

# YOUR GROUP INSURANCE PLAN BENEFITS

CHURCHILL BENEFIT CORPORATION
DBA YURCOR

The enclosed certificate is intended to explain the benefits provided by the Plan. It does not constitute the Policy Contract. Your rights and benefits are determined in accordance with the provisions of the Policy, and your insurance is effective only if you are eligible for insurance and remain insured in accordance with its terms.
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### CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE

### The Guardian

7 Hanover Square New York, New York 10004

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

Group Policy No.	Certificate No.	Effective Date
Issued To		

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

Vice President, Group Products

CGP-3-R-STK-90-3 B110.0023

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CGP-3-TOC-96 B140.0003

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## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Should you have any questions regarding this insurance, you may contact The Guardian Life Insurance Company at:

The Guardian Sales Office One Jericho Plaza Jericho, New York 11753 Telephone: (516) 681-5101 (800) 553-0217

Fax: (516) 681-5108

CGP-3-FLDISC-93 B120.0020

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

As used in this booklet:

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

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

"Employer" means the employer who purchased this plan.

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

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

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

CGP-3-R-GENPRO-90

B160.0002

## **Limitation of Authority**

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

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

## Incontestability

This *plan* is incontestable after two years from its date of issue, except for non-payment of premiums.

No statement in any application, except a fraudulent statement, made by a person insured under this *plan* shall be used in contesting the validity of his insurance or in denying a claim for a loss incurred, or for a disability which starts, after such insurance has been in force for two years during his lifetime.

If this *plan* replaces a plan your *employer* had with another insurer, we may rescind the *employer's plan* based on misrepresentations made by the *employer* or an *employee* in a signed application for up to two years from the effective date of this *plan*.

CGP-3-R-INCY-90 B160.0003

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

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

### Accident and Health Claims Provisions

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

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

Proof of Loss We'll furnish you with forms for filing proof of loss within 15 days of receipt of notice. But if we don't furnish the forms on time, we'll accept a written description and adequate documentation of the injury or sickness that is the basis of the claim as proof of loss. You must detail the nature and extent of the loss for which the claim is being made. You must send us written proof within 90 days of the loss.

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

### Late Notice of Proof

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

### Payment of Benefits

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

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

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

### Accident and Health Claims Provisions (Cont.)

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

## Compensation

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

> CGP-3-R-AHC-90 B160.0005

### **An Important Notice About Continuation Rights**

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

CGP-3-R-NCC-87 B240.0064

### YOUR CONTINUATION RIGHTS

## **Federal Continuation Rights**

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

> This section does not apply to any coverages which apply to loss of life, or to loss of income due to disability. These coverages can not be continued under this section.

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

### Conversion

Continuing the group health benefits does not stop a qualified continuee from converting some of these benefits when continuation ends. But, conversion will be based on any applicable conversion privilege provisions of this plan in force at the time the continuation ends.

## Health Benefits End

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

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

# Continuees

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

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

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

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

CGP-3-R-COBRA-96-1 B235.0164

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

> CGP-3-R-COBRA-96-2 B235.0075

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

## Eliaibility

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

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

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

## Special Medicare

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

### The Qualified Continuee's Responsibilities

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

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

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

CGP-3-R-COBRA-96-3 B235.0178

### Your Employer's Responsibilities

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

Your employer must give notice of the following qualifying events to the plan administrator within 30 days of the event: (a) your death; (b) termination of employment (other than for gross misconduct) or reduction in hours of employment; (c) Medicare entitlement; or (d) if you are a retired employee, a bankruptcy proceeding under Title 11 of the United States Code with respect to the employer. Upon receipt of notice of a qualifying event from your employer or from a qualified continuee, the plan administrator must notify a qualified continuee of the right to continue this plan's group health benefits no later than 14 days after receipt of notice.

If your employer is also the plan administrator, in the case of a qualifying event for which an employer must give notice to a plan administrator, your employer must provide notice to a qualified continuee of the right to continue this plan's group health benefits within 44 days of the qualifying event.

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

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

## Liability

Your Employer's Your employer will be liable for the qualified continuee's continued group health benefits to the same extent as, and in place of, us, if: (a) he or she fails to remit a qualified continuee's timely premium payment to us on time, thereby causing the qualified continuee's continued group health benefits to end; or (b) he or she fails to notify the qualified continuee of his or her continuation rights, as described above.

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

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

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

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

## Premiums

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

### When Continuation Ends

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

- (1) with respect to continuation upon your termination of employment or reduction of work hours, the end of the 18 month period which starts on the date the group health benefits would otherwise end;
- with respect to a qualified continuee who has an additional 11 months of continuation due to disability, the earlier of: (a) the end of the 29 month period which starts on the date the group health benefits would otherwise end; or (b) the first day of the month which coincides with or next follows the date which is 30 days after the date on which a final determination is made that the disabled qualified continuee is no longer disabled under Title II or Title XVI of the Social Security Act;
- (3) with respect to continuation upon your death, your legal divorce, or legal separation, or the end of an insured dependent's eligibility, the end of the 36 month period which starts on the date the group health benefits would otherwise end:
- (4) the date the employer ceases to provide any group health plan to any employee;

- (5) the end of the period for which the last premium payment is made;
- (6) the date, after the date of election, he or she becomes covered under any other group health plan which does not contain any pre-existing condition exclusion or limitation affecting him or her; or
- (7) the date, after the date of election, he or she becomes entitled to Medicare.

CGP-3-R-COBRA-96-4

B235.0198

## **Uniformed Services Continuation Rights**

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

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

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

CGP-3-R-COBRA-96-4

B235.0195

### YOUR CONTINUATION RIGHTS

## **Important Notice**

This section applies to coverages under this group plan which provide benefits for loss of life. These coverages are referred to as "group life benefits". This section does not apply to any other coverages.

## **Continuation Rights**

If An Employee If an employee's group life benefits end while the employee is totally Becomes Totally disabled, he can continue his group life benefits on a month-to-month basis Disabled for up to six months, starting on the date his total disability began, subject to the timely payment of premiums.

An employee is totally disabled if:

- (a) he is not able to perform any work for wages or profit due to a sickness or injury; and
- (b) he becomes so disabled while insured by this group plan.

The monthly premium the employee must pay to continue his group life benefits will be that amount which he would have been required to pay had he stayed insured under the group plan on a regular basis. He must make this payment to the employer on a timely basis. If the employee fails to pay this amount on time, he waives his right to continue his group life benefits.

### The Employer's Responsibilities

Upon receipt of the employee's required payment, the employer must remit to us at our Home Office on a timely basis the total monthly premium that would have been charged had the employee stayed insured under this group plan on a regular basis. By "total monthly premium" we mean that portion of the premium paid by the employee, if any, plus the amount paid by the employer.

If the employer fails, after timely receipt of any required employee payments, to pay us on behalf of such employee, thereby causing the employee's group life benefits to end, then the employer will become liable for the employee's group life benefits to the same extent as, and in place of, us.

## and Extended Life **Benefits**

Conversion Rights Any applicable conversion right provisions and extended life benefit provisions will still be in effect when the continuation period ends.

## **Continued Group** Life Benefits End

When the An employee's continued group life benefits end on the first of the following:

- (a) the end of the six month continuation period;
- (b) the end of the period for which the last total monthly premium payment was made to us:
- the date the group plan ends or is amended to end benefits for the class of employee to which the employee belonged;

- (d) the date the employee is no longer totally disabled; or
- (e) the date the employee is approved by us for coverage under any extended life benefit provisions of this plan.

CGP-3-R-CCL-FL-83 B240.9005

### **ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE COVERAGES**

B264.0002

## **Employee Coverage**

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

### Other Conditions

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

CGP-3-EC-90-1.0 B264.0064

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

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

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

> Sometimes, the effective date shown on the sticker or in the endorsement is not a regularly scheduled work day. But coverage will still start on that date if you were actively at work on a full-time basis on your last regularly scheduled work day.

> CGP-3-EC-90-2.0 B180.0066

## Coverage Ends

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

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

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

> CGP-3-EC-90-3.0 B264.0034

## An Employee's Right To Continue Group Life Insurance **During A Family Leave Of Absence**

Important Notice This section may not apply to an employer's plan. You must contact your *employer* to find out if:

- the employer must allow for a leave of absence under federal law, in which case;
- the section applies to you.

## Coverages

Continuation Of Life Your loss of life and accidental death and dismemberment coverages may be continued at your employer's option. You must contact your employer to find out if you may continue these coverages.

## Insurance Ends

If Your Group Group insurance may end for you because you cease full-time work due to an approved leave of absence. Such leave of absence must have been granted to allow you to care for a seriously ill spouse, child or parent, or after the birth or adoption of a child, or due to your own serious health condition. If so, your group insurance will be continued at your employer's option. You will be required to pay the same share of the premium as before the leave of absence.

When Continuation Insurance may continue until the earliest of: (a) the date you return to Ends full-time work; (b) the end of a total leave period of 12 weeks in any 12 month period; (c) the date on which your coverage would have ended had you not been on leave; or (d) the end of the period for which the premium has been paid.

> CGP-3-EC-90-3.0 B264.0057

### **GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE SCHEDULE**

### **Employee Basic Term Life Insurance**

## Life Insurance Amount

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

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

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

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

Limitations For However, regardless of any of the above reductions, we limit the amount of Future Entrants insurance for which you are eligible if your insurance under this plan starts both: (a) after this plan's effective date; and (b) after you reach age 70.

> If you provide us with proof of insurability, and we approve it in writing, the amount of your insurance will be 50% of the amount which otherwise applies to your classification and/or option. But in no event will this reduced amount be less than \$1,000.00.

If we do not approve the proof, your insurance amount will be \$1,000.00.

### Your Group Term Life Insurance

Basic Life Benefit If you die while insured for this benefit, we'll pay your beneficiary the amount shown in the schedule.

Proof of Death We'll pay this insurance as soon as we receive written proof of death. This should be sent to us as soon as possible.

### Your Beneficiary

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

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

If there is no beneficiary when you die, we'll pay the insurance to one of the following: (a) your estate; (b) your spouse; (c) your parents; (d) your children; or (e) your brothers and sisters.

## Insurance

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

> We suggest you speak to your lawyer before you make any assignment. If you decide you want to assign this insurance, ask your employer for details or write to us.

## or Incompetent

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

## or Last Illness **Expenses**

Payment of Funeral We have the option of paying up to \$2,000.00 of this insurance to any person who incurs expenses for your funeral or last illness.

### Settlement Option

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

CGP-3-R-LB-90 B270.0174

## **Converting This Group Term Life Insurance**

## Eligibility Ends

If Employment Or Your group life insurance ends if: (a) your employment ends; or (b) you stop being a member of an eligible class of employees. If either happens, you can convert your group life insurance to an individual life insurance policy. Conversion choices are based on your disability status.

> If you are not disabled, as defined in the section labeled "Extended Life Benefit With Waiver of Premium", you can convert to a permanent life insurance policy. You can convert the amount for which you were covered under this plan, less any group life benefits you become eligible for in the 31 days after this insurance ends.

> If you: (a) are disabled, as defined in the section labeled "Extended Life Benefit With Waiver of Premium"; and (b) have not yet been approved for the Extended Life Benefit, you can convert to: (a) a permanent life insurance policy; or (b) an interim term insurance policy, as explained in the section labeled "Interim Term Insurance". You can convert the full amount for which you were covered under this plan.

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

If The Group Plan Your group life insurance also ends if: (a) this group plan ends; or (b) life Ends Or Group Life insurance is dropped from the group plan for all employees or for your class. **Insurance Is** If either happens, you may be eligible to convert as explained below. **Dropped** Conversion choices are based on your disability status.

> If you: (a) are not disabled, as defined in the section labeled "Extended Life Benefit With Waiver of Premium", when this coverage ends; and (b) you have been insured by a Guardian group life plan for at least five years, you can convert to a permanent life insurance policy. But, the amount you can convert is limited to the lesser of: (a) \$10,000.00; or (b) the amount of your insurance under this plan, less any group life benefits you become eligible for in the 31 days after this insurance ends.

> If you: (a) are disabled, as defined in the section labeled "Extended Life Benefit With Waiver of Premium"; and (b) have not yet been approved for the Extended Life Benefit, you can convert to: (a) a permanent life insurance policy; or (b) an interim term insurance policy. You can convert the full amount for which you were covered under this plan.

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

## Policy

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

Interim Term If you: (a) are disabled, as defined in the section labeled "Extended Life Insurance Benefit With Waiver of Premium" and (b) have not yet been approved for the Extended Life Benefit, you have the option to convert your coverage to an individual term life insurance policy. The individual term policy requires lower premiums than an individual permanent insurance policy.

### Converting This Group Term Life Insurance (Cont.)

This Interim term policy is available for only one year from the date you become disabled. During this year, if you are approved for the Extended Life Benefit, the interim term insurance is cancelled, as of our approval date. If, after one year, you have not been approved for the Extended Life Benefit, you must convert to an individual permanent life insurance policy, or coverage will end. Premiums for the individual permanent life insurance policy will be based on your age as of the date you convert from the interim term insurance policy.

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

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

> CGP-3-R-LCONV-99 B275.0072

## Your Accelerated Life Benefit

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Maximum Benefit The amount of the Accelerated Life Benefit for which you may apply is based Amount on the amount of group term life insurance for which you are insured on the day before you apply for the benefit. The minimum benefit amount is the lesser of: (a) \$10,000.00; or (b) 50% of the inforce amount. The maximum benefit amount is the lesser of: (a) \$100,000.00; or (b) 50% of the inforce amount.

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

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

Processing Fee A fee of up to \$100.00 may also be required for the administrative cost of evaluating and processing your Accelerated Life Benefit. This fee is deducted from the amount of the Accelerated Life Benefit paid to you.

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

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

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

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

> Even if you are receiving an Extended Life Benefit under this plan, you can still apply for an Accelerated Life Benefit. However, once you convert your group term life insurance, the terms of the converted life policy will apply. Any amount to which you could otherwise convert is permanently reduced by the gross amount of the Accelerated Life Benefit paid to you.

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

## If You Have **Group Term Life** Insurance

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

> CGP-3-R-EALB-95 B275.0025

## Incompetent

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

### Your Remaining Group Term Life Insurance

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

The premium cost of your remaining coverage is based on the amount of group term life insurance for which you are insured on the day before you apply for the Accelerated Life Benefit.

You may be required to provide proof of insurability for increased amounts. If you are, we must approve that proof in writing before you are covered for the new amount.

