

Group Long Term Disability  
Insurance Certificate

Saint Louis University



## IMPORTANT NOTICES

If you reside in one of the following states, please read the important notices below:

Arizona, Florida and Maryland residents:

The group policy is issued in the state of ~~Missouri~~ and will be governed by its laws. If you



## FOREWORD

Disability insurance provides individuals and their families with financial protection. The Disability Insurance Benefit described in this booklet will help secure your family's financial security in the event of your disability.

The need for disability insurance protection depends on individual circumstances and financial situations. A portion of the cost of this coverage is provided by your Employer. You may need to contribute to the remaining cost of coverage through payroll deduction so that your benefit program is more comprehensive and responsive to your needs.

The following pages describe the main provisions of the disability insurance plan available to you.

Insurance benefits described in the following pages apply to you if your Employer has made this coverage available to you at no cost or you have elected the benefit and authorized payroll deduction for the required premium.



LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA  
1601 CHESTNUT STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19192-2235  
(800) 732-1603 TDD (800) 336-2485  
A STOCK INSURANCE COMPANY

GROUP INSURANCE  
CERTIFICATE

We, the LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA, certify that we have issued a Group Policy, VDT-962720, to Saint Louis University.

We certify that we insure all eligible persons, who are enrolled according to the te





TABLE OF CONTENTS

SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS ..... 1

WHO IS ELIGIBLE ..... 3

WHEN COVERAGE BEGINS .....3

WHEN COVERAGE ENDS .....3

WHEN COVERAGE CONTINUES .....4....

WHAT IS COVERED ..... 6

WHAT IS NOT COVERED ..... 11

CLAIM PROVISIONS ..... 11

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS .....13..

GENERAL PROVISIONS ..... 14

DEFINITIONS..... 14

STATE MODIFYING PROVISIONS AMENDMENT RIDER ..... 18





## Return to Work Incentive

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE

If you qualify under the Class Definition shown in the Schedule of Benefits you are eligible for coverage under the Policy on the Policy Effective Date, or the day after you complete the Eligibility Waiting Period, if later. The Eligibility Waiting Period is the period of time you must be in Active Service to be eligible for coverage. Your Eligibility Waiting Period will be extended by the number of days you are not in Active Service.

Except as noted in the Reinstatement Provision, if you terminate your coverage and later wish to reapply, or if you are a former Employee who is rehired, you must satisfy a new Eligibility Waiting Period. You are not required to satisfy a new Eligibility Waiting Period if your insurance ends because you no longer qualify under your Class Definition, but you continue to be employed, and within one year you qualify again.

TL-005113

## WHEN COVERAGE BEGINS

You will be insured on the date you become eligible if you are not required to contribute to the cost of this insurance.

If you are required to contribute to the cost of your insurance you may elect to be insured only by authorizing payroll deduction in a form approved by Employer and us. The effective date of your insurance depends on the date coverage is elected.

If you elect coverage within 31 days after you become eligible your insurance is effective on the latest of the following dates.

1. The Policy Effective Date.
2. The date you authorized payroll deduction.
3. The date the completed enrollment form is received by the Employer or us.

If your enrollment form is received more than 31 days after you are eligible for insurance, you must satisfy the Insurability Requirement before your insurance is effective. If approved, your insurance is effective on the date we agree in writing to insure you.

If you are not in Active Service on the date your insurance would otherwise be effective, it will be effective on the date you return to any occupation for your Employer on a Full-time basis.

TL-005114

If you are entitled to receive Disability Benefits when the Policy terminates, Disability Benefits will be payable to you if you remain disabled and meet the requirements for the insurance. Any later period of Disability, regardless of cause, that begins when you are eligible under another disability coverage provided by any employer, will not be covered.

TL-007505.00

#### WHEN COVERAGE CONTINUES

This provision modifies the When Coverage Ends provision to allow insurance to continue under certain circumstances if you are no longer in

## TAKEOVER PROVISION

DESCRIPTION OF BENEFITS  
WHAT IS COVERED

Disability Benefits

We will pay Disability Benefits if you become Disabled while covered under this Policy. You must satisfy the Elimination Period, be under the Appropriate Care of a Physician for those disabilities for which it is required to be under such care, and meet the other terms and conditions of the Policy. You must provide to us, at your own expense, satisfactory proof of Disability before benefits will be paid. The Disability Benefit is shown in the Schedule of Benefits.

