental care from *dentists* and dental care facilities that are under contract with *Guardian's dental preferred provider organization (PPO),* which is called DentalGuard Preferred.

The dental PPO is made up of *preferred providers* in a covered person's geographic area. Use of the dental PPO is voluntary. A *covered person* may receive dental treatment from any dental provider he or she chooses. And he or she is free to change providers anytime.

This *plan* usually pays a higher level of benefits for covered treatment furnished by a *preferred provider.* Conversely, it usually pays less for covered treatment furnished by a *non-preferred provider.*

When an *employee* enrolls in this *plan,* he or she and his or her dependents receive a dental plan ID card and information about current *preferred providers.*

A *covered person* must present his or her ID card when he or she uses a *preferred provider.* Most *preferred providers* prepare necessary claim forms for the *covered person,* and submit the forms to *us.* We send the *covered person* an explanation of this *plan's* benefit payments, but any benefit payable by us is sent directly to the *preferred provider.*

What *we* pay is based on all of the terms of this *plan.* Please read this *plan* carefully for specific benefit levels, deductibles, *payment rates* and *payment limits.*

A *covered person* may call the Guardian at the number shown on his or her ID card should he or she have any questions about this *plan.*

B498.0151

Covered Charges

Covered charges are the charges listed in the fee schedule the contracted provider has agreed to accept as payment in full.

We only pay for covered charges incurred by a *covered person* while he's insured. A covered charge for a crown, bridge or cast restoration is incurred on the date the tooth is prepared. A covered charge for any other *prosthetic device* is incurred on the date the master impression is made. A covered charge for root canal treatment is incurred on the date the pulp chamber is opened. A covered charge for *orthodontic treatment* is incurred on the date the active *appliance* is first placed. All other covered charges are incurred on the date the services are furnished.

B497.0378

Pre-Treatment Review

When the expected cost of a proposed course of treatment is $300.00 or more, the *covered person's dentist* must send us a treatment *plan* before he starts. This must be done on a form acceptable to The Guardian. The treatment *plan* must include: (a) a list of the services to be done, using the American Dental Association Nomenclature and codes; (b) the itemized cost of each service; and (c) the estimated length of treatment. Dental X-rays, study models and whatever else we need to evaluate the treatment *plan* must be sent to us, too.

A treatment *plan* must always be sent to us before *orthodontic treatment* starts.

We review the treatment *plan* and estimate what we will pay. The estimate will be sent to the *covered person's dentist.* If we don't agree with a treatment *plan,* or if one is not sent in, we have the right to base our payments on treatment suited to the *covered person's* condition by accepted standards of dental practice.

Pre-treatment review is not a guarantee of what we will pay. It tells the *covered person* and his *dentist,* in advance, what we would pay for the covered dental services named in the treatment *plan.* But payment is conditioned on: (a) the work being done as proposed and while the *covered person* is insured; and (b) the deductible and payment limit provisions and all of the other terms of this *plan.*

Emergency treatment, oral examinations, dental X-rays and teeth cleaning are part of a course of treatment, but may be done before the pre-treatment review is made.

B490.0039

Benefits From Other Sources

Other plans may furnish similar benefits, too. For instance, you may be covered by this *plan* and a similar plan through your spouse's employer. If you are, we coordinate our benefits with the benefits from these other plans. We do this so no one gets more in benefits than the charges he incurs.

B497.0437

The Benefit Provision - Qualifying For Benefits

Group I, II And III Non-Orthodontic Services

We pay for Group I, II and III covered charges at the applicable payment rate.

All charges must be incurred while the *covered person* is insured. We limit what we pay each *benefit year* to $1,000.00. What we pay is based on all of the terms of this *plan.*

B497.0488

Group IV Orthodontic Services

This *plan* provides benefits for Group IV orthodontic services only for covered dependent children who are less than 19 years old when the active *appliance* is first placed.

We pay for Group IV covered charges at the applicable payment rate. Using the treatment plan, we calculate the total benefit we will pay. We divide this into equal payments, which we spread out over the shorter of two years or the proposed length of treatment.

We make the initial payment when the active *appliance* is first placed. We make further payments at the end of each subsequent three month period. But treatment must continue and the *covered person* must stay insured. And we limit what we pay during a covered person's lifetime to $900.00. What we pay is based on all of the terms of this *plan.*

Orthodontic benefits won't be charged against the *benefit year* payment limit which applies to all other services.

B490.0161

Payment Rates

Benefits for covered charges are paid at the following rates:

Benefits for Group I Services are paid at a rate of 100%

Benefits for Group II Services are paid at a rate of 80%

Benefits for Group III Services are paid at a rate of 60%

Benefits for Group IV Services are paid at a rate of 50%

B497.0501

After This Insurance Ends

We won't pay for charges incurred after this insurance ends. But we pay for the following if all work is finished in the 31 days after this insurance ends: (a) a crown, bridge or cast restoration, if the tooth is prepared before the insurance ends; (b) any other *prosthetic device,* if the master impression is made before the insurance ends; and (c) root canal treatment, if the pulp chamber is opened before the insurance ends.

Benefits for *orthodontic treatment* will only be paid to the end of the month in which the insurance ends. The final payment will be pro-rated.

B490.0045

Special Limitations

Penalty For Late Entrants

We won't cover charges incurred by a late entrant for: (1) Group II services until 6 months from the date he is insured by this *plan;* (2) Group III services until 12 months from the date he is insured by this *plan;* and (3) *orthodontic treatment* done in the first 24 months he is insured by this *plan.* However, this limitation will not apply to covered charges due solely to an *injury* suffered while insured.

Charges not covered due to this provision are not considered covered dental services and cannot be used to satisfy this *plan's* deductibles.

A late entrant is a person who: (1) becomes insured more than 31 days after he is eligible; or (2) becomes insured again, after his coverage lapsed because he did not make required payments.

B490.0046

Teeth Lost Before A Covered Person Became Insured By This Plan

A *covered person* may have lost one or more teeth before he became insured by this *plan.* Except as explained below, we won't pay for a *prosthetic device* which replaces such teeth unless the device also replaces one or more natural teeth lost or extracted after the *covered person* became insured by this *plan.*

If This Plan Replaces Another Plan

This *plan* may be replacing another plan your *employer* had with some other insurer.

We don't want anyone to lose benefits when this happens. So we pay for certain charges incurred before this *plan* starts, if: (1) the *covered person* was insured by the old plan; and (2) the old plan would have paid for such charges. But this *plan* must start right after the old plan ends. And the covered person must be insured by this *plan* from the start.

We limit what we pay to the lesser of: (1) what the old plan would have paid; or (2) what we would otherwise pay. And we deduct any benefits actually paid by the old plan under any extension provision.

In the first *benefit year* of this *plan,* we also reduce this *plan's* deductibles by the amount of covered charges applied against the old plan's deductible. And, in the first *benefit year,* we charge benefits which were paid by the old plan against this *plan's* payment limits.

B490.0053

Exclusions

- We won't pay for:
  - Oral hygiene, plaque control or diet instruction.
  - Precision attachments.
- We won't pay for:
  - Treatment which does not meet accepted standards of dental practice.
  - Treatment which is experimental in nature.

- We won't pay for any *appliance* or *prosthetic device* used to:
  - Change vertical dimension.
  - Restore or maintain occlusion, except to the extent that this *plan* covers *orthodontic treatment.*
  - Splint or stabilize teeth for periodontic reasons.
  - Replace tooth structure lost as a result of abrasion or attrition.
  - Treat disturbances of the temporomandibular joint.
- We won't pay for any service furnished for cosmetic reasons. This includes, but is not limited to:
  - Characterizing and personalizing *prosthetic devices.*
  - Making facings on *prosthetic devices* for any teeth in back of the second bicuspid.
- We won't pay for replacing an *appliance* or *prosthetic device* with a like appliance or device, unless:
  - It is at least five years old and can't be made usable.
  - It is damaged while in the *covered person's* mouth in an *injury* suffered while insured, and can't be fixed.
- We won't pay for:
  - Replacing a lost, stolen or missing *appliance* or *prosthetic device.*
  - Making a spare *appliance* or device.
- We won't pay for treatment needed due to:
  - An on-the-job or job-related injury.
  - A condition for which benefits are payable by Worker's Compensation or similar laws.
- We won't pay for treatment for which no charge is made. This usually means treatment furnished by:
  - The *covered person's employer,* labor union or similar group, in its dental or medical department or clinic.
  - A facility owned or run by any governmental body.
  - Any public program, except Medicaid, paid for or sponsored by any government body.

  But if a charge is made and we are legally required to pay it, we will.

B490.0145

List of Covered Dental Services

The services covered by this *plan* are named in this list. Each service on this list has been placed in one of four groups. A separate payment rate applies to each group. Group I is made up of preventive services. Group II is made up of basic services. Group III is made up of major services. Group IV is made up of orthodontic services.

All covered dental services must be furnished by or under the direct supervision of a *dentist.* And they must be usual and necessary treatment for a dental condition.

B490.0048

Group I - Preventive Dental Services
(Non-Orthodontic)

Prophylaxis And Fluoride Treatments

Prophylaxis (limited to one treatment in any six consecutive month period) - Allowance includes examination, scaling and polishing. Topical application of fluoride (limited to *covered persons* under age 18 and limited to one treatment in any six consecutive month period) - Allowance includes examination and prophylaxis.

Space Maintainers

(limited to covered persons under age 16 and limited to initial appliance only) Allowance includes all adjustments in the first six months after installation:

- Fixed, unilateral, band or stainless steel crown type.
- Fixed, unilateral, cast type.
- Removal, bilateral type.

Fixed And Removable Appliances

To Inhibit Thumbsucking and Other Harmful Habits - (limited to *covered persons* under age 16 and limited to initial appliance only) - Allowance includes all adjustments in the first six months after installation.

Diagnostic Services

Allowance includes examination and diagnosis - x-rays.

- Full mouth series of at least 14 films including bitewings, if needed (limited to once in any 36 consecutive month period).
- Bitewing films (limited to a maximum of four films in any six consecutive month period).
- Other intraoral periapical or occlusal films-single films.
- Extraoral superior or inferior maxillary film.
- Panoramic film, maxilla and mandible (limited to once in any 36 consecutive month period).

Dental Sealants

Limited to the unrestored permanent molars of *covered persons* under age 16 and limited to one treatment in any 36 consecutive month period.

Office Visits And Examinations

Initial or periodic oral examination (limited to one examination in any six consecutive month period).

Emergency palliative treatment and other non-routine, unscheduled visits.

B497.0139

Group II - Basic Dental Services
(Non-Orthodontic)

Office Visits And Examinations

Diagnostic consultation with a dentist other than the one providing treatment (limited to one consultation for each dental specialty in any 12 consecutive month period) - We pay for this only if no other service is rendered during the visit.

Diagnostic Services

Allowance includes examination and diagnosis.

- Diagnostic casts.
- Biopsy and examination of oral tissue.

Restorative Services

Multiple restorations on one surface will be considered one restoration. Also see "Major Restorative Services".

- Amalgam restorations.
- Synthetic restorations: Silicate cement, Acrylic or plastic, and Composite resin.
- Crowns: Acrylic or plastic, without metal, and Stainless steel.
- Pins: Pin retention, exclusive of restorative material.
- Recementation: Inlay or onlay, Crown, and Bridge.

Endodontic Services

Allowance includes routine x-rays and cultures, but excludes final restoration.

- Pulp capping, direct.
- Remineralization (Calcium Hydroxide), as a separate procedure.
- Vital pulpotomy.
- Apexification.
- Root canal therapy on non-vital (nerve-dead) teeth: Traditional therapy, and Medicated paste therapy, N2 Sargenti.
- Apicoectomy, as a separate procedure or in conjunction with other endodontic procedures.

Periodontic Services

Allowance includes the treatment plan, local anesthetics and post-surgical care.

- Gingivectomy or gingivoplasty, per quadrant.
- Gingivectomy, per tooth (fewer than 6 teeth).
- Sub-gingival curettage and root planing, per quadrant (limited to a maximum of 4 quadrants in any 12 consecutive month period).
- Pedicle or free soft tissue grafts, including donor sites.
- Osseous surgery, including flap entry and closure, per quadrant.
- Osseous grafts, including flap entry, closure and donor sites.
- Muco-gingival surgery.
- Occlusal adjustment, not involving restorations and done in conjunction with periodontic surgery, per quadrant (limited to a maximum of 4 quadrants in any 12 consecutive month period).

Oral Surgery

Allowance includes routine x-rays, the treatment plan, local anesthetics and post-surgical care.

- Extractions:
  - Uncomplicated extraction, one or more teeth.
  - Surgical removal of erupted teeth, involving tissue flap and bone removal.
  - Surgical removal of impacted teeth.

Other Surgical Procedures

- Alveolectomy, per quadrant.
- Stomatoplasty with ridge extension, per arch.
- Removal of mandibular tori, per quadrant.
- Excision of hyperplastic tissue.
- Excision of pericoronal gingiva, per tooth.
- Removal of palatal torus.
- Removal of cyst or tumor.
- Incision and drainage of abscess.
- Closure of oral fistula or maxillary sinus.
- Reimplantation of tooth.
- Frenectomy.
- Suture of soft tissue injury.
- Sialolithotomy for removal of salivary calculus.
- Closure of salivary fistula.
- Dilation of salivary duct.
- Sequestrectomy for osteomyelitis or bone abscess, superficial.
- Maxillary sinusotomy for removal of tooth fragment or foreign body.

B490.0150

Prosthodontic Services

Specialized techniques and characterization are not covered. Also see "Major Prosthodontic Services".

- Denture repairs, acrylic: Repairing dentures, no teeth damaged; Repairing dentures and replace one or more broken teeth; and Replacing one or more broken teeth, no other damage.
- Denture repairs, metal - Allowance based on the extent and nature of damage and on the type of materials involved.
- Denture duplication, jump case (limited to once per denture in any 36 consecutive month period).
- Denture reline (limited to once per denture in any 12 consecutive month period): Office reline; Cold cure; Laboratory reline.
- Denture adjustments (limited to adjustments by a dentist other than the one providing the denture, and adjustments are more than 6 months after the initial installation).
- Tissue conditioning (limited to a maximum of 2 treatments per arch in any 12 consecutive month period).
- Adding teeth to partial dentures to replace extracted natural teeth.
- Repairs to crowns and bridges - Allowance based on the extent and nature of damage and the type of materials involved.

Other Services

- General anesthesia in connection with surgical procedures only.
- Injectable antibiotics needed solely for treatment of a dental condition.

B490.0152

Restorative Services

Cast restorations and crowns are covered only when needed because of decay or *injury,* and only when the tooth cannot be restored with a routine filling material. Also see "Basic Restorative Services".

- Inlays.
- Onlays, in addition to inlay allowance.
- Crowns and Posts: Acrylic with metal. Porcelain, Porcelain with metal, Full cast metal (other than stainless steel), 3/4 cast metal (other than stainless steel), Cast post and core, in addition to crown (not a thimble coping), Steel post and composite or amalgam core, in addition to crown, and Cast dowel pin (one-piece cast with crown) - Allowance based on type of crown.

Prosthodontic Services

Specialized technique and characterizations are not covered.

- Fixed bridges - Each abutment and each pontic makes up a unit in a bridge.
- Bridge abutments - See inlays and crowns under "Major Restorative Services".
- Bridge Pontics: Cast metal, sanitary, Plastic or porcelain with metal, Slotted facing, and Slotted pontic.
- Simple stress breakers, per unit.
- Removable bridges, unilateral partial, one piece chrome casting, clasp attachment, including pontics.
- Dentures - Allowance includes all adjustments done by the *dentist* furnishing the denture in the first 6 months after installation.
  - Full dentures, upper or lower.
  - Partial dentures - Allowance includes base, all clasps, rests and teeth.
    - Upper, with two chrome clasps with rests, acrylic base.
    - Upper, with chrome palatal bar and clasps, acrylic base.
    - Lower, with two chrome clasps with rests, acrylic base.
    - Lower, with chrome lingual bar and clasps, acrylic base.
    - Stayplate base, upper or lower (anterior teeth only).

B490.0170

Orthodontic Services

- Any Group I, II or III service in connection with *orthodontic treatment.*

- Surgical exposure of impacted or unerupted teeth in connection with *orthodontic treatment* - Allowance includes routine x-rays, local anesthetics and post-surgical care.

- Active *appliances* - All types - Allowance includes diagnostic services, the treatment plan, the fitting, making and placing of the active *appliance,* and all related office visits including post-treatment stabilization.

B490.0052

DISCOUNTS - THIS IS NOT INSURANCE

Discounts on Services Not Covered Due To Contractual Provisions

If a covered person receives dental services from a dentist who is under contract with Guardian's DentalGuard Preferred, Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) network, such services will be provided at the discounted fee the dentist agreed to accept as payment in full as a member of the PPO network, even if such services are not covered by the plan due to:

- Meeting the plan's benefit year payment limit provision;
- Frequency limitations; or
- Plan exclusions.

When a person is no longer covered by this plan, access to the network discounts ends.

B499.0092

DISCOUNTS - THIS IS NOT INSURANCE

Discounts on Cosmetic Dental Services

If a covered person receives any of the following dental services from a dentist who is under contract with Guardian's DentalGuard Preferred, Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) network, such services will be provided at the discounted fee the dentist agreed to accept as payment in full as a member of the PPO network.

The services are:

Cosmetic bleaching (external bleaching, per arch; in office or take home).

When a person is no longer covered by this plan, access to the network discounts ends.

B499.0093

DISCOUNTS - This Is Not Insurance

Discounts on Dental Services Not Covered By This Plan

A covered person under this plan can receive discounts on certain services not covered by this plan, as described below, if:

- (a) he or she receives services or supplies from a dentist that is under contract with Guardian's DentalGuard Preferred, Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) network; and
- (b) the service or supply is on the fee schedule the dentist has agreed to accept as payment in full as a member of the PPO network.

The services described in this provision are not covered by this plan. The covered person must pay the entire discounted fee directly to the dentist. There is no need to file a claim.

When a person is no longer covered by this plan, access to the network discounts ends.

B499.0094

DISCOUNTS - THIS IS NOT INSURANCE

Discounts on Orthodontic Services

If a covered person receives any of the following orthodontic dental services from an orthodontist who is under contract with Guardian's DentalGuard Preferred, Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) network, such services will be provided at the discounted fee the dentist has agreed to accept as payment in full as a member of the PPO network.

The services are:

- Pre-orthodontic treatment visit;
- Limited orthodontic treatment;
- Interceptive orthodontic treatment, including fabrication and insertion of fixed appliances and periodic visits;
- Comprehensive orthodontic treatment, including fabrication and insertion of fixed appliances and periodic visits;
- Periodic comprehensive orthodontic treatment visit (as part of a contract);
- Orthodontic retention, including fixed and removable initial appliances and related visits.

Discounted fees are not available for:

- Incremental charges for orthodontic appliances made with clear, ceramic, white, lingual brackets or other optional materials;
- Procedures, appliances or devices to guide minor tooth movement or to correct harmful habits;
- Retreatment of orthodontic cases, or changes in orthodontic treatment needed due to an accident;
- Extractions performed solely to facilitate orthodontic treatment;
- Orthognathic surgery and associated incremental charges;
- Replacement of lost or broken retainers.

When a person is no longer covered by this plan, access to the network discounts ends.

B499.0095

Discounts on Dental Services Not Covered By This Plan

A covered person under this plan can receive discounts on cavity fighting products such as Xylitol. The discount is 25%.

The services and supplies are not covered by this plan. The covered person must pay the entire discounted fee directly to the supplier. A claim should not be filed.

When a person is no longer covered by this plan, access to the discounts ends.

B499.0083

COORDINATION OF BENEFITS

Important Notice This section applies to all group health benefits under this plan, if any. It does not apply to any death, dismemberment, or loss of income benefits that may be provided under this plan.

Purpose When a covered person has health care coverage under more than one plan, this section allows this plan to coordinate what it pays with what other plans pay. This is done so that the covered person does not collect more in benefits than he or she incurs in charges.

Definitions

Allowable Expense This term means any necessary, reasonable, and customary item of health care expense that is covered, at least in part, by any of the plans which cover the person. This includes: (a) deductibles; (b) coinsurance; and (c) copayments. When a plan provides benefits in the form of services, the reasonable cash value of each service will be considered an allowable expense and a benefit paid.

An expense or service that is not covered by any of the plans is **not** an allowable expense. Examples of other expenses or services that are **not** allowable expenses are:

(1) If a person is confined in a private hospital room, the difference between the cost of a semi-private room in the hospital and the private room is **not** an allowable expense. This does not apply if: (a) the stay in the private room is medically necessary in terms of generally accepted medical practice; or (b) one of the plans routinely provides coverage for private hospital rooms.

(2) The amount a benefit is reduced by the primary plan because a person does not comply with the plan's provisions is **not** an allowable expense. Examples of these provisions are: (a) precertification of admissions and procedures; (b) continued stay reviews; and (c) preferred provider arrangements.

(3) If a person is covered by two or more plans that compute their benefit payments on the basis of reasonable and customary charges, any amount in excess of the primary plan's reasonable and customary charges for a specific benefit is **not** an allowable expense.

(4) If a person is covered by two or more plans that provide benefits or services on the basis of negotiated fees, an amount in excess of the primary plan's negotiated fees for a specific benefit is **not** an allowable expense.