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

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

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

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

CGP-3-R-EALB-95-1 B270.0322

## **Extended Life Benefit With Waiver Of Premium**

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

### If You Are Disabled

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

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

- (a) not able to perform, on a full-time basis, the major duties of any occupation, for which you are, or could become, qualified for by training, education, or experience; and
- (b) you are receiving regular doctor's care appropriate to the cause of disability.

How And When To To apply for this extension, you must submit satisfactory written medical proof of your total disability. You must provide this proof within one year of the onset of disability. Any claim filed after one year from the onset of total disability will be denied. We will deny the claim unless we receive written proof that: (a) you lacked the legal capacity to file the claim; or (b) it was not reasonably possible for you to file the claim.

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

- (a) become totally disabled before you reach age 60and while insured by the group plan; and
- (b) remain totally disabled for six continuous months.

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

Continued Eligibility We may require periodic written proof that you remain totally disabled to For Extended Life maintain this extension. This written proof of your continued disability and Benefit doctor's care must be provided to us within 30 days of the date we make each such request.

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

## Extended Life **Benefit**

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

- (a) continue group premium payments, including any portion which would have been paid by the employer, until you are approved or declined for this extended life benefit; or
- (b) convert to an individual permanent or term policy. Please read the section labeled "Converting This Group Term Life Insurance" for details on how to convert.

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

However, if this group plan terminates, you must convert if the following conditions apply. You must convert if you: (a) are eligible, but not yet approved for this extension; and (b) have been totally disabled for more than 6 months. You must remain insured under such policy until approved by us for the extended benefit.

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

### When This **Extension Begins**

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

- (a) six continuous months from the date active full-time service ends due to total disability; or
- (b) the date we approve you for this benefit.

CGP-3-R-LW-TD-99-1-FL

B275.0155

## **Extension Ends**

When This Your extension will end on the earliest of:

- (a) the date you are no longer disabled;
- (b) the date you refuse to be examined by our doctor;
- (c) the date you do not give us the proof of disability we require;
- (d) the date you are no longer receiving regular doctor's care appropriate to the cause of disability; or
- (e) The day before the date you reach age 65.

If the extension ends, and you are not insured by the group plan again as an active full-time employee, you can convert as if your employment just ended. Read the section labeled "Converting This Group Term Life Insurance".

If you Die While If you die while covered by this extension we'll pay your beneficiary. We pay Covered By This the amount for which you were covered as of your last day of active full-time **Extension** work, subject to all reductions which would have applied had you stayed an active employee.

Proof Of Death We'll pay as soon as we receive

- (a) written proof of your death, that is acceptable to us; and
- (b) medical proof that you were continuously disabled until your death. This must be sent within one year of your death.

CGP-3-R-LW-TD-99-2-FL

B275.0158

### **ELIGIBILITY FOR DISABILITY COVERAGE**

B329.0002

### **Employee Coverage**

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

### Other Conditions

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

CGP-3-EC-90-1.0 B329.0043

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

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

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

> Sometimes, the effective date shown on the sticker or in the endorsement is not a regularly scheduled work day. But coverage will still start on that date if you were actively at work on a full-time basis on your last regularly scheduled work day.

> B180.0066 CGP-3-EC-90-2.0

## Coverage Ends

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

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

> CGP-3-FC-90-3.0 B329.0067

### LONG TERM DISABILITY HIGHLIGHTS

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

**Own Occupation Period** 

The first 24 months of benefit payments from this plan.

Maximum Payment **Period** 

See the following table:

	Age when disability starts	***	aximum ayment period
	Age 60 Age 61 Age 62 Age 63 Age 64 Age 65 Age 66 Age 67 Age 68		To age 65 5.00 years 4.00 years 3.50 years 3.00 years 2.50 years 2.00 years 1.75 years 1.50 years 1.25 years 1.00 year
Benefit Percent			60%
Maximum Monthly Benefit			\$3,000.00

### LONG TERM DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE

This insurance replaces part of your income if you become disabled due to sickness or injury.

We decide: (a) if you are eligible for this insurance; (b) if you meet the requirements for benefits to be paid; and (c) what benefits are to be paid by this plan. We also interpret how this plan is to be administered. What we pay and the terms for payment are explained below.

All terms in *italics* are defined terms with special meanings. Their definitions are shown at the end of this section. Other terms are defined where they are used.

### Claim Provisions

Your Duties If you become disabled due to sickness or injury while insured by this plan. you must:

- Give notice of claim as soon as possible after the date of your injury or the start of your sickness. Prompt notice will permit us to start case management. See the "Rehabilitation and Case Management" section of this plan for details.
- (b) Give a complete account of the details of your sickness or injury. This will include: (i) the cause of your disability, if known; (ii) a description of your sickness or the accident that caused your injury; and (iii) a list of all doctors, hospitals, or other facilities where you have been treated for the cause of your disability.
- Allow release of medical and/or income data needed to assess your claim.
- (d) Give periodic medical updates as required by this *plan*.
- (e) Take part in any medical, financial or vocational assessment as required by this plan.
- Apply for other income benefits to which you may be entitled.
- Promptly report to us the receipt or denial of such other income benefits. And, appeal any denials to the extent possible.
- Promptly report to us changes in your personal status. This includes: (i) change of address or phone number; (ii) changes in how your disability affects your daily living; and (iii) changes in your level of social, volunteer or business activities.
- (i) If we overpay benefits, promptly report and repay any amount overpaid.
- If you are working while disabled, promptly report to us the amount of your income from such work.
- Give us proof of your earnings for the period prior to your disability and (k) while you are disabled.

**Notice** You must send us written notice of your intent to file a claim under this *plan* as described in this certificate's "Accident and Health Claims Provisions." Notice must include:

- (a) your full name; phone number; social security number, and group number;
- (b) the date of your last day worked; the number of hours you worked; and your job title;
- (c) your employer contact and phone number;
- (d) a statement of the nature of your *disability*; and whether or not it is work-related;
- (e) your doctor's name, address and phone number.For details, you can call Guardian at 1-800-538-4583.

### Proof Of Loss

When we receive your notice, we will provide you with a claim form for filing proof of loss. This form requires data from you, the *plan sponsor*, and the *doctor(s)* treating you for your *sickness* or *injury*. Proof of loss must be given to us within the time stated in this certificate's "Accident and Health Claims Provisions." If you do not receive a claim form within 15 days of the date you sent your notice, you should send us written proof of loss without waiting for the form.

We require the items listed below as proof of loss:

- (a) During the elimination period and the own occupation period, medical evidence in support of the limits on your ability to perform your own occupation, starting on the date you first became disabled. This proof is required from all doctors who have treated you for the cause of your disability.
  - After the *own occupation* period, medical evidence in support of the limits on your ability to perform any *gainful work*.
- (b) Proof that you have applied for all other sources of income to which you may be entitled, that may affect your payment from this *plan*.
- (c) Proof of receipt of other income that may affect your payment from this *plan*.
- (d) Your signed authorization for release of medical and/or financial data by the sources of such data.

Proof of loss and other claim data should be submitted to:

The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America Group Long Term Disability Claims Department P.O. Box 26025 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002-6025

CGP-3-LTD2K01-1.0 B380.0425

**How Payments Start** To start getting payments from this *plan*, you must meet all of the conditions listed below:

- You must: (i) become disabled while insured by this plan; and (ii) remain disabled for this plan's elimination period.
- (b) You must not perform any work for wage or profit during the elimination period and for one month after it.
- You must be: (i) under a doctor's regular care for the cause of your disability, starting from the date you were first disabled; and (ii) receiving medical care appropriate to the cause of your disability and any other sickness or injury which exists during your disability.
- (d) You must send us written documentation of: (i) medical evidence in support of the limits causing your disability; (ii) your monthly earnings prior to the start of your disability; and (iii) any earnings from work while you are disabled. disabled.

Proof of earnings may consist of: (1) copies of your U.S. Individual Income Tax Returns; (2) a statement from a certified public accountant; or (3) any other records we agree to accept.

### Waiver Of Premium

Premiums for this insurance are waived while you are entitled to receive a payment from this plan.

## Receiving Payments

To Continue To continue to receive payments from this plan, you must give us current proof of loss when we request it.

You must give proof that satisfies us as to the items listed below:

- (a) medical evidence in support of the limits causing your continued disability;
- continued regular care by a doctor that is appropriate for the cause of your disability and any other sickness or injury which exists during your disability;
- earnings from work while you are disabled; and
- (d) any other income that you are entitled to receive.

You must also give us current signed authorizations for release of medical and financial data when we request it.

You must permit such assessments and give us such items within 90 days of the date we make each such request. If you do not, we have the right to suspend or stop your payments under this plan.

Right To Request We may ask you to take part in a medical, financial or vocational assessment Medical, Financial as often as we feel is reasonably necessary. We will pay for all such Or Vocational assessments. If you do not take part in the assessment, we have the right to **Assessment** stop or suspend your payments under this *plan*.

> CGP-3-LTD01-2.0-FL B380.0736

Payment Of We pay benefits to you if you are legally competent. If you are not, we pay **Benefits** benefits to the legal representative of your estate.

We pay benefits once each month at the end of the period for which they are payable.

Benefits to which you are entitled may remain unpaid at your death. Such benefits may be paid at our discretion to: (a) your estate; or (b) your spouse, parents, children, or brothers and sisters.

CGP-3-LTD2K-2.1 B380.0015

### When Benefits End

## When Payments End

Your benefits from this *plan* will end on the earliest of the dates shown below:

- (a) The date you are no longer disabled.
- (b) The date you earn, or are able to earn, the maximum earnings allowed while *disabled* under this *plan*.
- (c) The date you are able to perform the major duties of your *own job* or *own occupation* on a full-time basis with reasonable accommodation that an employer is willing to provide.
- (d) After the *own occupation* period, the date you are able to perform the major duties of any *gainful work* on a full-time basis with reasonable accommodation that an employer is willing to provide.
- (e) The date you no longer reside in the United States.
- (f) The date you die.
- (g) The end of the maximum payment period.
- (h) The date you fail to give us required current proof of loss. This includes taking part in any medical, financial or vocational assessment we may require.
- (i) The date you are no longer under the regular care of a doctor.
- (j) The date payments end in accord with a rehabilitation agreement.
- (k) The date you refuse to take part in a *rehabilitation program*.

The term "reasonable accommodation" means any modification or adjustment to: (i) a job; (ii) an employment practice; (iii) a work process; or (iv) the work place. The modification or adjustment must make it possible for a disabled person to: (1) reach the same level of performance as a similarly situated non-disabled person; or (2) enjoy equal benefits and privileges of employment as are available to a similarly situated non-disabled person. The modification or adjustment must not place an undue hardship on the employer.

CGP-3-LTD2K-3.0 B380.0723

**Maximum Payment** The maximum payment period is the longest time that benefits are paid by **Period** this *plan* for your *disability*. It is determined by the table shown below.

> But, it may be less than that shown due to the nature of your disability. See "Special Limitations."

Age when disability starts	Maximum payment period
Under age 60 Age 60 Age 61 Age 62 Age 63 Age 64 Age 65	To age 65 5.00 years 4.00 years 3.50 years 3.00 years 2.50 years
Age 66 Age 67 Age 68 Age 69 or older	 1.75 years 1.50 years 1.25 years 1.00 year

CGP-3-LTD2K-3.1 B380.0152

**Special Limitations** We limit the *maximum payment period*, if you are *disabled* due to a condition listed below.

> The maximum payment period for all such periods of disability is 24 months. This is a combined maximum for all such conditions and all periods of disability.

> We limit the maximum payment period for disabilities caused or contributed to by the following conditions:

- Mental or emotional conditions
- Drug or alcohol abuse
- Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders including, but not limited to:
  - Sprains or strains of joints and muscles
  - Soft tissue conditions
  - Repetitive motion syndromes or injuries
  - Fibromyalgia
- Chronic fatigue conditions including, but not limited to:
  - Chronic fatigue syndrome
  - Chronic fatigue immunodeficiency syndrome
  - Epstein-barr syndrome
- Chemical and environmental sensitivities
- Headache
- Chronic pain, myofascial pain

- Gastro-esophageal reflux disorder
- Irritable bowel syndrome
- Vestibular dysfunction, vertigo, dizziness

This limitation will not apply to *disabilities* caused or contributed to by the following conditions:

- Schizophrenia
- Dementia
- Organic brain syndromes
- Amnesia syndromes
- Organic delusional or hallucinogenic syndromes
- Arthritis
- Ruptured intervertebral discs
- Spinal fractures
- Osteopathies
- Spinal tumors, malignancy or vascular malformations
- Radiculopathies, documented by EMG
- Spondylolisthesis, Grade II or higher
- Myelopathies
- Demyelinating diseases
- Traumatic spinal cord necrosis

No benefits will be paid for *disability* due to a *mental or emotional condition* or drug or alcohol abuse if you are not receiving treatment for the cause of the *disability* from a provider, or in a facility that is: (a) licensed by the state to provide treatment for such condition; and (b) accredited or approved by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Health Care Facilities or Medicare.

If payments under this *plan* would end due to the limits in this section, we may extend such payments, as shown below. But, you must meet all of the following conditions: (a) you must be *disabled* due to a condition named above; (b) you must be an inpatient in a qualified institution because of your *disability;* and (c) you must have been treated as an inpatient for at least 14 days in a row. In such case, we extend payments until the earliest of: (i) 90 days from the date of your discharge; (ii) the end of this *plan's maximum payment period;* or (iii) the date your *disability* ends.

The term "qualified institution" means a legally operated hospital or other public or private facility licensed to provide inpatient medical care and treatment for the cause of your disability.

If This Plan Ends This insurance ends when the group plan ends. It also ends when this insurance is dropped from the group plan for all insureds, or for your class. If you are disabled when this insurance ends, we will treat you as if your insurance did not end. But, your benefit will be based on all of the terms of this *plan*.

> CGP-3-LTD2K01-3.2 B380.0430

# To Determine Your Benefit

Your benefit is determined by the plan of benefits and your insured earnings in effect on the date your disability starts.

Any changes to this plan that take place while you are disabled will not affect how we determine your benefit. This is also true for any changes that take place during a period of active work that occurs between an initial period of disability and a recurring disability.

### **Determining Your** Monthly Benefit

Your *monthly benefit* is determined as shown below.

- Multiply your insured earnings by 60%. Round this amount to the nearest dollar.
- If the amount determined above is less than this plan's maximum monthly benefit, that amount is your gross monthly benefit.
  - If the amount determined above is equal to or more than this plan's maximum monthly benefit, your gross monthly benefit is equal to the maximum monthly benefit.
- From your gross monthly benefit, subtract the amount of any income listed in "Income We Integrate With" that you receive or are entitled to receive. The result is your monthly benefit.