We will require continued proof of your Disability for benefits to continue.

Elimination Period

The Elimination Period is the period of time you must be continuously Disabled before Disability Benefits are payable. The Elimination Period is shown in the Schedule of Benefits.

A period of Disability is not continuous if separat



Other Income Benefits include:

1. any amounts received (or assumed to be received\*) by you or your dependents under:
  - the Canada and Quebec Pension Plans;
  - the Railroad Retirement Act;
  - any local, state, provincial or federal government disability or retirement plan or law payable for Injury or Sickness provided as a result of employment with the Employer;
  - any sick leave or salary continuation plan of the Employer;
  - any work loss provision in mandatory "No-Fault" auto insurance.
2. any Social Security disability or retirement benefits you or any third party receive (or are assumed to receive\*) on your own behalf or for your dependents; or which your dependents receive (or are assumed to receive\*) because of your entitlement to such benefits.
3. any Retirement Plan benefits funded by the Employer. "Retirement Plan" means any defined benefit or defined contribution plan sponsored or funded by the Employer. It does not include an individual deferred compensation agreement; a profit sharing or any other retirement or savings plan maintained in addition to a defined benefit or other defined contribution pension plan, or any employee savings plan including a thrift, stock option or stock bonus plan, individual retirement account or 401(k) plan.
4. any disability income proceeds payable under any policy or group insurance or similar plan. If other insurance applies to the same claim or Disability, and contains the same or similar provision for reduction because of other insurance, we will pay for our pro rata share of the total claim. "Pro rata share" means the proportion of the total benefit that the amount payable under one policy, without other insurance, bears to the total benefits under all such policies.
5. any amounts received (or assumed to be received\*) by you or your dependents under any workers' compensation, occupational disease, unemployment compensation law or similar state or federal law payable for Injury or Sickness arising out of work with the Employer, including all permanent and temporary disability benefits. This includes any damages, compromises or settlement paid in place of such benefits whether or not liability is admitted.

We will waive Assumed Receipt of Benefits, except Disability Earnings for work you perform while Disability Benefits are payable, if you:

1. provide satisfactory proof of application for Other Income Benefits;
2. sign a Reimbursement Agreement;
3. provide satisfactory proof that all appeals for Other Income Benefits have been made unless we determine that further appeals are not likely to succeed; and
4. submit satisfactory proof that Other Income Benefits were denied.

We will not assume receipt of any pension or retirement benefits that are actuarially reduced according to applicable law, until you actually receive them.

#### *Social Security Assistance*

We may help you in applying for Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) Benefits, and may require you to file an appeal if we believe a reversal of a prior decision is possible.

We will reduce Disability Benefits by the amount we estimate you will receive, if you refuse to cooperate with or participate in the Social Security Assistance Program.

#### *Recovery of Overpayment*

We have the right to recover any benefits we have overpaid. We may use any or all of the following to recover an overpayment:

1. request a lump sum payment of the overpaid amount;
2. reduce any amounts payable under this Policy; and/or
3. take any appropriate collection activity available to us.

The Minimum Benefit amount will not apply when Disability Benefits are reduced in order to recover any overpayment.

If an overpayment is due when you die, any benefits payable under the Policy will be reduced to recover the overpayment.

#### *Successive Periods of Disability*

A separate period of Disability will be considered continuous:

1. if it results from the same or related causes as prior Disability for which benefits were payable; and
2. if, after receiving Disability Benefits, you return to work in your Regular Occupation for less than 6 consecutive months; and
3. if you earn less than the percentage of Indexed Earnings that would still qualify you to meet the definition of Disability/Disabled during at least one month.

Any later period of Disability, regardless of cause, begins when you are eligible for coverage under another group disability plan provided by any employer and cannot be considered a continuous period of Disability.

For any separate period of disability which is considered continuous, you must satisfy a new Elimination Period.

## LIMITATIONS

### Limited Benefit Periods for Mental or Nervous Disorders

We will pay Disability Benefits on a limited basis during your lifetime for a Disability caused by, or contributed to by, any one or more of the following conditions. Once 24 monthly Disability Benefits have been paid, no further benefits will be payable for any of the following conditions.