If a person is covered by one plan that computes its benefits or services on the basis of reasonable and customary charges and another plan that provides its benefits or services on the basis of negotiated fees, the primary plan's payment arrangements will be the allowable expense for all plans.

Claim This term means a request that benefits of a plan be provided or paid.

Claim Determination Period This term means a calendar year. It does not include any part of a year during which a person has no coverage under this plan, or before the date this section takes effect.

Closed Panel Plan This term means a health maintenance organization (HMO), preferred provider organization (PPO), exclusive provider organization (EPO), or other plan that provides health benefits to covered persons primarily in the form of services through a panel of providers that have contracted with or are employed by the plan; and that limits or excludes benefits for services provided by other providers, except in cases of emergency or referral by a panel member.

Coordination Of Benefits This term means a provision which determines an order in which plans pay their benefits, and which permits secondary plans to reduce their benefits so that the combined benefits of all plans do not exceed total allowable expenses.

Custodial Parent This term means a parent awarded custody by a court decree. In the absence of a court decree, it is the parent with whom the child resides more than one half of the calendar year without regard to any temporary visitation.

Group-Type Contracts This term means contracts: (a) which are not available to the general public; and (b) can be obtained and maintained only because of membership in or connection with a particular organization or group. This includes, but is not limited to, franchise and blanket coverage.

Hospital Indemnity Benefits This term means benefits that are not related to expenses incurred. This term does not include reimbursement-type benefits even if they are designed or administered to give the insured the right to elect indemnity-type benefits at the time of claim.

Plan This term means any of the following that provides benefits or services for health care or treatment: (1) group insurance; (2) closed panel or other forms of group or group-type coverage, whether insured or uninsured; (3) group-type contracts; (4) amounts of group or group-type hospital indemnity benefits in excess of $200.00 per day; (5) medical components of group long-term care contracts such as skilled nursing care; (6) medical benefits under group or individual automobile contracts; and (7) governmental benefits, except Medicare, as permitted by law.

This term does not include: (a) individual or family insurance; (b) closed panel or other individual coverage, except for group-type coverage; (c) amounts of group or group-type hospital indemnity benefits of $200.00 or less per day; (d) school accident type coverage; (e) benefits for non-medical components of group long-term care policies; or (f) Medicare, Medicare supplement policies, Medicaid, and coverage under other governmental plans, unless permitted by law.

This term also does not include any plan that this plan supplements. Plans that this plan supplements are named in the benefit description.

Each type of coverage listed above is treated separately. If a plan has two parts and coordination of benefits applies only to one of the two, each of the parts is treated separately.

Primary Plan This term means a plan that pays first without regard that another plan may cover some expenses. A plan is a primary plan if either of the following is true: (1) the plan either has no order of benefit determination rules, or its rules differ from those explained in this section; or (2) all plans that cover the person use the order of benefit determination rules explained in this section, and under those rules the plan pays its benefits first.

Secondary Plan This term means a plan that is not a primary plan.

This Plan This term means the group health benefits provided under this group plan.

B550.0087

Order Of Benefit Determination

The primary plan pays or provides its benefits as if the secondary plan or plans did not exist.

A plan may consider the benefits paid or provided by another plan to determine its benefits only when it is secondary to that other plan. If a person is covered by more than one secondary plan, the rules explained below decide the order in which secondary plan benefits are determined in relation to each other.

A plan that does not contain a coordination of benefits provision is always primary.

This Plan **always** pays secondary to any motor vehicle policy available to a covered person, including any medpay, PIP, No Fault or any plan or program which is required by law. All covered persons should review their automobile insurance policy and ensure that uncoordinated medical benefits have been chosen so that the automobile insurance policy is the primary payer. When all plans have coordination of benefits provisions, the rules to determine the order of payment are listed below. The first of the rules that applies is the rule to use.

Non-Dependent Or Dependent The plan that covers the person other than as a dependent (for example, as an employee, member, subscriber, or retiree) is primary. The plan that covers the person as a dependent is secondary.

But, if the person is a Medicare beneficiary and, as a result of federal law, Medicare is secondary to the plan that covers the person as a dependent; and primary to the plan that covers the person other than as a dependent (for example, as a retiree); then the order of payment between the two plans is reversed. In that case, the plan that covers the person as an employee, member, subscriber, or retiree is secondary and the other plan is primary.

Child Covered Under More Than One Plan The order of benefit determination when a child is covered by more than one plan is:

(1) If the parents are married, or are not separated (whether or not they ever have been married), or a court decree awards joint custody without specifying that one party must provide health care coverage, the plan of the parent whose birthday is earlier in the year is primary. If both parents have the same birthday, the plan that covered either of the parents longer is primary. If a plan does not have this birthday rule, then that plan's coordination of benefits provision will determine which plan is primary.

(2) If the specific terms of a court decree state that one of the parents must provide health care coverage and the plan of the parent has actual knowledge of those terms, that plan is primary. This rule applies to claim determination periods that start after the plan is given notice of the court decree.

(3) In the absence of a court decree, if the parents are not married, or are separated (whether or not they ever have been married), or are divorced, the order of benefit determination is: (a) the plan of the custodial parent; (b) the plan of the spouse of the custodial parent; (c) the plan of the noncustodial parent; and (d) the plan of the spouse of the noncustodial parent.

Active Or Inactive Employee The plan that covers a person as an active employee, or as that person's dependent, is primary. An active employee is one who is neither laid off nor retired. The plan that covers a person as a laid off or retired employee, or as that person's dependent, is secondary. If a plan does not have this rule and as a result the plans do not agree on the order of benefit determination, this rule is ignored.

Continuation Coverage The plan that covers a person as an active employee, member, subscriber, or retired employee, or as that person's dependent, is primary. The plan that covers a person under a right of continuation provided by federal or state law is secondary. If a plan does not have this rule and as a result the plans do not agree on the order of benefit determination, this rule is ignored.

Length Of Coverage The plan that covered the person longer is primary.

Other If the above rules do not determine the primary plan, the allowable expenses will be shared equally between the plans that meet the definition of plan under this section. But, this plan will not pay more than it would have had it been the primary plan.

B550.0088

Effect On The Benefits Of This Plan

When This Plan Is Primary When this plan is primary, its benefits are determined before those of any other plan and without considering any other plan's benefits.

When This Plan Is Secondary When this plan is secondary, it may reduce its benefits so that the total benefits paid or provided by all plans during a claim determination period are not more than 100% of total allowable expenses.

Closed Panel Plans If the primary plan is a closed panel plan and the secondary plan is not a closed panel plan, the secondary plan will pay or provide benefits as if it were primary when a covered person uses a non-panel provider; except for emergency services or authorized referrals that are paid or provided by the primary plan.

A person may be covered by two or more closed panel plans. If, for any reason including the provision of service by a non-panel provider, benefits are not payable by one closed panel plan, coordination of benefits will not apply between that plan and other closed panel plans.

Right To Receive And Release Needed Information

Certain facts about health care coverage and services are needed to apply these rules and to determine benefits payable under this plan and other plans. This plan may get the facts it needs from, or give them to, other organizations or persons to apply these rules and determine benefits payable under this plan and other plans which cover the person claiming benefits. This plan need not tell, or get the consent of, any person to do this. Each person claiming benefits under this plan must provide any facts it needs to apply these rules and determine benefits payable.

Facility Of Payment

A payment made under another plan may include an amount that should have been paid by this plan. If it does, this plan may pay that amount to the organization that made the payment. That amount will then be treated as though it were a benefit paid by this plan. This plan will not have to pay that amount again.

As used here, the term "payment made" includes the reasonable cash value of any benefits provided in the form of services.

Right Of Recovery

If the amount of the payments made by this plan is more than it should have paid under this section, it may recover the excess: (a) from one or more of the persons it has paid or for whom it has paid; or (b) from any other person or organization that may be responsible for benefits or services provided for the covered person.

As used here, the term "amount of the payments made" includes the reasonable cash value of any benefits provided in the form of services.

B550.0089

SUBROGATION AND RIGHT OF RECOVERY

Notice This section applies to any health care or loss of earnings benefits under this plan.

Purpose When a covered person has the right to recover amounts paid by this plan for health care or loss of earnings benefits, this plan also has certain rights. These are explained below.

Definitions As used in this section, the terms listed below have the meanings shown below:

- **Covered Person:** This term means any employee or dependent on whose behalf this plan pays health care or loss of earnings benefits. It includes the parent or guardian of any such covered employee or dependent who is a minor or incompetent.
- **Health Care:** This term means any: (a) major medical; (b) prescription drug; (c) dental; or (d) vision benefits.
- **Insurance Coverage:** This term means any insurance which provides coverage for: (a) medical expense payments; or (b) liability. This includes, but is not limited to: (i) uninsured motorist coverage; (ii) underinsured motorist coverage; (iii) personal umbrella coverage; (iv) medical payments coverage; (v) workers compensation coverage; (vi) no-fault automobile insurance coverage; or (vii) any first party insurance.
- **Third Party:** This term means any party actually, possibly, or potentially responsible for making any payment to a covered person due to the covered person's injury, sickness or condition. This term also means such party's: (a) the liability insurer; or (b) any insurance coverage. But, this term does not mean: (i) this plan; or (ii) the covered person.

Subrogation When this plan pays a benefit, it will immediately be subrogated to the covered person's rights of recovery from any third party to the full extent of benefits paid.

Recovery If a covered person receives a payment from any third party or insurance coverage due to an injury, sickness or condition, this plan has the right to recover from, and be repaid by, the covered person for all amounts this plan has paid and will pay due to that injury, sickness or condition, from such payment, up to and including the full amount he or she receives from any third party or insurance coverage.

Constructive Trust The covered person must serve as a constructive trustee over the funds that constitute payment from any third party or insurance coverage due to his or her injury, sickness or condition. This is the case whether the payment of benefits from the plan is: (a) made to the covered person; or (b) made on his or her behalf to any provider. If the covered person fails to hold such funds in trust, it will be deemed a breach of his or her fiduciary duty to the plan.

Lien Rights This plan will have a lien to the extent of benefits this plan paid due to the covered person's injury, sickness or condition for which the third party is liable. The lien will be imposed on any recovery, whether by settlement, judgement, or otherwise, including from any insurance coverage, that a covered person receives due to his or her injury, sickness or condition. The lien may be enforced against any party who holds funds or proceeds which represent the amount of benefits paid by this plan. This includes, but is not limited to: (a) the covered person; (b) the covered person's representative or agent; (c) the third party; (d) the third party's insurer, representative or agent; and (e) any other source who holds such funds.

First Priority Claim This plan's recovery rights are a first priority claim against all third parties or insurance coverage and are to be paid to the plan before any other claim for the covered person's damages. This is the case whether the payment of benefits from the plan is: (a) made to the covered person; or (b) made on his or her behalf to any provider. This plan will be entitled to full repayment on a first dollar basis from any third party's or insurance coverage's payments, even if such payment to the plan will result in a recovery to the covered person which is not sufficient: (i) to make him or her whole; or (ii) to compensate him or her in part or in whole for the damages sustained. This plan is not required to participate in or pay court costs or attorney fees to the attorney hired by the covered person to pursue his or her damage claim.

Applicable To All Settlements And Judgements This plan is entitled to full recovery regardless of whether: (a) any liability for payment is admitted by a third party; or (b) the settlement or judgement received by the covered person identifies the benefits the plan paid. This plan is entitled to recover from any and all settlements or judgements, even those designated as: (i) pain and suffering; or (ii) non-economic damages only.

Cooperation The covered person must fully cooperate with this plan's efforts to recover the benefits it paid. He or she must notify the plan within 30 days of the date when any notice is given to any party, including an insurance company or attorney, of his or her intention to pursue or investigate a claim to recover damages or obtain compensation due to injury, sickness or condition sustained by him or her. He or she, and his or her agents, must provide all information requested by the plan or its representative. This includes, but is not limited to, completing and submitting any applications or other forms or statements as the plan or its representative may reasonably request. Failure to do this may result in the termination of benefits or the instigation of legal action against him or her.

The covered person must do nothing: (a) to prejudice this plan's rights as described in this section; or (b) to prejudice the plan's ability to enforce the terms of this section. This includes, but is not limited to, refraining from making any settlement or recovery that attempts to reduce or exclude the full amount of all benefits paid by this plan. Failure to assist the plan in pursuit of its subrogation rights or failure to reimburse the plan from any settlement or recovery obtained by the covered person may result in the termination of benefits or the instigation of legal action against him or her.

The plan or its representative has the right to conduct an investigation regarding the injury, sickness or condition to identify any third party. The plan reserves the right to notify the third party and his or her agents of this plan's lien. Agents include, but are not limited to: (a) insurance companies; and (b) attorneys.

Interpretation In the event that any claim is made that any part of this section is ambiguous, or questions arise as to the meaning or intent of any of its terms, the plan has the sole authority and discretion to resolve all disputes regarding the interpretation of this section.

Jurisdiction Any legal action or proceeding with respect to this section may be brought in any court of competent jurisdiction as the plan may choose. The covered person must submit to each such jurisdiction and waive whatever rights may correspond to him or her by reason of his or her present or future domicile.

B600.0012

REQUIRED DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

For Group Plan No.: G -00324707-

The schedule of insurance on page CGP-3-SI of the certificate booklet is a short summary of the health insurance benefits this plan provides. These benefits, including any exclusions and limitations, are fully explained in other parts of the certificate booklet. READ THE CERTIFICATE BOOKLET WITH CARE.

As evidenced by your certificate booklet, this plan provides the following health insurance benefits:

B610.0001

Dental Expense Insurance (defined as Dental Insurance by the New York State Insurance Department)

B610.0012

This plan does not provide Basic Hospital Insurance, Basic Medical Insurance, Medicare Supplement Insurance, or Major Medical Insurance, as defined by the New York State Insurance Department.

B610.0016

Notice The above statements are not part of the group policy. The group policy alone determines the rights and duties of: (a) the employer to whom this plan is issued; (b) the policyholder (if other than such employer); (c) the Guardian; and (d) any person covered by this plan.

B610.0017

GLOSSARY

This Glossary defines the italicized terms appearing in your booklet.

B900.0118

Active Appliance means an *appliance* like braces, used in *orthodontic treatment* to move teeth.

B750.0192

Appliance means any dental device other than a *prosthetic device.*

B750.0193

Benefit Year with respect to this *plan's* dental expense insurance, means a 12 month period which starts on June 1st and ends on May 31st.

B750.0444-R

Close Relative means: (a) a *covered person's* spouse, children, parents, brothers and sisters; and (b) any other person who is part of a *covered person's* household. We don't pay for services and supplies furnished by *close relatives.*

B750.0195

Covered Person with respect to this *plan's* dental expense insurance, means an *employee* or any of his *covered dependents.*

B750.0196

Dentist means any dental or medical practitioner we are required by law to recognize who: (a) is properly licensed or certified under the laws of the state where he practices; and (b) provides services which are within the scope of his or her license or certificate and covered by this *plan.*

B750.0198

Eligibility Date for dependent coverage is the earliest date on which: (a) you have initial dependents; and (b) are eligible for dependent coverage.

B900.0003

Eligible Dependent is defined in the provision entitled "Dependent Coverage."

B750.0015

Employee means a person who works for the *employer* at the *employer's* place of business, and whose income is reported for tax purposes using a W-2 form.

B750.0006

Employer means DAEMEN COLLEGE .

B900.0051

Enrollment Period with respect to dependent coverage, means the 31 day period which starts on the date that you first become eligible for dependent coverage.

B900.0004

Full-time means the *employee* regularly works at least the number of hours in the normal work week set by the *employer* (but not less than 25 hours per week), at his *employer's* place of business.

B750.0230

Initial Dependents means those *eligible dependents* you have at the time you first become eligible for *employee* coverage. If at this time you do not have any *eligible dependents,* but you later acquire them, the first *eligible dependents* you acquire are your *initial dependents.*

B900.0006

Injury with respect to this *plan's* dental expense insurance, means all damage to a *covered person's* mouth due to an accident, and all complications rising from that damage. But the term *injury* does not include damage to teeth, *appliances* or *prosthetic devices* which results from chewing or biting food or other substances.

B750.0199

Newly Acquired Dependent means an *eligible dependent* you acquire after you already have coverage in force for *initial dependents.*

B900.0008

Orthodontic Treatment means the movement of one or more teeth by the use of *active appliances.* It includes: (a) diagnostic services; (b) the treatment plan; (c) the fitting, making and placement of an *active appliance;* and (d) all related office visits, including post-treatment stabilization.

B750.0201

Plan means the *Guardian* group *plan* purchased by your *employer,* except in the provision entitled "Coordination of Benefits" where "plan" has a special meaning. See that provision for details.

B900.0039

Prosthetic Device means a device which is used to replace missing or lost teeth or tooth structure. It includes all types of dentures, crowns, bridges, pontics and cast restorations.

B750.0203

Qualified Retirees are covered as outlined in your company's benefit provisions. Please see your Plan Administrator for details.

B750.0008

STATEMENT OF ERISA RIGHTS

As a participant, you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides that all plan participants shall be entitled to:

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, 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.

Continue Group Health Plan Coverage

Continue health care coverage for yourself, spouse or dependents if there is a loss of coverage under the plan as a result of a qualifying event. You or your dependents may have to pay for such coverage. You should review this summary plan description and the documents governing the plan on the rules governing your COBRA continuation coverage rights.

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 the plan, called "fiduciaries" of the plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of 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.

Enforcement Of 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 state or Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the plan administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to $110.00 a day until you receive the material, 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 federal court. 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 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 that your claim is frivolous.

Assistance with Questions

If you have questions about the plan, you should contact the plan administrator. If you have 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, U.S. Department of Labor listed in your telephone directory or the 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.

Qualified Medical Child Support Order

Federal law requires that group health plans provide medical care coverage of a dependent child pursuant to a qualified medical child support order (QMCSO). A "qualified medical child support order" is a judgment or decree issued by a state court that requires a group medical plan to provide coverage to the named dependent child(ren) of an employee pursuant to a state domestic relations order. For the order to be qualified it must include:

- The name of the group health plan to which it applies.
- The name and last known address of the employee and the child(ren).
- A reasonable description of the type of coverage or benefits to be provided by the plan to the child(ren).
- The time period to which the order applies.

A dependent enrolled due to a QMCSO will not be considered a late enrollee in the plan.

Note: A QMCSO cannot require a group health plan to provide any type or form of benefit or option not otherwise available under the plan except to the extent necessary to meet medical child support laws described in Section 90 of the Social Security Act.

If you have questions about this statement, see the plan administrator.

B800.0094

The Guardian's Responsibilities

B800.0048

The dental expense benefits provided by this plan are funded solely by the employer. The benefits **are not** guaranteed by a policy of insurance issued by Guardian. Guardian does supply administrative services, such as claims services, including the payment of claims, preparation of employee benefit booklets, and changes to such benefit booklets.

B800.0064

The Guardian is located at 7 Hanover Square, New York, New York 10004.

B800.0049

If you seek benefits under the plan you should complete, execute and submit a claim form. Claim forms and instructions for filing claims may be obtained from the Plan Administrator.

Guardian is the Claims Administrator with respect to processing claims. Guardian has the right to secure independent professional healthcare advice and to require such other evidence as needed to decide your claim.

The Plan Administrator has discretionary authority to determine eligibility for benefits and to construe the terms of the plan with respect to claims.

In addition to the basic claim procedure explained in your benefit booklet, Guardian will also observe the procedures listed below. These procedures are the minimum requirements for benefit claims procedures of employee benefit plans covered by Title 1 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA")

Definitions

"Adverse determination" means any denial, reduction or termination of a benefit or failure to provide or make payment (in whole or in part) for a benefit. A failure to cover an item or service: (a) due to the application of any utilization review; or (b) because the item or service is determined to be experimental or investigational, or not medically necessary or appropriate, is also considered an adverse determination.

"Group Health Benefits" means any dental, out-of-network point-of-service medical, major medical, vision care or prescription drug coverages which are a part of this plan.

"Pre-service claim" means a claim for a medical care benefit with respect to which the plan conditions receipt of the benefit, in whole or in part, on approval of the benefit in advance of receipt of care.

"Post-service claim" means a claim for payment for medical care that already has been provided.

"Urgent care claim" means a claim for medical care or treatment where making a non-urgent care decision: (a) could seriously jeopardize the life or health of the claimant or the ability of the claimant to regain maximum function, as determined by an individual acting on behalf of the plan applying the judgment of a prudent layperson who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine; or (b) in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of the claimant's medical condition, would subject the claimant to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the care.

Note: Any claim that a physician with knowledge of the claimant's medical condition determines is a claim involving urgent care will be treated as an urgent care claim for purposes of this section.

Timing For Initial Benefit Determination

The benefit determination period begins when a claim is received. Guardian will make a benefit determination and notify a claimant within a reasonable period of time, but not later than the maximum time period shown below. A written or electronic notification of any adverse benefit determination must be provided.

Urgent Care Claims. Guardian will make a benefit determination within 72 hours after receipt of an urgent care claim.

If a claimant fails to provide all information needed to make a benefit determination, Guardian will notify the claimant of the specific information that is needed as soon as possible but no later than 24 hours after receipt of the claim. The claimant will be given not less than 48 hours to provide the specified information.

Guardian will notify the claimant of the benefit determination as soon as possible but not later than the earlier of:

- the date the requested information is received; or
- the end of the period given to the claimant to provide the specified additional information.

