

# **YOUR BENEFIT PLAN**

NEW MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION



## Questions or Complaints about Your Coverage

**In the event You have questions or complaints regarding any aspect of Your coverage, You should contact Your Employee Benefits Manager or You may write to us at:**

The Hartford  
Group Benefits Division, Customer Service  
P.O. Box 2999  
Hartford, CT 06104-2999

**Or call Us at:** 1-800-523-2233

When calling, please give Us the following information:

- 1) the policy number; and
- 2) the name of the policyholder (employer or organization), as shown in Your Certificate of Insurance.

**Or You may contact Our Sales Office:**

Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company  
Group Sales Department  
690 Asylum Ave  
Hartford, CT 06105  
TOLL FREE: 866-852-0280  
FAX: 860-392-6912

**If you have a complaint, and contacts between you and the insurer or an agent or other representative of the insurer have failed to produce a satisfactory solution to the problem, the following states require we provide you with additional contact information:**

<b>For residents of:</b>	<b>Write</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
<b>Arkansas</b>	Arkansas Insurance Department Consumer Services Division 1200 West Third Street Little Rock, AR 72201-1904	1(800) 852-5494 1(501) 371-2640 (in the Little Rock area)
<b>California</b>	State of California Insurance Department Consumer Communications Bureau 300 South Spring Street, South Tower Los Angeles, CA 90013	1(800) 927-HELP
<b>Idaho</b>	Idaho Department of Insurance Consumer Affairs 700 W State Street, 3rd Floor PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0043	1-800-721-3272 or <a href="http://www.DOI.Idaho.gov">www.DOI.Idaho.gov</a>
<b>Illinois</b>	Illinois Department of Insurance Consumer Services Station Springfield, Illinois 62767	Consumer Assistance: 1(866) 445-5364 Officer of Consumer Health Insurance: 1(877) 527-9431
<b>Indiana</b>	Public Information/Market Conduct Indiana Department of Insurance 311 W. Washington St. Suite 300 Indianapolis, IN 46204-2787	Consumer Hotline: 1(800) 622-4461 1(317) 232-2395 (in the Indianapolis Area)
<b>Virginia</b>	Life and Health Division Bureau of Insurance P.O. Box 1157 Richmond, VA 23209	1(804) 371-9741 (inside Virginia) 1(800) 552-7945 (outside Virginia)
<b>Wisconsin</b>	Office of the Commissioner of Insurance Complaints Department P.O. Box 7873 Madison, WI 53707-7873	1(800) 236-8517 (outside of Madison) 1(608) 266-0103 (in Madison) to request a complaint form.

**The following states require that We provide these notices to You about Your coverage:**

**For residents of:**

**Arizona**

This certificate of insurance may not provide all benefits and protections provided by law in Arizona. Please read This certificate carefully.

**Florida**

The benefits of the policy providing you coverage are governed primarily by the laws of a state other than Florida.

**STATE OF DELAWARE**  
**The Civil Union and Equality Act of 2011**  
**Effective January 1, 2012**

In accordance with Delaware law, insurers are required to provide the following notice to applicants of insurance policies issued in Delaware.

The Civil Union and Equality Act of 2011 ("the Act") creates a legal relationship between two persons of the same sex who form a civil union. The Act provides that the parties to a civil union are entitled to the same legal obligations, responsibilities, protections and benefits that are afforded or recognized by the laws of Delaware to spouses in a legal marriage. The law further provides that a party to a civil union shall be included in any definition or use of the terms "spouse," "family," "immediate family," "dependent," "next of kin," and other terms descriptive of spousal relationships as those terms are used throughout Delaware law. This includes the terms "marriage" or "married," or variations thereon. Insurance policies are required to provide identical benefits and protections to both civil unions and marriages. If policies of insurance provide coverage for children, the children of civil unions must also be provided coverage. The Act also requires recognition of same sex civil unions or marriages legally entered into in other jurisdictions.

For more information regarding the Act, refer to Chapter 2 of Title 13 of the Delaware Code or the State of Delaware website at [www.delaware.gov/CivilUnions](http://www.delaware.gov/CivilUnions).

**Georgia**

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

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

In accordance with Illinois law, insurers are required to provide the following notice to applicants of insurance policies issued in Illinois.

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

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

### Maine

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

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

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

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

2. The laws of the State of Maine require notification of the right to designate a third party to receive notice of cancellation, to change the designation and, policy reinstatement if the insured suffers from organic brain disease and the ground for cancellation was the insured's nonpayment of premium or other lapse or default on the part of the insured.

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

### Maryland

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

### Montana

Conformity with Montana statutes: The provisions of this certificate conform to the minimum requirements of Montana law and control over any conflicting statutes of any state in which the insured resides on or after the effective date of this certificate.