- 1) Anxiety disorders
- 2) Delusional (paranoid) disorders
- 3) Depressive disorders
- 4) Eating disorders
- 5) Mental illness
- 6) Somatoform disorders (psychosomatic illness)
- 7) Chemical and environmental sensitivities
- 8) Subjective Symptom Conditions

Subjective Symptom Conditions means any physical or mental or emotional symptom, feeling or condition reported by you, or by your Physician, which cannot be verified using tests, procedures or clinical examinations that conform to generally accepted medical standards. Subjective Symptom Conditions include, but are not limited to, headaches, fatigue, stiffness, numbness, nausea, dizziness and ringing in ears.

If, before reaching your lifetime maximum benefit, you are confined in a hospital for more than 14 consecutive days, that period of confinement will count against your lifetime limit. The confinement must be for the Appropriate Care of the conditions listed above.

### Limited Benefit Periods for Alcoholism and Drug Addiction or Abuse

We will pay Disability Benefits on a limited basis during your lifetime for a Disability caused by, or contributed to by, any one or more of the following conditions. Once 24 monthly Disability Benefits have been paid, no further benefits will be payable for any of the following conditions.

- 1) Alcoholism
- 2) Drug addiction or abuse

If, before reaching your lifetime maximum benefit, you are confined in a hospital for more than 14 consecutive days, that period of confinement will count against your lifetime limit. The confinement must be for the Appropriate Care of the conditions listed above.

### Pre-Existing Condition Limitation

We will not pay benefits for any period of Disability used or contributed to by, or resulting from, a Pre-existing Condition. A "Pre-existing Condition" means any Injury or Sickness for which you incurred expenses, received medical treatment, care or services including diagnostic measures, took prescribed drugs or medicines, or for which a reasonable person would have consulted a Physician within 3 months before your most recent effective date of insurance.

The Pre-existing Condition Limitation will apply to any added benefits or increases in benefits. This limitation will not apply to a period of Disability that begins after you are covered for at least 12 months after your most recent effective date of insurance or the effective date of any added or increased benefits.

## ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

### Rehabilitation During a Period of Disability

#### Employee Benefit

If you are Disabled, you may be eligible to participate in a Rehabilitation Plan or may be participating in a program that you desire to have approved by us as a Rehabilitation Plan. If you desire to participate in rehabilitation efforts or to have your program approved by us as a Rehabilitation Plan, you may request approval from us. We have the sole discretion to approve your participation in a Rehabilitation Plan and to approve a program as a Rehabilitation Plan.

If, while you are Disabled, we determine that you are a suitable candidate for rehabilitation, you may participate in a Rehabilitation Plan. The terms and conditions of the Rehabilitation Plan must be mutually agreed upon by you and us.

The Rehabilitation Plan may, at our discretion, allow for payment of your medical expense, education expense, moving expense, accommodation expense, and family care expense while you participate in the program.

A "Rehabilitation Plan" is a written agreement between the Insured and the Insurance Company in which we agree to provide, arrange or authorize educational or physical rehabilitation services.

TL-005105

#### Conversion Privilege for Disability Insurance Benefits

If an Employee's insurance ends because of termination with the Employer, or an Employee is laid off or on an uninsured leave of absence, he or she may be eligible for conversion insurance.

To be eligible, an Employee must have been insured for Disability Benefits and actively at work for at least 12 straight months. An Employee must apply for conversion insurance within 62 days after insurance under this Policy ends or within 31 days of the date notice is given to apply for a converted policy or certificate, whichever is later. In no event will the conversion period be extended beyond 105 days from the date insurance ends.

The benefits of the conversion plan will be those benefits offered at the time the Employee applies. The premium will be based on the rates in effect for conversion plans at that time.

Conversion insurance is not available if any of the following conditions apply:

1. the Employee is retired or age 70 or older;
2. the Employee is not in Active Service because of Disability;
3. the Policy is canceled for any reason;
4. the Employee is no longer in a Class of Eligible Employees, but is still employed by the Employer.

TL-009961.26

#### Survivor Benefit

We will pay a Survivor Benefit if you die while Disability Benefits are payable to you for a continuous period of Disability. The Survivor Benefit will equal 100% of the sum of the last full Disability Benefit payable to you plus the amount of any Disability Benefit by which the benefit had been reduced for that month. A single lump sum payment equal to 12 months of monthly Survivor Benefits will be payable.

We will pay the Survivor Benefit to your Spouse. If you do not have a Spouse, we will pay your surviving Children in equal shares. If you do not have a Spouse or any Children, we will pay your estate.