The amount of your gross monthly benefit may be limited if the plan sponsor has not updated the amount of your insured earnings to reflect your then current insured earnings on the most recent reporting date prior to the start of your disability.

See the "Redetermination" of this *plan* for details.

CGP-3-LTD2K-4.0 B380.0033

Redetermination This plan redetermines insured earnings for each covered person on the date a change in a covered person's insured earnings occurs. The plan sponsor must report updates to all covered persons' insured earnings as they occur. Changes to a covered person's insured earnings are subject to any proof of insurability requirements of this plan. As of this plan's redetermination date, we use a covered person's insured earnings on record with us to: (a) set rates; (b) project benefit amounts and limits; and (c) calculate premium payable under this plan. However, the covered person must be actively-at-work on a full-time basis on that date. If he or she is not, we do not do this until the date he or she returns to active work on a full-time basis. But, changes in earnings will not apply to a recurring disability.

> CGP-3-LTD2K01-4.2 B380.0435

# Integrate With

Income We You may receive income shown in the list below. We will integrate your gross monthly benefit with such income to determine your monthly benefit from this plan.

- Commissions received or paid after disability benefits start. This includes vested and nonvested renewal commissions.
- Disability benefits from any mandated benefit act or law. This includes all temporary disability or state disability benefits required by law.
- Disability benefits from all group plans of: (1) the plan sponsor; or (2) your employer. This includes payments made by a group life insurance plan due to your disability. This does not include payments made from a group life insurance plan's: (a) accelerated death benefit; or (b) like provision that allows payment of such plan's proceeds due to terminal illness.
- Disability benefits from any other group plan.
- Income from a sick leave or salary continuance plan. This applies whether such plan is sponsored on a formal or informal basis. This includes lump sum or recurrent payments of accrued sick leave benefits.
- Benefits as shown below from: (1) the United States Social Security Act; (2) the Railroad Retirement Act; or (3) any other like U.S. or Canadian plan or act.
  - All disability benefits which: (i) you receive; and (ii) your spouse (a) and children receive due to your disability;
  - All unreduced retirement benefits which: (i) you receive; and (ii) (b) your spouse and children receive due to your qualification; and
  - all reduced retirement benefits paid to: (i) you; and (ii) your (c) spouse and children due to your receipt of such benefits.

We will integrate your gross monthly benefit with such benefits to which your spouse and children are entitled due to your receipt of, or qualification for, disability benefits. We do this without regard to: (a) your marital status; (b) where you live; (c) where your spouse lives; (d) where your child lives; or (e) any custody arrangements made on behalf of your child.

- Retirement plan retirement benefits funded for your benefit by: (1) the plan sponsor; or (2) your employer.
- Retirement plan disability benefits.
- Retirement benefits or retirement plan disability benefits, due to your disability, from any government plan other than those shown above.
- Disability benefits from any: (1) no-fault motor vehicle coverage; (2) motor vehicle financial responsibility act; or (3) like law.
- Benefits from: (1) a Workers' Compensation law; (2) an occupational disease law; or (3) any other act or law of like intent. This includes: (a) the Jones' Act; (b) the Longshoreman's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act; or (c) any Maritime doctrine of Maintenance, Wages or Cure.
- Disability benefits from any third party when your disability is the result of the negligence or intentional tort liability of that third party.
- Payment from your *employer* as part of a termination agreement.

We integrate your gross monthly benefit with income shown above that you are entitled to receive without regard to the reason you are entitled to receive

Our right to reduce your benefit by such income shall not be negated by a transfer of claim liability to a third party. Payment by such third party by law, settlement, judgement, waiver or otherwise shall not negate our right.

CGP-3-LTD2K-4.3-FL

# Payments Of Other Income

Lump Sum Income with which we integrate may be paid in a lump sum. In this case, we take the equivalent monthly rate stated in the award into account when we determine your monthly benefit. If no monthly rate is given, we pro-rate the lump sum over the lesser of: (a) 60 months; or (b) the maximum payment period.

### Cost Of Living Freeze

You may receive a cost of living increase in other income with which we integrate. In this case, we do not further reduce your monthly benefit by the amount of such increase.

# Other Income

**Application For** You must apply for other income benefits to which you may be entitled. If these benefits are denied, you must appeal until: (a) all possible appeals have been made; or (b) we notify you that no further appeals are required.

> If we feel you are entitled to receive such income benefits, we will estimate the amount due to you and your spouse and children. We will take this estimated amount into account when we determine your monthly benefit. But, we will not take this estimated amount into account if you sign our reimbursement agreement. In this agreement you promise: (a) to apply for any benefits for which you may be eligible; (b) to appeal any denial of such benefits until all possible appeals have been made; and (c) to repay any amount we overpaid due to an award of such benefits.

If we do reduce your gross monthly benefit by an estimated amount, we will adjust your monthly benefit when we receive written proof: (a) of the amount awarded; or (b) that the other income benefits have been denied; and no further appeals are possible. If we underpaid you, we pay the full amount of the underpayment in a lump sum.

We will assist you in applying for other income benefits.

CGP-3-LTD2K-4.4 B380.0062

**Minimum Payment** The minimum monthly payment for disability under this plan is 10% of your gross monthly benefit to a maximum of \$100.00.

# Payment

Partial Month You may be disabled for only part of a month. In this case, we compute your payment as 1/30th of the benefit to which you would be entitled for the full month times the number of days you are disabled. Payment will not be made for more than 30 days in any month.

# Recovery

Overpayment If we overpaid you, you must repay us in full. We have the right to reduce your payment or apply any benefits payable, including the minimum payment, toward recovery of the overpayment.

> B380.0066 CGP-3-LTD2K-4.5

### If You Work While Disabled

Income Earned This plan will not pay benefits if you work during the elimination period and **During Disability** for one month after it.

> Subject to the other terms of this plan, if you are working to your maximum capacity, income earned during disability is treated as shown below while this plan pays benefits. In all cases, your insured earnings are adjusted each year by an indexing factor. See the "Indexing" section of this plan for how this is done.

- For each of the first 12 months after you return to work, add your gross monthly benefit and your income earned during disability.
  - If the sum is not more than 100% of your insured earnings, we do not reduce your monthly benefit for that month.
  - (b) If the sum is more than 100% of your insured earnings, we reduce your monthly benefit for that month by the amount over 100% of your insured earnings.
- 2. For each month after 12 months of work while disabled:
  - If your income earned during disability is less than 20% of your insured earnings, we do not reduce your monthly benefit for that month.
  - If your income earned during disability is 20% or more of your (b) insured earnings, we reduce your monthly benefit for that month by 50% of your income earned during disability.

CGP-3-LTD2K01-5.0 B380.0440

# Capacity

Part-Time Earnings If you are able to work part-time while disabled, but you are not working to your maximum capacity, we adjust the monthly benefit as follows.

> During the own occupation period, we reduce your monthly benefit by 50% of the income you would currently be able to earn, if working to your maximum capacity, in your own occupation. After the own occupation period, we reduce your monthly benefit by 50% of the income you would currently be able to earn, if working to your maximum capacity, in any gainful occupation.

### Maximum Income Earned During Disability

This plan limits the amount of income you may earn, or may be able to earn, and still be considered disabled.

If your income earned during disability is more than the limit shown below, payments from this plan will end. Payments from this plan will also end if you are able to earn more than the limit shown below.

- (a) During the own occupation period, the limit is 80% of your insured earnings.
- After the own occupation period, the limit is 60% of your insured earnings.

In all cases, your insured earnings are adjusted each year by an indexing factor. See the "Indexing" section of this *plan* for how this is done.

CGP-3-LTD2K01-5.1 B380.0518

### Indexing

If you return to work while disabled, we adjust your insured earnings each year. We do this by means of an indexing factor. This factor increases the amount of income you may earn and still be considered disabled. This adjustment does not increase your gross monthly benefit, monthly benefit, or any other benefit under this plan.

We make the first indexing adjustment after you: (a) have returned to work; and (b) have received 12 monthly payments in a row from this plan.

To make the first adjustment, we multiply your insured earnings by the indexing factor for that year. To make adjustments in each later year, we multiply the amount of your last indexed insured earnings by the indexing factor for the current year.

The indexing factor is the lesser of: (a) 10%; or (b) one-half of the percentage change in the *CPI-W* for the prior calendar year.

CGP-3-LTD2K-5.2 B380.0073

# Recurring Disability

Your benefits from this plan will end because you cease to be disabled. In this case, a later disability may be treated as a recurring disability. The terms listed below must be met:

- (a) You return to active work right after your benefits end;
- (b) Your disability recurs less than six months after you were last entitled to benefits:

- Your later disability is due to the same cause of, or a cause related to the cause of, your earlier disability;
- This plan does not end during your return to active work;
- You do not become covered under any other similar group income replacement plan during the time you return to active work; and
- During the time you return to active work, you stay insured by this plan (f) and premium payments are made on your behalf.
- Your benefits do not end because you have used up the maximum payment period.

Any changes in benefit or the plan which take place during your return to active work, will not apply to the recurring disability.

If the later disability is a recurring disability, you will not need to complete a new elimination period before becoming entitled to benefits. Your claim for recurring disability will be subject to the same terms of the plan as your earlier disability.

CGP-3-LTD2K-6.0 B380.0075

# **Services Available**

Social Security We may feel you are qualified for Social Security disability benefits. If so, we Assistance may offer to help you apply for them. If such benefits are under review by Social Security, we may also offer to help you keep them.

We may offer to help:

- (a) Fill out your application for such benefits, and any related forms;
- Find suitable legal counsel; and
- Give medical and vocational data needed to file your claim.

You must apply for all income benefits for which you may be eligible, whether or not you use our help. Using our help does not cancel your duties shown in the "Application for Other Income" section of this plan.

### Rehabilitation And **Case Management**

Case management starts when we are notified of your disability.

We will review your disability to see if certain services are likely to help you return to gainful work. If needed, we may ask for more medical or vocational information.

When our review is complete, we may offer you a rehabilitation program. We have the right to suspend or end your monthly benefit if you do not accept it.

The rehabilitation program will start when a written rehabilitation agreement is signed by: (1) you; (2) us; and (3) your employer, if needed. The program may include, but is not limited to:

(a) vocational assessment of your work potential;

- (b) coordination and transition planning with an employer for your return to work;
- (c) consulting with your doctor on your return to work and need for accommodations;
- (d) training in job seeking skills and resume preparation;
- (e) retraining;
- child care expense aid; and (f)
- aid in worksite alteration made to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. This includes a one-time payment of up to \$2,500.00.

We have the right to determine which services are appropriate.

If you accept the rehabilitation agreement, we will pay an enhanced benefit. The enhanced benefit will be 110% of the monthly benefit that would otherwise be paid. This enhanced benefit will be payable as of the first monthly benefit after the rehabilitation program starts.

We stop paying the enhanced benefit on the earliest of:

- The date your benefits from this *plan* end, (a)
- (b) The date you violate the terms of the rehabilitation agreement;
- (c) The date you end the rehabilitation program; and
- (d) The date the *rehabilitation agreement* ends.

If you end a rehabilitation program without our consent, you must repay any enhanced benefits paid.

CGP-3-LTD2K-8.0 B380.0089

### **Pre-Existing Conditions**

**Pre-Existing** A pre-existing condition is a *sickness* or *injury*, including all related conditions **Conditions** and complications, for which, in the look back period, you:

- (a) receive advice or treatment from a doctor;
- (b) take prescribed drugs; or
- (c) receive other medical care or treatment, including consultation with a doctor.

You may have been prescribed drugs by a doctor for a condition to be taken during the look back period. In that case, such condition or a related condition will be considered pre-existing.

The "look back period" is the three months before the latest of: (a) the effective date of your insurance under this plan; (b) the effective date of a change that increases the benefits payable by this plan; and (c) the effective date of a change in your benefit election that increases the benefit payable by this plan.

A pregnancy that exists on the date your insurance under this *plan* starts is also a pre-existing condition.

No benefits are payable for *disability* due to a pre-existing condition; unless the *disability* starts after the date you are insured under this *plan* for 12 months in a row.

You may become *disabled* due to a pre-existing condition after: (a) a change which provides for an increase in the benefits payable by this *plan*; or (b) a change in your benefit election which increases the benefit payable by this *plan*. In this case, your benefit will be limited to the amount that would have been payable had the change not taken place. This limit does not apply if your *disability* starts after the change has been in force for 12 months in a row.

We do not cover any *disability* that starts before your insurance under this plan.

CGP-3-LTD2K-9.0 B380.0561

### Prior Coverage Credit

If this *plan* replaces a similar income replacement plan the *plan sponsor* had with another insurer, the pre-existing condition provision may not apply to you. This *plan* must start right after the old plan ends.

We credit any time used to meet the old plan's pre-existing condition provision toward meeting this *plan's* pre-existing condition provision. If the old plan did not have a pre-existing condition provision, we credit any time you were covered under the old plan toward meeting this *plan's* pre-existing condition provision. We do this if: (a) you were covered under the old plan when it ended; and (b) you are *actively-at-work* and enroll for insurance on the effective date of this *plan*.

But, we limit the *maximum monthly benefit* under this *plan* if: (a) it is more than the old plan's maximum; (b) you become *disabled* due to a pre-existing condition; and (c) this *plan* pays benefits for such *disability* because we credit time as explained above. In this case, we limit the *maximum monthly benefit* to an amount equal to the old plan's maximum.

We deduct all payments made by the old plan under an extension provision.

Also, you may have been covered under a group disability insurance plan or employer-provided disability plan prior to your enrollment in this *plan*. When this happens, we may credit any time you were covered under the prior plan toward meeting this *plan*'s pre-existing condition provision. To determine if a condition is pre-existing, we go back to the date your coverage under the prior plan started. We do this if: (a) the prior plan was substantially similar to this *plan*; (b) your active full-time service with the *employer* starts within 30 days of the date your coverage under the prior plan ended; and (c) you enroll in this *plan* within 31 days of the date you first become eligible under this *plan*. If the *plan sponsor* has included an eligibility waiting period in the *plan*, you must still meet it before becoming insured under this *plan*.

CGP-3-LTD2K-9.1-FL B380.0731

### **Exclusions** This *plan* does not pay benefits for *disability* caused by, or related to:

- declared or undeclared war, act of war, or armed aggression;
- (b) service in the armed forces, National Guard, or military reserves of any state or country;
- (c) your taking part in a riot or civil disorder;
- (d) your commission of, or attempt to commit a crime; or
- (e) intentional self-inflicted injuries.