### North Carolina

UNDER NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE SECTION 58-50-40, NO PERSON, EMPLOYER, FINANCIAL AGENT, TRUSTEE, OR THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PAYMENT OF GROUP LIFE INSURANCE, GROUP HEALTH OR GROUP HEALTH PLAN PREMIUMS, SHALL:

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

**IMPORTANT TERMINATION  
INFORMATION**

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

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

**PRE-EXISTING LIMITATION  
READ CAREFULLY**

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

**READ YOUR CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

To obtain information or make a complaint:

You may call The Hartford's toll-free telephone number for information or to make a complaint at:

1-800-523-2233

You may also write to The Hartford at:  
P.O. Box 2999  
Hartford, CT 06104-2999

You may contact the Texas Department of Insurance to obtain information on companies, coverages, rights or complaints at:

1-800-252-3439

You may write the Texas Department of Insurance at:  
P.O. Box 149104  
Austin, TX 78714-9410  
Fax # (512) 475-1771

Web: <http://www.tdi.state.tx.us>

E-mail: [ConsumerProtection@tdi.state.tx.us](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.state.tx.us)

**PREMIUM OR CLAIM DISPUTES:**

Should you have a dispute concerning your premium or about a claim you should contact the agent or The Hartford first. If the dispute is not resolved, you may contact the Texas Department of Insurance.

**ATTACH THIS NOTICE TO YOUR POLICY:**

This notice is for information only and does not become a part or condition of the attached document.

**Texas**

**AVISO IMPORTANTE**

Para obtener informacion o para someter una queja:

Usted puede llamar al numero de telefono gratis de The Hartford para informacion o para someter una queja al:

1-800-523-2233

Usted tambien puede escribir a The Hartford:  
P.O. Box 2999  
Hartford, CT 06104-2999

Puede comunicarse con el Departamento de Seguros de Texas para obtener informacion acerca de companias, coberturas, derechos o quejas al:

1-800-252-3439

Puede escribir al Departamento de Seguros de Texas:  
P.O. Box 149104  
Austin, TX 78714-9410  
Fax # (512) 475-1771

Web: <http://www.tdi.state.tx.us>

E-mail: [ConsumerProtection@tdi.state.tx.us](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.state.tx.us)

**DISPUTAS SOBRE PRIMAS O RECLAMOS:**

Si tiene una disputa concerniente a su prima o a un reclamo, debe comunicarse con el agente o The Hartford primero. Si no se resuelve la disputa, puede entonces comunicarse con el departamento (TDI).

**UNA ESTE AVISO A SU POLIZA:**

Este aviso es solo para proposito de informacion y no se convierte en parte o condicion del documento adjunto.



## **IMPORTANT NOTICE CALCULATION OF BENEFIT INFORMATION**

**Your group disability Policy contains an offset in the calculation of Your benefit. The offset may reduce the payment of Disability Benefits under the Policy based on other income You are entitled to receive from other sources as a result of Your Disability. Your group Disability Policy may also include an offset for the payment of Disability Benefits under the Policy based on other income Your family is entitled to receive from other sources as a result of Your Disability; please refer to Your certificate for full details on offsets under the Definition of Other Income Benefits. It includes any disability benefits under:**

- 1) the United States Social Security Act or alternative plan offered by a state or municipal government;**
- 2) the Railroad Retirement Act;**
- 3) the Canada Pension Plan, the Canada Old Age Security Act, the Quebec Pension Plan or any provincial pension or disability plan; or**
- 4) similar plan or act.**

**Additional plans or programs that provide a benefit to You and are considered an offset are:**

- 1) temporary, permanent disability, or impairment benefits under a Worker's Compensation Law, the Jones Act, occupational disease law, similar law or substitutes or exchange for such benefits;**
- 2) governmental law or program that provides disability or unemployment benefits as a result of Your job with the Employer;**
- 3) plan or arrangement of coverage which is received from the Employer as a result of employment by or association with the Employer or which is the result of membership in or association with any group, association, union or other organization; or**
- 4) mandatory "no fault" automobile insurance plan.**

**Your Policy may contain additional offsets, please refer to Your certificate for full details on offsets, under the Definition of Other Income Benefits.**

**Your group Disability benefits are:**

**66 2/3% of Your Pre-disability Earnings with a Maximum Monthly Benefit of \$3,000.00.**

**Your Policy may have a reduction in monthly benefits after a certain time period. Please refer to Your certificate for full details on Your Benefit Percentage and any reductions, under the Schedule of Insurance.**

