

# STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY

A Stock Life Insurance Company  
900 SW Fifth Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97204-1282  
(503) 321-7000

## CERTIFICATE GROUP LIFE INSURANCE

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Policyholder:	Southern Medical Association
Policy Number:	640885-A
Effective Date:	January 1, 2001
Classification:	Physicians, Physicians Assistants and Nurse Practitioners

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A Group Policy has been issued to the Policyholder. We certify that you will be insured as provided by the terms of the Group Policy. If your coverage is changed by an amendment to the Group Policy, we will provide the Policyholder with a revised Certificate or other notice to be given to you.

**This policy includes an Accelerated Benefit. Death benefits will be reduced if an Accelerated Benefit is paid. The receipt of this benefit may be taxable and may affect your eligibility for Medicaid or other government benefits or entitlements. However, if you meet the definition of "terminally ill individual" according to the Internal Revenue Code Section 101, your Accelerated Benefit may be non-taxable. You should consult your personal tax and/or legal advisor before you apply for an Accelerated Benefit.**

Possession of this Certificate does not necessarily mean you are insured. You are insured only if you meet the requirements set out in this Certificate. If the terms of the Certificate differ from the Group Policy, the terms stated in the Group Policy will govern.

"We", "us" and "our" mean Standard Insurance Company. "You" and "your" mean the Member. All other defined terms appear with the initial letter capitalized. Section headings, and references to them, appear in boldface type.



President

GC190-LIFE/S399

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## COVERAGE FEATURES

This section contains many of the features of your group life insurance. Other provisions, including exclusions and limitations, appear in other sections. Please refer to the text of each section for full details. The Table of Contents and the Index of Defined Terms help locate sections and definitions.

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### GENERAL POLICY INFORMATION

Group Policy Number:	640885-A
Type of Insurance Provided:	
Life Insurance:	Yes
Dependents Life Insurance:	Yes
Policyholder:	Southern Medical Association
Employer (s):	See <b>Definitions</b>
Group Policy Effective Date:	January 1, 2001
Policy Issued in:	Alabama

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### BECOMING INSURED

To become insured for Life Insurance you must: (a) Be a Member; (b) Complete your Eligibility Waiting Period; and (c) Meet the requirements in **Life Insurance** and **Active Work Provisions**. The Active Work requirement does not apply on the Group Policy Effective Date for Members who are retired on that date. The requirements for becoming insured for coverages other than Life Insurance are set out in the text.

Definition of Member:	You are a Member if you are:
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. An active physician, physicians assistant, nurse practitioner, member or associate member in good standing of the Policyholder (or the American College of Radiology by virtue of an institutional agreement), and actively practicing medicine or engaged in the field of medicine;</li><li>2. An active member or associate member in good standing of the American College of Radiology or the Southern Medical Association who is covered under Group Policy 640885-E; or</li><li>3. A retired member or associate member in good standing of the Policyholder (or the American College of Radiology).</li></ol>
	You are not a Member if you are:
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. A temporary or seasonal employee; or</li><li>2. A full time member of the armed forces of any country.</li></ol>

Eligibility Waiting Period: You are eligible on one of the following dates:  
If you are a Member on the Group Policy Effective Date, you are eligible on that date.  
If you become a Member after the Group Policy Effective Date, you are eligible on the date you become a Member.

Evidence of Insurability: Required:

- a. For late application for Contributory insurance. This requirement is waived for a Member who is covered under the Southern Medical Association sponsored medical plan.
- b. For reinstatements if required.
- c. For Members and Dependents eligible but not insured under the Prior Plan.
- d. For any Life Insurance Benefit in excess of the Guarantee Issue Amount of:
  - i. \$150,000 for Physicians; or
  - ii. \$50,000 for all other Members.
- e. For any Dependents Life Insurance Benefit for your Spouse in excess of the Guarantee Issue Amount of \$25,000.
- f. For any elective increase in Life Insurance or Dependents Life Insurance Benefit.

The requirements in d. and e. above are waived on the Group Policy Effective Date for amounts in effect under the Prior Plan on December 31, 2000.

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## PREMIUM CONTRIBUTIONS

Life Insurance:	Contributory
Dependents Life Insurance:	Contributory

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## SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE

### SCHEDULE OF LIFE INSURANCE

For you:

Life Insurance Benefit: You may apply for Life Insurance in multiples of:

- a. \$50,000 up to \$1,000,000, and
- b. \$250,000 from \$1,000,000 up to \$2,000,000.

The maximum amount is \$2,000,000.

Repatriation Benefit: The expenses incurred to transport your body to a mortuary near your primary place of residence, but not to exceed \$5,000 or 10% of the Life Insurance Benefit, whichever is less.

For your Spouse:

Dependents Life Insurance Benefit: You may apply for Life Insurance in multiples of \$25,000, from \$25,000 to \$500,000.

The amount of Dependents Life Insurance for your Spouse may not exceed 50% of the amount of your Life Insurance.