We do not pay any benefits for any period of *disability*:

- (1) during which you are confined to a facility as a result of your conviction of a crime:
- during which you are not receiving regular care by a doctor; (2)
- during which you are not receiving medical care appropriate to the cause of your disability and any other sickness or injury which exists during your disability;
- (4) which starts before you are insured by this *plan*; or
- during which your loss of earnings is not solely due to your disability.

CGP-3-LTD2K-10.0 B380.0093

### **Definitions**

Active Work, You are able to perform and are performing all of the regular duties of your Actively-At-Work Or work for your employer, on a full-time basis at: (a) one of your employer's Actively Working usual places of business; (b) some place where your employer's business requires you to travel; or (c) any other place you and your employer have agreed on for your work.

> CGP-3-LTD2K-12.0 B380.0098

### CPI-W

That part of the United States Department of Labor Consumer Price Index that measures the relative value of the cost of a typical urban wage earner's purchase of certain goods and services. The change in cost is expressed as a percentage of the cost of those goods and services in a base period. When we compute the change in CPI-W, we use the value of the CPI-W published in December of that year and the value published in December of the prior year. If the Department of Labor stops publishing the CPI-W, we have the right to use some other similar standard.

CGP-3-LTD2K-12.2 B380.0100

# Disabled

Disability Or These terms mean you have physical, mental or emotional limits caused by a current sickness or injury. And, due to these limits, you are not able to perform the major duties of your own occupation or any gainful work as shown below:

- During the elimination period and the own occupation period, you are not able to perform, on a full-time basis, the major duties of your own occupation.
- (2) After the end of the own occupation period, you are not able to perform, on a full-time basis, the major duties of any gainful work.

You are not disabled if you perform any work for wage or profit during the elimination period and for one month after it.

You are not disabled if you earn, or are able to earn, more than this plan's maximum allowed income earned during disability.

You may be required, on average, to work more than 40 hours per week. In this case, you are not disabled if you are able to work for 40 hours per week.

Loss of a professional or occupational license will not, in itself, constitute disability. But, if you are a health care practitioner, your state licensing board may restrict your ability to perform your occupation due to testing positive on an HIV test. If this occurs, disability will include such restriction.

CGP-3-LTD2K-12.3-FL B380.0732

**Doctor** Any medical practitioner we are required by law to recognize. He or she must: (a) be properly licensed or certified by the laws of the state where he or she practices; and (b) provide services that are within the lawful scope of his or her practice. We do not recognize you, or your spouse, child, parent, sibling, or business associate, as a doctor with respect to your claim for this plan's benefits.

Elimination Period The period of time you must be disabled, due to a covered disability, before this *plan*'s benefits are payable.

> Any days during which you return to active work will not count toward the elimination period. The elimination period will be extended by one day for each day of active work. If you become eligible under any other similar group income replacement plan while you are at active work, you will not be entitled to benefits from this plan.

> If you return to active work for more than 90 days during the elimination period, you must start a new elimination period.

**Employer** The business entity that employs you and is: (a) the *plan sponsor*; or (b) associated with the plan sponsor.

> B380.0111 CGP-3-LTD2K-12.10

Gainful Occupation Work for which you are, or may become, qualified by: (a) training; (b) or Gainful Work education; or (c) experience. When you are able to perform such work on a full-time basis, you can be expected to earn at least 60% of your indexed insured earnings, within 12 months of returning to work.

Government Plan Any of the following: (1) the United States Social Security Act; (2) the Railroad Retirement Act; (3) the Canadian Pension Plan; or (4) any other plan provided under the laws of a state, province or any other political subdivision. It also includes: (a) any public employee retirement plan; or (b) any plan provided in place of the above named plan or acts. It does not include: (i) any Workers' Compensation Act or similar law; (ii) the Jones' Act; (iii) the Longshoreman's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act; or (iv) the Maritime Doctrine of Maintenance, Wages, or Cure.

Gross Monthly This plan's monthly benefit before it is reduced by other income and Benefit earnings.

Income Earned The monthly income you earn from working while disabled. It includes any During Disability income you earn while disabled but which is returned to your employer, partnership, or any other similar business arrangement to cover any business or overhead expenses.

Injury A bodily injury due to an accident that occurs, independent of all other causes, while you are insured by this plan. We will cover a disability caused by an injury when the disability starts within 90 days of the date of such injury.

CGP-3-LTD2K01-12.11 B380.0458

**Insured Earnings** Only your earnings from the *employer* will be included as *insured earnings*.

We calculate benefit amounts and limits based on the amount of your insured earnings on record with us as of the Redetermination date immediately prior to the start of your disability. See the "Redetermination" section of this plan.

Insured earnings includes your contributions deposited into a cash or deferred compensation plan, or salary reduction plan, qualified under IRC Section 401(k), 403(b) or 457. Earnings based on excluded income and employer contributions deposited into such 401(k), 403(b) or 457 plan are excluded.

For all covered persons, insured earnings means your rate of monthly earnings, excluding expense accounts, and any other extra compensation, as reported by the plan sponsor. If you are paid hourly, we calculate monthly earnings based on actual hours worked or billed in the two months before the start of your disability. We do not include pay for hours worked or billed over 40 per week. Such earnings are multiplied by 4.333.

Monthly earnings may include:

The average of your monthly bonuses and commissions for the 24 months before the start of your disability; or, if employed less than that time, the average of your monthly bonuses and commissions for the full time you were employed.

CGP-3-LTD2K01-12.12

B380.0472

Maximum Capacity During the own occupation period, the fullest extent of work you are able to do in your own occupation. After the own occupation period, the fullest extent of work you are able to do in any gainful occupation. We decide the fullest extent of work you are able to do based on objective data provided by: (a) your treating doctor; (b) impartial medical or vocational exams; (c) peer review specialists; (d) functional capacities exams; and (e) other medical and vocational specialists whose area of expertise is appropriate to your disability.

# **Period**

**Maximum Payment** The longest time that benefits are paid by this *plan*.

Mental Or Emotional Include, but are not limited to: (a) neurosis; (b) psychoneurosis; (c) **Conditions** psychosis; (d) psychopathy; and (e) any other mental or emotional disorder.

Monthly Benefit This plan's gross monthly benefit reduced by other income. If you are working while disabled, your monthly benefit will be further reduced based on the amount of your income earned during disability. See the "If You Work While Disabled" provision of this plan for how this is done.

> CGP-3-LTD2K01-12.13 B380.0489

No-Fault Motor A motor vehicle plan that pays disability or medical benefits no matter who Vehicle Coverage was at fault in an accident.

Own Occupation Your occupation as done in the general labor market in the national economy. To determine the duties and requirements of your own occupation, we use: (a) the job description provided by the plan sponsor; and (b) the duties and requirements of that occupation as shown in the most recent version of the Dictionary of Occupational Titles. That document is published by the Department of Labor. If the Department stops publishing that document, we have the right to use some other similar standard.

Part-Time The ability to work and earn between 40% and 80% of insured earnings during the own occupation period and between 40% and 60% of insured earnings after the own occupation period.

### Plan Sponsor

The employer, association, union, trustee, or other group to which this plan is issued.

**Recurring Disability** A later *disability* that: (a) is related to an earlier *disability* for which this *plan* paid benefits; and (b) meets the conditions described in "Recurring Disability."

**Regular Care** A person is being treated by, or in consultation with, a *doctor* at a frequency that is consistent with his or her condition. The requirement for regular care does not apply if he or she has reached his or her maximum point of recovery yet is still disabled under the terms of this plan.

> CGP-3-LTD2K01-12.14 B380.0522

Rehabilitation A formal agreement between; (a) you; (b) us; and (c) your employer, if Agreement needed. It outlines the rehabilitation program in which you agree to take part.

**Rehabilitation** A program of work or job-related training for you that we approve in writing. **Program** Its aim is to restore your wage earning abilities.

Retirement Plan A defined benefit or defined contribution plan funded wholly or in part by the employer's deposits for your benefit. The term does not include: (a) profit sharing plans; (b) thrift plans; (c) non-qualified deferred compensation plans: (d) individual retirement accounts; (e) tax sheltered annuities; or (f) stock ownership plans.

> Retirement Plan "retirement benefits" are lump sum or periodic payments at normal or early retirement. Some retirement plans make payments for disability (as defined by those plans) that start before normal retirement age. When such payments reduce the amount that would have been paid at normal retirement age, they are retirement benefits. When such payments do not reduce the normal retirement amount, they are "disability benefits."

**Sickness** An illness or disease. Pregnancy is treated as a sickness under this plan.

Guardian

We, Us, And The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America.

**You** The person insured by this *plan*.

CGP-3-LTD2K-12.15 B380.0135

### **ELIGIBILITY FOR DENTAL COVERAGE**

B489.0002

## **Employee Coverage**

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

### Other Conditions

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

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

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

CGP-3-EC-90-1.0 B489.0122

### When Your **Coverage Starts**

Employee benefits are scheduled to start on your effective date.

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

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

CGP-3-EC-90-2.0 B489.0070

When Your Your coverage ends on the last day of the month in which your active Coverage Ends full-time service ends for any reason, other than disability. Such reasons include retirement, layoff, leave of absence and the end of employment.

Your coverage ends on the date you die.

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

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

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

CGP-3-EC-90-3.0 B489.0075

### **Continuation During** A Family Leave Of **Absence**

This section may not apply to an *employer's plan*. You must contact your employer to find out if:

- the employer must allow for a leave of absence under Federal Law, in which case:
- the section applies to you.

Group insurance may end for you because you cease full-time work due to an approved leave of absence. Such leave of absence must have been granted to allow you to care for a seriously ill spouse, child or parent, or after the birth or adoption of a child, or due to your own serious health condition. If so, your group insurance will be continued. You will be required to pay the same share of the premium as before the leave of absence.

Insurance may continue until the earliest of: (a) the date you return to full-time work; (b) the end of a total leave period of 12 weeks in any 12 month period; (c) the date on which your coverage would have ended had you not been on leave; or (d) the end of the period for which the premium has been paid.

CGP-3-EC-90-3.0 B449.0036

# Dependent Coverage

B200.0271

## **Eligible Dependents** For Dependent **Dental Benefits**

An employee's eligible dependents are: (a) his legal spouse; (b) his unmarried dependent children who are under age 20; and (c) his unmarried dependent children, from age 20 until their 26th birthday, if the child is dependent upon the employee for support and is: (i) living in the employee's household; or (ii) a full-time or part-time student.

An adopted child is covered for dental benefits from: (a) the date the child is placed in the home; or (b) from birth, in the event that the employee has made an adoption agreement before the child's birth. If the child is added at birth, all of this plan's provisions regarding newborn children will apply to the adopted child.

CGP-3-DEP-90-2.0 B200.0507

## Adopted Children And Step-Children

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

# Eligible

**Dependents Not** We exclude any dependent who is insured by this *plan* as an *employee*. And we exclude any dependent who is on active duty in any armed force.

> CGP-3-DEP-90-3.0 B264.0007

### Handicapped Children

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

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

If a claim submitted on behalf of the child is denied because the child has reached the limiting age, you must submit proof that: (a) the child's condition started before he or she reached this coverage's age limit; (b) the child became insured by this coverage before he or she reached the age limit, and stayed continuously insured until he or she reached such limit; and (c) the child depends on you for most of his or her support and maintenance.

The child's coverage ends when yours does.

CGP-3-DEP-90-4.0 B449.0039

# Penalty

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

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

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

> CGP-3-DEP-90-5.0 B200.0749

# When Dependent **Coverage Starts**

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

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

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

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

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

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

CGP-3-DFP-90-6.0 B489.0055

### Exception

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

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

Coverage For We cover your newborn child, subject to the conditions below, for dependent **Newborn Children** benefits starting from the moment of birth.

> We also cover a newborn child of an insured family member (other than your spouse) from the moment of birth until the earlier of: (a) the date you are no longer insured under this coverage; or (b) the end of eighteen months, starting from the moment of such child's birth.

> You must notify us of the birth of the child within 31 days after the birth; and we will notify you of any additional premium that is required. If you provide us notice of the birth of the child within 31 days of the date of birth, no premium will be charged for the first 31 days of coverage. If you do not provide this notice within that 31 day period, premium will be charged from the date of birth.

# Adopted Children

Coverage For We cover your adopted child for dependent benefits from the date of adoption or the date of placement in your home for the purpose of adoption, whichever comes first. You must notify us of the intent to adopt a child. In the case of a newborn child to be adopted, we cover the child from the moment of birth but only if a written agreement to adopt such child has been entered into by you prior to the birth of the child. A copy of the agreement must be sent to us prior to the child's birth, or as soon thereafter as is reasonably possible.

> Upon receipt of such notice or agreement, we will notify you of any additional premium required for such child's coverage. Premium, if any, will be charged from the date of adoption, or the date of placement for the purpose of adoption, whichever comes first. With respect to a newborn child to be adopted in accord with a written agreement, premium, if any, will be charged from the date of birth.

> You have 31 days from the date of notification to pay the additional premium. The child's coverage will end if you don't pay the additional premium within 31 days. Coverage also ends if the child is ultimately not placed in your home.

> We consider an adopted child, newborn or otherwise, to be a newborn child for purposes of benefits provided.

# Foster Children

Coverage For We cover your foster child or other child in court-ordered temporary or other custody of you for dependent benefits starting from the date of placement in your home. You must give us written notice within 31 days of the date of placement.

> We will then notify you of any additional premium you must pay. And, you must pay the additional premium, if any, within 31 days from the date of notification to pay the additional premium. Premium, if any, will be charged from the date of placement. The child's coverage will end if you do not pay the additional premium within that 31 day period. Coverage also ends when the foster child is no longer in the custody of you.

> CGP-3-DEP-90-8.0 B489.0028

## When Dependent Coverage Ends

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

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

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

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

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

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

CGP-3-DEP-90-9.0 B489.0048

### **CERTIFICATE AMENDMENT**

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

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

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

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

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

The domestic partner's dependent children will be eligible for coverage under this plan on the same basis as if the children were the employee's dependent children. Coverage for the domestic partner and his or her dependent children ends when the domestic partner no longer meets the qualifications of a domestic partner as indicated above. Upon termination of a domestic partnership, a "Statement of Termination" must be completed and filed with the employer. Once the employee submits a "Statement of Termination," he or she may not enroll another domestic partner for a period of 12 months from the date of the previous termination.