**Example of long-term Disability Benefit:**

**Your Pre-disability Earnings are \$2,000.00 per month and You are currently Disabled. Your group Disability Benefit Percent of Your Pre-disability Earnings is 60% with a Maximum Monthly Benefit of \$3,000.00. You are also receiving Social Security disability income of \$500.00 per month. The calculation of Your Benefit will be as follows:**

$$\mathbf{\$2,000.00 \times 60\% = \$1,200.00 - \$500.00 = \$700.00}$$

**Your net monthly group Disability Benefit is \$700.00.**

**If You would like a group disability policy which does not have other offset provisions, please contact an insurance agent or insurance company to purchase an individual policy.**





**HARTFORD LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY**

200 Hopmeadow Street  
Simsbury, Connecticut 06089  
(A stock insurance company)

**CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE**

**Policyholder:** NEW MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Policy Number:** GLT-875239

**Policy Effective Date:** November 1, 2014

**Policy Anniversary Date:** November 1, 2015

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

Signed for the Company

**Terence Shields, Secretary**

**Michael Concannon, Executive Vice President**

---

**This Certificate is subject to a Mandatory Rehabilitation requirement.**

*A note on capitalization in this certificate:*

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

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE .....	11
Cost of Coverage .....	11
Eligible Class(es) For Coverage .....	11
Eligibility Waiting Period for Coverage .....	11
Monthly Benefit .....	11
ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT .....	12
Eligible Persons .....	12
Eligibility for Coverage .....	12
Enrollment .....	12
PERIOD OF COVERAGE .....	13
Effective Date .....	13
Deferred Effective Date .....	13
Termination .....	13
Continuation Provisions .....	13
BENEFITS .....	14
Disability Benefit .....	14
Mental Illness and Substance Abuse Benefits .....	15
Calculation of Monthly Benefit .....	16
Termination of Payment .....	16
Survivor Income Benefit .....	16
Workplace Modification Benefit .....	17
EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS .....	17
Pre-existing Condition Limitation .....	18
GENERAL PROVISIONS .....	18
DEFINITIONS .....	21
AMENDATORY RIDER .....	26

## SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE

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

**Cost of Coverage:**

You do not contribute toward the cost of coverage.

**Eligible Class(es) For Coverage:** All Full-time Active Employees who are teachers and are citizens or legal residents of the United States, its territories and protectorates; excluding temporary, leased or seasonal employees.

Full-time Employment: at least 20 hours weekly

**Eligibility Waiting Period for Coverage:**

12 month(s)

The time period(s) referenced above are continuous. The Eligibility Waiting Period for Coverage will be reduced by the period of time You were a Full-time Active Employee with the Employer under the Prior Policy.

**Elimination Period:** 90 day(s)

**Maximum Monthly Benefit:** \$3,000

**Minimum Monthly Benefit:** The greater of:

- 1) \$100; or
- 2) 10% of the benefit based on Monthly Income Loss before the deduction of Other Income Benefits.

**Benefit Percentage:** 66 2/3%

### Maximum Duration of Benefits

#### Maximum Duration of Benefits Table

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

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

Year of Birth	Normal Retirement Age
1937 or before	65
1938	65 + 2 months
1939	65 + 4 months
1940	65 + 6 months
1941	65 + 8 months
1942	65 + 10 months
1943 thru 1954	66
1955	66 + 2 months
1956	66 + 4 months
1957	66 + 6 months
1958	66 + 8 months

1959	66 + 10 months
1960 or after	67

**Maximum Duration of Benefits Table**

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

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

<b>Year of Birth</b>	<b>Normal Retirement Age</b>
1937 or before	65
1938	65 + 2 months
1939	65 + 4 months
1940	65 + 6 months
1941	65 + 8 months
1942	65 + 10 months
1943 thru 1954	66
1955	66 + 2 months
1956	66 + 4 months
1957	66 + 6 months
1958	66 + 8 months
1959	66 + 10 months
1960 or after	67

**Additional Benefit:**

**Survivor Income Benefit**  
see benefit

**Workplace Modification Benefit**  
see benefit

**ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT**

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

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

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

You will become eligible for coverage on the later of:

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

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

All eligible Active Employees will be enrolled automatically by the Employer.

## PERIOD OF COVERAGE

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

Your coverage will start on the date You become eligible.

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

If You are absent from work due to:

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

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

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

If You were:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Your coverage will end on the earliest of the following:

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

unless continued in accordance with any of the Continuation Provisions.

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

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

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

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

**Leave of Absence:** If You are on a documented leave of absence, other than Family and Medical Leave, Your coverage may be continued for 6 month(s) after the month in which the leave of absence commenced. If the leave terminates prior to the agreed upon date, this continuation will cease immediately.

**Vacation Leave:** If You are on an approved vacation leave, Your coverage (including Dependent Life coverage) may be continued for up to 2 months.

**Layoff:** If You are temporarily laid off by the Employer due to lack of work, Your coverage may be continued for 6 month(s) after the month in which the layoff commenced. If the layoff becomes permanent, this continuation will cease immediately.