The required notice may be provided to the claimant orally within the required time frame provided that a written or electronic notification is furnished to the claimant not later than 3 days after the oral notification.

Pre-Service Claims. Guardian will provide a benefit determination not later than 15 days after receipt of a pre-service claim. If a claimant fails to provide all information needed to make a benefit determination, Guardian will notify the claimant of the specific information that is needed as soon as possible but no later than 5 days after receipt of the claim. A notification of a failure to follow proper procedures for pre-service claims may be oral, unless a written notification is requested by the claimant.

The time period for providing a benefit determination may be extended by up to 15 days if Guardian determines that an extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan, and so notifies the claimant before the end of the initial 15-day period.

If Guardian extends the time period for making a benefit determination due to a claimant's failure to submit information necessary to decide the claim, the claimant will be given at least 45 days to provide the requested information. The extension period will begin on the date on which the claimant responds to the request for additional information.

Post-Service Claims. Guardian will provide a benefit determination not later than 30 days after receipt of a post-service claim. If a claimant fails to provide all information needed to make a benefit determination, Guardian will notify the claimant of the specific information that is needed as soon as possible but no later than 30 days after receipt of the claim.

The time period for completing a benefit determination may be extended by up to 15 days if Guardian determines that an extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan, and so notifies the claimant before the end of the initial 30-day period.

If Guardian extends the time period for making a benefit determination due to a claimant's failure to submit information necessary to decide the claim, the claimant will be given at least 45 days to provide the requested information. The extension period will begin on the date on which the claimant responds to the request for additional information.

Concurrent Care Decisions. A reduction or termination of an approved ongoing course of treatment (other than by plan amendment or termination) will be regarded as an adverse benefit determination. This is true whether the treatment is to be provided(a) over a period of time; (b) for a certain number of treatments; or (c) without a finite end date. Guardian will notify a claimant at a time sufficiently in advance of the reduction or termination to allow the claimant to appeal.

In the case of a request by a claimant to extend an ongoing course of treatment involving urgent care, Guardian will make a benefit determination as soon as possible but no later than 24 hours after receipt of the claim.

Adverse Benefit Determination

If a claim is denied, Guardian will provide a notice that will set forth:

- the specific reason(s) for the adverse determination;
- reference to the specific plan provision(s) on which the determination is based;
- a description of any additional material or information necessary to make the claim valid and an explanation of why such material or information is needed;
- a description of the plan's claim review procedures and the time limits applicable to such procedures, including a statement indicating that the claimant has the right to bring a civil action under ERISA Section 502(a) following an adverse benefit determination;
- identification and description of any specific internal rule, guideline or protocol that was relied upon in making an adverse benefit determination, or a statement that a copy of such information will be provided to the claimant free of charge upon request;
- in the case of an adverse benefit determination based on medical necessity or experimental treatment, notice will either include an explanation of the scientific or clinical basis for the determination, or a statement that such explanation will be provided free of charge upon request; and
- in the case of an urgent care adverse determination, a description of the expedited review process.

Appeal of Adverse Benefit Determinations

If a claim is wholly or partially denied, the claimant will have up to 180 days to make an appeal.

A request for an appeal of an adverse benefit determination involving an urgent care claim may be submitted orally or in writing. Necessary information and communication regarding an urgent care claim may be sent to Guardian by telephone, facsimile or similar expeditious manner.

Guardian will conduct a full and fair review of an appeal which includes providing to claimants the following:

- the opportunity to submit written comments, documents, records and other information relating to the claim;
- the opportunity, upon request and free of charge, for reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records and other information relating to the claim; and

- a review that takes into account all comments, documents, records and other information submitted by the claimant relating to the claim, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial benefit determination.

In reviewing an appeal, Guardian will:

- provide for a review conducted by a named fiduciary who is neither the person who made the initial adverse determination nor that person's subordinate;
- in deciding an appeal based upon a medical judgment, consult with a health care professional who has appropriate training and experience in the field of medicine involved in the medical judgment;
- identify medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained in connection with an adverse benefit determination; and
- ensure that a health care professional engaged for consultation regarding an appeal based upon a medical judgment shall be neither the person who was consulted in connection with the adverse benefit determination, nor that person's subordinate.

Guardian will notify the claimant of its decision regarding review of an appeal as follows:

Urgent Care Claims. Guardian will notify the claimant of its decision as soon as possible but not later than 72 hours after receipt of the request for review of the adverse determination.

Pre-Service Claims. Guardian will notify the claimant of its decision not later than 30 days after receipt of the request for review of the adverse determination.

Post-Service Claims. Guardian will notify the claimant of its decision not later than 60 days after receipt of the request for review of the adverse determination.

Alternative Dispute Options

The claimant and the plan may have other voluntary alternative dispute resolution options, such as mediation. One way to find out what may be available is to contact the local U.S Department of Labor Office and the State insurance regulatory agency.

B800.0081

Termination of This Group Plan

Your *employer* may terminate this group *plan* at any time.

When this *plan* ends, you may be eligible to continue your coverage. Your rights, if any, upon termination of the *plan* are explained in this benefit booklet.

B800.0068

SECTION II: Guardian Insurance

B115.0003

GENERAL PROVISIONS

As used in this booklet:

"Accident and health" means any dental, dismemberment, hospital, long term disability, major medical, out-of-network point-of-service, prescription drug, surgical, vision care or weekly loss-of-time insurance provided by this *plan.*

"Covered person" means an *employee* or a dependent insured by this *plan.*

"Employer" means the *employer* who purchased this *plan.*

"Our," "The Guardian," "us" and "we" mean The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America.

"Plan" means the Guardian *plan* of group insurance purchased by your *employer.*

"You" and "your" mean an *employee* insured by this *plan.*

CGP-3-R-GENPRO-90 B160.0002

Limitation of Authority

No person, except by a writing signed by the President, a Vice President or a Secretary of The Guardian, has the authority to act for us to: (a) determine whether any contract, plan or certificate of insurance is to be issued; (b) waive or alter any provisions of any insurance contract or plan, or any requirements of The Guardian; (c) bind us by any statement or promise relating to any insurance contract issued or to be issued; or (d) accept any information or representation which is not in a signed application.

CGP-3-R-LOA-90 B160.0004

Examination and Autopsy

We have the right to have a *doctor* of our choice examine the person for whom a claim is being made under this *plan* as often as we feel necessary. And we have the right to have an autopsy performed in the case of death, where allowed by law. We'll pay for all such examinations and autopsies.

CGP-3-R-EA-90 B160.0006

Accident and Health Claims Provisions

Your right to make a claim for any *accident and health* benefits provided by this *plan,* is governed as follows:

Notice You must send us written notice of an *injury* or *sickness* for which a claim is being made within 20 days of the date the *injury* occurs or the *sickness* starts. This notice should include your name and *plan* number. If the claim is being made for one of your *covered dependents,* his or her name should also be noted.

Proof of Loss We'll furnish you with forms for filing proof of loss within 15 days of receipt of notice. But if we don't furnish the forms on time, we'll accept a written description and adequate documentation of the *injury* or *sickness* that is the basis of the claim as proof of loss. You must detail the nature and extent of the loss for which the claim is being made.

If this plan provides weekly loss-of-time insurance, you must send us written proof of loss within 90 days of the end of each period for which we're liable. If this plan provides long term disability income insurance, you must send us written proof of loss within 90 days of the date we request it. For any other loss, you must send us written proof within 120 days of the loss.

Late Notice of Proof We won't void or reduce your claim if you can't send us notice and proof of loss within the required time. But you must send us notice and proof as soon as reasonably possible.

Payment of Benefits We'll pay benefits for loss of income once every 30 days for as long as we're liable, provided you submit periodic written proof of loss as stated above. We'll pay all other *accident and health* benefits to which you're entitled as soon as we receive written proof of loss.

We pay all *accident and health* benefits to you, if you're living. If you're not living, we have the right to pay all *accident and health* benefits, except dismemberment benefits, to one of the following: (a) your estate; (b) your spouse; (c) your parents; (d) your children; (e) your brothers and sisters; and (f) any unpaid provider of health care services. See "Your Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefits" for how dismemberment benefits are paid.

When you file proof of loss, you may direct us, in writing, to pay health care benefits to the recognized provider of health care who provided the covered service for which benefits became payable. We may honor such direction at our option. But we can't tell you that a particular provider must provide such care. And you may not assign your right to take legal action under this *plan* to such provider.

Limitations of Actions You can't bring a legal action against this *plan* until 60 days from the date you file proof of loss. And you can't bring legal action against this *plan* after three years from the date you file proof of loss.

Workers' Compensation The *accident and health* benefits provided by this *plan* are not in place of, and do not affect requirements for coverage by Workers' Compensation.

An Important Notice About Continuation Rights

The following "Federal Continuation Rights" section may not apply to the employer's plan. You must contact your employer to find out if: (a) the employer is subject to the "Federal Continuation Rights" section, and therefore; (b) the section applies to you.

B235.0109

YOUR CONTINUATION RIGHTS

Federal Continuation Rights

Important Notice

This section applies only to any dental, out-of-network point-of-service medical, medical expense, prescription drug or vision coverages which are part of this plan. In this section, these coverages are referred to as "group health benefits."

This section does not apply to any coverage for loss of income due to disability. This coverage can not be continued under this section.

Under this section, "qualified continuee" means any person who, on the day before any event which would qualify him or her for continuation under this section, is covered for group health benefits under this plan as: (a) a covered actived employee or qualified retiree; (b) the spouse of a covered active employee or qualified retiree; or (c) the dependent child of a covered active employee or qualified retiree. A child born to, or adopted by, the covered active employee or qualified retiree during a continuation period is also a qualified continuee. Any other person who becomes covered under this plan during a continuation provided by this section is not a qualified continuee.

If Your Group Health Benefits End

If you are a qualified continuee and your group health benefits end due to your termination of employment or reduction of work hours, you may elect to continue such benefits for up to 18 months, if you were not terminated due to gross misconduct.

The continuation: (a) may cover you or any other qualified continuee; and (b) is subject to "When Continuation Ends".

Extra Continuation for Disabled Qualified Continuees

If a qualified continuee is determined to be disabled under Title II or Title XVI of the Social Security Act on or during the first 60 days after the date his or her group health benefits would otherwise end due to your termination of employment or reduction of work hours, and such disability lasts at least until the end of the 18 month period of continuation coverage, he or she or any member of that person's family who is a qualified continuee may elect to extend his or her 18 month continuation period explained above for up to an extra 11 months.

To elect the extra 11 months of continuation, a qualified continuee must give your employer written proof of Social Security's determination of the disabled qualified continuee's disability as described in "The Qualified Continuee's Responsibilities". If, during this extra 11 month continuation period, the qualified continuee is determined to be no longer disabled under the Social Security Act, he or she must notify your employer within 30 days of such determination, and continuation will end, as explained in "When Continuation Ends."

This extra 11 month continuation is subject to "When Continuation Ends".

An additional 50% of the total cost of coverage also may be required from all qualified continuees who are members of the disabled qualified continuee's family by your employer during this extra 11 month continuation period, provided the disabled qualified continuee has extended coverage.

Special Continuance for Retired Employees and their Dependents

If your group health benefits end due to a bankruptcy proceeding under Title 11 of the United States Code involving the employer, you may elect to continue such benefits, provided that:

(a) you are or become a retired employee on or before the date group health benefits end; and

(b) you and your dependents were covered for group health benefits under this plan on the day before the bankruptcy proceeding under Title 11 of the United States Code.

The continuation can last for your lifetime. After your death, the continuation period for a dependent can last for up to 36 months.

For purposes of this special continuance, a substantial elimination of coverage for you and your dependents within one year before or after the start of such proceeding will be considered loss of coverage.

If you die before the bankruptcy proceeding under Title 11 of the United States Code, your surviving spouse and dependent children may elect to continue group health benefits on their own behalf, provided they were covered on the day before such proceedings. The continuation can last for your surviving spouse's lifetime.

This special continuance starts on the later of: (a) the date of the proceeding under Title 11; or (b) the day after the date group health benefits would have ended. It ends as described in "When Continuation Ends", except that a person's entitlement to Medicare will not end such continuance.

B235.0228

If You Die While Covered

If you die while covered, any qualified continuee whose group health benefits would otherwise end may elect to continue such benefits. The continuation can last for up to 36 months, subject to "When Continuation Ends".

If Your Marriage Ends

If your marriage ends due to legal divorce or legal separation, any qualified continuee whose group health benefits would otherwise end may elect to continue such benefits. The continuation can last for up to 36 months, subject to "When Continuation Ends".

If a Dependent Child Loses Eligibility

If a dependent child's group health benefits end due to his or her loss of dependent eligibility as defined in this plan, other than your coverage ending, he or she may elect to continue such benefits. However, such dependent child must be a qualified continuee. The continuation can last for up to 36 months, subject to "When Continuation Ends".

Concurrent Continuations

If a dependent elects to continue his or her group health benefits due to your termination of employment or reduction of work hours, the dependent may elect to extend his or her 18 month or 29 month continuation period to up to 36 months, if during the 18 month or 29 month continuation period, the dependent becomes eligible for 36 months of continuation due to any of the reasons stated above.

The 36 month continuation period starts on the date the 18 month continuation period started, and the two continuation periods will be deemed to have run concurrently.

Special Medicare Rule

If you become entitled to Medicare before a termination of employment or reduction of work hours, a special rule applies for a dependent. The continuation period for a dependent, after your later termination of employment or reduction of work hours, will be the longer of: (a) 18 months (29 months if there is a disability extension) from your termination of employment or reduction of work hours; or (b) 36 months from the date of your earlier entitlement to Medicare. If Medicare entitlement occurs more than 18 months before termination of employment or reduction of work hours, this special Medicare rule does not apply.

The Qualified Continuee's Responsibilities

A person eligible for continuation under this section must notify your employer, in writing, of: (a) your legal divorce or legal separation from your spouse; (b) the loss of dependent eligibility, as defined in this plan, of a covered dependent child; (c) a second event that would qualify a person for continuation coverage after a qualified continuee has become entitled to continuation with a maximum of 18 or 29 months; (d) a determination by the Social Security Administration that a qualified continuee entitled to receive continuation with a maximum of 18 months has become disabled during the first 60 days of such continuation; and (e) a determination by the Social Security Administration that a qualified continuee is no longer disabled.

Notice of an event that would qualify a person for continuation under this section must be given to your employer within 60 days of the latest of: (a) the date on which an event that would qualify a person for continuation under this section occurs; (b) the date on which the qualified continuee loses (or would lose) coverage under this plan as a result of the event; or (c) the date the qualified continuee is informed of the responsibility to provide notice to your employer and this plan's procedures for providing such notice.

Notice of a disability determination must be given to your employer by a qualified continuee within 60 days of the latest of: (a) the date of the Social Security Administration determination; (b) the date of the event that would qualify a person for continuation; (c) the date the qualified continuee loses or would lose coverage; or (d) the date the qualified continuee is informed of the responsibility to provide notice to your employer and this plan's procedures for providing such notice. But such notice must be given before the end of the first 18 months of continuation coverage.

B235.0181

Your Employer's Responsibilities

Your employer must notify the qualified continuee, in writing, of: (a) his or her right to continue this plan's group health benefits; (b) the payments he or she must make to continue such benefits; and (c) the times and manner in which such payments must be made.

If your employer determines that an individual is not eligible for continued group health benefits under this plan, they must notify the individual with an explanation of why such coverage is not available. This notice must be provided within the time frame described above.

If a qualified continuee's continued group health benefits under this plan are cancelled prior to the maximum continuation period, your employer must notify the qualified continuee as soon as practical following determination that the continued group health benefits shall terminate.

Election of Continuation

To continue his or her group health benefits, the qualified continuee must give your employer written notice that he or she elects to continue. This must be done by the later of: (a) 60 days from the date a qualified continuee receives notice of his or her continuation rights from your employer as described above; or (b) the date coverage would otherwise end. And the qualified continuee must make his or her first payment in a timely manner.

The subsequent payments must be paid to your employer, by the qualified continuee, in advance, at the times and in the manner specified by your employer. No further notice of when payments are due will be given.

The payment will be the total cost of coverage for the group health benefits had the qualified continuee stayed covered under the group plan on a regular basis. It includes any amount that would have been paid by your employer. Except as explained in "Extra Continuation for Disabled Qualified Continuees", an additional charge of two percent of the total cost of coverage may also be required by your employer.

If the qualified continuee fails to give your employer notice of his or her intent to continue, or fails to make any required payments in a timely manner, he or she waives his or her continuation rights.

Grace in Payment

A qualified continuee's payment is timely if, with respect to the first payment after the qualified continuee elects to continue, such payment is made no later than 45 days after such election. In all other cases, such payment is timely if it is made within 31 days of the specified due date. If timely payment is made to the plan in an amount that is not significantly less than the amount the plan requires to be paid for the period of coverage, then the amount paid is deemed to satisfy the requirement for the payment that must be made; unless your employer notifies the qualified continuee of the amount of the deficiency and grants an additional 30 days for payment of the deficiency to be made. Payment is calculated to be made on the date on which it is sent to your employer.

When Continuation Ends

A qualified continuee's continued group health benefits end on the first of the following:

(1) with respect to continuation upon your termination of employment or reduction of work hours, the end of the 18 month period which starts on the date the group health benefits would otherwise end;

(2) with respect to a qualified continuee who has an additional 11 months of continuation due to disability, the earlier of: (a) the end of the 29 month period which starts on the date the group health benefits would otherwise end; or (b) the first day of the month which coincides with or next follows the date which is 30 days after the date on which a final determination is made that the disabled qualified continuee is no longer disabled under Title II or Title XVI of the Social Security Act;

(3) with respect to continuation upon your death, your legal divorce, or legal separation, or the end of a covered dependent's eligibility, the end of the 36 month period which starts on the date the group health benefits would otherwise end;

(4) the date the employer ceases to provide any group health plan to any employee;

(5) the end of the period for which the last payment is made;

(6) the date, after the date of election, he or she becomes covered under any other group health plan which does not contain any pre-existing condition exclusion or limitation affecting him or her; or

(7) the date, after the date of election, he or she becomes entitled to Medicare.

B235.0190

Uniformed Services Continuation Rights

If you enter or return from military service, you may have special rights under this *plan* as a result of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 ("USERRA").

If your group health benefits under this *plan* would otherwise end because you enter into active military service, this *plan* will allow you, or your dependents, to continue such coverage in accord with the provisions of USERRA. As used here, "group health benefits" means any dental, out-of-network point-of service medical, major medical, prescription drug or vision coverages which are part of this *plan.*

Coverage under this plan may be continued while you are in the military for up to a maximum period of 24 months beginning on the date of absence from work. Continued coverage will end if you fail to return to work in a timely manner after military service ends as provided under USERRA. You should contact your employer for details about this continuation provision including required premium payments.

B235.0194

ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE COVERAGES

B264.0002

Employee Coverage

Eligible Employees To be eligible for employee coverage, you must be an active *full-time employee.* And you must belong to a class of *employees* covered by this *plan.*

Other Conditions You must:

(a) be legally working in the United States.

(b) be regularly working at least the number of hours in the normal work week set by your *employer* (but not less than 25 hours per week), at:

(i) your *employer's* place of business;

(ii) some place where your *employer's* business requires you to travel; or

(iii) any other place you and your *employer* have agreed upon for performance of occupational duties.

Note: If you are working outside the United States on a temporary assignment and you meet all other conditions of eligibility, you will be covered by this *plan,* provided that: you are on an assignment, not exceeding one year, in a country or region that is not under a travel warning issued by the US Department of State. Coverage may be available when you are: (1) on a longer temporary assignment; or (2) assigned in a region that is under a travel warning; however, coverage must be approved in writing.

If you must pay all or part of the cost of employee coverage, we won't insure you until you enroll and agree to make the required payments. If you do this: (a) more than 31 days after you first become eligible; or (b) after you previously had coverage which ended because you failed to make a required payment, we also ask for *proof* that you're insurable. And you won't be covered until we approve that *proof* in writing.

Part or all of your insurance amounts may be subject to *proof* that you're insurable. The Life Schedule explains if and when we require *proof.* You won't be covered for any amount that requires such *proof* until you give the *proof* to us and we approve it in writing.

If your active *full-time* service ends before you meet any *proof of insurability* requirements that apply to you, you'll still have to meet those requirements if you're later re-employed.

CGP-3-EC-90-1.0 B264.0894

Family Status Change

You may request an increase in your optional term life insurance amount, a decrease to your optional term life insurance amount, or the addition of voluntary term life for which you were not previously insured, if a change in family status has occurred. You must request the change to your optional term life insurance in writing within 31 days after the date of the family status change as described below.

Family status change will include one or more of the following: (1) marriage or divorce; (2) death of a spouse or child; (3) birth or adoption of a child; (4) your spouse's termination of employment or a change in your spouse's employment that results in the loss of group coverage. The term "marriage" may also refer to civil unions and domestic partnerships, as recognized by the jurisdiction in which you reside.

Proof of insurability is not required for the change to optional term life insurance due to family status change as long as the change to your optional term life insurance does not exceed the guarantee issue amount shown in the Schedule of Benefits. Proof of insurability will be required on changes that exceed the guarantee issue amount and if proof was previously submitted and declined.

CGP-3-EC-90-1.0 B264.2794

When Your Coverage Starts

Employee benefits that don't require *proof* that you are insurable are scheduled to start on the effective date shown on the sticker attached to the inside front cover of this booklet.