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

- a. survivor benefits upon the employee's death as explained under the "When Dependent Coverage Ends" section;
- b. continuation of dental coverage as explained under the "Federal Continuation Rights" section and under any other continuation rights section of this plan, unless the employee is also eligible for and elects continuation.

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

The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America

Vice President, Group Products

CGP-3-A-DMST-96-FL B210.0032

# **DENTAL HIGHLIGHTS**

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

•	PPO Benefit Year Cash Deductible for Non-Orthodontic Services		
	For Group I Services		
•	Non-PPO Benefit Year Cash Deductible for Non-Orthodontic Services		
	For Group I, II and III Services		
•	Payment Rates for Services Furnished by a Preferred Provider:		
	For Group I Services100%For Group II Services90%For Group III Services60%		
•	Payment Rates for Services Not Furnished by a Preferred Provider:		
	For Group I Services100%For Group II Services80%For Group III Services50%		
•	Benefit Year Payment Limit for Non-Orthodontic Services		
	For Group I, II and III Services Up to \$1,000.00		

### **DENTAL EXPENSE INSURANCE**

This insurance will pay many of a *covered person*'s dental expenses. We pay benefits for covered charges incurred by a *covered person*. What we pay and terms for payment are explained below.

CGP-3-DG2000 B498.0007

# DentalGuard Preferred - This Plan's Dental Preferred Provider Organization

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CGP-3-DGY2K-PPO B498.0151

# Covered Charges

If a covered person uses the services of a preferred provider, covered charges are the charges listed in the fee schedule the preferred provider has agreed to accept as payment in full, for the dental services listed in this plan's List of Covered Dental Services.

If a covered person uses the services of a non-preferred provider, covered charges are reasonable and customary charges for the dental services listed in this plan's List of Covered Dental Services.

To be covered by this *plan*, a service must be: (a) necessary; (b) appropriate for a given condition; and (c) included in the List of Covered Dental Services.

We may use the professional review of a *dentist* to determine the appropriate benefit for a dental procedure or course of treatment.

By reasonable, we mean the charge is the *dentist's* usual charge for the service furnished. By customary, we mean the charge made for the given dental condition isn't more than the usual charge made by most other *dentists*. But, in no event will the covered charge be greater than the 90th percentile of the prevailing fee data for a particular service in a geographic area.

When certain comprehensive dental procedures are performed, other less extensive procedures may be performed prior to, at the same time or at a later date. For benefit purposes under this *plan*, these less extensive procedures are considered to be part of the more comprehensive procedure. Even if the *dentist* submits separate bills, the total benefit payable for all related charges will be limited to the maximum benefit payable for the more comprehensive procedure. For example, osseous surgery includes the procedure scaling and root planing. If the scaling and root planing is performed one or two weeks prior to the osseous surgery, we may only pay benefits for the osseous surgery.

We only pay benefits for covered charges incurred by a *covered person* while he or she is insured by this *plan*. A covered charge for a crown, bridge or cast restoration is incurred on the date the tooth is initially prepared. A covered charge for any other *dental prosthesis* is incurred on the date the first master impression is made. A covered charge for root canal treatment is incurred on the date the pulp chamber is opened. All other covered charges are incurred on the date the services are furnished. If a service is started while a *covered person* is insured, *we'll* only pay benefits for services which are completed within 31 days of the date his or her coverage under this *plan* ends.

CGP-3-DGY2K-CC B498.0240

# Appeals of Adverse Determinations

If a covered person or health care provider does not agree with an adverse determination, the covered person or health care provider may submit an appeal as explained below.

The covered person or *health care provider* must file an *appeal* in writing concerning an *adverse determination*. The *appeal* should contain sufficient detail to identify the nature of the problem. Any documentation that the parties believe is relevant may be submitted to support an *appeal*.

The appeal should be directed to:

Group Quality Assurance - WRO Guardian P.O. Box 2457 Spokane, WA 99210-2457 FAX: 1-509-468-6399 The written *appeal* will be referred to a Group Quality Assurance Dental Review Specialist who will open a case file and conduct an investigation. In resolving an *appeal*, best efforts are made to obtain all relevant information, including clinical records.

The *health care provider* will be contacted and given the opportunity to respond to the *appeal*. If appropriate, the *health care provider* will be advised to submit copies of the patient's clinical records and any other pertinent dental information.

For dental care services under review, the *appeal* decision shall be made by a licensed dentist, or a panel of other appropriate health care providers with at least one licensed dentist on the panel.

An opinion will be forwarded in writing to all parties within 15 working days of the date that the *appeal* is received by *us*.

### **Definitions**

"Adverse determination" means a utilization review determination by a private review agent, Guardian, or a health care provider acting on behalf of Guardian that:

- a) a proposed or delivered dental care service which would otherwise be covered under the covered person's contract is not or was not medically necessary, appropriate, or efficient; or
- b) an alternate dental service is adequate and appropriate care in accordance with accepted dental standards; and
- c) may result in non-coverage of the dental service.
- "Appeal" means a protest filed by a covered person, or dentist acting on behalf of a covered person, regarding an adverse determination concerning the covered person.

"Health care provider" means:

- a) an individual licensed to provide dental care services in the ordinary course of business or practice of a profession and is a treating provider of the covered person; and
- b) for purposes of this provision, is acting on behalf of the covered person.

CGP-3-APPEAL-FL-02 B498.1134

### **Alternate Treatment**

If more than one type of service can be used to treat a dental condition, we have the right to base benefits on the least expensive service which is within the range of professionally accepted standards of dental practice as determined by us. For example, in the case of bilateral multiple adjacent teeth, or multiple missing teeth in both quadrants of an arch, the benefit will be based on a removable partial denture. In the case of a composite filling on a posterior tooth, the benefit will be based on the corresponding amalgam filling benefit.

So that we may pay benefits accurately, the *covered person* or his or her *dentist* must provide *us* with information that is acceptable to *us*. This information may, at *our* discretion, consist of radiographs, study models, periodontal charting, narratives or other diagnostic materials that document *proof of claim* and support the necessity of the proposed treatment. If we don't receive the necessary information, we may pay no benefits, or minimum benefits. However, if we receive the necessary information within 15 months of the date of service, we will redetermine the *covered person's* benefits based on the new information.

CGP-3-DGY2K-AT B498.0002

### **Pre-Treatment Review**

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

We review the treatment plan and estimate what we will pay. We will send the estimate to the covered person and/or the covered person's dentist. If the treatment plan is not consistent with accepted standards of dental practice, or if one is not sent to us, we have the right to base our benefit payments on treatment appropriate to the covered person's condition using accepted standards of dental practice.

The covered person and his or her dentist have the opportunity to have services or a treatment plan reviewed before treatment begins. Pre-treatment review is not a guarantee of what we will pay. It tells the covered person, and his or her dentist, in advance, what we would pay for the covered dental services listed in the treatment plan. But, payment is conditioned on: (a) the services being performed as proposed and while the covered person is insured; and (b) the deductible, payment rate and payment limits provisions, and all of the other terms of this plan.

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

We won't deny or reduce benefits if pre-treatment review is not done. But what we pay will be based on the availability and submission of proof of claim.

CGP-3-DGY2K-PTR B498.0004

Other plans may furnish benefits similar to the benefits provided by this plan. For instance, you may be covered by this plan and a similar plan through your spouse's employer. You may also be covered by this plan and a medical plan. In such instances, we coordinate our benefits with the benefits from that other plan. We do this so that no one gets more in benefits than the charges he or she incurs. Read "Coordination of Benefits" to see how this works.

CGP-3-DGY2K-OS B498.0005

## The Benefit Provision - Qualifying For Benefits

CGP-3-DGY2K-BEN B498.0072

**Penalty For Late** During the first 6 months that a late entrant is covered by this *plan*, we won't **Entrants** pay for the following services:

All Group II Services.

During the first 12 months a late entrant is covered by this plan, we won't pay for the following services:

All Group III Services.

Charges for the services we don't cover under this provision are not considered to be covered charges under this plan, and therefore can't be used to meet this plan's deductibles.

We don't apply a late entrant penalty to covered charges incurred for services needed solely due to an injury suffered by a covered person while insured by this plan.

A late entrant is a person who: (a) becomes covered by this dental plan more than 31 days after he or she is eligible; or (b) becomes covered again, after his or her coverage lapsed because he or she did not make required payments.

CGP-3-DGY2K-LE B498.0232

Benefits For Group I. II And III Non-Orthodontic Services

How We Pay There is no deductible for Group I services provided by a preferred provider. We pay for such Group I covered charges at the applicable payment rate.

> A benefit year deductible of \$50.00 apply to Group II and III services provided by a preferred provider. A benefit year deductible of \$100.00 applies to services provided by a non-preferred provider. Each covered person must have covered charges from these service groups which exceed each applicable deductible before we pay him or her any benefits for such charges. These charges must be incurred while the covered person is insured.

> Covered charges used to satisfy a covered person's Non-PPO deductible are also credited toward his or her PPO deductible. And covered charges used to satisfy a covered person's PPO deductible are also credited toward his or her Non-PPO deductible.

## Benefit Provision - Qualifying For Benefits (Cont.)

Once a covered person meets the deductible, we pay for his or her Group I Non-PPO and all Group II and III covered charges above that amount at the applicable payment rate for the rest of that benefit year.

B498.0176

All covered charges must be incurred while insured. And we limit what we pay each benefit year to \$1,000.00.

B498.0192

CGP-3-DGY2K-BP

CGP-3-DGY2K-PR

B498.0194

# Family Deductible

Non-Orthodontic A covered family must meet no more than three individual benefit year deductibles in any benefit year. Once this happens, we pay benefits for Limit covered charges incurred by any covered person in that covered family, at the applicable payment rate for the rest of that benefit year. The charges must be incurred while the person is insured. What we pay is based on this plan's payment limits and to all of the terms of this plan.

> CGP-3-DGY2K-FL B498.0073

**Payment Rates** Benefits for covered charges are paid at the following *payment rates:* 

Benefits for Group I Services performed by a preferred provider	100%
Benefits for Group I Services performed by a non-preferred provider	100%
Benefits for Group II Services performed by a preferred provider	90%
Benefits for Group II Services performed by a non-preferred provider	80%
Benefits for Group III Services performed by a preferred provider	60%
Benefits for Group III Services performed by a non-preferred provider	50%

# After This Insurance Ends

We don't pay for charges incurred after a covered person's insurance ends. But, subject to all of the other terms of this plan, we'll pay for the following if the procedure is finished in the 31 days after a covered person's insurance under this plan ends: (a) a bridge or cast restoration, if the tooth or teeth are prepared before the covered person's insurance ends; (b) any other dental prosthesis, if the master impression is made before the covered person's insurance ends; and (c) root canal treatment, if the pulp chamber is opened before the covered person's insurance ends.

CGP-3-DGY2K-END B498.0234

B498.0078

## **Extended Dental Expense Benefits**

If a covered person's insurance ends, we extend dental expense benefits for that covered person under this plan as explained below.

We only extend benefits for covered charges for dental procedures, if the procedures: (a) are recommended in writing and begin before the covered person's insurance ends; (b) are for other than routine examination, prophylaxis, x-rays, sealants or orthodontic services; and (c) are performed within 90 days after the covered person's insurance ends. And what we pay is based on all of the terms of this plan.

Benefits will be paid until the earliest of: (a) the date all work is completed; (b) 90 days after the covered person's insurance ends; or (c) the date the covered person becomes covered under another dental plan providing coverage for similar dental procedures. However, if the succeeding plan excludes dental services through the use of a waiting period, then the extension of benefits will not terminate.

We don't grant an extension if the covered person's insurance ended because of a voluntary termination of coverage or because of failure to make required payments.

CGP-3-DGY2K-EXT-FL

B498.0442

## **Special Limitations**

CGP-3-DGY2K-LMT B498.0138

By This Plan this plan.

Teeth Lost, A covered person may have one or more congenitally missing teeth or may Extracted Or have had one or more teeth lost or extracted before he or she became Missing Before A covered by this plan. We won't pay for a dental prosthesis which replaces Covered Person such teeth unless the dental prosthesis also replaces one or more eligible Becomes Covered natural teeth lost or extracted after the covered person became covered by

> CGP-3-DGY2K-TL B498.0133

If This Plan This plan may be replacing the prior plan you had with another insurer. If a Replaces The Prior covered person was insured by the prior plan and is covered by this plan on **Plan** its effective date, the following provisions apply to such *covered person*.

> Teeth Extracted While Insured By The Prior Plan - The "Teeth Lost, Extracted or Missing Before A Covered Person Becomes Covered By This Plan" provision above, does not apply to a covered person's dental prosthesis which replaces teeth: (a that were extracted while the covered person was insured by the prior plan; and (b) for which extraction benefits were paid by the prior plan.

- Deductible Credit In the first benefit year of this plan, we reduce a
  covered person's deductibles required under this plan, by the amount of
  covered charges applied against the prior plan's deductible. The covered
  person must give us proof of the amount of the prior plan's deductible
  which he or she has satisfied.
- Benefit Year Non-Orthodontic Payment Limit Credit In the first benefit year of this plan, we reduce a covered person's benefit year payment limits by the amounts paid or payable under the prior plan. The covered person must give us proof of the amounts applied toward the prior plan's payment limits.

CGP-3-DGY2K-PP B498.0131

## **Exclusions**

We will not pay for:

- Any service or supply which is not specifically listed in this plan's List of Covered Dental Services.
- Any procedure performed in conjunction with, as part of, or related to a procedure which is not covered by this *plan*.
- Educational services, including, but not limited to, oral hygiene instruction, plaque control, tobacco counseling or diet instruction.
- Precision attachments and the replacement of part of a precision attachment, magnetic retention or overdenture attachments.
- Overdentures and related services, including root canal therapy on teeth supporting an overdenture.
- Any restoration, procedure, appliance or prosthetic device used solely to: (1) alter vertical dimension; (2) restore or maintain occlusion, except to the extent that this plan covers orthodontic treatment; (3) treat a condition necessitated by attrition or abrasion; or (4) splint or stabilize teeth for periodontal reasons.
- The use of general anesthesia, intramuscular sedation, intravenous sedation, non-intravenous sedation or inhalation sedation, including but not limited to nitrous oxide, except when administered in conjunction with covered periodontal surgery, surgical extractions, the surgical removal of impacted teeth, apicoectomies, root amputations and services listed under the "Other Oral Surgical Procedures" section of this plan.
- The use of local anesthetic.
- Cephalometric radiographs, oral/facial images, including traditional photographs and images obtained by intraoral camera, except when performed as part of the orthodontic treatment plan and records for a covered course of orthodontic treatment.
- Replacement of a lost, missing or stolen appliance or dental prosthesis or the fabrication of a spare appliance or dental prosthesis.