**Continuation During Workers' Compensation:** If Your Employer is not governed by ERISA and You receive compensation under the Connecticut Workers' Compensation Chapter of the Connecticut General Statutes, Your coverage will be continued until the earliest of:

- 1) the date Your Workers' Compensation terminates; or
- 2) the date the Policy terminates.

**Family and Medical Leave:** If You are granted a leave of absence, in writing, according to the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, or other applicable state or local law, Your coverage may be continued for up to 6 months, or 26 weeks if You qualify for Family Military Leave, or longer if required by other applicable law, following the date Your leave commenced. If the leave terminates prior to the agreed upon date, this continuation will cease immediately.

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

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

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

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

No premium will be due for You:

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

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

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

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

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

## BENEFITS

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

We will pay You a Monthly Benefit if You:

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

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

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

If You are Disabled because of:

- 1) Mental Illness that results from any cause;
- 2) any condition that may result from Mental Illness;
- 3) alcoholism; or
- 4) voluntarily using any controlled substance as defined in Title II of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970, as now or hereafter amended, unless as prescribed by or administered by a Physician;

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

Benefits will be payable:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Calculation of Monthly Benefit: Return to Work Incentive:** *How are my Disability benefits calculated?*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The result is Your Monthly Benefit.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Benefit payments will stop on the earliest of:

- 1) the date You are no longer Disabled;
- 2) the date You fail to furnish Proof of Loss;
- 3) the date You are no longer under the Regular Care of a Physician;
- 4) the date You refuse Our request that You submit to an examination by a Physician or other qualified medical professional;
- 5) the date of Your death;
- 6) the date You refuse to receive recommended treatment that is generally acknowledged by Physicians to cure, correct or limit the disabling condition;
- 7) the last day benefits are payable according to the Maximum Duration of Benefits Table;
- 8) the date Your Current Monthly Earnings:
  - a) are equal to or greater than 80% of Your Indexed Pre-disability Earnings if You are receiving benefits for being Disabled from Your Occupation; or
  - b) are greater than the lesser of the product of Your Indexed Pre-disability Earnings and the Benefit Percentage or the Maximum Monthly Benefit if You are receiving benefits for being Disabled from Any Occupation;
- 9) the date no further benefits are payable under any provision in The Policy that limits benefit duration; or
- 10) the date You refuse to participate in a Rehabilitation program, if You do not contribute toward the cost of coverage;  
You must participate, cooperate or try programs, modifications, devices or equipment only if Your qualified Physician, or other qualified medical professional, indicates You are able to do so. If there is no such indication, then Your refusal to participate, cooperate with or try programs, modifications, devices and equipment will not result in termination of benefits; or
- 11) the date You refuse to cooperate with or try:
  - a) modifications made to the work site or job process to accommodate Your identified medical limitations to enable You to perform the Essential Duties of Your Occupation;
  - b) adaptive equipment or devices designed to accommodate Your identified medical limitations to enable You to perform the Essential Duties of Your Occupation;
  - c) modifications made to the work site or job process to accommodate Your identified medical limitations to enable You to perform the Essential Duties of Any Occupation, if You were receiving benefits for being disabled from Any Occupation; or
  - d) adaptive equipment or devices designed to accommodate Your identified medical limitations to enable You to perform the Essential Duties of Any Occupation, if You were receiving benefits for being disabled from Any Occupation;  
You must participate, cooperate or try programs, modifications, devices or equipment only if Your qualified Physician, or other qualified medical professional, indicates You are able to do so. If there is no such indication, then Your refusal to participate, cooperate with or try programs, modifications, devices and equipment will not result in termination of benefits.

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

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

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



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

The Survivor Income Benefit will only be paid:

- 1) to Your Surviving Spouse; or
- 2) if no Surviving Spouse, in equal shares to Your Surviving Children.

If there is no Surviving Spouse or Surviving Children, then no benefit will be paid.

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

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

The Survivor Income Benefit is calculated as 3 times the lesser of:

- 1) Your Monthly Income Loss multiplied by the Benefit Percentage in effect on the date of Your death; or
- 2) The Maximum Monthly Benefit.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Benefits paid for such Workplace Modification shall not exceed the amount equal to the amount of the Maximum Monthly Benefit.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS

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

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

- 1) unless You are under the Regular Care of a Physician;
- 2) that is caused or contributed to by war or act of war, whether declared or not;

- 3) caused by Your commission of or attempt to commit a felony;
- 4) caused or contributed to by Your being engaged in an illegal occupation; or
- 5) caused or contributed to by an intentionally self-inflicted injury.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Pre-existing Condition** means:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- c) pharmacies which have filled Your prescriptions within the past three years;
- 4) Your signed authorization for Us to obtain and release:
  - a) medical, employment and financial information; and
  - b) any other information We may reasonably require;
- 5) Your signed statement identifying all Other Income Benefits; and
- 6) proof that You and Your dependents have applied for all Other Income Benefits which are available.