For your Child:

Dependents Life Insurance Benefit: \$7,500

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## REDUCTIONS IN INSURANCE

### 1. For Members who attain age 65 before January 1, 2001:

When you or your Spouse attain the March 31, June 30, September 30, or December 31 immediately following the date you reach an age shown below, the amount of insurance will be the amount determined from the Schedule of Insurance, multiplied by the appropriate percentage below:

Life Insurance and Dependents Life Insurance:

Age	Percentage
65 through 69	50%
70 or over	0%

### 2. For Members who attain age 65 on or after January 1, 2001:

When you or your Spouse attain the March 31, June 30, September 30, or December 31 immediately following the date you reach an age shown below, the amount of insurance will be the amount determined from the Schedule of Insurance, multiplied by the appropriate percentage below:

Life Insurance and Dependents Life Insurance:

Age	Percentage
65 through 69	65%
70 or over	0%

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## OTHER BENEFITS

Waiver Of Premium: Members who are Actively At Work at least 30 hours each week: Yes

All other Members: No

Accelerated Benefit: Members who are Actively At Work at least 30 hours each week: Yes

All other Members: No

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## OTHER PROVISIONS

Limits on Right To Convert if  
Group Policy terminates

or is amended:

Minimum Time Insured: 5 years

Maximum Conversion Amount: \$2,000

Suicide Exclusion: Applies to:

a. Life Insurance

b. Dependents Life Insurance

Leave Of Absence Period: 60 days

Insurance Eligible For Portability:

For you:

Life Insurance: Yes

Minimum combined amount: \$10,000

Maximum combined amount: \$300,000

For your Spouse:

Dependents Life Insurance: Yes

Minimum combined amount: \$5,000

Maximum combined amount: \$100,000

For your Child:

Dependents Life Insurance: Yes

Minimum combined amount: \$1,000

Maximum combined amount: \$5,000

## LIFE INSURANCE

### A. Insuring Clause

If you die while insured for Life Insurance, we will pay benefits according to the terms of the Group Policy after we receive satisfactory Proof Of Loss.

### B. Amount Of Life Insurance

See the **Coverage Features** for the Life Insurance schedule.

### C. Changes In Life Insurance

#### 1. Increases

You must apply in writing for any elective increase in your Life Insurance.

Subject to the **Active Work Provisions**, an increase in your Life Insurance becomes effective on the date we approve your Evidence Of Insurability.

#### 2. Decreases

An elective decrease in your Life Insurance becomes effective on the first day of the calendar month coinciding with or next following the date the Policyholder or your Employer receives your written request for the decrease.

A decrease in your Life Insurance because of a change in your age becomes effective on the March 31, June 30, September 30, or December 31 immediately following the date you reach the limiting age.

### D. Repatriation Benefit

The amount of the Repatriation Benefit is shown in the **Coverage Features**.

We will pay a Repatriation Benefit if all of the following requirements are met.

1. A Life Insurance Benefit is payable because of your death.
2. You die more than 200 miles from your primary place of residence.
3. Expenses are incurred to transport your body to a mortuary near your primary place of residence.

### E. Suicide Exclusion: Life Insurance

If your death results from suicide or other intentionally self-inflicted Injury, while sane or insane, 1 and 2 below apply.

1. The amount payable will exclude the amount of your Life Insurance which is subject to this suicide exclusion and which has not been continuously in effect for at least 2 years on the date of your death. In computing the 2-year period, we will include time you were insured under the Prior Plan.
2. We will refund all premiums paid for that portion of your Life Insurance which is excluded from payment under this suicide exclusion.

### F. When Life Insurance Become Effective

Subject to the **Active Work Provisions**, your Life Insurance becomes effective as follows:

#### 1. Life Insurance subject to Evidence Of Insurability

Life Insurance subject to Evidence Of Insurability becomes effective on the date we approve

your Evidence Of Insurability.

2. Life Insurance not subject to Evidence Of Insurability

You must apply in writing for Contributory Life Insurance and agree to pay premiums. Contributory Life Insurance not subject to Evidence Of Insurability becomes effective on:

- a. The date you become eligible if you apply on or before that date.
- b. The date you apply if you apply within 60 days after you become eligible.

Late application: Evidence Of Insurability is required if you apply more than 60 days after you become eligible.

3. Takeover Provision

You must submit satisfactory Evidence Of Insurability to become insured for Life Insurance if you were eligible under the Prior Plan for more than 60 days but were not insured.

G. When Life Insurance Ends

Life Insurance ends automatically on the earliest of:

1. The date the last period ends for which you made a premium contribution, if your insurance is Contributory;
2. The date your Employer's participation under the Group Policy is terminated.
3. The date the Group Policy terminates; and
4. The date you cease to be a Member. However, if you cease to be a Member because you are working less than the required minimum number of hours, your Life Insurance will be continued with premium payment during the following periods, unless it ends under 1 through 4 above.
  - a. While your Employer is paying you at least the same Annual Earnings paid to you immediately before you ceased to be a Member.
  - b. Until the March 31, June 30, September 30, or December 31 immediately following the date you cease to be Active At Work, but not beyond the date you become eligible for life insurance under any other group insurance plan. However, you will not be eligible for Waiver Of Premium or Accelerated Benefits for Total Disability which begins after the date you cease to be Actively At Work.
  - c. While your ability to work is limited because of Sickness, Injury, or Pregnancy.
  - d. During the first 60 days of:
    - (1) A temporary layoff; or
    - (2) A strike, lockout, or other general work stoppage caused by a labor dispute between your collective bargaining unit and your Employer.
  - e. During a leave of absence if continuation of your insurance under the Group Policy is required by a state-mandated family or medical leave act or law.
  - f. During any other scheduled leave of absence approved by your Employer in advance and in writing and lasting not more than the period shown in the **Coverage Features**.