Employee benefits that require such *proof* won't start until you send us the *proof* and we approve it in writing. Once we have approved it, the benefits are scheduled to start on the effective date shown in the endorsement section of your application. A copy of the approved application is furnished to you.

But you must be fully capable of performing the major duties of your regular occupation for your *employer* on a full-time basis at 12:01AM Standard Time for your place of residence on the scheduled effective date or dates. And you must have met all of the applicable conditions explained above, and any applicable waiting period. If you are not fully capable of performing the major duties of your occupation on any date part of your insurance is scheduled to start, we will postpone that part of your coverage until the date you are so capable and are working your regular number of hours.

Sometimes, the effective date shown on the sticker or in the endorsement is not a regularly scheduled work day. If the scheduled effective date falls: on a holiday; on a vacation day; on a non-scheduled work day; or during an approved leave of absence, not due to sickness or injury, of 90 days or less; and if you were performing the major duties of your regular occupation and working your regular number of hours on your last regularly scheduled work day, your coverage will start on the scheduled effective date. However, any coverage or part of coverage for which you must elect and pay all or part of the cost, will not start if you are on an approved leave and such coverage or part of coverage was not previously in force for you under a prior plan which this *plan* replaced.

CGP-3-EC-90-2.0 B264.0690

Delayed Effective Date For Employee Optional Life Coverage

With respect to this *plan's* employee optional group term life insurance, if an *employee* is not actively at work on a *full- time* basis on the date his or her coverage is scheduled to start, due to *sickness* or *injury,* we'll postpone coverage for an otherwise covered loss due to that condition. We'll postpone such coverage until he or she completes 10 consecutive days of active *full-time* service without missing a work day due to the same condition.

Coverage for an otherwise covered loss due to all other conditions will start on the date the *employee* returns to active *full-time* service.

CGP-3-DEF-97 B270.0384

When Your Coverage Ends

Your coverage ends on the date your active *full-time* service ends for any reason. Such reasons include disability, death, retirement, layoff, leave of absence and the end of employment.

It also ends on the date you stop being a member of a class of *employees* eligible for insurance under this *plan,* or when this *plan* ends for all *employees.* And it ends when this *plan* is changed so that benefits for the class of *employees* to which you belong ends.

It ends on the date you are no longer working in the United States, unless you are on a temporary assignment: (1) not exceeding one year in a country or region that is not under a travel warning by the US Department of State; or (2) for which we have agreed, in writing, to provide coverage.

If you are required to pay all or part of the cost of this coverage and you fail to do so, your coverage ends. It ends on the last day of the period for which you made the required payments, unless coverage ends earlier for other reasons.

Read this booklet carefully if your coverage ends. You may have the right to continue certain group benefits for a limited time. And you may have the right to replace certain group benefits with converted policies.

CGP-3-EC-90-3.0 B264.0697

When Your Coverage Ends

Your coverage ends on the date your active *full-time* service ends for any reason. Such reasons include disability, death, retirement, layoff, leave of absence and the end of employment.

It also ends on the date you stop being a member of a class of employees eligible for insurance under this *plan,* or when this *plan* ends for all employees. And it ends when this *plan* is changed so that benefits for the class of employees to which you belong ends.

It ends on the date you are no longer working in the United States unless you are on a temporary assignment: (1) not exceeding one year in a country or region that is not under a travel warning issued by the US Department of State; or (2) for which we have agreed, in writing, to provide coverage.

If you are required to pay all or part of the cost of this coverage and you fail to do so, your coverage ends. It ends on the last day of the period for which you made the required payments, unless coverage ends earlier for other reasons.

Read this booklet carefully if your coverage ends. You may have the right to continue certain group benefits for a limited time. And you may have the right to replace certain group benefits with converted policies.

CGP-3-EC-90-3.0 B264.1385

Your Right To Continue Group Life Insurance During A Family Leave Of Absence

Important Notice This section may not apply. You must contact your *employer* to find out if your *employer* must allow for a leave of absence under federal law. In that case the section applies.

Continuation of Coverage Life insurance may be continued at your employer's option. You must contact your employer to find out if you may continue this insurance.

If Your Group Coverage Would End Group insurance may normally end for an *employee* because he or she ceases work due to an approved leave of absence. But, the *employee* may continue his or her group insurance if the leave of absence has been granted: (a) to allow the *employee* to care for a seriously injured or ill spouse, child, or parent; (b) after the birth or adoption of a child; (c) due to the *employee's* own serious health condition; or (d) because of any serious injury or illness arising out of the fact that a spouse, child, parent, or next of kin, who is a covered servicemember, of the *employee* is on active duty(or has been notified of an impending call or order to active duty) in the Armed Forces in support of a contingency operation. The *employee* will be required to pay the same share of the premium as he or she paid before the leave of absence.

When Continuation Ends Insurance may continue until the earliest of the following:

- The date you return to active work.
- In the case of a leave granted to you to care for a covered servicemember: The end of a total leave period of 26 weeks in one 12 month period. This 26 week total leave period applies to all leaves granted to you under this section for all reasons. If you take an additional leave of absence in a subsequent 12 month period, continued coverage will cease at the end of a total leave period of 12 weeks.
- In any other case: The end of a total leave period of 12 weeks in any 12 month period.
- The date on which your *Employer's Plan* is terminated or you are no longer eligible for coverage under this *Plan.*
- The end of the period for which the premium has been paid.

Definitions As used in this section, the terms listed below have the meanings shown below:

- **Active Duty:** This term means duty under a call or order to active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States.
- **Contingency Operation:** This term means a military operation that: (a) is designated by the Secretary of Defense as an operation in which members of the armed forces are or may become involved in military actions, operations, or hostilities against an enemy of the United States or against an opposing military force; or (b) results in the call or order to, or retention on, active duty of members of the uniformed services under any provision of law during a war or during a national emergency declared by the President or Congress.
- **Covered Servicemember:** This term means a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who for a serious injury or illness: (a), is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy; (b) is otherwise in outpatient status; or (c) is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list.
- **Next Of Kin:** This term means the nearest blood relative of the *employee.*
- **Outpatient Status:** This term means, with respect to a covered servicemember, that he or she is assigned to: (a) a military medical treatment facility as an outpatient; or (b) a unit established for the purpose of providing command and control of members of the Armed Forces receiving medical care as outpatients.
- **Serious Injury Or Illness:** This term means, in the case of a covered servicemember, an injury or illness incurred by him or her in line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces that may render him or her medically unfit to perform the duties of his or her office, grade, rank, or rating.

CGP-3-EC-90-3.0 B264.2452

Dependent Life Coverage

CGP-3-DEP-90-1.0 B264.0056

Eligible Dependents For Optional Dependent Life Benefits

Your *eligible dependents* are: your legal spouse who is under age 70, and your unmarried dependent children who are 14 or more days old, until they reach age 20 and your unmarried dependent children, from age 20 until they reach age 26, who are enrolled as full-time students at accredited schools.

If a child is an eligible dependent of more than one employee under this plan, the child may be insured for dependent life benefits by only one employee at a time.

CGP-3-DEP-00-3.0 B264.0518

Adopted Children

Your "unmarried dependent children" include your dependent legally adopted children. We treat a child as legally adopted from the time the child is placed in your home for the purpose of adoption. We treat such a child this way whether or not a final adoption order is ever issued.

Dependents Not Eligible

We exclude any dependent who is insured by this *plan* as an *employee.* And we exclude any dependent who is on active duty in any armed force.

CGP-3-DEP-00-3.0-NY B264.0521

Proof Of Insurability

We require *proof* that a dependent is insurable, if you: (a) enroll a dependent and agree to make the required payments after the end of the *enrollment period;* (b) in the case of a newly acquired dependent, other than the first newborn child, have other eligible dependents who you have not elected to enroll; or (c) in the case of a *newly acquired dependent,* have other *eligible dependents* whose coverage previously ended because you failed to make the required contributions, or otherwise chose to end such coverage.

A dependent is not insured by any part of this *plan* that requires such *proof* until you give us this *proof,* and we approve it in writing.

If the dependent coverage ends for any reason, including failure to make the required payments, your dependents won't be covered by this *plan* again until you give us new *proof* that they're insurable and we approve that *proof* in writing.

CGP-3-DEP-90-5.0 B200.0288

When Dependent Coverage Starts

In order for your dependent coverage to begin you must already be insured for employee coverage, or enroll for employee and dependent coverage at the same time. Subject to the "Exception" stated below and to all of the terms of this *plan,* the date your dependent coverage starts depends on when you elect to enroll your *initial dependents* and agree to make any required payments.

If you do this on or before your *eligibility date,* the dependent's coverage is scheduled to start on the later of the first of the month which coincides with or next follows your *eligibility date* and the date you become insured for employee coverage.

If you do this within the *enrollment period,* the coverage is scheduled to start on the later of the first of the month which coincides with or next follows the date you sign the enrollment form; and the date you become insured for employee coverage.

If you do this after the *enrollment period* ends, your dependent coverage is subject to *proof of insurability* and won't start until we approve that *proof* in writing.

Once you have dependent coverage for your *initial dependents,* you must notify us when you acquire any new dependents and agree to make any additional payments required for their coverage.

A *newly acquired dependent* will be covered for those dependent benefits not subject to *proof of insurability* from the later of the date you notify us and agree to make any additional payments, and the date the *newly acquired dependent* is first eligible.

If *proof of insurability* is required for dependent benefits as explained above, those benefits are scheduled to start, subject to the "Exception" stated below, on the effective date shown in the "Endorsement" section of your application, provided that you send us the *proof* we require and we approve that *proof* in writing. A copy of the approved application is furnished to you.

CGP-3-DEP-90-6.0 B200.0314-R

Exception If a dependent, other than a newborn child, is confined to a *hospital* or other health care facility; or is home-confined; or is unable to carry out the normal activities of someone of like age and sex on the date his dependent benefits would otherwise start, we will postpone the effective date of such benefits until the day after his discharge from such facility; until home confinement ends; or until he resumes the normal activities of someone of like age and sex.

CGP-3-DEP-90-7.0 B200.0692

When Dependent Coverage Ends Dependent coverage ends for all of your dependents when your employee coverage ends. Dependent coverage also ends for all of your dependents when you stop being a member of a class of *employees* eligible for such coverage. And it ends when this *plan* ends, or when dependent coverage is dropped from this *plan* for all *employees* or for an *employee's* class.

If you are required to pay part of the cost of dependent coverage, and you fail to do so, your dependent coverage ends. It ends on the last day of the period for which you made the required payments, unless coverage ends earlier for other reasons.

An individual dependent's coverage ends when he stops being an *eligible dependent.* This happens to a child at 12:01 a.m. on the date the child attains this *plan's* age limit, when he marries, or when a step-child is no longer dependent on the employee for support and maintenance. It happens to a spouse when a marriage ends in legal divorce or annulment, and with respect to optional life coverage, it happens at 12:01 a.m. on the date the spouse reaches age 70.

Read this plan carefully if dependent coverage ends for any reason. Dependents may have the right to continue certain group benefits for a limited time. And they may have the right to replace certain group benefits with converted policies.

CGP-3-DEP-90-9.0 B200.0792

GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE SCHEDULE

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0002

Employee Optional Contributory Term Life Insurance

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0055

Optional Life Enrollment Period

You may choose to be insured under one of the plans of optional term life insurance shown below. You may only be insured under one plan at a time. You must notify the employer of your election and pay the required premium.

You may switch to another plan of benefits at any time, subject to any of this plan's proof of insurability requirements. You must notify the employer of any desired switch.

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0664

Your Optional Term Life Insurance Amount	***Plan A***	$20,000.00
	CGP-3-R-SCH-90	B265.0061
Your Optional Term Life Insurance Amount	***Plan B***	$40,000.00
	CGP-3-R-SCH-90	B265.0084
Your Optional Term Life Insurance Amount	***Plan C***	$60,000.00
	CGP-3-R-SCH-90	B265.0091
Your Optional Term Life Insurance Amount	***Plan D***	$80,000.00
	CGP-3-R-SCH-90	B265.0098
Your Optional Term Life Insurance Amount	***Plan E***	$100,000.00
	CGP-3-R-SCH-90	B265.0105
Your Optional Term Life Insurance Amount	***Plan F***	$150,000.00
	CGP-3-R-SCH-90	B265.0112
Your Optional Term Life Insurance Amount	***Plan G***	$200,000.00
	CGP-3-R-SCH-90	B265.0119
Your Optional Term Life Insurance Amount	***Plan H***	$250,000.00
	CGP-3-R-SCH-90	B265.0126

Reduction of Optional Life Insurance Amount Based on Age

If an employee is less than age 65 when his or her insurance under this plan starts, his or her insurance amount is reduced, on the date he or she reaches age 65, by 35% of the amount which otherwise applies to his or her classification and/or option. But in no case will such reduced amount be less than $1,000.00.

The preceding reduction also applies to an employee's initial insurance amount if his or her insurance starts after he or she reaches age 65 but before he or she reaches age 70.

If an employee is less than age 70 when his or her insurance under this plan starts, the employee's optional life insurance amount is reduced, when he or she reaches age 70, by 50% of the amount which otherwise applies to his or her classification and/or option. But in no case will such reduced amount be less than $1,000.00.

The preceding reduction also applies to an employee's initial insurance amount if his or her insurance starts after he or she reaches age 70.

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0520

Proof of Insurability Requirements

Proof of insurability requirements apply to your optional term life insurance. Such requirements may apply to your full benefit amount or just part of it. When *proof of insurability* requirements apply, it means you must submit to us *proof* that you're insurable, and we must approve your *proof* in writing before your insurance, or the specified part becomes effective.

We require *proof* as follows:

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0431

We require *proof* before we will insure any *employee* who enrolls for optional term life insurance after the time allowed for enrolling as specified in this *plan.*

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0435

We require *proof* before an *employee* switches from his or her current *plan* of optional term life insurance to a *plan* which provides greater benefits.

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0436

We require *proof* for amounts of optional term life insurance in excess of $150,000.00.

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0437

We require *proof* for amounts of optional term life insurance in excess of $50,000.00, if an *employee*'s scheduled optional term life effective date is after he or she reaches age 65.

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0697

We require *proof* for amounts of optional term life insurance in excess of $10,000.00, if an *employee*'s scheduled optional term life effective date is after he or she reaches age 70.

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0697

Dependent Optional Life Election

You may choose the plan of dependent spouse optional term life insurance, and the plan of dependent child optional term life insurance shown below. You must notify the employer of your elections and pay the required premium.

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0800

Your Optional Dependent Spouse Term Life Insurance Amount

Plan A

An amount equal to 50% of your optional term life insurance amount, to a maximum of $50,000.00.

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0511

Your Optional Dependent Child Insurance Amount

Plan A

Child's Age At Death	**Benefit Amount** (expressed as a % of your optional term life insurance amount)
At least 14 days but less than 6 months	10% to a maximum of $10,000.00
At least 6 months but less than 20 years	10% to a maximum of $10,000.00
At least 20 years but less than 26 years if a full-time student	10% to a maximum of $10,000.00

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0653

In no event may the insurance amount of a dependent spouse exceed 50% of the insurance amount of an employee.

In no event may the insurance amount of a dependent child exceed 10% of the insurance amount of an employee.

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0844

Proof of Insurability Requirements

Proof of insurability requirements apply to your dependent optional term life insurance. Such requirements may apply to the full benefits amount or just part of them. When proof of insurability requirements apply, it means you must submit to us proof that a dependent is insurable, and we must approve the proof in writing before the insurance, or the specified part becomes effective.

We require proof as follows:

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0536

We require proof before we will insure any spouse who is enrolled for dependent optional term life insurance after the time allowed for enrolling as specified in this plan.

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0540

We require proof for any increase in the amount of dependent optional term life insurance with respect to a dependent spouse.

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0863

We require proof for any amount of dependent optional term life insurance in excess of $ 10,000.00 with respect to your dependent spouse.

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0542

We require proof before we will insure any child who is enrolled for dependent optional term life insurance after the time allowed for enrolling as specified in this plan.

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0549

We require proof for any increase in the amount of dependent optional term life insurance with respect to a dependent child.

CGP-3-R-SCH-90 B265.0867

B270.0070

Your Optional Group Term Life Insurance

Your Choices You may elect to be insured for any of the plans of employee optional term life insurance offered to you by your *employer.* These plans are shown in the schedule. However, you can only be insured under one plan at a time. You must notify your *employer* of your election and pay the required premium.

You may switch to another plan of benefits at any time, subject to any of this *plan's proof of insurability* requirements. You must notify your *employer* of any desired switch.

Life Benefit Subject to the limitations and exclusions below, if you die while insured for this benefit, we'll pay your beneficiary the amount shown in the schedule for the *plan* of benefits you have elected. Your benefit may be subject to reductions based on your age. These reductions are also shown in the schedule. Your benefit amount, a portion thereof, or increases in such amount may not become effective until you submit *proof of insurability* to us, and we approve it in writing. These requirements are also shown in the schedule.

Proof Of Death Subject to all of the terms of this *plan,* we'll pay this insurance as soon as we receive written proof of death which is acceptable to us. This should be sent to us as soon as possible.

Suicide Exclusion We pay no benefits if your death is due to suicide, if such death occurs within two years from your optional group term life insurance effective date under this *plan.* Also, we pay no increased benefit amount if your death is due to suicide, if such death occurs within two years from the effective date of the increase.

Seatbelt And Airbag Benefits If you die as a direct result of an automobile accident while properly wearing a seatbelt, we will increase your benefit amount by $10,000.00. And if you die as a direct result of an automobile accident while both properly wearing a seatbelt, and sitting in a seat equipped with an airbag, we'll increase your benefit amount by an additional $5,000.00, for a total increase of $15,000.00. However, in no event will the total increase exceed 10% of your optional group term life insurance benefit.

Your Beneficiary You decide who gets this insurance if you die. You should have named your beneficiary on your enrollment form. You can change your beneficiary at any time by giving the employer written notice, unless you've assigned this insurance. But the change won't take effect until the employer receives written notice.

If you named more than one person, but didn't tell us what their shares should be, they'll share equally. If someone you named dies before you do, his or her share will be divided equally by the beneficiaries still alive, unless you've told us otherwise.

If there is no beneficiary when you die, we'll pay the insurance to one or more of the following surviving relatives, in the order specified: (a) your spouse; (b) your parents; (c) your children; or (d) your brothers and sisters. We'll pay the insurance to your estate if there are no such surviving relatives.

Assigning This Life Insurance

If you assign this insurance, you permanently transfer all of your rights under this insurance to the assignee. Only one of the following can be an assignee: (a) your spouse; (b) one of your parents or grandparents; (c) one of your children or grandchildren; (d) one of your brothers or sisters; or (e) the trustee(s) of a trust set up for the benefit of one or more of these relatives.

We will recognize an assignee as the owner of the rights assigned only if: (a) the assignment is in writing and signed by you; and (b) a signed or certified copy of the written assignment has been received and approved by us.

We will not be responsible for legal, tax or other effects of any assignment, or for any benefits we pay under this plan before we receive and approve any assignment.

We suggest you speak to a lawyer before he or she makes any assignment. If you decide you want to assign this insurance, write to us for details.

Payment To A Minor Or Incompetent

If your beneficiary is a minor or incompetent, we have the option of paying this insurance in monthly installments. We would pay them to the person who cares for and supports the beneficiary.

Payment Of Funeral Or Last Illness Expense

We have the option of paying up to $500.00 of this insurance to any person who incurs expenses for your funeral or last illness.

Settlement Option

If you or your beneficiary asks us, we'll pay all or part of this insurance in installments. Any request must be made to us in writing. The amounts of the installments and how they would be paid depend on what we offer at the time the request is made.

CGP-3-R-EOPT-NY-00 B273.0760

Portability Privilege

Applicability

This provision applies only to this plan's employee and dependent Optional group term life insurance. It does not apply to supplemental life insurance, if any is included in this plan. And it does not apply to Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance.

Important Restriction

You must provide proof of insurability satisfactory to us.

Portability Of Optional Group Term Life Insurance

You may elect to continue all or part of your employee Optional group term life insurance and dependent Optional group term life insurance, by choosing a portable certificate of coverage, subject to the following terms.

You may port your coverage if coverage under this plan ends because you: (a) have terminated employment; or (b) stop being a member of an eligible class of employees.

You may not port your coverage or coverage for any of your dependents, if you: (a) have reached your 70th birthday on the day coverage under this plan ends; or (b) are eligible for this plan's Optional Group Term Life Insurance Extended Life Benefit.

You may not port your coverage or coverage for any of your dependents if coverage under this plan ends due to: (a) failure to pay any required premium; or (b) the end of this group plan.

You may port: (a) the full amount(s) of your Optional term life insurance as of the day your coverage under this plan ends, or (b) 50% of such amount, if such amount under this plan is at least $50,000.00.

You may port: (a) the full amount(s) of your dependent Optional term life insurance as of the day your coverage under this plan ends; or (b) 50% of such amount(s) if: (i) your dependent spouse amount under this plan is at least $20,000.00; and (ii) your dependent child amount under this plan is at least $4,000.00. However, if you port the full amount of your insurance, any dependent amount(s) ported must be a full amount. And, if you elect to port 50% of your insurance, any dependent amount(s) ported must be 50% of such amount(s).