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

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

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

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

Any such interview, meeting or examination will be:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

When We determine that You;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

An overpayment occurs:

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

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

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

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

We have the right to recover from You any amount that We determine to be an overpayment. Such amount will not include payment from settlements that are unrelated to lost income. You have the obligation to refund to Us any such amount. Our rights and Your obligations in this regard may also be set forth in the reimbursement agreement You will be required to sign when You become eligible for benefits under The Policy.

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

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

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

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

Legal action cannot be taken against Us:

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

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

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

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

If material facts about You were not stated accurately:

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

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

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

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

We have full discretion and authority to determine eligibility for benefits and to construe and interpret all terms and provisions of The Policy.

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

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

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

## DEFINITIONS

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

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

If school is not in session due to normal vacation or school break(s), Actively at Work shall mean You are able to report for work with the Employer, performing all the regular duties of Your Occupation in the usual way for Your usual number of hours as if school was in session.

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

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

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

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

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

while You are Disabled.

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

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

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

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

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

If at the end of the Elimination Period, You are prevented from performing one or more of the Essential Duties of Your Occupation, but Your Current Monthly Earnings are equal to or greater than 80% of Your Pre-disability Earnings, Your Elimination Period will be extended for a total period of 12 months from the original date of Disability, or until such time as Your Current Monthly Earnings are less than 80% of Your Pre-disability Earnings, whichever occurs first. For the purposes of extending Your Elimination Period, Your Current Monthly Earnings will not include the pay You could have received for another job or a modified job if such job was offered to You by Your Employer, or another employer, and You refused the offer.

Your Disability must result from:

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

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

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

**Employer** means the Policyholder.

**Essential Duty** means a duty that:

- 1) is substantial, not incidental;
- 2) is fundamental or inherent to the occupation; and

3) cannot be reasonably omitted or changed.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 1) temporary, permanent disability or impairment benefits under a Workers' Compensation Law, the Jones Act, occupational disease law, similar law or substitutes or exchanges for such benefits; or

- 2) portion of a judgment or settlement, minus associated costs, of a claim or lawsuit that represents or compensates for Your loss of earnings.

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

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

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

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

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

**Physician** means a person who is:

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

**Pre-disability Earnings** means Your contracted annual rate of pay from Your Employer divided by the number of pay periods occurring in the pay cycle established by You and Your Employer prior to Your date of Disability.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

Substance includes alcohol and drugs but excludes tobacco and caffeine.

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

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

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

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

**Amendatory Rider**



**HARTFORD LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY**  
**200 Hopmeadow Street**  
**Simsbury, Connecticut 06089**  
**(A stock insurance company)**

This rider is attached to a certificate given in connection with The Policy.

This rider becomes effective on the certificate effective date.

This rider is intended to amend Your certificate, as indicated below, to comply with the laws of Your state of residence. Only those references to benefits, provisions or terms actually included in Your certificate will affect Your coverage. However, if Your policy is governed under the laws of Maryland, any of the benefits, provisions or terms that apply to the state you reside in as shown below will apply only to the extent that such state requirements are more beneficial to You.

For Alaska residents:

- 1) The provision titled **Policy Interpretation** is deleted in its entirety.
- 2) The following provision is added to the **General Provisions** section of Your certificate:

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

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

We will:

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

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

For Arkansas residents:

The provision titled **Policy Interpretation** is deleted in its entirety.

For California residents, the provision titled **Policy Interpretation** is deleted in its entirety.

For Colorado residents:

1) The **Change in Family Status** provision is amended to read as follows:

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

- 1) You get married or enter a civil union or You execute a domestic partner affidavit;
- 2) You or Your spouse divorce or terminate a civil union or You terminate a domestic partnership;
- 3) Your child is born or You adopt or become the legal guardian of a child;
- 4) Your spouse or party to a civil union or domestic partner dies;
- 5) Your child is emancipated or dies;
- 6) Your spouse or party to a civil union or domestic partner is no longer employed, which results in a loss of group insurance; or
- 7) You have a change in classification from part-time to full-time or from full-time to part-time.

2) The definition of **Surviving Spouse** in the **Survivor Income Benefit** is amended to read as follows:

**Surviving Spouse** means Your wife or husband who was not legally separated or divorced from You when You died. Spouse will include Your partner in a civil union.

“Spouse” will include Your domestic partner provided You:

- 1) have executed a domestic partner affidavit satisfactory to Us, establishing that You and Your partner are domestic partners for purposes of The Policy: or
- 2) have registered as domestic partners with a government agency or office where such registration is available and provide proof of such registration unless requiring proof is prohibited by law.

You will continue to be considered domestic partners provided You continue to meet the requirements described in the domestic partner affidavit or required by law.