H. Reinstatement Of Life Insurance

If your Life Insurance ends, you may become insured again as a new Member. However, 1 through 3 below will apply.

1. If your Life Insurance ends because you fail to make a required premium contribution, you

must provide Evidence Of Insurability to become insured again.

2. If you exercised your Right To Convert, you must provide Evidence Of Insurability to become insured again.
3. If your Life Insurance ends because you are on a federal or state-mandated family or medical leave of absence, and you become a Member again immediately following the period allowed, your insurance will be reinstated pursuant to the federal or state-mandated family or medical leave act or law.

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## DEPENDENTS LIFE INSURANCE

### A. Insuring Clause

If your Dependent dies while insured for Dependents Life Insurance, we will pay benefits according to the terms of the Group Policy after we receive satisfactory Proof Of Loss.

### B. Amount Of Dependents Life Insurance

See the **Coverage Features** for the amount of your Dependents Life Insurance.

### C. Changes In Dependents Life Insurance

#### 1. Increases

You must apply in writing for any elective increase in your Dependents Life Insurance.

Subject to the **Active Work Provisions**, an increase in your Dependents Life Insurance becomes effective on the date we approve that Dependent's Evidence Of Insurability.

However, an increase in your Dependents Life Insurance because of an increase in your Life Insurance becomes effective on the date your Life Insurance increases.

#### 2. Decreases

An elective decrease in your Dependents Life Insurance becomes effective on the first day of the calendar month coinciding with or next following the date the Policyholder receives your written request for the decrease.

### D. Definitions For Dependents Life Insurance

Dependent means your Spouse or Child. Dependent does not include a person who is a full-time member of the armed forces of any country.

### E. Becoming Insured For Dependents Life Insurance

#### 1. Eligibility

You become eligible to insure your Dependents on the later of:

- a. The date your Life Insurance becomes effective; and
- b. The date you first acquire a Dependent.

A Member may not be insured as both a Member and a Dependent. A Child may not be insured by more than one Member.

## 2. Effective Date

The **Coverage Features** states whether your Dependents Life Insurance is Contributory or Noncontributory. Subject to the **Active Work Provisions**, your Dependents Life Insurance becomes effective as follows:

### a. Dependents Life Insurance Subject To Evidence Of Insurability

Dependents Life Insurance subject to Evidence Of Insurability becomes effective on the later of:

1. The date your Life Insurance becomes effective; and
2. The first day of the calendar month coinciding with or next following the date we approve the Dependent's Evidence Of Insurability.

### b. Dependents Life Insurance Not Subject To Evidence Of Insurability

#### 1. Noncontributory Dependents Life Insurance

Noncontributory Dependents Life Insurance not subject to Evidence Of Insurability becomes effective on the later of:

- i. The date your Life Insurance becomes effective; and
- ii. The date you first acquire a Dependent.

#### 2. Contributory Dependents Life Insurance

You must apply in writing for Contributory Dependents Life Insurance and agree to pay premiums. Contributory Dependents Life Insurance not subject to Evidence Of Insurability becomes effective on the latest of:

- i. The date your Life Insurance becomes effective if you apply on or before that date;
- ii. The date you become eligible to insure your Dependents if you apply on or before that date; and
- iii. The date you apply if you apply within 31 days after you become eligible.

Late Application: Evidence Of Insurability is required for each Dependent if you apply more than 31 days after you become eligible.

### c. While your Dependents Life Insurance is in effect, each new Child becomes insured immediately.

### d. Takeover Provision

Each Dependent who was eligible under the Prior Plan for more than 31 days but was not insured must submit satisfactory Evidence Of Insurability to become insured for Dependents Life Insurance.

## F. When Dependents Life Insurance Ends

Dependents Life Insurance ends automatically on the earliest of:

1. Five months after you die (no premiums will be charged for your Dependents Life Insurance during this time);
2. The date your Life Insurance ends;
3. The date the Group Policy terminates, or the date Dependents Life Insurance terminates under the Group Policy;

4. The date the last period ends for which you made a premium contribution, if your Dependents Life Insurance is Contributory;
5. For your Spouse, the date of your divorce;
6. For any Dependent, the end of the quarter for which the last quarterly premium has been paid following the date the Dependent ceases to be a Dependent; and
7. For a Child who is Disabled, 90 days after we mail you a request for proof of Disability, if proof is not given.

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## ACTIVE WORK PROVISIONS

If you are incapable of Active Work because of Sickness, Injury or Pregnancy on the day before the scheduled effective date of your insurance or an increase in your insurance, your insurance or increase will not become effective until the day after you complete one full day of Active Work as an eligible Member.

Active Work and Actively At Work mean performing the material duties of your own occupation at your Employer's usual place of business.

You will also meet the Active Work requirement if:

1. You were absent from Active Work because of a regularly scheduled day off, holiday, or vacation day;
2. You were Actively At Work on your last scheduled work day before the date of your absence; and
3. You were capable of Active Work on the day before the scheduled effective date of your insurance or increase in your insurance.