You may port: (a) your insurance only; (b) your insurance and insurance of your covered spouse; (c) your insurance and the insurance of all of your covered dependents; or (d) if you are a single parent, your insurance and the insurance of all of your covered dependent children. No other combinations will be allowed.

To be eligible to port, a dependent must be insured as of the day your coverage under this plan ends.

If You Die While Insured

If you die while insured for dependent Optional term life insurance, your spouse may port the insurance of your dependents as described above. But, your spouse and dependents must be insured on the date of death. No dependents will be allowed to port if: (a) there is no surviving spouse; or (b) your surviving spouse has reached his or her 70th birthday on the day you die.

The Portable Certificate Of Coverage

You or your surviving spouse can port to a portable certificate of coverage. The certificate provides group term insurance. It does not provide any: (a) accidental death and dismemberment benefits; (b) income replacement benefits; or (c) extended life benefits or waiver of premium privileges. The benefits provided by the portable certificate of coverage may not be the same as the benefits of this group plan.

The premium for the portable certificate of coverage will be based on: (a) your and/or your dependent's rate class under this plan; and (b) your or your surviving spouse's age bracket as shown in the Optional Life Portability Coverage Premium Notice.

Conversion Privilege Contained In Portable Certificate

The portable certificate of coverage contains information about how to convert to an individual insurance policy. A person covered under the portable certificate of coverage will be allowed to convert subject to New York Insurance Law.

How To Port To get a portable certificate of coverage, you or your surviving spouse must: (a) apply to us in writing: and (b) pay the required premium. You have 31 days from the date your coverage under this plan ends to do this. We require proof of insurability satisfactory to us.

Defined Term As used in this provision, the term "port" means to choose a portable certificate of coverage which provides group term life insurance.

Notice Of Portability Right If you are entitled to obtain a ported policy under this section, the employer must give you written notice of such right. The employer must give you the notice in person, or mail it to your last known address.

This notice should be given within 15 days before or after the date group life coverage ends. If the notice is given more than 15 days but less than 90 days after the date group life coverage ends, you will have 45 days from the date notice is given to apply for the ported policy and pay the required premium. If notice is not given within 90 days following the date group life coverage ends, the time allowed for porting expires at the end of such 90 day period.

CGP-3-R-LP-00-NY B273.0831

Information About Conversion and Portability

No covered person is allowed to convert his or her coverage, and elect a portable certificate of coverage at the same time. If a situation arises in which a covered person would be eligible to both convert and port, he or she may only exercise one of these privileges. A covered person may never be insured under both a converted policy and a portable certificate of coverage at the same time. The covered person should read his or her plan, as well as any related materials carefully before making an election.

CGP-3-R-LPN-95 B270.0326

THE FOLLOWING PROVISION APPLIES TO YOUR OPTIONAL GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE:

B275.0077

Converting This Group Term Life Insurance

If Employment Or Eligibility Ends Your group life insurance ends if: (a) your employment ends; or (b) you stop being a member of an eligible class of employees. If either happens, you can convert your group life insurance to an individual life insurance policy, customarily offered by us, as explained below.

If you are not totally disabled, as defined below, you can convert to a permanent life insurance policy. You can convert all or part of the amount for which you were covered under this plan.

If you: (a) are totally disabled, as defined below; and (b) have not yet been approved for this plan's Extended Life Benefit, you can convert to: (i) a permanent life insurance policy; or (ii) a term insurance policy. Read the section labeled "Term Insurance". You can convert: (a) the amount for which you were covered under this plan; less (b) any group life benefits you become eligible for in the 45 days after this insurance ends.

Total disability or totally disabled mean that, due to sickness or injury, you are not able to perform any work for wage or profit. We consider you totally and permanently disabled when you have been totally disabled for nine continuous months.

If you are later approved for the Extended Life Benefit, then the converted policy, if any, is cancelled as of our approval date.

If The Group Plan Ends Or Group Life Insurance Is Dropped

Your group life insurance also ends if: (a) this group plan ends; or (b) life insurance is dropped from the group plan for all employees or for your class. If either happens, you may convert to a policy of life insurance customarily offered by us, as explained below. We will not require proof of insurability.

You can convert to: (a) a permanent life insurance policy; or (b) a term insurance policy. Read the section labeled "Term Insurance". But, the amount you can convert is limited to: (i) the amount of your insurance under this plan; less (ii) any group life benefits you become eligible for in the 45 days after this insurance ends.

If The Group Life Insurance Is Reduced

You may convert if your group life insurance is reduced:

(a) on account of age, provided: (i) the first reduction occurs on or after the date you reach age 60; and (ii) the reduction or series of reductions equals at least 20% of the amount of insurance inforce before the first age-related reduction;

(b) due to a change in class which results in a reduction; or

(c) due to an amendment of the group plan which results in a reduction.

You may convert: (a) the amount of group life insurance inforce prior to the reduction; less (b) the amount of insurance remaining inforce.

The Converted Policy

The premium for the converted policy will be based on your age and class of risk on the converted policy's effective date. The converted policy will start at the end of the period allowed for conversion. The converted policy does not include disability or dismemberment benefits.

Term Insurance

As explained above, you may have the option to convert your coverage to an individual term life insurance policy. The individual term policy requires lower premiums than an individual permanent insurance policy.

The term insurance policy is available for only one year from the date: (a) the group plan ends; or (b) group life insurance is dropped for all employees or for your class. After one year, the term insurance expires, and you must convert to an individual permanent life insurance policy, or coverage will end. We will not require proof of insurability. Premiums for the individual permanent life insurance policy will be based on your age, as of the date you convert from the interim term insurance policy.

If you are totally and permanently disabled, you may convert to a renewable term insurance policy. The renewable term insurance policy can be converted to a permanent life insurance policy, at any time, without proof of insurability. If you have converted and are later approved for this plan's Extended Life Benefit, the converted insurance policy is cancelled, as of our approval date.

How And When To Convert

To get a converted policy, you must: (a) apply to us in writing; and (b) pay the required premium. You have 31 days after your group life insurance ends to do this. We won't ask for proof that you are insurable.

Death During The Conversion Period

If you die in the 31 days allowed for conversion, we'll pay your beneficiary the amount you could have converted. We'll pay whether or not you applied for conversion.

Notice Of Conversion Right

If you are entitled to obtain a converted policy under this section, full compliance with this provision for notice of Conversion Right will be satisfied by written notice: (a) given to you by the employer; (b) mailed to you by the employer at your last known address; or (c) mailed to you by us at your last known address that is supplied to us by the employer.

This notice should be given within 15 days before or after the date group life coverage ends. If the notice is given more than 15 days but less than 90 days after the date group life coverage ends, you will have 45 days from the date notice is given to apply for the converted policy and pay the required premium. If notice is not given within 90 days following the date group life coverage ends, the time allowed for conversion expires at the end of such 90 day period.

CGP-3-R-LCONV-99-NY B275.0361

Your Accelerated Life Benefit

IMPORTANT NOTICE: USE OF THE BENEFIT PROVIDED BY THIS SECTION MAY HAVE TAX IMPLICATIONS AND MAY AFFECT GOVERNMENT BENEFITS OR CREDITORS. YOU SHOULD CONSULT WITH YOUR TAX OR FINANCIAL ADVISOR BEFORE APPLYING FOR THIS BENEFIT.

PLEASE NOTE: THE AMOUNT OF GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE IS PERMANENTLY REDUCED BY THE GROSS AMOUNT OF THE ACCELERATED LIFE BENEFIT PAID TO YOU.

Accelerated Life Benefit

If you have a medical condition that is expected to result in your death within 6 months, you may apply for an Accelerated Life Benefit. An Accelerated Life Benefit is a payment of part of your group term life insurance made to you before you die.

We subtract the gross amount paid to you as an Accelerated Life Benefit from the amount of your group term life insurance under this plan. The remaining amount of your group term life insurance is permanently reduced by the gross amount paid to you.

By "group term life insurance" we mean any Employee Optional Group Term Life Insurance for which you are insured under this plan. "Group term life insurance" does not mean Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefits, any insurance provided under this plan for covered persons other than you or any scheduled increase in the amount of any Employee Group Term Life Insurance that is due within the six month period after the date you apply for the Accelerated Life Benefit.

By "gross amount" we mean the amount of an Accelerated Life Benefit elected by you, before the discount and the processing fee are subtracted.

For the purposes of this provision, "terminal condition" means a medical condition that is expected to result in your death within 6 months.

You may use the Accelerated Life Benefit in any way you choose. But you may receive only one Accelerated Life Benefit during your lifetime. If you live longer than 6 months, or if you recover from the condition, the benefit does not have to be repaid. But the amount of this benefit is not restored to your remaining group term life insurance. And you may not receive another Accelerated Life Benefit if you have a relapse or develop another terminal condition.

Maximum Benefit Amount

The amount of the Accelerated Life Benefit for which you may apply is based on the amount of group term life insurance for which you are insured on the day before you apply for the benefit. The minimum benefit amount is the lesser of: (a) $50,000.00; or (b) 50% of the inforce amount. The maximum benefit amount is the lesser of: (a) $100,000.00; or (b) 50% of the inforce amount.

Discount

The amount for which you apply is discounted to the present value in six months from the date the benefit is paid, based on the maximum adjustable policy loan interest rate permitted in the state in which your employer is located.

A detailed statement of the method of computing the amount of the Accelerated Life Benefit is filed with each state insurance department. This statement is available from The Guardian upon request.

Processing Fee

A fee of up to $150.00 may also be required for the administrative cost of evaluating and processing your Accelerated Life Benefit. This fee is deducted from the amount of the Accelerated Life Benefit paid to you.

Payment of An Accelerated Life Benefit

If we approve your application for an Accelerated Life Benefit, we pay the amount you have elected, less the discount and the processing fee. We pay the benefit to you in one lump sum. And what we pay is subject to all of the other terms of this plan.

How And When To Apply

To receive the Accelerated Life Benefit, you must send us written proof from a licensed doctor who is operating within the scope of his or her license that your medical condition is expected to result in your death within 6 months of the date of the written medical proof. We must approve such proof in writing before the Accelerated Life Benefit will be paid.

We can have you examined by a doctor of our choice to verify the terminal condition. We'll pay the cost of such examination. We will not pay the Accelerated Life Benefit if our doctor does not verify the terminal condition, subject to the terms explained below.

If our doctor does not verify the terminal condition, you may request mediation. If so, you select a health care provider, who may or may not be associated with you. We will select a health care provider, who may or may not be an employee or other provider associated with us. The two chosen health care providers will appoint a mediator who has no ongoing relationship with either you or us. The mediator will decide if your condition is terminal under the terms of this plan.

If we approve you to receive an Accelerated Life Benefit, or if the mediator rules that you should receive the benefit, we give you a statement which shows: (a) the amount of the maximum Accelerated Life Benefit for which you are eligible; and (b) the amount by which your group term life insurance will be reduced if you elect to receive the maximum Accelerated Life Benefit; and (c) the amount of the processing fee.

Even if you are receiving an Extended Life Benefit under this plan, you can still apply for an Accelerated Life Benefit. However, once you convert your group term life insurance, the terms of the converted life policy will apply. The sum of the amount of insurance converted plus the gross amount of insurance accelerated cannot exceed the total amount of group term life insurance in effect prior to acceleration.

Please read "Your Remaining Group Term Life Insurance" provision for restrictions that may apply.

CGP-3-R-EALB-NY-95 B275.0041

If You Have Assigned Your Group Term Life Insurance

If you have already assigned your group term life insurance, according to the terms of this plan, you can't apply for an Accelerated Life Benefit.

If You Are Incompetent

If you are determined to be legally incompetent, the person the court appoints to handle your legal affairs may apply for the Accelerated Life Benefit for you.

Your Remaining Group Term Life Insurance

The remaining amount of group term life insurance for which you are covered after receiving an Accelerated Life Benefit payment is subject to any increases or cutbacks that would otherwise apply to your insurance. Applicable cutbacks are applied to the amount of group term life insurance for which you are insured on the day before you apply for the Accelerated Life Benefit.

The premium cost of your remaining coverage is based on the amount of group term life insurance for which you would be covered if you had not elected acceleration.

The total amount of group term life insurance your beneficiary would otherwise receive upon your death is reduced by the gross amount of the Accelerated Life Benefit paid to you.

If you die after electing the Accelerated Life Benefit, but before we send the benefit to you, your beneficiary will receive the amount of the group term life insurance for which you are insured on the day before you apply for the Accelerated Life Benefit.

Restrictions We will not pay an Accelerated Life Benefit to you if you:

- are required by law to use the payment to meet the claims of creditors, whether or not you are in bankruptcy; or
- are required by court order to pay all or part of the benefit to another person; or
- are required by a government agency to use the payment to apply for, to receive or to maintain a governmental benefit or entitlement; or
- lose your coverage under the group plan for any reason after you elect the Accelerated Life Benefit but before we pay such benefit to you.

CGP-3-R-EALB-NY-95-1 B270.0345

Your Extended Life Benefit With Waiver Of Premium

Important Notice This section applies to your optional life benefit. But, it does not apply to your accidental death and dismemberment benefits; nor to any of your dependent's insurance under this group plan. In order to continue dependent optional life insurance, you must convert your dependent coverage. To convert dependent coverage you must choose an individual permanent policy.

If You Are Disabled You are disabled if you meet the definition of total disability, as stated below. If you meet the requirements in the "How and When to Apply" provision, we'll extend your optional life insurance under this section without payment of premiums from you or the employer.

Total Disability or Totally Disabled means, due to sickness or injury, you are:

(a) not able to perform any work for wages or profit; and

(b) you are receiving regular doctor's care appropriate to the cause of disability; unless you have reached your maximum point of recovery, yet are still disabled under the terms of this plan.

How And When To Apply To apply for this extension, you must submit acceptable written medical proof of your total disability. You must provide this proof during the period of disability. Failure to provide proof within the required time will not invalidate or reduce any claim if proof is provided: (a) as soon as reasonably possible; and (b) in no event, except in the absence of legal capacity, later than one year from the time proof is otherwise required.

Also, in order to be eligible for this extension, you must:

(a) become totally disabled before you reach age 60 and while insured by the group plan; and

(b) remain totally disabled for nine continuous months.

You may apply for this benefit immediately upon the onset of disability.

Continued Eligibility For Extended Life Benefit

We require periodic written proof that you remain totally disabled to maintain this extension. This written proof of your: (a) continued disability; and (b) doctor's care must be provided to us within 30 days of the date we make each such request.

We can require you to take part in a medical assessment, with a medical specialist of our choice. During the first two years of this extension, we may require this as often as we feel is reasonably necessary. But after two years, we can't have you examined more than once a year.

Until You've Been Approved For This Extended Life Benefit

Your life insurance under the group plan may end after you've become totally disabled but before we've approved you for this extension. During this time period, you may either:

(a) continue group premium payments, including any portion which would have been paid by the employer, until you are approved or declined for this extension; or

(b) convert to an individual permanent or term policy. Please read the section labeled "Converting This Group Term Life Insurance" for details on how to convert.

However, you must convert if: (i) this group plan terminates; and (ii) you are totally disabled and eligible, but not yet approved, for this extended benefit. You must remain insured under such policy until approved by us for the extended benefit.

Converting does not stop you from claiming your rights under this section. But if you convert and we later approve you for this extended benefit, we'll cancel the converted policy as of our approval date. Once you are approved for this extended benefit, your group term life coverage will be reinstated. This will be done at no further cost to you or the employer.

When This Extension Begins

Once approved by us, your extended benefit will be effective on the later of:

(a) nine continuous months from the date active full-time service ends due to total disability; or

(b) the date we approve you for this benefit.

When This Extension Ends

Your extension will end on the earliest of:

(a) the date you are no longer disabled;

(b) the date you refuse to be examined by our doctor;

(c) the date you do not give us required proof of disability;

(d) the date you are no longer receiving appropriate doctor's care; or

(e) The day before the date you reach age 65.

You can convert as if your employment just ended if: (a) this extension ends; and (b) you are not insured by the group plan again as an active full-time employee. Read the section labeled "Converting This Group Term Life Insurance".

Your Extended Life Benefit With Waiver Of Premium (Cont.)

If You Die While Covered By This Extension

If you die while covered by this extension we'll pay your beneficiary the amount for which you were covered under this extension. What we pay is subject to all reductions which would have applied had you stayed an active employee. The benefit amount is also subject to reduction which applies at retirement. We will apply the retirement reduction when you reach your Social Security Normal Retirement Age, as defined in the 1983 amendment to the Social Security Act.

Proof Of Death

We'll pay as soon as we receive

(a) acceptable written proof of your death; and

(b) medical proof that you were continuously disabled until your death. This must be sent within one year of the date of death.

CGP-3-R-LW-TD-99-2-NC B275.0140

Dependent Term Life Insurance

The Benefit:

If one of your dependents dies while insured for this benefit, we pay the amount shown in the schedule. We pay this in a lump sum when we receive written proof of death. Send the proof to us as soon as possible.

We pay you, if you're living. If you are not living, and the dependent was your child, we pay your spouse. If your spouse is not living, we pay the child's living brothers and sisters in equal shares. If there are none, we pay the child's estate. If the dependent was your spouse, we pay your spouse's estate.

Payment to a Minor or Incompetent:

If the dependent's beneficiary is a minor or incompetent, we have the option of paying this insurance in monthly installments. We would pay them to the person who cares for and supports the beneficiary.

CGP-3-R-DEPBL-03-NY B290.0048

Your Dependent Spouse and Child Optional Term Life Insurance

Your Benefit

Subject to the limitations and exclusions shown below, if one of your dependents dies while insured for this benefit, we pay the amount shown in the schedule for the plan you have elected. We pay this in a lump sum when we receive written proof of death which is acceptable to us. Send the proof to us as soon as possible.

We pay you, if you're living. If you're not, and the dependent was your child, we pay your spouse. If your spouse is not living, we pay the child's living brothers and sisters in equal shares. If there are none, we pay the child's estate. If the dependent was your spouse, we pay the spouse's estate.

Suicide Exclusion

We pay no benefits if the dependent's death is due to suicide, if such death occurs within two years from the effective date of the dependent's optional term life insurance under this *plan.* Also, we pay no increased benefit amount if the dependent's death is due to suicide, if such death occurs within two years from the effective date of the increase.

Your Dependent Spouse and Child Optional Term Life Insurance (Cont.)

Seatbelt And Airbag Benefits

If a dependent dies as a direct result of an automobile accident while properly wearing a seatbelt, we will increase the benefit amount by $5,000.00. And if a dependent dies as a direct result of an automobile accident while both properly wearing a seatbelt, and sitting in a seat equipped with an airbag, we'll increase the benefit amount by an additional $2,500.00, for a total increase of $7,500.00. However, in no event will the total increase exceed 10% of the dependent's optional group term life insurance benefit.

Payment To A Minor Or Incompetent

If the beneficiary is a minor or not competent, we have the right to pay in monthly installments. We would pay the person who cares for and supports the beneficiary. We completely discharge our liability for any amounts paid this way.

CGP-3-R-DOPT-NY-00 B293.0258

Converting This Dependent Term Life Insurance

If Your Group Life Insurance Ends or You Stop Being Eligible

Dependent term life insurance ends for all of your dependents when your group life insurance ends. Your insurance ends when: (a) your active full-time employment ends; (b) you stop being a member of a class of employees eligible for employee group life insurance; (c) your group life insurance is extended under the Extended Life Benefit provision; or (d) you die.

Dependent term life insurance also ends when you stop being a member of a class of employees eligible for dependent term life insurance.

If one of the above happens, each dependent who was insured may convert all or part of his or her insurance.

If This Plan Ends or Life Insurance is Dropped

Dependent term life insurance also ends for all of your dependents when this plan ends. And it ends if either employee or dependent term life insurance is dropped from this plan for all employees or for your class.

If one of the above happens, they can convert. But we limit the amount each dependent can convert to: (i) the amount of his or her insurance under this plan; less (ii) any group life benefits for which he or she becomes eligible in the 45 days after this insurance ends.

If a Dependent Stops Being Eligible

A dependent's term life insurance ends when he or she stops being an eligible dependent as defined by this plan. If a dependent stops being eligible, that dependent can convert all or part of his or her insurance.

The Converted Policy

The dependent can convert to one of the individual life insurance policies we normally issue. That policy can't include disability benefits. And it can't be a term policy.

The premium for the converted policy will be based on: (a) the dependent's risk and rate class under this plan; and (b) the dependent's age when the converted policy takes effect. The converted policy takes effect at the end of the period allowed for conversion.

Write to us for details.

How and When to Convert

To get a converted policy, the dependent must apply to us in writing and pay the required premium. He or she has 31 days after his or her group insurance ends to do this. We won't ask for proof that he or she is insurable.

If the dependent is a minor or not competent, the person who cares for and supports the dependent may apply for him or her.

Death During the Conversion Period

If a dependent dies in the 31 days allowed for conversion, we pay the amount he or she could have converted, as stated above. We do this whether or not he or she applied for conversion.

Notice of Conversion Right

If the dependent is entitled to obtain a converted policy under this section, the employer must give the employee written notice of such right. The employer must give the employee written notice in person, or mail it to his or her last know address.

The notice should be given within 15 days before or after the date dependent group life coverage ends. If the notice is given more than 15 days but less than 90 days after the date dependent group life coverage ends, the dependent will have 45 days from the date notice is given to apply for the converted policy and pay the required premium. If notice is not given within 90 days following the date dependent group life coverage ends, the time allowed for conversion expires at the end of such 90 day period.