3) The definition of **Surviving Children** in the **Survivor Income Benefit** is amended to read as follows:

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

- 1) under age 19; or
- 2) between the ages of age 19 and 23, inclusive, and in full-time attendance at an institution of learning.

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

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

For Delaware residents:

The definition of **Surviving Spouse** in the **Survivor Income Benefit** is amended to read as follows:

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

“Spouse” will include Your domestic partner provided You:

- 1) have executed a domestic partner affidavit satisfactory to Us, establishing that You and Your partner are domestic partners for purposes of The Policy; or
- 2) have registered as domestic partners with a government agency or office where such registration is available and provide proof of such registration unless requiring proof is prohibited by law.

You will continue to be considered domestic partners provided You continue to meet the requirements described in the Domestic Partner Affidavit or required by law.

For Indiana residents, the following sentence is added to the **Policy Interpretation** provision:

This provision applies where the interpretation of The Policy is governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA).

For Louisiana residents, the following provision is added:

**Reinstatement after Military Service:** *Can my coverage be reinstated after return from active military service?*

If Your coverage terminates because You enter active military service, coverage for You may be reinstated, provided You request such reinstatement upon Your return to work from active military service.

The reinstated coverage will:

- 1) be the same coverage amounts in force on the date coverage terminated; and
- 2) not be subject to any Waiting Period for Coverage, Evidence of Insurability or Pre-existing Conditions Limitations; and be subject to all the terms and provisions of The Policy Reference.

For Massachusetts residents,

1) The following is added to the **Continuation Provisions**:

In accordance with Massachusetts state law, if Your insurance terminates because Your employment terminates or You cease to be a member of an eligible class, Your insurance will automatically be continued until the end of a 31 day period from the date Your insurance terminates or the date You become eligible for similar benefits under another group plan, whichever occurs first.

Additionally, if Your insurance terminates because Your employment is terminated as a result of a plant closing or covered partial closing, Your insurance may be continued. You must elect in writing to continue insurance and pay the required premium for continued coverage. Coverage will cease on the earliest to occur of the following dates:

- 1) 90 days from the date You were no longer eligible for coverage as a Full-time Active Employee;
- 2) the date You become eligible for similar benefits under another group plan;
- 3) the last day of the period for which required premium is made;
- 4) the date the group insurance policy terminates; or
- 5) the date Your Employer ceases to be a Participant Employer, if applicable.

Continued coverage is subject to all other applicable terms and conditions of The Policy.

2) The **Surviving Children** definition in the **Survivor Income Benefit** will also include a child in the process of adoption.

For Maine residents, the following provision is added:

**Reinstatement:** *Can my coverage be reinstated after it ends?*

We will reinstate The Policy upon receipt of all current and late premiums if:

- 1) You, any person authorized to act on Your behalf, or any of Your dependents may request reinstatement of The Policy within 90 days following cancellation of The Policy for nonpayment of premium provided You suffered from cognitive impairment or functional incapacity at the time the contract cancelled; and
- 2) all current and late premium payments are received within 15 days of Our request.

We may request a medical demonstration, at Your expense, that You suffered from cognitive impairment or functional incapacity at the time of cancellation of The Policy.

For Minnesota residents:

- 1) the definition of **Any Occupation** is amended by the addition of the phrase "or may reasonably become qualified" to the first line;
- 2) The first two paragraphs of the **Pre-Existing Conditions Limitation** provision are deleted and replaced by the following:

No benefit will be payable under The Policy for any Disability that is due to, contributed to by, or results from a Pre-Existing Condition, unless such Disability or loss is incurred:

- 1) After the lesser of the last day of:
  - a) the number of days stated in Your certificate; or
  - b) 730 consecutive days;while insured, during which you receive no medical care for the Pre-Existing Condition; or
- 2) After the lesser of the last day of:
  - a) the number of days stated in Your certificate; or
  - b) 730 consecutive days;during which you have been continuously insured under The Policy.

The amount of a benefit increase, which results from a change in benefit options, a change of class or a change in The Policy, will not be paid for any disability that is due to, contributed to by, or results from a Pre-Existing Condition, unless such Disability begins:

- 1) After the lesser of the last day of :
  - a) the number of days stated in Your certificate; or
  - b) 730 consecutive days;while insured for the increased benefit amount during which you receive no medical care for the Pre-Existing Condition; or
- 2) After the lesser of the last day of :
  - a) the number of days stated in Your certificate; or
  - b) 730 consecutive days;during which you have been continuously insured for the increased benefit amount.

- 3) The definition of **Pre-existing Condition** in the **Pre-Existing Conditions Limitation** provision is deleted and is replaced by the following:

**Pre-existing Condition** means any accidental bodily injury, sickness, Mental Illness, pregnancy, or episode of Substance Abuse for which You received Medical Care during the lesser of:

- 1) the period of time stated in Your certificate; or
- 2) the 730 day period;  
that ends the day before:
  - 1) Your effective date of coverage; or
  - 2) the effective date of a Change in Coverage.