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## PORTABILITY OF INSURANCE

### A. Portability Of Insurance

If your insurance under the Group Policy ends because your employment with your Employer terminates, you may be eligible to buy portable group insurance coverage as shown in the Coverage Features for yourself and your Dependents without submitting Evidence Of Insurability. To be eligible you must satisfy the following requirements:

1. On the date your employment terminates, you must be able to perform with reasonable continuity the material duties of at least one gainful occupation for which you are reasonably fitted by education, training and experience.

(If you are unable to meet this requirement, see the **Right To Convert** and **Waiver Of Premium** provisions for other options that may be available to you under the Group Policy.)

2. On the date your employment terminates, you are under age 65.
3. On the date your employment terminates, you must have been continuously insured under the Group Policy for at least 12 consecutive months. In computing the 12 consecutive month period, we will include time insured under the Prior Plan.
4. You must apply in writing and pay the first premium directly to us at our Home Office within 31 days after the date your employment terminates. You must purchase portable group life insurance coverage for yourself in order to purchase any other insurance eligible for portability.

This portable group insurance will be provided under a master Group Life Portability Insurance Policy we have issued to the Standard Insurance Company Group Insurance Trust. If approved, the certificate you will receive will be governed under the terms of the Group Life Portability Insurance Policy and will contain provisions that differ from your Employer's coverage under the Group Policy.

B. Amount Of Portable Insurance

The minimum and maximum amounts that you are eligible to buy under the Group Life Portability Insurance Policy are shown in the **Coverage Features**. You may buy less than the maximum amounts in increments of \$1,000.

The combined amounts of insurance purchased under this **Portability Of Insurance** provision and the **Right To Convert** provision cannot exceed the amount in effect under the Group Policy on the day before your employment terminates.

C. When Portable Insurance Becomes Effective

Portable group insurance will become effective the day after your employment with your Employer terminates, if you apply within 31 days after the date your employment terminates.

If death occurs within 31 days after the date insurance ends under the Group Policy, life insurance benefits, if any, will be paid according to the terms of the Group Policy in effect on the date your employment terminates and not the terms of the Group Life Portability Insurance Policy.

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## WAIVER OF PREMIUM

A. Waiver Of Premium Benefit

Insurance will be continued without payment of premiums while you are Totally Disabled if:

1. You become Totally Disabled while insured under the Group Policy and under age 60;
2. You complete your Waiting Period; and
3. You give us satisfactory Proof Of Loss.

B. Definitions For Waiver Of Premium

1. Insurance means all your insurance under the Group Policy.
2. Totally Disabled means that, as a result of Sickness, accidental Injury, or Pregnancy, you are unable to perform with reasonable continuity the material duties of any gainful occupation for which you are reasonably fitted by education, training and experience.
3. Waiting Period means the 180 consecutive day period beginning on the date you become Totally Disabled. Waiver Of Premium begins when you complete the Waiting Period.

C. Premium Payment

Premium payment must continue until the later of:

1. The date you complete your Waiting Period; and
2. The date we approve your claim for Waiver Of Premium.

D. Refund Of Premiums

We will refund up to 12 months of the premiums that were paid for Insurance after the date you become Totally Disabled.

E. Amount Of Insurance

The amount of Insurance continued without payment of premium is the amount in effect on the day before you become Totally Disabled, subject to the following requirements:

1. Insurance will be reduced or terminated according to the Group Policy provisions in effect on the day before you become Totally Disabled.
2. If you receive an Accelerated Benefit, Insurance will be reduced according to the **Accelerated Benefit** provision.

F. Effect Of Death During The Waiting Period

If you die during the Waiting Period and are otherwise eligible for Waiver Of Premium, the Waiting Period will be waived.

G. Termination Or Amendment Of The Group Policy

Insurance will not be affected by termination or amendment of the Group Policy or termination of the Employer's participation under the Group Policy after you become Totally Disabled.

H. When Waiver Of Premium Ends

Waiver Of Premium ends on the earliest of:

1. The date you cease to be Totally Disabled;
2. 90 days after the date we mail you a request for additional Proof Of Loss, if it is not given;
3. The date you fail to attend an examination or cooperate with the examiner;
4. With respect to the amount of Insurance which an insured has converted, the effective date of the individual life insurance policy issued to the insured; and
5. The date you reach age 65.

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## **ACCELERATED BENEFIT**

A. Accelerated Benefit

If you qualify for Waiver Of Premium and give us satisfactory proof of having a Qualifying Medical Condition while you are insured under the Group Policy, you may have the right to receive during your lifetime a portion of your Insurance as an Accelerated Benefit. You must have at least \$10,000 of Insurance in effect to be eligible.

If your Insurance is scheduled to end within 24 months following the date you apply for the Accelerated Benefit, you will not be eligible for the Accelerated Benefit.

Qualifying Medical Condition means you are terminally ill as a result of an illness or physical condition which is reasonably expected to result in death within 12 months.

We may have you examined at our expense in connection with your claim for an Accelerated Benefit. Any such examination will be conducted by one or more Physicians of our choice.

B. Application For Accelerated Benefit

You must apply for an Accelerated Benefit. To apply you must give us satisfactory Proof Of Loss on our forms. Proof Of Loss must include a statement from a Physician that you have a Qualifying Medical Condition.