CGP-3-R-DEPL-03-N-NY B295.0088

ELIGIBILITY FOR VISION CARE EXPENSE COVERAGE

B505.0152

Employee Vision Care Expense Coverage

Eligible Employees

To be eligible for employee coverage under this *plan,* you must be an active *full-time employee* or a *qualified retiree.* And you must belong to a class of employees covered by this *plan.*

Other Conditions

You must enroll and agree to make required payments within 31 days of your *eligibility date.* If you fail to do so, you can't enroll until this *plan's* next vision open enrollment period.

This *plan's* vision open enrollment period occurs from May 1st to May 31st of each year.

Once you enroll in this *plan,* you can't drop your vision coverage until this *plan's* next vision open enrollment period. And if you drop your vision coverage, you can't enroll again until the next vision open enrollment period.

If you initially waived vision coverage under this *plan* because you were covered for vision care benefits under another group plan, and you wish to enroll in this *plan* because your coverage under the other plan ends, you may do so without waiting until the next vision open enrollment period. However, your coverage under the other plan must have ended due to one of the following events: (a) termination of your spouse's employment; (b) loss of eligibility under your spouse's plan; (c) divorce; (d) death of your spouse; or (e) termination of the other plan. But you must enroll in this *plan* within 30 days of the date that any of these events occur.

CGP-3-EC-90-1.0 B505.0061

When Your Coverage Starts

Your coverage under this *plan* is scheduled to start on the effective date shown on the sticker attached to the inside front cover of this booklet. But you must be actively at work on a *full-time* basis on that date unless you are a *qualified retiree.* And you must have met all of the applicable conditions explained above, and any applicable waiting period. If you are an active *full-time employee* and are not actively at work on that date, we will postpone your coverage until the date you return to active *full-time* work.

If you are a *qualified retiree,* you can not be confined in a health care facility on the scheduled effective date of coverage. If you are confined on that date, we will postpone your coverage until the day after you are discharged. And you must also have met all of the applicable conditions of eligibility and any applicable waiting period in order for coverage to start.

Sometimes, the effective date shown on the sticker is not a regularly scheduled work day. But your coverage will still start on that date if you were actively at work on your last regularly scheduled work day.

CGP-3-EC-90-2.0 B505.0073

When Your Coverage Ends

If you are an active *full-time employee,* your coverage under this *plan* ends on the last day of the month in which your active *full-time* service ends for any reason. Such reasons include disability, retirement (except for *qualified retirees),* layoff, leave of absence and the end of employment.

Your coverage ends on the date you die.

It also ends on the date you stop being a member of a class of employees eligible for insurance under this plan, or when this plan ends for all *employees.* And it ends when this *plan* is changed so that benefits for the class of *employees* to which you belong ends.

If you are required to pay part of the cost of this *plan* and you fail to do so, your coverage ends. It ends on the last day of the period for which you made the required payments, unless coverage ends earlier for other reasons.

Read this booklet carefully if your coverage ends. You may have the right to continue vision care benefits for a limited time.

CGP-3-EC-90-3.0 B505.0085

Your Right To Continue Group Coverage During A Family Leave Of Absence

Important Notice

This section may not apply. You must contact your *employer* to find out if your *employer* must allow for a leave of absence under federal law. In that case the section applies.

If Your Group Coverage Would End

Group coverage may normally end for an *employee* because he or she ceases work due to an approved leave of absence. But, the *employee* may continue his or her group coverage if the leave of absence has been granted: (a) to allow the *employee* to care for a seriously injured or ill spouse, child, or parent; (b) after the birth or adoption of a child; (c) due to the *employee's* own serious health condition; or (d) because of any serious injury or illness arising out of the fact that a spouse, child, parent, or next of kin, who is a covered servicemember, of the *employee* is on active duty (or has been notified of an impending call or order to active duty) in the Armed Forces in support of a contingency operation. The *employee* will be required to pay the same share of the premium as he or she paid before the leave of absence.

When Continuation Ends

Coverage may continue until the earliest of the following:

- The date you return to active work.
- The end of a total leave period of 26 weeks in one 12 month period, in the case of an *employee* who cares for a covered servicemember. This 26 week total leave period applies to all leaves granted to the *employee* under this section for all reasons.
- The end of a total leave period of 12 weeks in: (a) any 12 month period, in the case of any other *employee;* or (b) any later 12 month period in the case of an *employee* who cares for a covered servicemember.
- The date on which your coverage would have ended had you not been on leave.
- The end of the period for which the premium has been paid.

Definitions As used in this section, the terms listed below have the meanings shown below:

- **Active Duty:** This term means duty under a call or order to active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States.
- **Contingency Operation:** This term means a military operation that: (a) is designated by the Secretary of Defense as an operation in which members of the armed forces are or may become involved in military actions, operations, or hostilities against an enemy of the United States or against an opposing military force; or (b) results in the call or order to, or retention on, active duty of members of the uniformed services under any provision of law during a war or during a national emergency declared by the President or Congress.
- **Covered Servicemember:** This term means a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who for a serious injury or illness: (a) is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy; (b) is otherwise in outpatient status; or (c) is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list.
- **Next Of Kin:** This term means the nearest blood relative of the *employee.*
- **Outpatient Status:** This term means, with respect to a covered servicemember, that he or she is assigned to: (a) a military medical treatment facility as an outpatient; or (b) a unit established for the purpose of providing command and control of members of the Armed Forces receiving medical care as outpatients.
- **Serious Injury Or Illness:** This term means, in the case of a covered servicemember, an injury or illness incurred by him or her in line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces that may render him or her medically unfit to perform the duties of his or her office, grade, rank, or rating.

CGP-3-EC-90-3.0 B449.0727

Dependent Vision Care Expense Coverage

CGP-3-DEP-90-1.0 B505.0099

Eligible Dependents For Dependent Vision Care Benefits Your *eligible dependents* are: (a) your legal spouse; (b) your unmarried dependent children who are under age 19; and (c) your unmarried dependent children from age 19 until their 23rd birthday, who are enrolled as full-time students at accredited schools.

An unmarried dependent child who is not able to remain enrolled as a full-time student due to a *medically necessary* leave of absence may continue to be an *eligible dependent* until the earlier of: (a) the date that is one year after the first day of the *medically necessary* leave of absence; or (b) the date on which coverage would otherwise end under this *plan.* You must provide written certification by a treating physician which states that the child is suffering from a serious illness or injury and that the leave of absence is *medically necessary.*

CGP-3-DEP-90-2.0 B505.0782

Adopted Children And Step-Children

Your "unmarried dependent children" include your dependent legally adopted children and, if they depend on you for most of their support and maintenance, your step-children. We treat a child as legally adopted from the time the child is placed in your home for the purpose of adoption. We treat such a child this way whether or not a final adoption order is ever issued.

We exclude any dependent who is insured by this *plan* as an *employee.* And we exclude any dependent who is on active duty in any armed force.

CGP-3-DEP-91-3.0-NY B505.0115

Handicapped Children

You may have an unmarried child with a mental or physical handicap, or developmental disability, who can't support himself. Subject to all of the terms of this section and the *plan,* such a child may stay eligible for dependent vision care benefits past this *plan's* age limit.

The child will stay eligible as long as he stays unmarried and unable to support himself, if: (a) his conditions started before he reached this *plan's* age limit; (b) he became insured by this *plan* before he reached the age limit, and stayed continuously insured until he reached such limit; and (c) he depends on you for most of his support and maintenance.

But, for the child to stay eligible, you must send us written proof that the child is handicapped and depends on you for most of his support and maintenance. You have 31 days from the date the child reaches the age limit to do this. We can ask for periodic proof that the child's condition continues. But, after two years, we can't ask for this proof more than once a year.

The child's coverage ends when yours does.

CGP-3-DEP-90-4.0 B505.0119

When Dependent Coverage Starts

In order for your dependent coverage to begin, you must already be insured for employee coverage, or enroll for employee and dependent coverage at the same time. Subject to the "Exception" stated below and to all of the terms of this *plan,* the date your dependent coverage starts depends on when you elect to enroll all of your *initial dependents* and agree to make any required payments.

If you do this on or before your *eligibility date,* your dependent coverage is scheduled to start on the later of the date you sign the enrollment form and the date you become covered for employee coverage.

If you do this after the *enrollment period* ends, you can't enroll your *initial dependents* until the next vision open enrollment period.

Once you have coverage for your *initial dependents,* you must notify us when you acquire any new dependents, and agree to make any additional payments required for the coverage. If you do this within 31 days of the date the *newly acquired dependent* becomes eligible, the dependent's coverage will start on the date the dependent becomes eligible. If you fail to notify us on time, you can't enroll the *newly acquired dependent* until the next vision open enrollment period.

Once a dependent is enrolled for vision care expense insurance, the coverage can't be dropped until the next vision open enrollment period. And once coverage is dropped for a dependent, the dependent can't be enrolled again until the next vision open enrollment period.

CGP-3-DEP-90-6.0 B505.0130

Exception If a dependent, other than a newborn child, is confined to a hospital or other health care facility; or is home-confined; or is unable to carry out the normal activities of someone of like age and sex on the date his dependent benefits would otherwise start, we will postpone the effective date of such benefits until the day after his discharge from such facility; until home confinement ends; or until he resumes the normal activities of someone of like age and sex.

CGP-3-DEP-90-7.0 B505.0132

Newborn Children We cover your newborn child from the moment of birth if you're already insured for dependent vision coverage, and you notify us within 31 days of the child's birth. If you fail to notify us on time, you can't enroll the child until the next vision open enrollment period.

If the newborn child is your first *eligible dependent,* we cover the child from the moment of birth if you enroll for dependent coverage and agree to make any required payments within 31 days of the child's birth. If you fail to enroll on time, you can't enroll the child until the next vision open enrollment period.

If the newborn child is not your first *eligible dependent,* but you did not previously enroll your other *eligible dependents* for vision care expense coverage, you can enroll the child during the next vision open enrollment period, if you also enroll all of your other *eligible dependents* at this time.

CGP-3-DEP-90-8.0 B505.0153

When Dependent Coverage Ends Dependent coverage ends for all of your dependents when your *employee* coverage ends. But if you die while insured, we'll automatically continue dependent vision care benefits for those of your dependents who are insured when you die. We'll do this for six months at no cost, provided: (a) the group *plan* remains in force; (b) the dependents remain *eligible dependents;* and (c) in the case of a spouse, the spouse does not remarry.

If a surviving dependent elects to continue his dependent vision care benefits under this *plan's* "Federal Continuation Rights" provision, or under any other continuation provision of this *plan,* if any, this free continuation period will be provided as the first six months of such continuation. Premiums required to be paid by, or on behalf of a surviving dependent will be waived for the first six months of continuation, subject to restrictions (a), (b) and (c) above. After the first six months of continuation, the remainder of the continuation period, if any, will be subject to the premium requirements, and all of the terms of the "Federal Continuation Rights" or other continuation provisions.

Dependent coverage also ends for all of your dependents when you stop being a member of a class of *employees* eligible for such coverage. And it ends when this *plan* ends, or when dependent coverage is dropped from this *plan* for all *employees* or for an *employee's* class.

If you are required to pay part of the cost of dependent coverage, and you fail to do so, your dependent coverage ends. It ends on the last day of the period for which you made the required payments, unless coverage ends earlier for other reasons.

An individual dependent's coverage ends when he or she stops being an *eligible dependent.* This happens to a child at 12:01 a.m. on the date the child attains this *plan's* age limit, when he or she marries, when a child covered as a student is no longer an active full-time student, or when a step-child is no longer dependent on you for support and maintenance. It happens to a spouse when a marriage ends in legal divorce or annulment. But, if a child who is enrolled as a full-time student must take a medical leave of absence from school due to sickness, his or her coverage may be continued. Such coverage may be continued for up to one year from the last day the child attended school, but not beyond the date coverage would otherwise end under this *plan* if he or she did not take the medical leave of absence; provided: (a) we receive a *doctor's* certification of the sickness which requires the leave of absence; (b) the group *plan* remains in force; and (c) all required premiums for the child's coverage continue to be paid.

Read this *plan* carefully if dependent coverage ends for any reason. Dependents may have the right to continue vision care benefits for a limited time.

CGP-3-DEP-90-9.0 B505.0183

CERTIFICATE AMENDMENT

This rider amends the "Dependent Coverage" provisions as follows:

An employee's domestic partner will be eligible for vision care coverage under this plan. Coverage will be provided subject to all the terms of this plan and to the following limitations:

To qualify for such coverage, both the employee and his or her domestic partner must:

- be 18 years of age or older;
- be unmarried, constitute each other's sole domestic partner and not have had another domestic partner in the last 12 months;
- share the same permanent address for at least 12 consecutive months and intend to do so indefinitely;
- share joint financial responsibility for basic living expenses including food, shelter and medical expenses;
- not be related by blood to a degree that would prohibit marriage in the employee's state of residence; and
- be financially interdependent which must be demonstrated by at least four of the following:
  a. ownership of a joint bank account;
  b. ownership of a joint credit account;
  c. evidence of a joint mortgage or lease;
  d. evidence of joint obligation on a loan;
  e. joint ownership of a residence;
  f. evidence of common household expenses such as utilities or telephone;
  g. execution of wills naming each other as executor and/or beneficiary;
  h. granting each other durable powers of attorney;
  i. granting each other health care powers of attorney;
  j. designation of each other as beneficiary under a retirement benefit account; or
  k. evidence of other joint financial responsibility.

The employee must complete a "Declaration of Domestic Partnership" attesting to the relationship.

The domestic partner's dependent children will be eligible for coverage under this plan on the same basis as if the children were the employee's dependent children.

Coverage for the domestic partner and his or her dependent children ends when the domestic partner no longer meets the qualifications of a domestic partner as indicated above. Upon termination of a domestic partnership, a "Statement of Termination" must be completed and filed with the employer. Once the employee submits a "Statement of Termination," he or she may not enroll another domestic partner for a period of 12 months from the date of the previous termination.

And, the domestic partner and his or her children will be not eligible for:

a. survivor benefits upon the employee's death as explained under the "When Dependent Coverage Ends" section; or

b. continuation of vision care coverage as explained under the "Federal Continuation Rights" section and under any other continuation rights section of this plan, unless the employee is also eligible for and elects continuation.

This rider is a part of this plan. Except as stated in this rider, nothing contained in this rider changes or affects any other terms of this plan.

The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America

Stuart J Shaw

Vice President, Risk Mgt. & Chief Actuary

CGP-3-A-DMST-96 B505.0161

VISION CARE HIGHLIGHTS

This page provides a quick guide to some of the Vision Care Expense Insurance plan features which people most often want to know about. But it's not a complete description of your Vision Care Expense Insurance plan. Read the following pages carefully for a complete explanation of what we pay, limit and exclude.

PPO Copayments	Examinations	$10.00
	Standard Frames and/or Standard Lenses	$25.00
	Necessary Contact Lenses	$25.00
Non-PPO Cash Deductibles	Examinations	$10.00
	Standard Frames and/or Standard Lenses	$25.00
	Necessary Contact Lenses	$25.00
Payment Rates	For Covered Charges	100%

CGP-3-VSN-96-BEN3 B505.0004

VISION CARE EXPENSE INSURANCE

This insurance will pay many of your and your covered dependent's vision care expenses. What we pay and the terms for payment are explained below.

CGP-3-VSN-96-VIS B505.0007

Vision Service Plan - This Plan's Vision Care Preferred Provider Organization

Vision Service Plan

This *plan* is designed to provide high quality vision care while controlling the cost of such care. To do this, the *plan* encourages a *covered person* to seek vision care from doctors and vision care facilities that belong to Vision Service Plan (VSP), a vision care *preferred provider* organization (PPO).

This vision care PPO is made up of *preferred providers* in a *covered person's* geographic area. A vision care *preferred provider* is a vision care practitioner or a vision care facility that: (a) is a current provider of VSP; and (b) has a participatory agreement in force with VSP.

Use of the vision care PPO is voluntary. A *covered person* may receive vision care from any vision care provider. And, he or she is free to change providers at any time. But, this *plan* usually pays more in benefits for covered services furnished by a vision care *preferred provider.* Conversely, it usually pays less for covered services not furnished by a vision care *preferred provider.*

When an *employee* and his or her dependents enroll in this *plan,* they will get an enrollment packet which will tell them how to obtain benefits and information about current vision care *preferred providers.*

What we pay is based on all the terms of this *plan.* The *covered person* should read this material with care, and have it available when seeking vision care. Read this *plan* carefully for specific benefit levels, *copayments, deductibles,* payment rates and payment limits.

The *covered person* can call VSP if he or she has any questions after reading this material.

Choice Of Preferred Providers

When a person becomes enrolled in this *plan,* he or she will receive a list of VSP *preferred providers* in his or her area. A *covered person* may receive vision services from any VSP *preferred provider.*

Replacement Of Preferred Provider

If a *preferred provider* terminates his or her relationship with VSP for any reason, VSP shall be responsible for furnishing vision services to *covered persons* either through that provider or through another VSP *preferred provider.*

Pre-Authorization Of Preferred Provider Services

When a *covered person* desires to receive treatment from a *preferred provider,* the *covered person* must contact the *preferred provider* BEFORE receiving treatment. The *preferred provider* will contact VSP to verify the *covered person's* eligibility and VSP will notify the *preferred provider* of the 60 day time period during which the *covered person* may schedule an appointment. If the *covered person* cancels an appointment and reschedules it, it must be done within those 60 days. If the appointment is not rescheduled during the previously approved time period, the *covered person* must contact the *preferred provider* again to receive authorization.

What we pay is subject to all the terms of this *plan.*

CGP-3-VSN-96-PPOA B505.0009

Pre-Treatment Review For Necessary Contact Lenses

Subject to prior approval by VSP consultants, we will pay benefits for Necessary Contact Lenses provided to a *covered person.* A *covered person's* doctor must request approval for Necessary Contact Lenses from VSP.

No benefits will be paid for Necessary Contact Lenses if prior approval is not received from VSP.

What we pay for Necessary Contact Lenses is subject to all of the terms of this *plan.*

CGP-3-VSN-96-PTR2 B505.0014

Claim Appeals And Arbitration Of Disputes

If, under the provisions of this *plan,* a claim for benefits is denied in whole or in part, a request, in writing, may be submitted to VSP for a full review of the denial.

The written request must be made to the Plan Administrator within 60 days following the denial of benefits. The request should contain sufficient information to identify the *covered person* whose benefits were denied. This includes the name of the *covered person,* the *employee's* social security number and the *employee's* date of birth. The *covered person* may state the reasons he or she believes that the denial of the claim was in error and may provide any pertinent documents which he or she wishes to be reviewed. The Plan Administrator will review the claim and give the *covered person* the opportunity to review pertinent documents, submit any statements, documents or written arguments in support of the claim, and appear personally to present materials or arguments. The determination of the Plan Administrator, including specific reasons for the decision, shall be provided and communicated to the *covered person* in writing within one hundred twenty (120) days after receipt of a request to review.

Any dispute or question arising between VSP and any *covered person* involving the application, interpretation or performance under this *plan* shall be settled, if possible, by amicable and informal negotiations, allowing such opportunity as may be appropriate under the circumstances for fact finding and mediation. If any issue cannot be resolved in this fashion, it may be submitted to arbitration, if both parties agree.

The procedure for arbitration shall be conducted pursuant to the rules of the American Arbitration Association.

Preferred Provider Grievance Procedures

Grievances are handled by VSP's Professional Relations Vice President for action. The grievance process is designed to address *covered persons'* concerns quickly and satisfactorily. The following grievance procedures have been established:

(1) The patient's written complaint will be referred to VSP's Professional Relations Vice President for action.

(2) The complaint will be evaluated and, if deemed appropriate, the original examining doctor will be contacted.

(3) If the complaint can be resolved within fifteen (15) days, the disposition of the complaint will be forwarded to the *covered person.* Otherwise, a notice of receipt of the complaint will be forwarded to the *covered person* advising the time for resolution.

(4) Grievance procedures and complaint forms will be maintained in each *preferred provider's* office.

(5) All complaints will be retained in the Professional Relations Department.

Complaints and grievances may be sent to the Professional Relations Vice President at:

Vision Service Plan, Inc.
3333 Quality Drive
Rancho Cordova, California 95670
(877) 814-8970 or (800) 877-7195

CGP-3-VSN-96-APP B505.0015

How This Plan Works

We pay benefits for the covered charges a *covered person* incurs as follows. The services and supplies covered under this *plan* are explained in the "Covered Services and Supplies" section of this *plan.* What we pay is subject to all of the terms of this *plan.* Read the entire *plan* to find out what we limit or exclude.

Services or Supplies From a Preferred Provider

If a *covered person* uses the services of a *preferred provider,* the *preferred provider* must receive approval from VSP prior to providing the *covered person* with any service or supply. See the "Pre-Authorization of Preferred Provider Services" section of this *plan* for specific requirements.

Copayments

The *covered person* must pay a *copayment* when he or she receives services from a *preferred provider.* We pay benefits for the covered charges a *covered person* incurs in excess of the *copayment.* This *plan's copayments* are as follows:

For each vision examination from a *preferred provider* $10.00

For each pair of *standard frames* and/or
standard lenses from a *preferred provider* $25.00

For Necessary Contact Lenses from a *preferred provider* $25.00

Payment Limits Payment limits, durational or monetary, are shown in the "Covered Services and Supplies" section of this *plan.* When a monetary payment limit is set for a pair of materials, the limit is automatically halved if only one item is purchased.