For Missouri residents, the **Exclusion** related to intentionally self-inflicted Injury is replaced by the following:  
intentionally self-inflicted Injury, suicide or attempted suicide, while sane; or

For Montana residents, pregnancy will be covered, the same as any other Sickness, anything in the Policy to the contrary notwithstanding.

For New Hampshire residents:

- 1) The **Policy Interpretation** provision is deleted and replaced by the following:  
Under ERISA, We are hereby designated by the plan sponsor as a claim fiduciary with discretionary authority to determine eligibility for benefits and to interpret and construe the terms and provisions of The Policy. As claim fiduciary, We have a duty to administer claims solely in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries of the employee benefit plan and in accordance with the documents and instruments governing the plan. This assignment of discretionary authority does not prohibit a participant or beneficiary from seeking judicial review of Our benefit eligibility determination after exhausting administrative remedies. The assignment of discretionary authority made under this provision may affect the standard of review that a court will use in reviewing the appropriateness of Our determination. In order to prevail, a plan participant or beneficiary may be required to prove that Our determination was arbitrary and capricious or an abuse of discretion.
- 2) The time periods stated in the **Claim Appeal** provision are changed to 180 days, if less than 180 days.

For New Jersey residents:

The definition of **Surviving Spouse** in the **Survivor Income Benefit** is amended to read as follows:

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

"Spouse" will include Your domestic partner or a party to a civil union, provided You:

- 1) have executed a domestic partner affidavit, civil union license or civil union certificate satisfactory to Us, establishing that You and Your partner are domestic partners or parties to a civil union for purposes of The Policy; or
- 2) have registered as domestic partners or parties to a civil union with a government agency or office where such registration is available and provide proof of such registration unless requiring proof is prohibited by law.

You will continue to be considered domestic partners or parties to a civil union provided You continue to meet the requirements described in the domestic partner affidavit, civil union license or civil union certificate or as required by law.

Same sex relationships entered into under the laws of another State or Country, that closely approximate a civil union under New Jersey law, will be recognized as civil unions under New Jersey law.

Same sex relationships entered into under the laws of another State or Country, that closely approximate a domestic partnership under New Jersey law, will be recognized as domestic partners under New Jersey law.

For New York residents, the definition of **Surviving Spouse** in the **Survivor Income Benefit** deleted and replaced by the following:

**Surviving Spouse** means Your wife, husband or partner in a same-sex marriage who was not legally separated or divorced from You when You died. "Spouse" will include Your domestic partner, provided You have executed a Domestic Partner Affidavit acceptable to us, establishing that You and Your partner are domestic partners for purposes of The Policy. You will continue to be considered domestic partners provided You continue to meet the requirements described in the Domestic Partner Affidavit.

For all North Carolina residents:

- 1) The definition of **Other Income Benefits** is amended by the deletion of mandatory "no-fault" automobile insurance plan;
- 2) The following is added to the definition of **Regular Care of a Physician**:

You are not required to be under the Regular Care of a Physician if qualified medical professionals have determined that further medical care and treatment would be of no benefit to You.

- 3) The exclusion regarding Workers' Compensation benefits is replaced by the following in the **Exclusions** provision:  
for which the final adjudication of a Workers' Compensation claim determines that benefits are paid, or may be paid, if duly claimed;
- 4) The **Subrogation** provision is deleted.
- 5) The **Reimbursement** provision is deleted.

For North Carolina residents covered under a policy issued to a Trust:

- 1) The **Misstatement** provision is amended by the deletion of the phrase except fraudulent misstatements.
- 2) The **Sending Proof of Loss** provision is amended as follows:  
Written Proof of Loss must be sent to Us within 180 days following the completion of the Elimination Period.
- 3) The **Claims to be Paid** provision is amended as follows:  
We may pay up to \$3,000 to a person who is Related to You and who, at Our sole discretion, is entitled to it. Any such payment shall fulfill Our responsibility for the amount paid.
- 4) The **Notice of Claim** provision is amended to require the phrase or Our representative in the first sentence.

For Oregon residents:

- 1) The following is added to the definition of **Surviving Spouse** in the **Survivor Income Benefit**:  
Spouse will include Your domestic partner provided You have registered as domestic partners with a government agency or office where such registration is available.
- 2) The definition of **Surviving Children** in the **Survivor Income Benefit** is amended to include children related to You by domestic partnership.
- 3) The following is added to the **Continuation Provisions** for Employers with 10 or more employees:  
**Jury Duty**: If You are scheduled to serve or are required to serve as a juror, Your coverage may be continued until the last day of Your Jury Duty, provided You:
  - 1) elected to have Your coverage continued; and
  - 2) provided notice of the election to Your Employer in accordance with Your Employer's notification policy.