C. Amount Of Accelerated Benefit

You may receive an Accelerated Benefit of up to 75% of your Insurance. The maximum Accelerated Benefit is \$500,000. The minimum Accelerated Benefit is \$5,000 or 10% of your Insurance, whichever is greater.

If the amount of your Insurance is scheduled to reduce within 24 months following the date you apply for the Accelerated Benefit, your Accelerated Benefit will be based on the reduced amount.

The Accelerated Benefit will be paid to you once in your lifetime in a lump sum. If you recover from your Qualifying Medical Condition after receiving an Accelerated Benefit, we will not ask you for a refund.

D. Effect On Insurance And Other Benefits

For any purpose other than premium payment, the amount of your Insurance after payment of the Accelerated Benefit will be the greater of the amounts in (1) and (2) below; however, if you assign your rights under the Group Policy, the amount of your Insurance will be the amount in (2) below.

(1) 10% of the amount of your Insurance as if no Accelerated Benefit had been paid; or

(2) The amount of your Insurance as if no Accelerated Benefit had been paid; minus

The amount of the Accelerated Benefit; minus

An interest charge calculated as follows:

$A \times B \times C \div 365 = \text{interest charge.}$

A = The amount of the Accelerated Benefit.

B = The monthly average of our variable policy loan interest rate.

C = The number of days from payment of the Accelerated Benefit to the earlier of (1) the date you die, and (2) the date you have a Right To Convert.

E. Exclusions

No Accelerated Benefit will be paid if:

1. All or part of your Insurance must be paid to your Child(ren), or your Spouse or former Spouse as part of a court approved divorce decree, separate maintenance agreement, or property settlement agreement.
2. You are married and live in a community property state unless you give us a signed written consent from your Spouse.
3. You have made an assignment of all or part of your Insurance unless you give us a signed written consent from the assignee.
4. You have filed for bankruptcy, unless you give us written approval from the Bankruptcy Court for payment of the Accelerated Benefit.
5. You are required by a government agency to use the Accelerated Benefit to apply for, receive, or continue a government benefit or entitlement.
6. You have previously received an Accelerated Benefit under the Group Policy.

F. Definitions For Accelerated Benefit

Insurance means your Life Insurance Benefit under the Group Policy.

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## RIGHT TO CONVERT

A. Right To Convert

You may buy an individual policy of life insurance without Evidence Of Insurability if:

1. Your Insurance ends or is reduced due to a Qualifying Event; and
2. You apply in writing and pay us the first premium during the Conversion Period.

Except as limited under C. Limits On Right To Convert, the maximum amount you have a Right To Convert is the amount of your Insurance which ended.

B. Definitions For Right To Convert

1. Conversion Period means the 31-day period after the date of any Qualifying Event.
2. Insurance means all your insurance under the Group Policy, including insurance continued under Waiver Of Premium.
3. Qualifying Event means termination or reduction of your Insurance for any reason except:
  - a. The Member's failure to make a required premium contribution.
  - b. Payment of an Accelerated Benefit.
4. You and your mean any person insured under the Group Policy.

C. Limits On Right To Convert

If your Insurance ends or is reduced because of termination or amendment of the Group Policy, 1 and 2 below will apply.

1. You may not convert Insurance which has been in effect for less than the Minimum Time Insured. See **Coverage Features**.
2. The maximum amount you have a Right To Convert is the lesser of:
  - a. The amount of your Insurance which ended, minus any other group life insurance for which you become eligible during the Conversion Period; and
  - b. The Maximum Conversion Amount. See **Coverage Features**.

D. The Individual Policy

You may select any form of individual life insurance policy we issue to persons of your age, except:

1. A term insurance policy;
2. A universal life policy;
3. A policy with disability, accidental death, or other additional benefits; or
4. A policy in an amount less than the minimum amount we issue for the form of life insurance you select.

The individual policy of life insurance will become effective on the day after the end of the Conversion Period. We will use our published rates for standard risks to determine the premium.

E. Death During The Conversion Period

If you die during the Conversion Period, we will pay a death benefit equal to the maximum amount you had a Right To Convert, whether or not you applied for an individual policy. The benefit will be paid according to the **Benefit Payment And Beneficiary Provisions**.

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## CLAIMS

A. Filing A Claim

Claims should be filed on our forms. If we do not provide our forms within 15 days after they are requested, the claim may be submitted in a letter to us.

B. Time Limits On Filing Proof Of Loss

Proof Of Loss must be provided within 90 days after the date of the loss. If that is not possible, it must be provided as soon as reasonably possible, but not later than one year after that 90-day period.

Proof Of Loss for Waiver Of Premium must be provided within 12 months after the end of the Waiting Period. We will require further Proof Of Loss at reasonable intervals, but not more often than once a year after you have been continuously Totally Disabled for two years.

If Proof Of Loss is filed outside these time limits, the claim will be denied. These limits will not apply while the Member or Beneficiary lacks legal capacity.

C. Proof Of Loss

Proof Of Loss means written proof that a loss occurred:

1. For which the Group Policy provides benefits;
2. Which is not subject to any exclusions; and
3. Which meets all other conditions for benefits.

Proof Of Loss includes any other information we may reasonably require in support of a claim. Proof Of Loss must be in writing and must be provided at the expense of the claimant. No benefits will be provided until we receive Proof Of Loss.