- Prescription medication.
- Desensitizing medicaments and desensitizing resins for cervical and/or root surface.
- Duplication of radiographs, the completion of claim forms, OSHA or other infection control charges.
- Pulp vitality tests or caries susceptibility tests.
- Bite registration or bite analysis.
- Gingival curettage.
- The localized delivery of chemotherapeutic agents.
- Tooth transplants.
- Maxillofacial prosthetics that repair or replace facial and skeletal anomalies, maxillofacial surgery, orthognathic surgery or any oral surgery requiring the setting of a fracture or dislocation.
- Temporary or provisional *dental prosthesis* or *appliances* except interim partial dentures/stayplates to replace anterior teeth extracted while insured under this *plan*.
- Any service furnished solely for cosmetic reasons. This includes, but is not limited to: (1) characterization and personalization of a *dental* prosthesis; (2) facings on a *dental* prosthesis for any teeth posterior to the second bicuspid; (3) bleaching of discolored teeth; and (4) odontoplasty.
- Replacing an existing appliance or dental prosthesis with a like or un-like appliance or dental prosthesis; unless(1) it is at least 10 years old and is no longer usable; or (2) it is damaged while in the covered person's mouth in an injury suffered while insured, and can't be made serviceable.
- A fixed bridge replacing the extracted portion of a hemisected tooth or the placement of more than one unit of crown and/or bridge per tooth.
- The replacement of extracted or missing third molars/wisdom teeth.
- Any endodontic, periodontal, crown or bridge abutment procedure or appliance performed for a tooth or teeth with a guarded, questionable or poor prognosis.
- Any procedure or treatment method which does not meet professionally recognized standards of dental practice or which is considered to be experimental in nature.
- Any procedure, appliance, dental prosthesis, modality or surgical procedure intended to treat or diagnose disturbances of the temporomandibular joint (TMJ).
- Treatment needed due to: (1) an on-the-job or job-related injury; or (2) a condition for which benefits are paid by Worker's Compensation or similar laws.

- Treatment for which no charge is made. This usually means treatment furnished by: (1) the covered person's employer, labor union or similar group, in its dental or medical department or clinic; (2) a facility owned or run by any governmental body; and (3) any public program, except Medicaid, paid for or sponsored by any governmental body.
- Evaluations and consultations for non-covered services; detailed and extensive oral evaluations.
- Orthodontic treatment, unless the benefit provision provides specific benefits for orthodontic treatment.

CGP-3-DGY2K-EXCH-FL

B498.2325

## **List of Covered Dental Services**

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

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

CGP-3-DNTL-90-13

B490.0148

## **Group I - Preventive Dental Services**

(Non-Orthodontic)

Prophylaxis And Prophylaxis - limited to a total of one prophylaxis or periodontal maintenance Fluorides procedure (considered under "Periodontal Services") in any 6 consecutive month period. Allowance includes scaling and polishing procedures to remove coronal plaque, calculus, and stains.

- Adult prophylaxis covered age 14 and older.

Additional prophylaxis when needed as a result of a medical (i.e., a non-dental) condition - covered once in 12 months, and only when the additional prophylaxis is recommended by the dentist and is a result of a medical condition as verified in writing by the patient's medical physician. This does not include a condition which could be resolved by proper oral hygiene or that is the result of patient neglect.

Fluoride treatment, topical application - limited to one treatment in any 6 consecutive month period.

# Office Visits, **Examination**

Office visits, oral evaluations, examinations or limited problem focused Evaluations And re-evaluations - limited to a total of one in any 6 consecutive month period.

> Emergency or problem focused oral evaluation - limited to a total of 1 in a 6 consecutive month period. Covered if no other treatment, other than radiographs, is performed in the same visit.

# **Group I Preventive Dental Services (Cont.)**

(Non-Orthodontic)

After hours office visit or emergency palliative treatment and other non-routine, unscheduled visits. Limited to a total of 1 in a 6 consecutive month period. Covered only when no other treatment, other than radiographs, is performed during the same visit.

B498.2763

### Space Maintainers

Space Maintainers - limited to covered persons under age 16 and limited to initial appliance only. Covered only when necessary to replace prematurely lost or extracted deciduous teeth. Allowance includes all adjustments in the first six months after insertion, limited to a maximum of one bilateral per arch or one unilateral per quadrant, per lifetime.

- Fixed unilateral
- Fixed bilateral
- Removable bilateral
- Removable unilateral

Recementation of space maintainer performed more than 12 months after the initial insertion

Fixed And Fixed and Removable Appliances To Inhibit Thumbsucking - limited to Removable covered persons under age 14 and limited to initial appliance only. **Appliances** Allowance includes all adjustments in the first 6 months after insertion.

B498.0164

Radiographs Allowance includes evaluation and diagnosis.

Full mouth, complete series or panoramic radiograph - Either, but not both, of the following procedures, limited to one in any 60 consecutive month period.

Full mouth series, of at least 14 films including bitewings

Panoramic film, maxilla and mandible, with or without bitewing radiographs.

Other diagnostic radiographs:

Bitewing films - limited to either a maximum of 4 bitewing films or a set (7-8 films) of vertical bitewings, in one visit, once in any 12 consecutive month period.

Intraoral periapical or occlusal films - single films

B498.0165

Dental Sealants Dental Sealants - permanent molar teeth only - Topical application of sealants is limited to the unrestored, permanent molar teeth of covered persons under age 16 and limited to one treatment, per tooth, in any 36 consecutive month period.

> CGP-3-DNTL-90-14 B498.0166

# **Group II - Basic Dental Services**

(Non-Orthodontic)

**Diagnostic Services** Allowance includes examination and diagnosis.

(Non-Orthodontic)

Consultations - Diagnostic consultation with a dentist other than the one providing treatment, limited to one consultation for each *covered dental specialty* in any 12 consecutive month period. Covered only when no other treatment, other than radiographs, is performed during the visit.

Diagnostic Services: Allowance includes examination and diagnosis.

Diagnostic casts - when needed to prepare a treatment plan for three or more of the following performed at the same time in more than one arch: dentures, crowns, bridges, inlays or onlays.

Histopathologic examinations when performed in conjunction with a tooth related biopsy.

### Restorative Services

Multiple restorations on one surface will be considered one restoration. Benefits for the replacement of existing amalgam and resin restorations will only be considered for payment if at least 12 months have passed since the previous restoration was placed if the *covered person* is under age 19, and 36 months if the *covered person* is age 19 and older. Also see the "Major Restorative Services" section.

Amalgam restorations - Allowance includes bonding agents, liners, bases, polishing and local anesthetic.

Resin restorations - limited to *anterior teeth* only. Coverage for resins on *posterior teeth* is limited to the corresponding amalgam benefit. Allowance includes light curing, acid etching, adhesives, including resin bonding agents and local anesthetic. Restorations that do not involve the incisal edge are considered a single surface filling.

Silicate cement, per restoration Composite resin

Stainless steel crown, prefabricated resin crown, and resin based composite crown - limited to once per tooth in any 24 consecutive month period. Stainless steel crowns, prefabricated resin crowns and resin based composite crowns are considered to be a temporary or provisional procedure when done within 24 months of a permanent crown. Temporary and provisional crowns are considered to be part of the permanent restoration.

Pin retention, per tooth, covered only in conjunction with a permanent amalgam or composite restoration, exclusive of restorative material.

B498.1123

### Crown And Prosthodontic Restorative Services

**Crown And** Also see the "Major Restorative Services" section.

Crown and bridge repairs - allowance based on the extent and nature of damage and the type of material involved.

Recementation, limited to recementations performed more than 12 months after the initial insertion.

Inlay or onlay Crown Bridge

Adding teeth to partial dentures to replace extracted natural teeth

Denture repairs - Allowance based on the extent and nature of damage and on the type of materials involved.

Denture repairs, metal

Denture repairs, acrylic

Denture repair, no teeth damaged

Denture repair, replace one or more broken teeth

Replacing one or more broken teeth, no other damage

Denture rebase, full or partial denture - limited to once per denture in any 24 consecutive month period. Denture rebases done within 12 months are considered to be part of the denture placement when the rebase is done by the dentist who furnished the denture. Limited to rebase done more than 12 consecutive months after the insertion of the denture.

Denture reline, full or partial denture - limited to once per denture in any 24 consecutive month period. Denture relines done within 12 months are considered to be part of the denture placement when the reline is done by the dentist who furnished the denture. Limited to reline done more than 12 consecutive months after a denture rebase or the insertion of the denture.

Denture adjustments - Denture adjustments done within 6 months are considered to be part of the denture placement when the adjustment is done by the dentist who furnished the denture. Limited to adjustments that are done more than 6 consecutive months after a denture rebase, denture reline or the initial insertion of the denture.

Tissue conditioning - Tissue conditioning done within 12 months is considered to be part of the denture placement when the tissue conditioning is done by the dentist who furnished the denture. Limited to a maximum of 1 treatment, per arch, in any 12 consecutive month period.

B498.1122

# Services

Endodontic Allowance includes diagnostic, treatment and final radiographs, cultures and tests, local anesthetic and routine follow-up care, but excludes final restoration.

> Pulp capping, limited to permanent teeth and limited to one pulp cap per tooth, per lifetime.

Pulp capping, direct

Pulp capping, indirect - includes sedative filling.

Vital pulpotomy, only when root canal therapy is not the definitive treatment

Gross pulpal debridement

Pulpal therapy, limited to primary teeth only

Root Canal Treatment

Root canal therapy

Root canal retreatment, limited to once per tooth, per lifetime

Treatment of root canal obstruction, no-surgical access

Incomplete endodontic therapy, inoperable or fractured tooth

Internal root repair of perforation defects

Other Endodontic Services

Apexification, limited to a maximum of three visits Apicoectomy, limited to once per root, per lifetime Root amputation, limited to once per root, per lifetime Retrograde filling, limited to once per root, per lifetime Hemisection, including any root removal, once per tooth

B498.0201

Periodontal Allowance includes the treatment plan, local anesthetic and post-treatment Services care. Requires documentation of periodontal disease confirmed by both radiographs and pocket depth probings of each tooth involved.

> Periodontal maintenance procedure - limited to a total of one prophylaxis or periodontal maintenance procedure in any 6 consecutive month period. Allowance includes periodontal pocket charting, scaling and polishing. (Also see Prophylaxis under "Preventive Services") Coverage for periodontal maintenance is considered upon evidence of completed active periodontal therapy (periodontal scaling and root planing or periodontal surgery).

> Scaling and root planing, per quadrant - limited to once per quadrant in any 24 consecutive month period. Covered when there is radiographic and pocket charting evidence of bone loss.

> Full mouth debridement - limited to once in any 36 consecutive month period. Considered only when no diagnostic, preventive, periodontal service or periodontal surgery procedure has been performed in the previous 36 consecutive month period.

> > B498.0202

### Periodontal Surgery

Allowance includes the treatment plan, local anesthetic and post-surgical care. Requires documentation of periodontal disease confirmed by both radiographs and pocket depth probings of each tooth involved.

The following treatment is limited to a total of one of the following, once per tooth in any 12 consecutive months.

Gingivectomy, per tooth (less than 3 teeth)

Crown lengthening - hard tissue

The following treatment is limited to a total of one of the following once per quadrant, in any 36 consecutive months.

Gingivectomy or gingivoplasty, per quadrant

Osseous surgery, including scaling and root planing, flap entry and closure, per quadrant

Gingival flap procedure, including scaling and root planing, per quadrant Distal or proximal wedge, not in conjunction with osseous surgery Surgical revision procedure, per tooth

The following treatment is limited to a total of one of the following, once per quadrant in any 36 consecutive months.

### Group II - Basic Dental Services (Cont.)

(Non-Orthodontic)

Pedicle or free soft tissue grafts, including donor site, or subepithelial connective tissue graft procedure, when the tooth is present, or when dentally necessary as part of a covered surgical placement of an implant.

The following treatment is limited to a total of one of the following, once per area or tooth, per lifetime.

Guided tissue regeneration, resorbable barrier or nonresorbable barrier Bone replacement grafts, when the tooth is present

#### Periodontal surgery related

Limited occlusal adjustment - limited to a total of two visits, covered only when done within a 6 consecutive month period after covered scaling and root planing or osseous surgery. Must have radiographic evidence of vertical defect or widened periodontal ligament space.

Occlusal guards, covered only when done within a 6 consecutive month period after osseous surgery, and limited to one per lifetime

B498.0203

# Extractions care.

Non-Surgical Allowance includes the treatment plan, local anesthetic and post-treatment

Uncomplicated extraction, one or more teeth Root removal non-surgical extraction of exposed roots

Surgical Extractions Allowance includes the treatment plan, local anesthetic and post-surgical care. Services listed in this category and related services, may be covered by your medical plan.

> Surgical removal of erupted teeth, involving tissue flap and bone removal Surgical removal of residual tooth roots Surgical removal of impacted teeth

Other Oral Surgical Allowance includes diagnostic and treatment radiographs, the treatment plan, Procedures local anesthetic and post-surgical care. Services listed in this category and related services, may be covered by your medical plan.

Alveoloplasty, per quadrant

Removal of exostosis, per site

Incision and drainage of abscess

Frenulectomy, Frenectomy, Frenotomy

Biopsy and examination of tooth related oral tissue

Surgical exposure of impacted or unerupted tooth to aid eruption

Excision of tooth related tumors, cysts and neoplasms

Excision or destruction of tooth related lesion(s)

Excision of hyperplastic tissue

Excision of pericoronal gingiva, per tooth

Oroantral fistula closure

Sialolithotomy

Sialodochoplasty

Closure of salivary fistula

Excision of salivary gland

Maxillary sinusotomy for removal of tooth fragment or foreign body

Vestibuloplasty

B498.1124

Other Services General anesthesia, intramuscular sedation, intravenous sedation, nonintravenous sedation or inhalation sedation, including nitrous oxide, when administered in connection with covered periodontal surgery, surgical extractions, the surgical removal of impacted teeth, apicoectomies, root amputations, surgical placement of an implant and services listed under the "Other Oral Surgical Procedures" section of this plan.

Injectable antibiotics needed solely for treatment of a dental condition.

CGP-3-DNTL-90-15 B498.0206

Major Restorative Crowns, inlays, onlays, labial veneers, and crown buildups are covered only Services when needed because of decay or injury, and only when the tooth cannot be restored with amalgam or composite filling material. Post and cores are covered only when needed due to decay or injury. Allowance includes insulating bases, temporary or provisional restorations and associated gingival involvement. Limited to permanent teeth only. Also see the "Basic Restorative Services" section.