"Spouse" means your lawful spouse. "Children" means your unmarried children under age 21 who are chiefly dependent upon you for support and maintenance. The term includes a stepchild living with you at the time of your death.

TL-005107

## TERMINATION OF DISABILITY BENEFITS

Benefits will end on the earliest of the following dates:

1. the date we determine you are not Disabled;



### Time Limitations

If any time limit stated in the Policy for giving notice of a claim or proof of loss, or for bringing any action at law or in equity, is less than that permitted by law of the state in which you live when the Policy is issued, then the time limit provided in the Policy is extended to agree with the minimum permitted by the law of that state.

### Physician/Patient Relationship

You have the right to choose any Physician who is practicing legally. We will in no way disturb the Physician/patient relationship.

TL-005123

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

### Premiums

The premiums for this Policy will be based on the rates currently in force, the plan and the amount of insurance in effect.

### Your Grace Period

If your required premium is not paid on the Premium Due Date, there is a 31 day grace period after each premium due date after the first. If the required premium is not paid during the grace period, insurance will end on the last day for which premium was paid.

### Reinstatement of Insurance

Your insurance may be reinstated if it ends because you are on an unpaid leave of absence. If your Active Service ended due to an approved leave pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and Continuation of Insurance is not applicable, your insurance may be reinstated at the conclusion of the FMLA leave.

If your Active Service ends due to an Employer approved unpaid leave of absence, other than an approved FMLA leave, insurance may be reinstated only:

1. If the reinstatement occurs within 12 weeks from the date insurance ends, or
2. When returning from military service pursuant to the Uniformed Services Employment Act of 1994 (USERRA).

For insurance to be reinstated the following conditions must be met:

1. You must be in a Class of Eligible Employees.
2. The required premium must be paid.
3. We must receive a written request for reinstatement.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Incontestability

All statements made by the Employer or by an insured are representations not warranties. No statement will be used to deny or reduce benefits or as a defense to a claim, unless a copy of the instrument containing the statement has been furnished to the claimant. In the event of death or legal incapacity, the beneficiary or representative must receive the copy.

After two years from an Insured's effective date of insurance, or from the effective date of any added or increased benefits, no such statement will cause insurance to be contested except for fraud or eligibility for insurance.

### Misstatement of Age

If an Insured's age has been misstated, we will adjust benefits to the amounts that would have been



Appropriate Care means you:

1. Have received treatment, care and advice from a Physician who is qualified and experienced in the diagnosis and treatment of the conditions causing Disability. If the condition is of a nature or severity that it is customarily treated by a recognized medical specialty, the Physician is a practitioner in that specialty.
2. Continue to receive such treatment, care and advice as often as is required for treatment of the conditions causing Disability.
3. Adhere to the treatment plan prescribed by a Physician, including the taking of medications.

Consumer Price Index (CPI-W)

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers published by the U.S. Department of Labor. If the index is discontinued or changed, another nationally published index that is comparable to the CPI-W will be used.

Covered Earnings

Covered Earnings means your wage or salary as established by the Employer for work performed for the Employer as in effect just prior to the date your Disability begins. Covered Earnings are determined initially on the date an Employee applies for coverage. A change in the amount of Covered Earnings is effective on the date of the change, if the Employer gives us written notice of the change and the required premium is paid.

It does not include any amounts received as bonuses, commissions, overtime pay or other extra compensation.

Any increase in your Covered Earnings will not be effective during a period of continuous Disability.

Disability/Disabled

You are considered Disabled if, solely because of Injury or Sickness, you are:

1. unable to perform the material and substantial duties of your Regular Occupation; or
2. unable to earn 80% or more of your Indexed Earnings from working in your Regular Occupation.

After Disability Benefits have been payable for 30 months, you are considered Disabled if, solely due to Injury or Sickness, you are:

1. unable to perform the material and substantial duties of any occupation for which you are, or become qualified based on education, training or experience; or
2. unable to earn 80% or more of your Indexed Earnings.

We will require proof of earnings and continued Disability.

Disability Earnings

Any wage or salary for any work performed for any employer during your Disability, including commissions, bonus, overtime pay or other extra compensation.

Employee

For eligibility purposes, you are an Employee if you work for the Employer and are in one of the "Classes of Eligible Employees." Otherwise, you are an Employee if you are an employee of the Employer who is insured under the Policy.