D. Investigation Of Claim

We may have you examined at our expense at reasonable intervals. Any such examination will be conducted by specialists of our choice.

We may have an autopsy performed at our expense, except where prohibited by law.

E. Time Of Payment

We will pay benefits within 60 days after Proof Of Loss is satisfied.

F. Notice Of Decision On Claim

We will evaluate a claim for benefits promptly after we receive it. With respect to all claims except Waiver Of Premium claims, within 90 days after we receive the claim we will send the claimant: (a) a written decision on the claim; or (b) a notice that we are extending the period to decide the claim for an additional 90 days.

With respect to Waiver Of Premium claims, within 45 days after we receive the claim we will send the claimant: (a) a written decision on the claim; or (b) a notice that we are extending the period to decide the claim for 30 days. Before the end of this extension period we will send the claimant: (a) a written decision on the Waiver Of Premium claim; or (b) a notice that we are extending the period to decide the claim for an additional 30 days. If an extension is due to the claimant's failure to provide information necessary to decide the Waiver Of Premium claim, the extended time period for deciding the claim will not begin until the claimant provides the information or otherwise responds.

If we extend the period to decide the claim, we will notify the claimant of the following: (a) the reasons for the extension; (b) when we expect to decide the claim; (c) an explanation of the standards on which entitlement to benefits is based; (d) the unresolved issues preventing a decision; and (e) any additional information we need to resolve those issues.

If we request additional information, the claimant will have 45 days to provide the information. If the claimant does not provide the requested information within 45 days, we may decide the claim based on the information we have received.

If we deny any part of the claim, we will send the claimant a written notice of denial containing:

1. The reasons for our decision.
2. Reference to the parts of the Group Policy on which our decision is based.
3. Reference to any internal rule or guideline relied upon in deciding a Waiver Of Premium claim.
4. A description of any additional information needed to support the claim.
5. Information concerning the claimant's right to a review of our decision.

#### G. Review Procedure

If all or part of a claim is denied, the claimant may request a review. The claimant must request a review in writing:

1. Within 180 days after receiving notice of the denial of a claim for Waiver Of Premium;
2. Within 60 days after receiving notice of the denial of any other claim.

The claimant may send us written comments or other items to support the claim. The claimant may review and receive copies of any non-privileged information that is relevant to the request for review. There will be no charge for such copies. Our review will include any written comments or other items the claimant submits to support the claim.

We will review the claim promptly after we receive the request. With respect to all claims except Waiver Of Premium claims, within 60 days after we receive the request for review we will send the claimant: (a) a written decision on review; or (b) a notice that we are extending the review period for 60 days.

With respect to Waiver Of Premium claims, within 45 days after we receive the request for review we will send the claimant: (a) a written decision on review; or (b) a notice that we are extending the review period for 45 days.

If an extension is due to the claimant's failure to provide information necessary to decide the claim on review, the extended time period for review of the claim will not begin until the claimant provides the information or otherwise responds.

If we extend the review period, we will notify the claimant of the following: (a) the reasons for the extension; (b) when we expect to decide the claim on review; and (c) any additional information we need to decide the claim.

If we request additional information, the claimant will have 45 days to provide the information. If the claimant does not provide the requested information within 45 days, we may conclude our review of the claim based on the information we have received.

With respect to Waiver Of Premium claims, the person conducting the review will be someone other than the person who denied the claim and will not be subordinate to that person. The person conducting the review will not give deference to the initial denial decision. If the denial was based on a medical judgement, the person conducting the review will consult with a qualified health care professional. This health care professional will be someone other than the person who made the original medical judgement and will not be subordinate to that person. The claimant may request the names of medical or vocational experts who provided advice to us about a claim for Waiver Of Premium.

If we deny any part of the claim on review, the claimant will receive a written notice of denial containing:

1. The reasons for our decision.
2. Reference to the parts of the Group Policy on which our decision is based.
3. Reference to any internal rule or guideline relied upon in deciding a Waiver Of Premium claim.
4. Information concerning the claimant's right to receive, free of charge, copies of non-privileged documents and records relevant to the claim.

The Group Policy does not provide voluntary alternative dispute resolution options. However, you may contact your local U.S. Department of Labor Office and your State insurance regulatory agency for assistance.

LI.CL.29

## **ASSIGNMENT**

If the amount of your Life Insurance is less than \$25,000, you may not make an assignment.

If the amount of your Life Insurance is \$25,000 or more, you may make an absolute assignment of all your Life Insurance, subject to 1 through 8 below.

1. All insurance under the Group Policy is assignable. Dependents Life Insurance is not assignable.
2. You may not make a collateral assignment.
3. The assignment must be absolute and irrevocable. It must transfer all rights, including:
  - a. The right to change the Beneficiary;
  - b. The right to buy an individual life insurance policy on your life under **Right To Convert**; and
  - c. The right to receive accidental dismemberment benefits.