Single Crowns

Resin with metal

Porcelain

Porcelain with metal

Full cast metal (other than stainless steel)

3/4 cast metal crowns

3/4 porcelain crowns

Inlays

Onlays, including inlay

Labial veneers

Posts and buildups - only when done in conjunction with a covered unit of crown or bridge and only when necessitated by substantial loss of natural tooth structure.

Cast post and core in addition to a unit of crown or bridge, per tooth

Prefabricated post and composite or amalgam core in addition to a unit of crown or bridge, per tooth

Crown or core buildup, including pins

Implant supported prosthetics - Allowance includes the treatment plan and local anesthetic, when done in conjunction with a covered surgical placement of an implant, on the same tooth.

Abutment supported crown

Implant supported crown

Abutment supported retainer for fixed partial denture

Implant supported retainer for fixed partial denture

Implant/abutment supported removable denture for completely edentulous arch

Implant/abutment supported removable denture for partially edentulous arch

Implant/abutment supported fixed denture for completely edentulous

Implant/abutment supported fixed denture for partially edentulous arch

Dental implant supported connecting bar

Prefabricated abutment

Custom abutment

Implant services - Allowance includes the treatment plan, local anesthetic and post-surgical care. Limited to the replacement of permanent teeth only. The number of implants we cover is limited to the number of teeth extracted while insured under this plan.

Surgical placement of implant body, endosteal implant

Surgical placement, eposteal implant

Surgical placement transosteal implant

Other Implant services

Bone replacement graft for ridge preservation, per site, when done in conjunction with a covered surgical placement of an implant in the same site, limited to once per tooth, per lifetime

Radiographic/surgical implant index - limited to once per arch in any 24 month period

Repair implant supported prosthesis

Repair implant abutment

Implant removal

B498.1129

Prosthodontic Specialized techniques and characterizations are not covered. Allowance Services includes insulating bases, temporary or provisional restorations and associated gingival involvement. Limited to permanent teeth only.

> Fixed bridges - Each abutment and each pontic makes up a unit in a bridge

Bridge abutments - See inlays, onlays and crowns under "Major Restorative Services"

**Bridge Pontics** Resin with metal Porcelain

Porcelain with metal

Full cast metal

Dentures - Allowance includes all adjustments and repairs done by the dentist furnishing the denture in the first 6 consecutive months after installation and all temporary or provisional dentures. Temporary or provisional dentures, stayplates and interim dentures older than one year are considered to be a permanent appliance.

Complete or Immediate dentures, upper or lower

Partial dentures - Allowance includes base, clasps, rests and teeth

Upper, resin base, including any conventional clasps, rests and teeth

Upper, cast metal framework with resin denture base, including any conventional clasps, rests and teeth

Lower, resin base, including any conventional clasps, rests and teeth

Lower, cast metal framework with resin denture base, including any conventional clasps, rests and teeth

Interim partial denture (stayplate), upper or lower, covered on anterior teeth only

Removable unilateral partial, one piece cast metal, including clasps and teeth

Simple stress breakers, per unit

B498.1132

### **DISCOUNT - THIS IS NOT INSURANCE**

### Discounts on Dental Services Not Covered By This Plan

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

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

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

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

B499.0077

### THIS IS NOT INSURANCE

### Discounts on Dental Supplies Not Covered By This Plan

A covered person under this plan may receive discounts on certain supplies not covered by this plan, if he or she receives the supplies from either a dentist that is under contract with our DentalGuard Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) network or a vendor that is under contract with Guardian.

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

When a person is no longer covered by this plan, access to any available discounts end.

B499.0088

# Discounts on Services Not Covered Due To Contractual Provisions

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

Meeting the plan's benefit year payment limit provision;

- Frequency limitations; or
- Plan exclusions.

B499.0078

### **Discounts on Orthodontic Services**

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

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

Discounted fees are not available for:

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

B499.0081

### **ELIGIBILITY FOR VISION CARE EXPENSE COVERAGE**

B505.0152

### **Employee Vision Care Expense Coverage**

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

#### Other Conditions

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

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

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

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

CGP-3-EC-90-1.0 B505.0060

# Coverage Starts

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

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

> CGP-3-EC-90-2.0 B505.0075

When Your Your coverage under this plan ends on the last day of the month in which Coverage Ends your active full-time service ends for any reason. Such reasons include disability, retirement, layoff, leave of absence and the end of employment.

Your coverage ends on the date you die.

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

### **Employee Vision Care Expense Coverage (Cont.)**

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

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

CGP-3-EC-90-3.0 B505.0083

### **Continuation During** A Family Leave Of **Absence**

This section may not apply to an employer's plan. You must contact your employer to find out if:

- the employer must allow for a leave of absence under Federal Law, in which case;
- the section applies to you.

Vision care expense insurance may end for you because you cease full-time work due to an approved leave of absence. Such leave of absence must have been granted to allow you to care for a seriously ill spouse, child or parent, or after the birth or adoption of a child, or due to your own serious health condition. If so, your vision care expense insurance will be continued. You will be required to pay the same share of the premium as before the leave of absence.

Insurance may continue until the earliest of: (a) the date you return to full-time work; (b) the end of a total leave period of 12 weeks in any 12 month period; (c) the date on which your coverage would have ended had you not been on leave; or (d) the end of the period for which the premium has been paid.

CGP-3-EC-90-3.0 B505.0095

### **Dependent Vision Care Expense Coverage**

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

### Eligible Dependents For Dependent Vision Care Benefits

An employee's eligible dependents are: (a) his legal spouse; (b) his unmarried dependent children who are under age 20; and (c) his unmarried dependent children, from age 20 until the day they reach age 26, if the child is dependent upon the employee for support and is: (i) living in the employee's household; or (ii) a full-time or part-time student.

An adopted child is covered for vision care benefits from: (a) the date the child is placed in the home; or (b) from birth, in the event that the employee has made an adoption agreement before the child's birth. If the child is added at birth, all of this plan's provisions regarding newborn children will apply to the adopted child.

CGP-3-DEP-90-2.0 B505.0100

# And Step-Children

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

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

CGP-3-DEP-90-3.0 B505.0112

# Handicapped Children

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

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

If a claim submitted on behalf of the child is denied because the child has reached the limiting age, you must submit proof that: (a) the child's condition started before he reached this *plan*'s age limit; (b) the child became insured by this *plan* before he reached the age limit, and stayed continuously insured until he reached such limit; and (c) the child depends on you for most of his support and maintenance.

The child's coverage ends when yours does.

CGP-3-DEP-90-4.0 B505.0120

# When Dependent Coverage Starts

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Dependent Vision Care Expense Coverage (Cont.)

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

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

#### Newborn Children

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

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

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

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

### When Dependent Coverage Ends

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

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

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

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

### **Dependent Vision Care Expense Coverage (Cont.)**

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

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

CGP-3-DEP-90-9.0 B505.0139

### **CERTIFICATE AMENDMENT**

This rider amends the "Dependent Coverage" provision cares as follows:

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

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

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

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

The domestic partner's dependent children will be eligible for coverage under this plan on the same basis as if the children were the employee's dependent children. Coverage for the domestic partner and his or her dependent children ends when the domestic partner no longer meets the qualifications of a domestic partner as indicated above. Upon termination of a domestic partnership, a "Statement of Termination" must be completed and filed with the employer. Once the employee submits a "Statement of Termination," he or she may not enroll another domestic partner for a period of 12 months from the date of the previous termination.

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

- a. survivor benefits upon the employee's death as explained under the "When Dependent Coverage Ends" section;
- b. continuation of vision care coverage as explained under the "Federal Continuation Rights" section and under any other continuation rights section of this plan, unless the employee is also eligible for and elects continuation.

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

The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America

Vice President, Group Products

CGP-3-A-DMST-96-FL B505.0163

### **VISION CARE HIGHLIGHTS**

CGP-3-A-DMST-96-FL

	This page provides a quick guide to some of the Vision Care Expense Insurance plan features which people most often want to know about. But it's not a complete description of your Vision Care Expense Insurance plan. Read the following pages carefully for a complete explanation of what we pay, limit and exclude.
PPO Copayments	Examinations\$10.00Standard Frames and/or Standard Lenses\$20.00Necessary Contact Lenses\$20.00
Non-PPO Cash Deductibles	Examinations\$10.00Standard Frames and/or Standard Lenses\$20.00Necessary Contact Lenses\$20.00
Payment Rates	For Covered Charges

B505.0163

### **VISION CARE EXPENSE INSURANCE**

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

CGP-3-VSN-07-VIS-L B505.0633

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CGP-3-VSN-07-PPOA-L

B505.0635

# Lenses VSP.

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

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

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

CGP-3-VSN-07-PTR2-L

B505.0638

## Arbitration Of Disputes

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

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

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

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

### Vision Service Plan This Plan's Vision Care Preferred Provider Organization (Cont.)

## Grievance Procedures

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

- (1) The patient's written complaint will be referred to VSP's Professional Relations Vice President for action.
- (2) The complaint will be evaluated and, if deemed appropriate, the original examining doctor will be contacted.
- (3) If the complaint can be resolved within fifteen (15) days, the disposition of the complaint will be forwarded to the covered person. Otherwise, a notice of receipt of the complaint will be forwarded to the covered person advising the time for resolution.
- (4) Grievance procedures and complaint forms will be maintained in each preferred provider's office.
- (5) All complaints will be retained in the Professional Relations Department.

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

> Vision Service Plan, Inc. 3333 Quality Drive Rancho Cordova, California 95670 (800) 622-7444

CGP-3-VSN-07-APP-L

B505.0639

### **How This Plan Works**

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

### Services or Supplies From a Preferred Provider

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

### Copayments

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

For each vision examination from a preferred provider . . . . . . . . . \$10.00

### Services or Supplies From a Preferred Provider (Cont.)

	standard lenses from a preferred provider \$20.00		
	For Necessary Contact Lenses from a <i>preferred provider</i> \$20.00		
Payment Limits	Payment limits, durational or monetary, are shown in the "Covered Services and Supplies" section of this <i>plan</i> . When a monetary payment limit is set for a pair of materials, the limit is automatically halved if only one item is purchased.		
Payment Rates	Once a <i>covered person</i> has paid any applicable <i>copayment</i> , we pay benefits for covered charges under this <i>plan</i> as follows. What we pay is subject to all of the terms of this <i>plan</i> .		
	For covered charges		
Discounts	If a covered person receives a vision examination, and lenses or frames from a preferred provider, he or she will receive a discount on the cost of purchasing an unlimited number of prescription glasses from the same preferred provider. The covered person may also receive a discount on the costs of evaluation and fitting of contact lenses. No discount applies to contact lenses or materials. The discount is available for 12 months after the initial examination.		
	The discounts are:		
	For Prescription Glasses	20% off of the preferred provider's usual and customary fee	
	For Contact Lens Evaluation and Fitting Costs		
CGP-3-VSN-07-BEN1-L		B505.0659	
	Services or Supplies Fro	m a Non-Preferred Provider	
	If a covered person uses the services covered person must submit the itemized claims must be sent to VSP within 1 completed or supplies are received. The the terms of this plan.	d bill to VSP for claims payment. All 80 days of the date services are	
Cash Deductible For Services Of A Non-Preferred Provider	For Services Of A non-preferred provider. These cash deductibles are shown below. Non-Preferred covered person must have covered charges in excess of the cash deduction		
	For each vision examination provided by a <i>non-preferred provider</i> \$10.00		
	For each pair of standard frames and/or standard lenses from a non-preferred pro	vider\$20.00	

For each pair of standard frames and/or

For each pair of Necessary Contact Lenses from

a non-preferred provider .....\$20.00

### Services or Supplies From a Non-Preferred Provider (Cont.)

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

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

> CGP-3-VSN-07-BEN2-L B505.0661

### **Covered Charges**

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

### Covered Services and Supplies

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

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

#### Vision Examinations

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

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

We don't cover more than one vision examination in any 12 month period.

And if a covered person uses a non-preferred provider, we limit what we pay for each vision examination to \$46.00.

CGP-3-VSN-07-LIST1-L B505.0663

#### Standard Lenses

We cover charges for single vision, bifocal, trifocal or lenticular lenses. We cover glass, plastic or for dependent children to age 20, polycarbonate lenses.

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

- \$47.00 for each pair of single vision lenses
- \$66.00 for each pair of bifocal lenses
- \$85.00 for each pair of trifocal lenses and
- \$125.00 for each pair of lenticular lenses.

B505.0453

We do not cover charges for more than one set of standard lenses in any 12 month period.

B505.0455

CGP-3-VSN-05-SL

B505.0461

Standard Frames We cover charges for standard frames.

If a covered person uses a preferred provider, we cover charges up to a retail frame allowance of \$120.00, plus 20% of any amount over the allowance.

If a covered person uses a non-preferred provider, we limit what we pay for each set of standard frames to \$47.

We don't cover charges for more than one set of standard frames in any 12 month period.

If the covered person chooses elective contact lenses, we do not cover standard frames for 12 months from the date the elective contacts are purchased.

CGP-3-VSN-05-SF B505.0424

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

- (a) following cataract surgery;
- (b) to correct extreme visual acuity problems that cannot be corrected with spectacle lenses;
- (c) for certain conditions of anisometropia; or
- (d) for keratoconus.

We don't cover charges for more than one pair of Necessary Contact Lenses in any 12 month period.

If a covered person receives Necessary Contact Lenses from a preferred provider, we pay 100% of covered charges. If he or she receives Necessary Contact Lenses from a non-preferred provider, we limit what we pay to \$210.00 in any 12 month period.

CGP-3-VSN-07-LIST7-L

B505.0664

# Lenses

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

> If we cover charges for elective contact lenses, we will not cover charges for standard lenses for 12 months and standard frames for at least 12 months.

> We limit what we pay for elective contact lenses to \$120.00 once every 12 months.

CGP-3-VSN-05-ECL

B505.0427

### **Special Limitations**

# VSP Plan

If This VSP Plan If, prior to being covered under this plan, a covered person was covered by Replaces Another another vision care plan with VSP under which he or she received a covered service within 6 months prior to the effective date of this plan, the date he or she received such a covered service will be used as the last date of service when applying the benefit period limitations under this plan. We apply this provision only if the covered person was enrolled in another VSP plan immediately before enrolling in this plan.