Employer

The Policyholder and any affiliates or subsidiaries covered under the Policy. The Employer is acting as your agent for transactions relating to this insurance. You shall not consider any actions of the Employer as actions of the Insurance Company.

#### Full-time

Full-time means the number of hours set by the Employer as a regular work day for Employees in your eligibility class.

#### Furlough

Furlough means a temporary suspension or alteration of Active Service initiated by the Employer, for a period of time specified in advance not to exceed 30 days at a time.

#### Good Cause

A medical reason preventing participation in the Rehabilitation Plan. Satisfactory proof of Good Cause must be provided to us.

#### Indexed Earnings

For the first 12 months Monthly Benefits are payable, Indexed Earnings are equal to your Covered

### Regular Occupation

The occupation you routinely perform at the time Disability begins. In evaluating the Disability, we will consider the duties of the occupation as it is normally performed in the general labor market in the national economy. It is not work tasks that are performed for a specific employer or at a specific location.

### Sickness

The term Sickness means a physical or mental illness.

### Temporary Layoff

Temporary Layoff means a temporary suspension of Active Service for a period of time determined in advance by the Employer, other than a Furlough as defined. Temporary Layoff does not include the permanent termination of Active Service (including but not limited to a job elimination), which shall be treated as termination of employment.

TL-007500.26 as modified by TL-009980



4. Survivor benefits (if any) will be payable as follows: (1) to the Employee's Spouse or Domestic Partner; (2) if there is none, in equal shares to the Employee's surviving Children; or (3) if there is none, to the Employee's estate.
5. A child of a Domestic Partner may only be eligible for benefits if:
  - a. the child is primarily dependent on the Employee for financial support;
  - b. the Employee has a legal obligation of support of the child; or
  - c. the Employee is the child's legal guardian.

Louisiana residents:

The percentage of Indexed Earnings, if any, that qualifies an insured to meet the definition of Disability/Disabled may not be less than 80%.

Massachusetts residents

Continuation of Insurance after leaving the group

If you leave the group covered under the Policy, insurance for you will be continued until the earliest of the following dates:

1. 31 days from the date you leave the group;
2. The date you become eligible for similar benefits.

Continuation of Insurance due to a Plant Closing or Partial Closing

If you leave the group due to termination of employment resulting from a Plant Closing or Partial Closing, insurance for you will be continued until the earliest of the following dates:

1. 90 days from the date of the Plant Closing or Partial Closing;
2. The date you become eligible for similar benefits.

Definitions : For purposes of this provision:

Plant Closing means a permanent cessation or reduction of business at a facility which results or will result as determined by the director in the permanent separation of at least 90% of the employees of said facility within a period of six months prior to the date of certification or with such other period as the director shall prescribe, provided that such period shall fall within the six month period prior to the date of certification.

Partial Closing means a permanent cessation of a major discrete portion of the business conducted at a facility which results in the termination of a significant number of the employees of said facility and which affects workers and communities in a manner similar to that of Plant Closings.

Minnesota residents:

The Pre-existing Condition Limitation, if any, may not be longer than 24 months from the insured's most recent effective date of insurance.

Oregon residents:

If the Policy provides coverage/benefits to a Spouse, a Domestic Partner will be afforded the same coverage/benefits provided to a Spouse.

1. Domestic Partner means any of the following:

A person with whom the Employee has a registered domestic partnership under state law which imposes legal obligations on the parties substantially similar to marriage. Such person will continue to be recognized as a Domestic Partner unless and until: (1) the domestic partnership is dissolved under applicable law; or (2) either the Employee or the Domestic Partner marries another person.

2. All references in the policy to "Spouse" shall be changed to read "Spouse and Domestic Partner" except as follows:

1. A Domestic Partner shall be deemed eligible to be enrolled for insurance or eligible for Additional Benefits on the latest of:
  - a. the date of registration under Item 1 of the definition of Domestic Partner;
  - b. the date that the Employee is eligible for insurance under the Policy; or
  - c. the effective date of the Rider.

3. The Spouse Rehabilitation Benefit and Survivor Benefit (if any) are modified in the Policy and Certificate as follows:

1. All references to the term "Spouse" are replaced by "Spouse or Domestic Partner" except for the following references:
  - a. The first reference to "Spouse" in the Survivor Benefit text is changed to "Spouse or Domestic Partner" if there is no "Spouse".
  - b. The text pertaining to the definition of "Spouse" remains unchanged.