4. The assignment will apply to all of your Life Insurance in effect on the date of the assignment or becoming effective after that date.
5. The assignment may be to any person other than the Policyholder or Employer.
6. The assignment will have no effect unless it is made in writing, signed by you, and delivered to the Policyholder or Employer in your lifetime. Neither we, the Policyholder, nor the Employer are responsible for the validity, sufficiency or effect of the assignment.
7. All accidental dismemberment benefits will be paid to the assignee. All death benefits will be paid according to the beneficiary designation on file with the Policyholder or Employer, and the **Benefit Payment And Beneficiary Provisions**.
8. The assignment will not change the Beneficiary, unless the assignee later changes the Beneficiary. Any payment we make according to the beneficiary designation on file with the Policyholder or Employer, and the **Benefit Payment and Beneficiary Provisions** will fully discharge us to the extent of the payment.

You may not make an assignment which is contrary to the rules in 1 through 8 above.

LI.AS.02

## **BENEFIT PAYMENT AND BENEFICIARY PROVISIONS**

### **A. Payment Of Benefits**

1. Except as provided in item 4 below, benefits payable because of your death will be paid to the Beneficiary you name. See B through E of this section.
2. The benefits below will be paid to you if you are living.
  - a. Dependents Life Insurance benefits.
  - b. Accelerated Benefits.
3. Dependents Life Insurance benefits payable because of the death of your Dependent which are unpaid at your death will be paid in equal shares to the first surviving class of the classes below.
  - a. The children of the Dependent.
  - b. The parents of the Dependent.
  - c. The brothers and sisters of the Dependent.
  - d. Your estate.

#### **4. Additional Benefits will be paid as follows:**

The Child Care Benefit will be paid to your surviving Spouse. No Child Care Benefit will be paid if you have no Spouse.

The Career Adjustment Benefit will be paid to your Spouse. No Career Adjustment Benefit will be paid if you have no Spouse.

The Higher Education Benefit will be paid annually to each eligible Child. No Higher Education Benefit will be paid if there is no Child eligible to receive it.

The Repatriation Benefit will be paid to the person who incurs the transportation expenses.

### **B. Naming A Beneficiary**

Beneficiary means a person you name to receive death benefits.

You may name one or more Beneficiaries. Two or more surviving Beneficiaries will share equally, unless you specify otherwise. You may name or change Beneficiaries at any time without the consent of a Beneficiary.

You must name or change Beneficiaries in writing. Your designation:

1. Must be dated and signed by you;
2. Must be delivered to the Policyholder or Employer during your lifetime;
3. Must relate to the insurance provided under the Group Policy; and
4. Will take effect on the date it is delivered to the Policyholder or Employer.

If we approve it, a written designation signed and dated by you under the Prior Plan will be accepted as your Beneficiary designation under the Group Policy.

#### C. Simultaneous Death Provision

If a Beneficiary dies on the same day you die, or within 15 days thereafter, benefits will be paid as if that Beneficiary had died before you, unless Proof Of Loss with respect to your death is delivered to us before the date of the Beneficiary's death.

#### D. No Surviving Beneficiary

If you do not name a Beneficiary, or if you are not survived by one, benefits will be paid in equal shares to the first surviving class of the classes below.

1. Your spouse.
2. Your children.
3. Your parents.
4. Your brothers and sisters.
5. Your estate.

#### E. Methods Of Payment

Recipient means a person who is entitled to benefits under this **Benefit Payment and Beneficiary Provisions** section.

##### 1. Lump Sum

If the amount payable to a Recipient is less than \$10,000, we will pay it in a lump sum.

##### 2. Standard Secure Access Checking Account

If the amount payable to a Recipient is \$10,000 or more, we will deposit it into a Standard Secure Access checking account which:

- a. Bears interest;
- b. Is owned by the Recipient;
- c. Is subject to the terms and conditions of a confirmation certificate which will be given to the Recipient; and
- d. Is fully guaranteed by us.

##### 3. Installments

Payment to a Recipient may be made in installments if:

- a. The amount payable is \$10,000 or more;

- b. The Recipient chooses; and
- c. We agree.

To the extent permitted by law, the amount payable to the Recipient will not be subject to any legal process or to the claims of any creditor or creditor's representative.

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## **ALLOCATION OF AUTHORITY**

Except for those functions which the Group Policy specifically reserves to the Policyholder, we have full and exclusive authority to control and manage the Group Policy, to administer claims, and to interpret the Group Policy and resolve all questions arising in the administration, interpretation, and application of the Group Policy.

Our authority includes, but is not limited to:

- 1. The right to resolve all matters when a review has been requested;
- 2. The right to establish and enforce rules and procedures for the administration of the Group Policy and any claim under it;
- 3. The right to determine:
  - a. Eligibility for insurance;
  - b. Entitlement to benefits;
  - c. Amount of benefits payable;
  - d. Sufficiency and the amount of information we may reasonably require to determine a., b., or c., above.

Subject to the review procedures of the Group Policy, any decision we make in the exercise of our authority is conclusive and binding.

LI.AL.OT.1

## **TIME LIMITS ON LEGAL ACTIONS**

No action at law or in equity may be brought until 60 days after we have been given Proof Of Loss. No such action may be brought more than three years after the earlier of:

- 1. The date we receive Proof Of Loss; and
- 2. The time within which Proof Of Loss is required to be given.

LI.TL.OT.1

## **INCONTESTABILITY PROVISIONS**

### **A. Incontestability Of Insurance**

Any statement made to obtain insurance is a representation and not a warranty.