Payment Rates Once a *covered person* has paid any applicable *copayment,* we pay benefits for covered charges under this *plan* as follows. What we pay is subject to all of the terms of this *plan.*

For covered charges 100%

Discounts If a *covered person* receives a vision examination, and lenses or frames from a *preferred provider,* he or she will receive a discount on the cost of purchasing an unlimited number of prescription glasses and non-prescription sunglasses from the any *preferred provider.* The *covered person* may also receive a discount on the costs of evaluation and fitting of contact lenses. No discount applies to contact lenses or materials. The discount is available for 12 months after the initial examination.

The discounts are:

For Prescription Glasses	20% off of the *preferred provider's usual* and *customary* fee
For Non-Prescription Sunglasses	20% off of the *preferred provider's usual* and *customary* fee
For Contact Lens Evaluation and Fitting Costs	15% off of the *preferred provider's usual* and *customary* fee

If a covered person receives a vision examination, and lenses or frames from a *preferred provider,* he or she will receive a discount on the cost of purchasing an unlimited number of additional prescription glasses and non-prescription sunglasses from the same *preferred provider* on the same day.

The discounts are:

For Prescription Glasses	30% off of the *preferred provider's usual* and *customary* fee
For Non-Prescription Sunglasses	30% off of the *preferred provider's usual* and *customary* fee

Services or Supplies From a Non-Preferred Provider

If a *covered person* uses the services of a *non-preferred provider,* the *covered person* must submit the itemized bill to VSP for claims payment. All claims must be sent to VSP within 180 days of the date services are completed or supplies are received. The benefits we pay are subject to all of the terms of this *plan.*

Cash Deductible For Services Of A Non-Preferred Provider

There are separate cash *deductibles* for each covered service provided by a *non-preferred provider.* These cash *deductibles* are shown below. The *covered person* must have covered charges in excess of the cash *deductible* before we pay him or her any benefits for the service or supply.

For each vision examination provided by a *non-preferred provider* . . . $10.00

For each pair of *standard frames* and/or *standard lenses* from a non-preferred provider $25.00

For each pair of Necessary Contact Lenses from a *non-preferred provider* $25.00

Payment Limits

Payment limits, durational or monetary, are shown in the "Covered Services and Supplies" section of this *plan.* When a monetary payment limit is set for a pair of materials, the limit is automatically halved if only one item is purchased.

Payment Rates

Once a *covered person* has met any applicable *deductible,* we pay benefits for covered charges under this *plan* as follows. What we pay is subject to all of the terms of this *plan.*

For covered charges 100%

Covered Charges

Covered charges are the *usual* and *customary* charges for the services and supplies described below. We pay benefits only for covered charges incurred by a *covered person* while he or she is insured by this *plan.* Charges in excess of any payment limits shown in this *plan* are not covered charges.

Covered Services and Supplies

This section lists the types of charges we cover. But what we pay is subject to all of the terms of this *plan.* Read the entire *plan* to find out what we limit or exclude.

All covered vision services must be furnished by or under the direct supervision of an optometrist, ophthalmologist or other licensed or qualified vision care provider. The services or supplies must be the *usual* and *customary* treatment for a vision condition.

Vision Examinations We cover charges for comprehensive vision care examinations. Such examinations include a complete analysis of the eyes and related structures to determine the presence of vision problems or other abnormalities. When a vision examination indicates that new lenses or frames or both are *visually necessary and appropriate* for the proper visual health of a *covered person,* professional services covered by this *plan* include:

- prescribing and ordering of proper lenses;
- assisting in the selection of frames;
- verifying the accuracy of finished lenses;
- proper fitting and adjustment of frames;
- subsequent adjustments to frames to maintain comfort and efficiency; and
- progress or follow-up work as necessary.

We don't cover more than one vision examination in any calendar year period.

And if a *covered person* uses a *non-preferred provider,* we limit what we pay for each vision examination to $50.00.

CGP-3-VSN-96-LIST1 B505.0935

Standard Lenses We cover charges for single vision, bifocal, trifocal or *lenticular lenses.* We cover glass, plastic or for dependent children to age 19, polycarbonate lenses.

If a *covered person* uses a *non-preferred provider,* we limit what we pay to

- $48.00 for each pair of single vision lenses
- $67.00 for each pair of bifocal lenses
- $86.00 for each pair of trifocal lenses and
- $126.00 for each pair of *lenticular lenses.*

CGP-3-VSN-09-SL B505.0941

We cover charges for one pair of *standard lenses* in any calendar year *benefit period.*

CGP-3-VSN-09-SL B505.0962

CGP-3-VSN-09-SL B505.0977

Standard Frames We cover charges for standard frames.

If a covered person uses a preferred provider, we cover charges up to a retail frame allowance of $130.00, plus 20% of any amount over the allowance.

If a covered person uses a non-preferred provider, we limit what we pay for each set of standard frames to $48.00.

If the covered person chooses elective contact lenses, we do not cover standard frames until the beginning of the calendar year following the date the elective contacts are purchased.

We cover charges for one set of standard frames in any period of 2 calendar years.

CGP-3-VSN-09-SF B505.0980

Necessary Contact Lenses

We cover charges for Necessary Contact Lenses upon prior approval by VSP. We cover charges, and charges for related professional services, only if the lenses are needed:

(a) following cataract surgery;

(b) to correct extreme visual acuity problems that cannot be corrected with spectacle lenses;

(c) for certain conditions of *anisometropia;* or

(d) for *keratoconus.*

We don't cover charges for more than one pair of Necessary Contact Lenses in any calendar year period.

If a *covered person* receives Necessary Contact Lenses from a *preferred provider,* we pay 100% of covered charges. If he or she receives Necessary Contact Lenses from a *non-preferred provider,* we limit what we pay to $210.00 in any calendar year period.

CGP-3-VSN-96-LIST7 B505.0996

Elective Contact Lenses

We cover charges for elective contact lenses, but only in lieu of standard lenses and standard frames. We cover charges for hard, rigid gas permeable, soft, disposable, 30-day extended wear, daily-wear and planned replacement elective lenses.

If we cover charges for elective contact lenses, we will not cover charges for standard lenses until the next calendar year and standard frames until the next calendar year.

If a covered person uses a preferred provider, we limit what we pay for elective contact lenses to $130.00

If a covered person uses a non-preferred provider, we limit what we pay for elective contact lenses to $120.00.

We cover charges for one set of elective contact lenses in any calendar year period.

CGP-3-VSN-09-ECL B505.0999

Special Limitations

If This VSP Plan Replaces Another VSP Plan

If, prior to being covered under this *plan,* a *covered person* was covered by another vision care plan with VSP under which he or she received a covered service within 6 months prior to the effective date of this *plan,* the date he or she received such a covered service will be used as the last date of service when applying the *benefit period* limitations under this *plan.* We apply this provision only if the *covered person* was enrolled in another VSP plan immediately before enrolling in this *plan.*

CGP-3-VSN-96-SL1 B505.0031

- We won't pay for *orthoptics* or vision training and any associated supplemental testing.
- We won't pay for medical or surgical treatment of the eyes.
- We won't pay for any eye examination or corrective eyewear required by an employer as a condition of employment.

CGP-3-VSN-96-EXC1 B505.0034

- We will not pay for *plano lenses* (lenses with less than a +/- .38 diopter power).
- We will not pay for two sets of glasses in lieu of bifocals.
- We will not pay for replacement of lenses and frames furnished under this *plan* which are lost or broken, except at normal intervals when services are otherwise available.
- We will not pay for cosmetic lenses or any cosmetic process, unless specifically shown as covered in the "Covered Services and Supplies" section.
- We will not pay for a frame that costs more than the plan allowance.
- We will not pay for refitting of contact lenses after the initial 90 day fitting period.
- We will not pay for routine maintenance of contact lenses such as polishing or cleaning.
- We will not pay for Corneal Refractive Therapy (CRT) or Orthokeratology (procedure using contact lenses to change the shape of the cornea in order to reduce myopia).

CGP-3-VSN-09-EXC B505.0998

- We will not pay for photochromic lenses and tinted lenses, except for pink #1 and pink #2.

CGP-3-VSN-09-EXC B505.1015

- We will not pay for UV (ultraviolet) protected lenses.

CGP-3-VSN-09-EXC B505.1016

- We will not pay for the scratch resistant coating of the lens or lenses.

CGP-3-VSN-09-EXC B505.1017

- We will not pay for blended lenses.

CGP-3-VSN-09-EXC B505.1018

- We will not pay for high index lenses.

CGP-3-VSN-09-EXC B505.1019

- We will not pay for the mirror/ski coating of the lens or lenses.

CGP-3-VSN-09-EXC B505.1020

- We will not pay for oversized lenses.

CGP-3-VSN-09-EXC B505.1021

- We will not pay for laminating of the lens or lenses.

CGP-3-VSN-09-EXC B505.1022

- We will not pay for edge treatment.

CGP-3-VSN-09-EXC B505.1023

- We will not pay for progressive lenses.
- We will not pay for progressive multifocal lenses.

CGP-3-VSN-09-EXC B505.1024

- We will not pay for the anti-reflective coating of the lens or lenses.

CGP-3-VSN-09-EXC B505.1025

- We will not pay for polycarbonate lenses.

CGP-3-VSN-09-EXC B505.1026

CGP-3-VSN-09-EXC B505.1027

Charges not covered due to this provision are not considered covered vision services and cannot be used to satisfy this *plan's copayments* or *deductibles,* if any.

CGP-3-VSN-96-EXC17 B505.0037

CERTIFICATE AMENDMENT

(To be attached to and made a part of the Cetificate)

The Settlement Option provision under the Employee Group Term Life Insurance Benefit is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

Settlement Option Unless otherwise elected by the certificate holder or beneficiary, benefits will be paid in a single lump sum check. We may make other options available in addition to the single check option.

This rider is a part of this Policy. Except as stated in this rider, nothing contained in this rider changes or affects any other terms of this Policy.

The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America

Stuart J Shaw
Vice President, Risk Mgt. & Chief Actuary

PLEASE RETAIN THIS COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS

CGP-1-R-SO-12 B531.0106

CERTIFICATE AMENDMENT

Amendment Effective: On the later of January 1, 2012 and the effective date of your certificate.

This rider amends the ELIGIBILITY FOR VISION CARE EXPENSE COVERAGE provisions of VSP's vision coverage, by adding the following:

Vision Care Plan Election procedures: Your *employer* offers a Davis Vision care plan as an alternative to VSP's vision coverage under this *plan.* You can enroll for either Davis Vision's vision coverage or for the VSP's vision coverage, but not both at the same time.

If you are enrolled for VSP's vision coverage under this *plan,* you may change your election and enroll in Davis Vision's vision care plan during any open enrollment period, except you may not change your election until the end of any 2 calendar year frequency benefit period.

If you change your election, your covered *dependents* will automatically be switched to Davis Vision's vision care plan at the same time as you.

All terms and conditions of your certificate not specifically changed herein remain in full force and effect.

The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America

Stuart J Shaw

Vice President, Risk Mgt. & Chief Actuary

CGP-3-A-VSN-VSPDUAL-12 B531.0108

REQUIRED DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

For Group Plan No.: G -00324707-

The schedule of insurance on page CGP-3-SI of the certificate booklet is a short summary of the health insurance benefits this plan provides. These benefits, including any exclusions and limitations, are fully explained in other parts of the certificate booklet. READ THE CERTIFICATE BOOKLET WITH CARE.

As evidenced by your certificate booklet, this plan provides the following health insurance benefits:

CGP-3-A-VSN-VSPDUAL-12 B610.0001

Vision Expense Insurance (defined as Limited Benefits Health Insurance by the New York State Insurance Department)

CGP-3-A-VSN-VSPDUAL-12 B610.0043

This plan does not provide Basic Hospital Insurance, Basic Medical Insurance, Medicare Supplement Insurance, or Major Medical Insurance, as defined by the New York State Insurance Department.

CGP-3-A-VSN-VSPDUAL-12 B610.0016

Notice The above statements are not part of the group policy. The group policy alone determines the rights and duties of: (a) the employer to whom this plan is issued; (b) the policyholder (if other than such employer); (c) the Guardian; and (d) any person covered by this plan.

CGP-3-A-VSN-VSPDUAL-12 B610.0017

GLOSSARY

This Glossary defines the italicized terms appearing in your booklet.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B900.0118

Anisometropia means a condition of unequal refractive state for the two eyes, one eye requiring different lens correction than the other.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF1 B750.0457

Benefit Period with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means the time period beginning when a covered service is received and extending to the date on which, according to the time limitations contained in this *plan,* the covered service is again available to a *covered person.*

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF3 B750.0458

Blended Lenses means bifocals which do not have a visible dividing line.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF3 B750.0459

Coated Lenses means substance added to a finished lens on one or both surfaces.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF3 B750.0460

Copayment with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means a charge, expressed as a fixed dollar amount, required to be paid by or on behalf of a *covered person* to a *preferred provider* at the time covered vision services are received.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF3 B750.0461

Covered Person with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means an *employee* or eligible dependent who meets this *plan's* eligibility criteria and who is covered under this *plan.*

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF3 B750.0462

Customary with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means, when referring to a covered charge, that the charge for the covered vision condition isn't more than the *usual* charge made by most other doctors with similar training and experience in the same geographic area.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF3 B750.0484

Deductible with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means any amount which a *covered person* must pay before he or she is reimbursed for covered services provided by a *non-preferred provider.*

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF3 B750.0483

Eligibility Date for dependent coverage is the earliest date on which: (a) you have initial dependents; and (b) are eligible for dependent coverage.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B900.0003

Eligible Dependent is defined in the provision entitled "Dependent Coverage."

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0015

Employee means a person who works for the *employer* at the *employer's* place of business, and whose income is reported for tax purposes using a W-2 form.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0006

Employer means DAEMEN COLLEGE .

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B900.0051

Enrollment Period with respect to dependent coverage, means the 31 day period which starts on the date that you first become eligible for dependent coverage.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B900.0004

Full-time means the *employee* regularly works at least the number of hours in the normal work week set by the *employer* (but not less than 25 hours per week), at his *employer's* place of business.

CGP-3-GLOSS.1 B750.0230

Incurred, Or Incurred Date with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means the placing of an order for lenses, frames or contact lenses, or the date on which such an order was placed.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF3 B750.0466

Initial Dependents means those *eligible dependents* you have at the time you first become eligible for *employee* coverage. If at this time you do not have any *eligible dependents,* but you later acquire them, the first *eligible dependents* you acquire are your *initial dependents.*

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B900.0006

Keratoconus means a development or dystrophic deformity of the cornea in which it becomes coneshaped due to a thinning and stretching of the tissue in its central area.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF11 B750.0467

Lenticular Lenses mean high-powered lenses with the desired prescription power found only in the central portion. The outer carrier portion has a front surface with a changing radius of curvature.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF11 B750.0485

Newly Acquired Dependent means an *eligible dependent* you acquire after you already have coverage in force for *initial dependents.*

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B900.0008

Non-Preferred Provider with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means any optometrist, optician, ophthalmologist, or other licensed and qualified vision care provider who has not contracted with the *plan* to provide vision care services and/or vision care materials to *covered persons* of the *plan.*

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF14 B750.0487

Orthoptics means the teaching and training process for the improvement of visual perception and coordination of two eyes for efficient and comfortable binocular vision.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF16 B750.0472

Oversize lenses mean larger than a *standard lens* blank, to accommodate prescriptions.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF17 B750.0489

Photochromic Lenses mean lenses which change color with the intensity of sunlight.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF17 B750.0490

Plan means the *Guardian* group *plan* purchased by your *employer,* except in the provision entitled "Coordination of Benefits" where "plan" has a special meaning. See that provision for details.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B900.0039

Plan Benefits with respect to Vision Care Insurance, mean the vision care services and vision care materials which a *covered person* is entitled to receive by virtue of coverage under this *plan.*

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF17 B750.0492

Plano Lenses mean lenses which have no refractive power (lenses with less than a +/- .38 diopter power).

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF17 B750.0491

Preferred Provider with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means an optometrist, ophthalmologist or optician or other licensed and qualified vision care provider who has contracted with the *plan* to provide vision care services and/or vision care materials on behalf of *covered persons* of the *plan.*

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF14 B750.0488

Proof or Proof of Insurability means an application for insurance showing that a person is insurable.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B900.0010

Qualified Retirees are covered as outlined in your company's benefit provisions. Please see your Plan Administrator for details.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0008

Standard Frames mean frames valued up to the limit published by VSP which is given to *preferred providers.*

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF17 B750.0478

Standard Lenses mean regular glass or plastic lenses. See the "Special Limitations" section for what we limit or exclude.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF17 B750.0479

Tinted Lenses mean lenses which have an additional substance added to produce constant tint.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF17 B750.0480

Usual means, when referring to a covered charge, that the charge is the doctor's standard charge for the service furnished. If more than one type of service can be used to treat a vision condition, "usual" refers to the charge for the least expensive type of service which meets the accepted standards of vision care practice.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF17 B750.0481

Visually Necessary Or Appropriate means medically or visually necessary for the restoration or maintenance of a *covered person's* visual acuity and health and for which there is no less expensive professionally acceptable alternatives.

CGP-3-VSN-96-DEF17 B750.0482-R

SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION SUPPLEMENT TO CERTIFICATE

You participate in a single employer insured Welfare Plan. This supplement and your certificate of insurance constitute the Summary Plan Description as required by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). This supplement should be retained with your certificate.

- **Name of Plan:**

  Daemen College GROUP INSURANCE PLAN

- **Employer's Name:** (Plan Sponsor)

  Daemen College

  Address: 4380 Main Street

  Amhearst NY 14226

  Phone Number: 716-839-8507

- **IRS Employer Identification Number (EIN):** 16-0759798

- **Plan Number:** 503

- **Plan Administrator:** (if other than Plan Sponsor)

  sames as above

  Address:

  Phone Number:

- **Agent for The Service of Legal Process:**

  same as above

  Address:

  (Legal process may also be served on the Plan Administrator.)

- **Date of End of Plan Year:** One day prior to June 1st.

- Contributions to the plan are provided by the Employer and the Employee.

- The following class or classes of full-time employees are eligible to apply for insurance:

  All Eligible Employees

  provided they have completed the service waiting period established by the employer, if any. Qualified dependents of these employees may also be eligible for insurance. (Your certificate provides details).

B800.0047

STATEMENT OF ERISA RIGHTS

As a participant, you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides that all plan participants shall be entitled to:

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, 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.

Continue Group Health Plan Coverage

Continue health care coverage for yourself, spouse or dependents if there is a loss of coverage under the plan as a result of a qualifying event. You or your dependents may have to pay for such coverage. You should review this summary plan description and the documents governing the plan on the rules governing your COBRA continuation coverage rights.

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 the plan, called "fiduciaries" of the plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of 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.

Enforcement Of 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 state or Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the plan administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to $110.00 a day until you receive the material, 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 federal court. 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 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 that your claim is frivolous.

Assistance with Questions

If you have questions about the plan, you should contact the plan administrator. If you have 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, U.S. Department of Labor listed in your telephone directory or the 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.

Qualified Medical Child Support Order

Federal law requires that group health plans provide medical care coverage of a dependent child pursuant to a qualified medical child support order (QMCSO). A "qualified medical child support order" is a judgment or decree issued by a state court that requires a group medical plan to provide coverage to the named dependent child(ren) of an employee pursuant to a state domestic relations order. For the order to be qualified it must include:

- The name of the group health plan to which it applies.
- The name and last known address of the employee and the child(ren).
- A reasonable description of the type of coverage or benefits to be provided by the plan to the child(ren).
- The time period to which the order applies.

A dependent enrolled due to a QMCSO will not be considered a late enrollee in the plan.

Note: A QMCSO cannot require a group health plan to provide any type or form of benefit or option not otherwise available under the plan except to the extent necessary to meet medical child support laws described in Section 90 of the Social Security Act.

If you have questions about this statement, see the plan administrator.

CGP-3 B800.0048

The vision care expense benefits provided by this plan are guaranteed by a policy of insurance issued by The Guardian. The Guardian also supplies administrative services, such as claims services, including the payment of claims, preparation of employee certificates of insurance, and changes to such certificates.

CGP-3 B800.0055

The Guardian is located at 7 Hanover Square, New York, New York 10004.

CGP-3 B800.0049

If you seek benefits under the plan you should complete, execute and submit a claim form. Claim forms and instructions for filing claims may be obtained from the Plan Administrator.

Guardian is the Claims Administrator with respect to processing claims. Guardian has the right to secure independent professional healthcare advice and to require such other evidence as needed to decide your claim.

The Plan Administrator has discretionary authority to determine eligibility for benefits and to construe the terms of the plan with respect to claims.

In addition to the basic claim procedure explained in your benefit booklet, Guardian will also observe the procedures listed below. These procedures are the minimum requirements for benefit claims procedures of employee benefit plans covered by Title 1 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA")

Definitions

"Adverse determination" means any denial, reduction or termination of a benefit or failure to provide or make payment (in whole or in part) for a benefit. A failure to cover an item or service: (a) due to the application of any utilization review; or (b) because the item or service is determined to be experimental or investigational, or not medically necessary or appropriate, is also considered an adverse determination.