4. Survivor benefits (if any) will be payable as follows: (1) to the Employee's Spouse or Domestic Partner; (2) if there is none, in equal shares to the Employee's surviving Children; or (3) if there is none, to the Employee's estate.

5. A child of a Domestic Partner may only be eligible for benefits if:
  - a. the child is primarily dependent on the Employee for financial support;
  - b. the Employee has a legal obligation of support of the child; or
  - c. the Employee is the child's legal guardian.

Texas residents:

Any provision offsetting or otherwise reducing a benefit by an amount payable under an individual or franchise policy will not apply.

Washington residents:

1. The following definition of "Children" as ~~set~~ under the Survivor Benefit is applicable to Washington residents.

"Children" means as Employee's children ~~under~~ age 26 who are chiefly dependent upon the Employee for support and maintenance.

2. If the Policy provides coverage/benefits to a Spouse ~~Domestic Partner~~ will be afforded the same coverage/benefits provided to a Spouse.

Domestic Partner means any of the following:

A person with whom the Employee has a regi

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION  
for

Saint Louis University Group (“Plan”)  
required by the Employee Retirement  
Income Security Act of 1974

As a Plan participant in Saint Louis University's ~~and~~ you are entitled to certain information, rights and protection under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

The benefits described in your Certificate are ~~provided~~ under a group insurance Policy issued by the Insurance Company. The Policy is incorporated ~~into~~ the Plan. The Certificate, along with the following Supplemental Information, makes up the Summary Plan Description as required by ERISA.



## YOUR RIGHTS AS SET FORTH BY ERISA

As a participant in the Plan 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

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 Benefit Security Administration.

Obtain, upon written request to the plan administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated summary plan description. The administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.

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.

### Prudent Actions by Plan Fiduciaries

In addition to creating rights for plan participants ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the employee benefit plan. The people who operate your plan, called "fiduciaries" of the plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other plan participants and beneficiaries. No one, including your employer, your union, or any other person, may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a welfare benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

### Enforce Your Rights

If your claim for a welfare benefit is denied or ignored in whole or in part, you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge, and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules.

Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of plan documents or the latest annual report from the plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in a Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the plan administrator to

## Assistance with Your Questions

If you have any questions about your plan, you should contact the plan administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the plan administrator, you should

If the claim is approved, the Insurance Company will provide the appropriate benefit. If the claim decision is adverse, in whole or in part, the Insurance Company will provide written or electronic notice which will include the following information:

1. The specific reason(s) for the decision;
2. Specific reference to the Policy provision(s) on which the decision was based;
3. A description of any additional information required to perfect the claim, and the reason this information is necessary;
4. A description of the review procedures and the limits applicable to those procedures, including a statement of the claimant's right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA after the claimant appeals and after the claimant receives an adverse decision on appeal;
5. A discussion of the decision, including an explanation of the basis for disagreeing with or not following: (i) the views presented by the claimant to the Insurance Company of the health care professionals treating the claimant and vocational professionals who evaluated the claimant; (ii) the views of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the Insurance Company in connection with the claimant's adverse benefit decision, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the benefit decision; and (iii) a disability decision regarding the claimant presented by the claimant to the Insurance Company made by the Social Security Administration;
6. Either the specific internal rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar plan criteria the Insurance Company relied upon in making the decision; or alternatively, a statement that such rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar plan criteria do not exist;
7. If the adverse decision is based upon medical necessity, experimental treatment or similar exclusion or limit, either an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the decision, applying the terms of the Policy to the claimant's medical circumstances, or a statement that such explanation will be provided free of charge upon request;
8. A statement that the claimant is entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information relevant to the claim for benefits; and
9. A notice provided in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner, to the extent required by ERISA.

#### Appeal of Denied Disability Claims (applies to all claims filed on or after April 1, 2018)

Whenever a claim decision is fully or partially adverse, unless ERISA provides otherwise, the claimant must appeal once to the Insurance Company. As part of the claimant's appeal, the claimant may receive, upon request, free of charge, copies of all documents, records, and other information relevant to the claim for benefits, and the claimant may submit to the Insurance Company, written comments, documents, records, and other information relating to the claim. The review will take into account all comments, documents, records and other information that the claimant submits related to the claim, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial claim decision. Once an appeal request has been received by the Insurance Company, a full and fair review of the claim appeal will take place.