No misrepresentation will be used to reduce or deny a claim unless:

- 1. The insurance would not have been approved if we had known the truth; and
- 2. We have given you or any other person claiming benefits a copy of the signed written instrument which contains the misrepresentation.

We will not use a misrepresentation to reduce or deny a claim after the insured's insurance has been in effect for two years.

**B. Incontestability Of Group Policy Or Participation Under The Group Policy**

Any statement made by the Policyholder or Employer to obtain the Group Policy or made by an Employer to participate under the Group Policy is a representation and not a warranty.

No misrepresentation by the Policyholder or Employer will be used to deny a claim, to deny the validity of the Group Policy, or to deny the validity of an Employer's participation under the Group Policy unless:

1. The Group Policy would not have been issued or participation under the Group Policy would not have been approved if we had known the truth; and
2. We have given the Policyholder or Employer a copy of a written instrument signed by the Policyholder or Employer which contains the misrepresentation.

Except for nonpayment of premiums, the validity of the Group Policy will not be contested after it has been in force for two years or an Employer's participation will not be contested after such participation under the Group Policy has been in effect for two years.

LI.IN.OT.1X

**CLERICAL ERROR, AGENCY, AND MISSTATEMENT**

**A. Clerical Error**

Clerical error by the Policyholder, your Employer, or their respective employees or representatives will not:

1. Cause a person to become insured.
2. Invalidate insurance otherwise validly in force.
3. Continue insurance otherwise validly terminated.

**B. Agency**

The Policyholder and your Employer act on their own behalf as your agent, and not as our agent.

**C. Misstatement Of Age**

If a person's age has been misstated, we will make an equitable adjustment of premiums, benefits, or both. The adjustment will be based on:

1. The amount of insurance based on the correct age; and
2. The difference between the premiums paid and the premiums which would have been paid if the age had been correctly stated.

LI.CE.OT.1

## DEFINITIONS

Annual Earnings means your annual rate of earnings from your Employer. Your Annual Earnings will be based on your earnings in effect on your last full day of Active Work unless a different date applies (see the **Coverage Features**). Annual Earnings includes:

1. Contributions you make through a salary reduction agreement with your Employer to:
  - a. An Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 401(k), 403(b), 408(k), or 457 deferred compensation arrangement; or
  - b. An executive nonqualified deferred compensation arrangement.
2. Shift differential pay.
3. Amounts contributed to your fringe benefits according to a salary reduction agreement under an IRC Section 125 plan.

Annual Earnings does not include:

1. Bonuses.
2. Commissions.
3. Overtime pay.
4. Your Employer's contributions on your behalf to any deferred compensation arrangement or pension plan.
5. Any other extra compensation.

Child means:

1. Your unmarried child from live birth through age 20 (through age 30 if a registered student in full time attendance at an accredited educational institution); or
2. Your unmarried child who meets either of the following requirements:
  - a. The child is insured under the Group Policy and, on and after the date on which insurance would otherwise end because of the Child's age, is continuously Disabled.
  - b. The child was insured under the Prior Plan on the day before the effective date of your Employer's coverage under the Group Policy and was Disabled on that day, and is continuously Disabled thereafter.

Child includes any of the following, if they otherwise meet the definition of Child:

- i. Your adopted child; or
- ii. Your stepchild, if living in your home;

Your child is Disabled if your child is:

1. Continuously incapable of self-sustaining employment because of mental retardation or physical handicap; and
2. Chiefly dependent upon you for support and maintenance, or institutionalized because of mental retardation or physical handicap.

You must give us proof your Child is Disabled on our forms within 31 days after a) the date on which insurance would otherwise end because of the Child's age or b) the effective date of your Employer's coverage under the Group Policy if your child is Disabled on that date. At reasonable intervals thereafter, we may require further proof, and have your Child examined at our expense.

Contributory means you pay all or part of the premium for insurance.

Dependents Life Insurance means dependents life insurance, if any, under the Group Policy.

Eligibility Waiting Period means the period you must be a Member before you become eligible for insurance. See **Coverage Features**.

Employer means an employer which (1) participates in the Southern Medical Association (or the American College of Radiology), (2) has elected coverage under the Group Policy, and (3) has been approved in writing by the Policyholder and us.

Evidence Of Insurability means an applicant must:

1. Complete and sign our medical history statement;
2. Sign our form authorizing us to obtain information about the applicant's health;
3. Undergo a physical examination, if required by us, which may include blood testing; and
4. Provide any additional information about the applicant's insurability that we may reasonably require.

Group Policy means the group life insurance policy issued by us to the Policyholder and identified by the Group Policy Number.

Injury means an injury to your body.

Life Insurance means life insurance under the Group Policy.

Noncontributory means the Policyholder or Employer pays the entire premium for insurance.

Physician means a licensed M.D. or D.O., acting within the scope of the license. Physician does not include you or your spouse, or the brother, sister, parent or child of either you or your spouse.

Pregnancy means your pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, including complications of pregnancy.

Prior Plan means your Employer's group life insurance plan in effect on the day before the effective date of your Employer's coverage under the Group Policy and which is replaced by the Group Policy.

Sickness means your sickness, illness, or disease.

Spouse means a person to whom you are legally married. Spouse does not include a person who is a full-time member of the armed forces of any country.

LI.DF.OT.IX