"Group Health Benefits" means any dental, out-of-network point-of-service medical, major medical, vision care or prescription drug coverages which are a part of this plan.

"Pre-service claim" means a claim for a medical care benefit with respect to which the plan conditions receipt of the benefit, in whole or in part, on approval of the benefit in advance of receipt of care.

"Post-service claim" means a claim for payment for medical care that already has been provided.

"Urgent care claim" means a claim for medical care or treatment where making a non-urgent care decision: (a) could seriously jeopardize the life or health of the claimant or the ability of the claimant to regain maximum function, as determined by an individual acting on behalf of the plan applying the judgment of a prudent layperson who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine; or (b) in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of the claimant's medical condition, would subject the claimant to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the care.

Note: Any claim that a physician with knowledge of the claimant's medical condition determines is a claim involving urgent care will be treated as an urgent care claim for purposes of this section.

Timing For Initial Benefit Determination

The benefit determination period begins when a claim is received. Guardian will make a benefit determination and notify a claimant within a reasonable period of time, but not later than the maximum time period shown below. A written or electronic notification of any adverse benefit determination must be provided.

Urgent Care Claims. Guardian will make a benefit determination within 72 hours after receipt of an urgent care claim.

If a claimant fails to provide all information needed to make a benefit determination, Guardian will notify the claimant of the specific information that is needed as soon as possible but no later than 24 hours after receipt of the claim. The claimant will be given not less than 48 hours to provide the specified information.

Guardian will notify the claimant of the benefit determination as soon as possible but not later than the earlier of:

- the date the requested information is received; or
- the end of the period given to the claimant to provide the specified additional information.

The required notice may be provided to the claimant orally within the required time frame provided that a written or electronic notification is furnished to the claimant not later than 3 days after the oral notification.

Pre-Service Claims. Guardian will provide a benefit determination not later than 15 days after receipt of a pre-service claim. If a claimant fails to provide all information needed to make a benefit determination, Guardian will notify the claimant of the specific information that is needed as soon as possible but no later than 5 days after receipt of the claim. A notification of a failure to follow proper procedures for pre-service claims may be oral, unless a written notification is requested by the claimant.

The time period for providing a benefit determination may be extended by up to 15 days if Guardian determines that an extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan, and so notifies the claimant before the end of the initial 15-day period.

If Guardian extends the time period for making a benefit determination due to a claimant's failure to submit information necessary to decide the claim, the claimant will be given at least 45 days to provide the requested information. The extension period will begin on the date on which the claimant responds to the request for additional information.

Post-Service Claims. Guardian will provide a benefit determination not later than 30 days after receipt of a post-service claim. If a claimant fails to provide all information needed to make a benefit determination, Guardian will notify the claimant of the specific information that is needed as soon as possible but no later than 30 days after receipt of the claim.

The time period for completing a benefit determination may be extended by up to 15 days if Guardian determines that an extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan, and so notifies the claimant before the end of the initial 30-day period.

If Guardian extends the time period for making a benefit determination due to a claimant's failure to submit information necessary to decide the claim, the claimant will be given at least 45 days to provide the requested information. The extension period will begin on the date on which the claimant responds to the request for additional information.

Concurrent Care Decisions. A reduction or termination of an approved ongoing course of treatment (other than by plan amendment or termination) will be regarded as an adverse benefit determination. This is true whether the treatment is to be provided(a) over a period of time; (b) for a certain number of treatments; or (c) without a finite end date. Guardian will notify a claimant at a time sufficiently in advance of the reduction or termination to allow the claimant to appeal.

In the case of a request by a claimant to extend an ongoing course of treatment involving urgent care, Guardian will make a benefit determination as soon as possible but no later than 24 hours after receipt of the claim.

Adverse Benefit Determination

If a claim is denied, Guardian will provide a notice that will set forth:

- the specific reason(s) for the adverse determination;
- reference to the specific plan provision(s) on which the determination is based;
- a description of any additional material or information necessary to make the claim valid and an explanation of why such material or information is needed;
- a description of the plan's claim review procedures and the time limits applicable to such procedures, including a statement indicating that the claimant has the right to bring a civil action under ERISA Section 502(a) following an adverse benefit determination;
- identification and description of any specific internal rule, guideline or protocol that was relied upon in making an adverse benefit determination, or a statement that a copy of such information will be provided to the claimant free of charge upon request;
- in the case of an adverse benefit determination based on medical necessity or experimental treatment, notice will either include an explanation of the scientific or clinical basis for the determination, or a statement that such explanation will be provided free of charge upon request; and
- in the case of an urgent care adverse determination, a description of the expedited review process.

Appeal of Adverse Benefit Determinations

If a claim is wholly or partially denied, the claimant will have up to 180 days to make an appeal.

A request for an appeal of an adverse benefit determination involving an urgent care claim may be submitted orally or in writing. Necessary information and communication regarding an urgent care claim may be sent to Guardian by telephone, facsimile or similar expeditious manner.

Guardian will conduct a full and fair review of an appeal which includes providing to claimants the following:

- the opportunity to submit written comments, documents, records and other information relating to the claim;
- the opportunity, upon request and free of charge, for reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records and other information relating to the claim; and

- a review that takes into account all comments, documents, records and other information submitted by the claimant relating to the claim, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial benefit determination.

In reviewing an appeal, Guardian will:

- provide for a review conducted by a named fiduciary who is neither the person who made the initial adverse determination nor that person's subordinate;
- in deciding an appeal based upon a medical judgment, consult with a health care professional who has appropriate training and experience in the field of medicine involved in the medical judgment;
- identify medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained in connection with an adverse benefit determination; and
- ensure that a health care professional engaged for consultation regarding an appeal based upon a medical judgment shall be neither the person who was consulted in connection with the adverse benefit determination, nor that person's subordinate.

Guardian will notify the claimant of its decision regarding review of an appeal as follows:

Urgent Care Claims. Guardian will notify the claimant of its decision as soon as possible but not later than 72 hours after receipt of the request for review of the adverse determination.

Pre-Service Claims. Guardian will notify the claimant of its decision not later than 30 days after receipt of the request for review of the adverse determination.

Post-Service Claims. Guardian will notify the claimant of its decision not later than 60 days after receipt of the request for review of the adverse determination.

Alternative Dispute Options

The claimant and the plan may have other voluntary alternative dispute resolution options, such as mediation. One way to find out what may be available is to contact the local U.S Department of Labor Office and the State insurance regulatory agency.

CGP-3-ERISA B800.0081

Termination of This Group Plan

Your *employer* may terminate this group *plan* at any time.

When this *plan* ends, you may be eligible to continue your coverage. Your rights, if any, upon termination of the *plan* are explained in this benefit booklet.

CGP-3 B800.0068

Claim forms and instructions for filing claims may be obtained from the Plan Administrator.

Guardian is the Claims Fiduciary with discretionary authority to determine eligibility for benefits and to construe the terms of the *plan* with respect to claims.

In addition to the basic claim procedure explained in your certificate, Guardian will also observe the procedures listed below. These procedures are the minimum requirements for benefit claims procedures of employee benefit plans covered by Title 1 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"):

(a) If a claim is wholly or partially denied, the claimant will be notified of the decision within 90 days after Guardian received the claim.

(b) If special circumstances require an extension of time for processing the claim, written notice of the extension shall be furnished to the claimant prior to the termination of the initial 90-day period. In no event shall such extension exceed a period of 90 days from the end of such initial period. The extension notice shall indicate the special circumstances requiring an extension of time and the date by which The Guardian expects to render the final decision.

(c) If a claim is denied, Guardian will provide a notice that will set forth:

  (1) the specific reason(s) the claim was denied;

  (2) specific references to the pertinent *plan* provision on which the denial is based;

  (3) a description of any additional material or information needed to make the claim valid, and an explanation of why the material or information is needed;

  (4) an explanation of the *plan's* claim review procedure.

A claimant must file a request for review of a denied claim within 60 days after receipt of written notification of denial of a claim.

(d) Guardian will notify the claimant of its decision within 60 days of receipt of the request for review. If special circumstances require an extension of time for processing, The Guardian will render a decision as soon as possible, but no later than 120 days after receiving the request. The Guardian will notify the claimant about the extension.

If you apply for an extension of life insurance benefits due to total disability under an Extended Life Benefit under this plan, these claim procedures will apply to such request:

Timing For Initial Benefit Determination

Guardian will make a determination of whether you meet the plan's standard for total disability not later than 45 days after the date of receipt of a claim. This period may be extended by up to 30 days if Guardian determines that an extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan, and so notifies you before the end of the initial 45-day period. Such notification will include the reason for the extension and a date by which the determination will be made. If prior to the end of the 30-day period Guardian determines that an additional extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan, and so notifies you, the time period for making a benefit determination may be extended for an additional period of up to 30 days. Such notification will include the special circumstances requiring the extension and a date by which the final determination will be made.

A notification of an extension to the time period in which a benefit determination will be made will include an explanation of the standards upon which entitlement to a benefit is based, any unresolved issues that prevent a decision, and the additional information needed to resolve those issues.

If you fail to provide all information needed to make a benefit determination, Guardian will notify you of the specific information that is needed as soon as possible but no later than 45 days after receipt of your application for an extension of benefits.

If Guardian extends the time period for making a benefit determination due to your failure to submit information necessary to make the determination, you will be given at least 45 days to provide the requested information. The extension period will begin on the date on which you respond to the request for additional information.
If an application for an extension of benefits is denied, Guardian will provide a notice that will set forth:

- the specific reason(s) for the adverse determination;
- reference to the specific *plan* provision(s) on which the determination is based;
- a description of any additional material or information necessary to make the claim valid and an explanation of why such material or information is needed;
- a description of the plan's claim review procedures and the time limits applicable to such procedures, including a statement indicating that the claimant has the right to bring a civil action under ERISA Section 502(a) following an adverse benefit determination; and
- identification and description of any specific internal rule, guideline or protocol that was relied upon in making an adverse benefit determination, or a statement that a copy of such information will be provided to the claimant free of charge upon request.

Appeals of Adverse Determinations

If an application is denied, you will have up to 180 days to make an appeal.

Guardian will conduct a full and fair review of an appeal which includes providing to claimants the following:

- the opportunity to submit written comments, documents, records and other information relating to the claim;

- the opportunity, upon request and free of charge, for reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records and other information relating to the claim; and
- a review that takes into account all comments, documents, records and other information submitted by the claimant relating to the claim, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial benefit determination. In reviewing an appeal, Guardian will
- provide for a review conducted by a named fiduciary who is neither the person who made the initial adverse determination nor that person's subordinate;
- in deciding an appeal based upon a medical judgment, consult with a health care professional who has appropriate training and experience in the field of medicine involved in the medical judgment;
- identify medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained in connection with an adverse benefit determination; and
- ensure that a health care professional engaged for consultation regarding an appeal based upon a medical judgment shall be neither the person who was consulted in connection with the adverse benefit determination, nor that person's subordinate.

Guardian will notify you of its decision regarding review of an appeal as follows:

Guardian will notify you of its decision not later than 45 days after receipt of the request for review of the adverse determination. This period may be extended by an additional period of up to 45 days if Guardian determines that special circumstances require an extension of the time period for processing and so notifies the claimant before the end of the initial 45-day period.

A notification with respect to an extension will indicate the special circumstances requiring an extension of the time period for review, and the date by which the final determination will be made.

Termination of This Group Plan

Your *employer* may terminate this group *plan* at any time by giving us 31 days advance written notice. This *plan* will also end if your *employer* fails to pay a premium due by the end of this grace period.

We may have the option to terminate this *plan* if the number of people insured falls below a certain level.

When this *plan* ends, you may be eligible to continue or convert your insurance coverage. Your rights upon termination of the *plan* are explained in this booklet.

NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

Effective: 9/23/2013

This Notice of Privacy Practices describes how Guardian and its subsidiaries may use and disclose your Protected Health Information(PHI) in order to carry out treatment, payment and health care operations and for other purposes permitted or required by law.

Guardian is required by law to maintain the privacy of PHI and to provide you with notice of our legal duties and privacy practices concerning PHI. We are required to abide by the terms of this Notice so long as it remains in effect. We reserve the right to change the terms of this Notice of Privacy Practices as necessary and to make the new Notice effective for all PHI maintained by us. If we make material changes to our privacy practices, copies of revised notices will be made available on request and circulated as required by law. Copies of our current Notice may be obtained by contacting Guardian(using the information supplied below), or on our Web site at: www.GuardianLife.com/PrivacyPolicy

What is Protected Health Information (PHI):

PHI is individually identifiable information(including demographic information) relating to your health, to the health care provided to you or to payment for health care. PHI refers particularly to information acquired or maintained by us as a result of your having health coverage(including medical, dental, vision and LTC coverage).

In What Ways may Guardian Use and Disclose your Protected Health Information (PHI):

Guardian has the right to use or disclose your PHI without your written authorization to assist in your treatment, to facilitate payment and for health care operations purposes. There are certain circumstances where we are required by law to use or disclose your PHI. And there are other purposes, listed below, where we are permitted to use or disclose your PHI without further authorization from you. Please note that examples are provided for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to indicate every use or disclosure that may be made for a particular purpose.

Guardian has the right to use or disclose your PHI for the following purposes:

Treatment. Guardian may use and disclose your PHI to assist your health care providers in your diagnosis and treatment. For example, we may disclose your PHI to providers to supply information about alternative treatments.

Payment. Guardian may use and disclose your PHI in order to pay for the services and resources you may receive. For example, we may disclose your PHI for payment purposes to a health care provider or a health plan. Such purposes may include: ascertaining your range of benefits; certifying that you received treatment; requesting details regarding your treatment to determine if your benefits will cover, or pay for, your treatment.

Health Care Operations. Guardian may use and disclose your PHI to perform health care operations. For example, we may use your PHI for underwriting and premium rating purposes.

Appointment Reminders. Guardian may use and disclose your PHI to contact you and remind you of appointments.

Health Related Benefits and Services. Guardian may use and disclose PHI to inform you of health related benefits or services that may be of interest to you.

Plan Sponsors. Guardian may use or disclose PHI to the plan sponsor of your group health plan to permit the plan sponsor to perform plan administration functions. For example, a plan may contact us regarding benefits, service or coverage issues. We may also disclose summary health information about the enrollees in your group health plan to the plan sponsor so that the sponsor can obtain

premium bids for health insurance coverage, or to decide whether to modify, amend or terminate your group health plan.

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Guardian is required to use or disclose your PHI:

- To you or your personal representative (someone with the legal right to act for you);
- To the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, when conducting a compliance investigation, review or enforcement action; and
- Where otherwise required by law.

Guardian is Required to Notify You of any Breaches of Your PHI.

Although Guardian takes reasonable, industry-standard measures to protect your PHI, should a breach occur, Guardian is required by law to notify affected individuals. A breach means the acquisition, access, use, or disclosure of PHI in a manner not permitted by law that compromises the security or privacy of the PHI.

Other Uses and Disclosures .

Guardian may also use and disclose your PHI for the following purposes without your authorization:

- We may disclose your PHI to persons involved in your care, such as a family member or close personal friend, when you are incapacitated, during an emergency or when permitted by law.
- We may disclose your PHI for public health activities, such as reporting of disease, injury, birth and death, and for public health investigations.
- We may disclose your PHI to the proper authorities if we suspect child abuse or neglect; we may also disclose your PHI if we believe you to be a victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence.
- We may disclose your PHI to a government oversight agency authorized by law to conducting audits, investigations, or civil or criminal proceedings.
- We may disclose your PHI in the course of a judicial or administrative proceeding(e.g., to respond to a subpoena or discovery request).
- We may disclose your PHI to the proper authorities for law enforcement purposes.
- We may disclose your PHI to coroners, medical examiners, and/or funeral directors consistent with law.
- We may use or disclose your PHI for organ or tissue donation.
- We may use or disclose your PHI for research purposes, but only as permitted by law.
- We may use or disclose PHI to avert a serious threat to health or safety.
- We may use or disclose your PHI if you are a member of the military as required by armed forces services, and we may also disclose your PHI for other specialized government functions such as national security or intelligence activities.
- We may disclose your PHI to comply with workers' compensation and other similar programs.
- We may disclose your PHI to third party business associates that perform services for us, or on our behalf (e.g. vendors).
- Guardian may use and disclose your PHI to federal officials for intelligence and national security activities authorized by law. We also may disclose your PHI to authorized federal officials in order to protect the President, other officials or foreign heads of state, or to conduct investigations authorized by law.
- We may disclose your PHI to correctional institutions or law enforcement officials if you are an inmate or under the custody of a law enforcement official (e.g., for the institution to provide you with health care services, for the safety and security of the institution, and/or to protect

your health and safety or the health and safety of other individuals).

- We may disclose your PHI to your employer under limited circumstances related primarily to workplace injury or illness or medical surveillance.

Your Rights with Regard to Your Protected Health Information (PHI): Your Authorization for Other Uses and Disclosures. Other than for the purposes described above, or as otherwise permitted by law, Guardian must obtain your written authorization to use or disclosure your PHI. You have the right to revoke that authorization in writing except to the extent that: (i) we have taken action in reliance upon the authorization prior to your written revocation,(ii) you were required to give us your authorization as a condition of obtaining coverage, or (iii) and we have the right, under other law, to contest a claim under the coverage or the coverage itself.

Under federal and state law, certain kinds of PHI will require enhanced privacy protections. These forms of PHI include information pertaining to:

- HIV/AIDS testing, diagnosis or treatment
- Venereal and /or communicable Disease(s)
- Genetic Testing
- Alcohol and drug abuse prevention, treatment and referral
- Psychotherapy notes

We will only disclose these types of delineated information when permitted or required by law or upon your prior written authorization.

Your Right to an Accounting of Disclosures. An 'accounting of disclosures' is a list of the disclosures we have made, if any, of your PHI. You have the right to receive an accounting of certain disclosures of your PHI that were made by us. This right applies to disclosures for purposes other than those made to carry out treatment, payment and health care operations as described in this notice. It excludes disclosures made to you, or those made for notification purposes.

We ask that you submit your request in writing. Your request must state a requested time period not more than six years prior to the date when you make your request. Your request should indicate in what form you want the list(e.g., paper, electronically).

Your Right to Obtain a Paper Copy of This Notice. You have a right to request a paper copy of this notice even if you have previously agreed to accept this notice electronically.

Your Right to File a Complaint. If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services. If you wish to file a complaint with Guardian, you may do so using the contact information below. You will not be penalized for filing a complaint.

Any exercise of the Rights designated below must be submitted to the Guardian in writing. Guardian may charge for reasonable costs associated with complying with your requests; in such a case, we will notify you of the cost involved and provide you the opportunity to modify your request before any costs are incurred.

Your Right to Request Restrictions. You have the right to request a restriction on the PHI we use or disclose about you for treatment, payment or health care operations as described in this notice. You also have the right to request a restriction on the medical information we disclose about you to someone who is involved in your care or the payment for your care.

Guardian is not required to agree to your request; however, if we do agree, we will comply with your request until we receive notice from you that you no longer want the restriction to apply(except as required by law or in emergency situations). Your request must describe in a clear and concise manner: (a) the information you wish restricted; (b) whether you are requesting to limit Guardian's use, disclosure or both; and (c) to whom you want the limits to apply.

Your Right to Request Confidential Communications. You have the right to request that Guardian communicate with you about your PHI be in a particular manner or at a certain location. For example, you may ask that we contact you at work rather than at home. We are required to accommodate all reasonable requests made in writing, when such requests clearly state that your life could be endangered by the disclosure of all or part of your PHI.

B998.0048

Your Right to Amend Your PHI . If you feel that any PHI about you, which is maintained by Guardian, is inaccurate or incomplete, you have the right to request that such PHI be amended or corrected. Within your written request, you must provide a reason in support of your request. Guardian reserves the right to deny your request if: (i) the PHI was not created by Guardian, unless the person or entity that created the information is no longer available to amend it(ii) if we do not maintain the PHI at issue(iii) if you would not be permitted to inspect and copy the PHI at issue or (iv) if the PHI we maintain about you is accurate and complete. If we deny your request, you may submit a written statement of your disagreement to us, and we will record it with your health information.

Your Right to Access to Your PHI. You have the right to inspect and obtain a copy of your PHI that we maintain in designated record sets. Under certain circumstances, we may deny your request to inspect and copy your PHI. In an instance where you are denied access and have a right to have that determination reviewed, a licensed health care professional chosen by Guardian will review your request and the denial. The person conducting the review will not be the person who denied your request. Guardian promises to comply with the outcome of the review.

How to Contact Us:

If you have any questions about this Notice or need further information about matters covered in this Notice, please call the toll-free number on the back of your Guardian ID card. If you are a broker please call 800-627-4200. All others please contact us at 800-541-7846. You can also write to us with your questions, or to exercise any of your rights, at the address below:

Attention:

Guardian Corporate Privacy Officer
National Operations

Address:

The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America
Group Quality Assurance - Northeast
P.O. Box 2457
Spokane, WA 99210-2457

B998.0049

YOUR BENEFITS INFORMATION - ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

www.GuardianAnytime.com

Insured employees and their dependents can access helpful, secure information about their Guardian benefits(s) online at:

GuardianAnytime.com - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Anytime, anywhere you have an internet connection you will be able to:

- Review your benefits
- Look up coverage amounts
- Check the status of a claim
- Print forms and plan materials
- And so much more!

To register, go to www.GuardianAnytime.com


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