A written request for appeal must be received by the Insurance Company within 180 days from the date the claimant received the adverse decision. If an appeal request is not received within that time, the right to appeal will have been waived. The Insurance Company has 45 days from the date it receives a request for appeal to provide its decision. Under special circumstances, the Insurance Company may require more time to review the claim. 29 CFR 404.108(c)(1)(i)(8)

The review will give no deference to the original decision. The review will not be made by the person who made the initial claim decision, or a subordinate of that person. When deciding an appeal based in whole or in part upon medical judgment, the Insurance Company will consult with a medical professional having the appropriate training and experience in the field of medicine involved in the medical judgment. Any medical or vocational expert consulted by the Insurance Company for the review will be identified and will not be the expert who was consulted during the initial claim decision or a subordinate of that expert.

During the appeal, the Insurance Company may require a medical examination of the claimant, at its own expense, or additional information regarding the claim. If a medical examination is required, the Insurance Company will notify the claimant of the date and time of the examination and the physician's name and location. If additional information is required, the Insurance Company will notify the claimant, in writing, stating what information is needed and why it is needed.

Before the Insurance Company issues an adverse benefit decision on appeal, if the Insurance Company considered, relied upon, or generated any new or additional evidence in connection with the claim, and/or if the Insurance Company intends to rely on any new or additional rationale in connection with that review, then such evidence and/or rationale will be provided to the claimant, free of charge, as soon as possible and sufficiently in advance of the date the decision on appeal is required to be made, giving the claimant a reasonable opportunity to respond.

If the claim is approved, the Insurance Company will pay the appropriate benefit. If the claim decision on appeal is adverse, in whole or in part, the Insurance Company will provide written or electronic notice that includes:

1. The specific reason(s) for the decision;
2. Specific reference to the Policy provision(s) on which the decision was based;
3. A statement that the claimant is entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and information relevant to the claim for benefits;
4. A statement describing any voluntary appeal procedures offered, and the claimant's right to obtain the information about those procedures;
5. A statement of claimant's right to bring a lawsuit under section 502(a) of ERISA, including a description of any applicable contractual limitations period that applies to the claimant's right to bring such an action, and the calendar date on which the actual limitations period expires for the claim;
6. A discussion of the decision, including an explanation of the basis for disagreeing with or not following: (i) the views presented by the claimant to the Insurance Company of the health care professionals treating the claimant and vocational professionals who evaluated the claimant; (ii) the views of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the Insurance Company in connection with the adverse decision, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the adverse decision; and (iii) a disability decision regarding the claimant presented by the claimant to the Insurance Company by the Social Security Administration;
7. Either the specific internal rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar plan criteria the Insurance Company relied upon in making the decision, or, alternatively, a statement that such rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar plan criteria do not exist;
8. If the adverse decision is based upon medical necessity, experimental treatment or similar exclusion or limit, either an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the decision, applying the terms of the Policy to the claimant's medical circumstances, or a statement that such explanation will be provided free of charge upon request; and
9. A notice provided in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner, to the extent required by ERISA.

Claims for Non-Disability Benefits (applies to all claims filed on or after April 1, 2018)

A non-disability "claim" is any claim which does not require a determination of disability by the Insurance Company regardless of the type of policy under which it arises (for example, a death claim, an accident claim, etc.). A non-disability claim is filed as of the date the Insurance Company first receives, in writing or by telephone (through the Insurance Company's intake department), notice that a claimant is seeking benefits under the Policy. The notice of claim should include the group Policy holder's name, the Policy and Certificate number and the claimant's name and address.

The Insurance Company has 90 days from the date the claim is filed to determine whether or not benefits are payable in accordance with the terms of the Policy. The Insurance Company may require more time to review the claim if special circumstances exist. The review period may be extended for up to one

If the appeal decision is adverse, in whole or in part, the Insurance Company will provide written or electronic notice that includes:

1. The specific reason(s) for the claim decision;
2. Specific reference to the Policy provision(s) on which the decision was based;
3. A statement that the claimant is entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information relevant to the claim for benefits;
4. A statement describing any voluntary appeal procedures offered, and the claimant's right to obtain the information about those procedures, and
5. A statement of the claimant's right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA.

ER-03-2



UNDERWRITTEN BY:  
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA  
a Cigna company

Class 2  
04/2020