For Rhode Island residents:

- 1) The definition of **Surviving Spouse** in the **Survivor Income Benefit** is amended to read as follows:  
**Surviving Spouse** means Your spouse who was not legally separated or divorced from You when You died.  
"Spouse" will include Your domestic partner provided You:
  - 1) have executed a domestic partner affidavit satisfactory to Us, establishing that You and Your partner are domestic partners for purposes of The Policy; or
  - 2) have registered as domestic partners with a government agency or office where such registration is available and provide proof of such registration unless requiring proof is prohibited by law.You will continue to be considered domestic partners provided You continue to meet the requirements described in the Domestic Partner Affidavit or required by law.
- 2) The provision titled **Policy Interpretation** is deleted in its entirety.

For South Carolina residents:

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

For South Dakota residents:

- 1) The definition of **Physician** is deleted and replaced by the following:  
**Physician** means a person who is:
  - 1) a doctor of medicine, osteopathy, psychology or other legally qualified practitioner of a healing art that We recognize or are required by law to recognize;

- 2) licensed to practice in the jurisdiction where care is being given;
  - 3) practicing within the scope of that license; and
  - 4) not You or Your Spouse or Related to You or Your Spouse by blood or marriage, unless such physician is the only one in the area and is acting within the scope of their normal employment.
- 2) The definition of **Other Income Benefits** is amended by the deletion of all references to Your family, Your spouse and/or children.
  - 3) The provision titled **Policy Interpretation** is deleted in its entirety.

For Utah residents:

- 1) The **Policy Interpretation** provision is replaced by the following:

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

**Benefits under this plan will be paid only if We decide in Our discretion that You are entitled to them. We also have discretion to determine eligibility for benefits and to interpret the terms of conditions of the benefit plan. Determinations made by Us pursuant to this reservation of discretion do not prohibit or prevent You from seeking judicial review in federal court of Our determinations.**

**The reservation of discretion made under this provision only establishes the scope of review that a federal court will apply when You seek judicial review of Our determination of eligibility for benefits, the payment of benefits, or interpretation of the terms and conditions applicable to the benefit plan.**

**We are an insurance company that provides insurance to this benefit plan and the federal court will determine the level of discretion that it will accord to Our determinations.**

- 2) Item 3 of the second paragraph of the **Sending Proof of Loss** provision is deleted.

For Vermont residents:

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

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

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

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

Vermont law grants parties to a civil union the same benefits, protections and responsibilities that flow from marriage under state law. However, some or all of the benefits, protections and responsibilities related to health insurance that are available to married persons under federal law may not be available to parties to a civil union. For example, federal law, the Employee Income Retirement Security Act of 1974 known as "ERISA", controls the employer/employee relationship with regard to determining eligibility for enrollment in private employer health benefit plans. Because of ERISA, Act 91 does not state requirements pertaining to a private employer's enrollment of a party

to a civil union in an ERISA employee welfare benefit plan. However, governmental employers (not federal government) are required to provide health benefits to the dependents of a party to a civil union if the public employer provides health benefits to the dependents of married persons. Federal law also controls group health insurance continuation rights under COBRA for employers with 20 or more employees as well as the Internal Revenue Code treatment of health insurance premiums. As a result, parties to a civil union and their families may or may not have access to certain benefits under this policy, contract, certificate, rider or endorsement that derive from federal law. You are advised to seek expert advice to determine your rights under this contract.

For Washington residents:

1) The following is added to the **Continuation Provisions** provision:

**General Work Stoppage** (including a strike or lockout): If Your employment terminates due to a cessation of active work as the result of a general work stoppage (including a strike or lockout), Your coverage shall be continued during the work stoppage for a period not exceeding 6 months. If the work stoppage ends, this continuation will cease immediately.

2) The provision titled **Policy Interpretation** is deleted in its entirety.

3) The following provision is added to the **General Provisions** section of Your certificate:

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


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

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

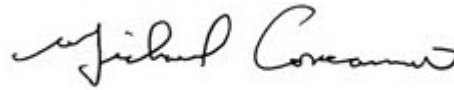
In the event We deny Your or Your Spouse's claim for benefits, in whole or in part, You can appeal the decision to Us. If You or Your Spouse choose to appeal Our decision, the process You or Your Spouse must follow is set forth in The Policy provision entitled **Claim Appeal**. If You or Your Spouse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

In all other respects the certificate remains the same.

Signed for Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company



Terence Shields, Secretary



Michael Concannon, Executive Vice President



**The Plan Described in this Booklet  
is Insured by the**

**Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company  
Simsbury, Connecticut  
Member of The Hartford Insurance Group**