CGP-3-VSN-07-SL1-L

B505.0665

### **Exclusions**

- We won't pay for orthoptics or vision training and any associated supplemental testing.
- We won't pay for medical or surgical treatment of the eyes.
- We won't pay for any eye examination or corrective eyewear required by an employer as a condition of employment.

CGP-3-VSN-07-EXC1-L

B505.0694

- We will not pay for plano lenses (lenses with less than a .38 diopter power).
- We will not pay for two sets of glasses in lieu of bifocals.
- We will not pay for replacement of lenses and frames furnished under this plan which are lost or broken, except at normal intervals when services are otherwise available.
- We will not pay for blended lenses.
- We will not pay for oversized lenses.

- We will not pay for the laminating of the lens or lenses.
- We will not pay for a frame that costs more than the plan allowance.
- We will not pay for UV (ultraviolet protected lenses).
- We will not pay for cosmetic lenses or any cosmetic process, unless specifically shown as covered in the "Covered Services and Supplies" section.
- We will not pay for progressive multifocal lenses.
- We will not pay for the coating of the lens or lenses.

CGP-3-VSN-05-EXC B505.0429

Charges not covered due to this provision are not considered covered vision services and cannot be used to satisfy this *plan's copayments* or *deductibles*, if any.

CGP-3-VSN-07-EXC17-L

B505.0695

### **COORDINATION OF BENEFITS**

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

#### Purpose

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

#### **Definitions**

#### Allowable Expense

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

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

- The amount a benefit is reduced by the primary plan because a person does not comply with the plan's provisions is **not** an allowable expense. Examples of these provisions are preferred provider arrangements.
- If a person is covered by two or more plans that compute their benefit payments on the basis of reasonable and customary charges, any amount in excess of the primary plan's reasonable and customary charges for a specific benefit is **not** an allowable expense.
- (3) If a person is covered by two or more plans that provide benefits or services on the basis of negotiated fees, an amount in excess of the primary plan's negotiated fees for a specific benefit is not an allowable expense.

If a person is covered by one plan that computes its benefits or services on the basis of reasonable and customary charges and another plan that provides its benefits or services on the basis of negotiated fees, the primary plan's payment arrangements will be the allowable expense for all plans. However, if the provider has contracted with the secondary plan to provide the benefit or service for a specific negotiated fee or payment amount that is different than the primary plan's payment arrangement and if the provider's contract permits, the negotiated fee or payment shall be the allowable expense used by the secondary plan to determine its benefit.

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

# Period

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

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

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

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

# Benefits

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

Plan This term means any of the following that provides benefits or services for dental care or treatment: (1) group hospital, medical or surgical expense insurance; (2) group health care services plans; (3) group-type self-insurance plans; and (4) governmental benefits, as permitted by law.

This term does not include: (a) individual or family insurance; (b) school accident type coverage; (c) indemnity-type policies, excess insurance coverage, health benefit policies limiting coverage to specified illnesses or accidents; or (d) Medicare, Medicare supplement policies, Medicaid, and coverage under other governmental plans, unless permitted by law.

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

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

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

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

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

CGP-3-R-COB-05

B555.0358

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

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

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

When all plans have coordination of benefits provisions, the rules to determine the order of payment are listed below. The first of the rules that applies is the rule to use.

# Dependent

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

### Child Covered Under More Than One Plan

The order of benefit determination when a child is covered by more than one plan is:

- If the parents are married, or are not separated (whether or not they ever have been married), or a court decree awards joint custody without specifying that one party must provide health care coverage, the plan of the parent whose birthday is earlier in the year is primary. If both parents have the same birthday, the plan that covered either of the parents longer is primary. If a plan does not have this birthday rule, then that plan's coordination of benefits provision will determine which plan is primary.
- If the specific terms of a court decree state that one of the parents must provide health care coverage and the plan of the parent has actual knowledge of those terms, that plan is primary. This rule applies to claim determination periods that start after the plan is given notice of the court decree.
- In the absence of a court decree, if the parents are not married, or are Separated (whether or not they ever have been married), or are divorced, the order of benefit determination is: (a) the plan of the custodial parent; (b) the plan of the spouse of the custodial parent; and (c) the plan of the noncustodial parent.

### Active Or Inactive Employee

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

### Order Of Benefit Determination (Cont.)

# Coverage

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

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

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

### **Effect On The Benefits Of This Plan**

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

# Secondary

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

### Right To Receive And Release Needed Information

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

### Facility Of Payment

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

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

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

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

CGP-3-R-COB-05 B555.0359

**GLOSSARY** 

This Glossary defines the italicized terms appearing in your booklet.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B900.0118

Anisometropia means a condition of unequal refractive state for the two eyes, one eye

requiring different lens correction than the other.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF1-L B750.0819

Anterior Teeth means the incisor and cuspid teeth. The teeth are located in front of the

bicuspids (pre-molars).

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0664

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

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0665

Benefit Period with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means the time period beginning

when a covered service is received and extending to the date on which, according to the time limitations contained in this *plan*, the covered service is

again available to a covered person.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF3-L B750.0820

Benefit Year means a 12 month period which starts on January 1st and ends on

December 31st of each year.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0666

**Blended Lenses** mean bifocals which do not have a visible dividing line.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF3-L B750.0821

**Coated Lenses** means substance added to a finished lens on one or both surfaces.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF3-L B750.0822

Copayment with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means a charge, expressed as a fixed

dollar amount, required to be paid by or on behalf of a covered person to a

preferred provider at the time covered vision services are received.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF3-L B750.0823

**Covered Dental** means any group of procedures which falls under one of the following **Specialty** categories, whether performed by a specialist *dentist* or a general *dentist*:

categories, whether performed by a specialist *dentist* or a general *dentist*: restorative/prosthodontic services; endodontic services, periodontic services,

oral surgery and pedodontics.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0667

Covered Family means an employee and those of his or her dependents who are covered by

this plan.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0668

**Covered Person** means an employee or any of his or her covered dependents.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0669

Covered Person with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means an employee or eligible dependent who meets this plan's eligibility criteria and who is covered under this plan.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF3-L

B750.0824

#### Customary

with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means, when referring to a covered charge, that the charge for the covered vision condition isn't more than the usual charge made by most other doctors with similar training and experience in the same geographic area.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF3-L

B750.0826

#### Deductible

with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means any amount which a covered person must pay before he or she is reimbursed for covered services provided by a non-preferred provider.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF3-L

B750.0827

### **Dental Prosthesis**

means a restorative service which is used to replace one or more missing or lost teeth and associated tooth structures. It includes all types of abutment crowns, inlays and onlays, bridge pontics, complete and immediate dentures, partial dentures and unilateral partials. It also includes all types of crowns, veneers, inlays, onlays, implants and posts and cores.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90

B750.0670

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

CGP-3-GLOSS-90

B750.0671

#### Eligibility Date

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

CGP-3-GLOSS-90

B900.0003

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

CGP-3-GLOSS-90

B750.0015

**Emergency** means bona fide emergency services which: (a) are reasonably necessary to Treatment relieve the sudden onset of severe pain, fever, swelling, serious bleeding, severe discomfort, or to prevent the imminent loss of teeth; and (b) are covered by this plan.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90

B750.0672

### Employee

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

CGP-3-GLOSS-90

B750.0006

**Employer** means CHURCHILL BENEFIT CORPORATION DBA YURCOR.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90

B900.0051

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

> CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B900.0004

#### Full-time

means the employee regularly works at least the number of hours in the normal work week set by the employer (but not less than 40 hours per week), at his employer's place of business.

CGP-3-GLOSS.1 B750.0230

Incurred, Or with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means the placing of an order for Incurred Date lenses, frames or contact lenses, or the date on which such an order was placed.

> CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF3-L B750.0828

#### Initial Dependents

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

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B900.0006

means all damage to a covered person's mouth due to an accident which occurred while he or she is covered by this plan, and all complications arising from that damage. But the term injury does not include damage to teeth, appliances or dental prostheses which results solely from chewing or biting food or other substances.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0673

Keratoconus means a development or dystrophic deformity of the cornea in which it becomes coneshaped due to a thinning and stretching of the tissue in its central area.

> CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF11-L B750.0829

#### Lenticular Lenses

mean high-powered lenses with the desired prescription power found only in the central portion. The outer carrier portion has a front surface with a changing radius of curvature.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF11-L B750.0830

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

> CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B900.0008

Non-Preferred means a dentist or dental care facility that is not under contract with **Provider** DentalGuard Preferred as a *preferred provider*.

> CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0674

# Provider

Non-Preferred with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means any optometrist, optician, ophthalmologist, or other licensed and qualified vision care provider who has not contracted with the plan to provide vision care services and/or vision care materials to covered persons of the plan.

> CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF14-L B750.0832

Treatment

Orthodontic means the movement of one or more teeth by the use of active appliances. it includes: (a) treatment plan and records, including initial, interim and final records; (b) periodic visits, limited orthodontic treatment, interceptive orthodontic treatment and comprehensive orthodontic treatment, including fabrication and insertion of any and all fixed appliances; (c) orthodontic retention, including any and all necessary fixed and removable appliances and related visits. This plan does not pay benefits for orthodontic treatment.

> CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0685

Orthoptics

means the teaching and training process for the improvement of visual perception and coordination of two eyes for efficient and comfortable binocular vision.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF16-L B750.0833

Oversize lenses mean larger than a standard lens blank, to accommodate prescriptions.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF17-L B750.0834

Payment Limit means the maximum amount this plan pays for covered services during

either a benefit year or a covered person's lifetime, as applicable.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90

**Payment Rate** means the percentage rate that this *plan* pays for covered services.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0677

Photochromic Lenses

mean lenses which change color with the intensity of sunlight.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF17-L

B750.0835

B750.0676

Posterior Teeth means the bicuspid (pre-molars) and molar teeth. These are the teeth

located behind the cuspids.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0679

**Plan** means the Guardian group dental plan purchased by the planholder.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0678

Plan Benefits with respect to Vision Care Insurance, mean the vision care services and

vision care materials which a covered person is entitled to receive by virtue

of coverage under this plan.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF17-L B750.0836

Plano Lenses mean lenses which have no refractive power lenses with less than a .38

diopter power).

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF17-L B750.0837

Preferred Provider means a dentist or dental care facility that is under contract with DentalGuard

Preferred as a preferred provider.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90 B750.0680

Preferred Provider with respect to Vision Care Insurance, means an optometrist, ophthalmologist or optician or other licensed and qualified vision care provider who has contracted with the plan to provide vision care services and/or vision care materials on behalf of covered persons of the plan.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF14-L

Prior Plan means the planholder's plan or policy of group dental insurance which was in force immediately prior to this plan. To be considered a prior plan, this plan must start immediately after the prior coverage ends.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90

B750.0681

Proof Of Claim means dental radiographs, study models, periodontal charting, written narrative or any documentation that may validate the necessity of the proposed treatment.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90

B750.0682

**Proof or Proof of** Insurability

means an application for insurance showing that a person is insurable.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90

B900.0010

Standard Frames

mean frames valued up to the limit published by VSP which is given to preferred providers.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF17-L

B750.0839

Standard Lenses mean regular glass or plastic lenses. See the "Special Limitations" section for what we limit or exclude.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF17-L

B750.0840

Tinted Lenses

mean lenses which have an additional substance added to produce constant

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF17-L

B750.0841

**Usual** means, when referring to a covered charge, that the charge is the doctor's standard charge for the service furnished. If more than one type of service can be used to treat a vision condition, "usual" refers to the charge for the least expensive type of service which meets the accepted standards of vision care practice.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF17-L

B750.0842

Visually Necessary Or Appropriate

means medically or visually necessary to for the restoration or maintenance of a covered person's visual acuity and health and for which there is no less expensive professionally acceptable alternative.

CGP-3-VSN-07-DEF17-L

B750.0843

We, Us, Our And Guardian

mean The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America.

CGP-3-GLOSS-90

B750.0683

### STATEMENT OF ERISA RIGHTS

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

#### Receive Information About Your Plan and Benefits

- Examine, without charge, at the plan administrator's office and at other specified locations, such as worksites and union halls, all documents governing the plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the plan with the U. S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.
- (b) Obtain, upon written request to the plan administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the plan, including insurance contracts, collective bargaining agreements and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated summary plan description. The administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.
- Receive a summary of the plan's annual financial report. The plan administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary annual report.

#### Continue Group Health Plan Coverage

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

### Prudent Actions By Plan Fiduciaries

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

# Your Rights

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

Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of plan documents or the latest annual report from the plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in a state or Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the plan administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to \$110.00 a day until you receive the material, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the administrator. If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a federal court. If it should happen that plan fiduciaries misuse the plan's money or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a Federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful, the court may order the person you sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds that your claim is frivolous.

# Questions

Assistance with If you have questions about the plan, you should contact the plan administrator. If you have questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the plan administrator, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor listed in your telephone directory or the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington D.C. 20210. You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

# Child Support Order

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

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

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

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

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

B800.0094

### The Guardian's Responsibilities

B800.0048

The dental expense benefits provided by this plan are guaranteed by a policy of insurance issued by The Guardian. The Guardian also supplies administrative services, such as claims services, including the payment of claims, preparation of employee certificates of insurance, and changes to such certificates.

B800.0053

The vision care expense benefits provided by this plan are guaranteed by a policy of insurance issued by The Guardian. The Guardian also supplies administrative services, such as claims services, including the payment of claims, preparation of employee certificates of insurance, and changes to such certificates.

B800.0055

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

### Disability And Group Health Benefits Claims Procedure

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

Guardian is the Claims Fiduciary with discretionary authority to determine eligibility for benefits and to construe the terms of the plan with respect to claims. Guardian has the right to secure independent professional healthcare advice and to require such other evidence as needed to decide your claim.

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

#### **Definitions**

"Adverse determination" means any denial, reduction or termination of a benefit or failure to provide or make payment (in whole or in part) for a benefit. A failure to cover an item or

service: (a) due to the application of any utilization review; or (b) because the item or service is determined to be experimental or investigational, or not medically necessary or appropriate, is also considered an adverse determination.

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

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

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

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

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

# Determination

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

### **Disability Benefits**

### Disability And Group Health Benefits Claims Procedure (Cont.)

Guardian will provide a benefit determination not later than 45 days after the date of receipt of a claim. This period may be extended by up to 30 days if Guardian determines that an extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan, and so notifies the claimant before the end of the initial 45-day period. Such notification will include the reason for the extension and a date by which the determination will be made. If prior to the end of the 30-day period Guardian determines that an additional extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan, and so notifies the claimant, the time period for making a benefit determination may be extended for an additional period of up to 30 days. Such notification will include the special circumstances requiring the extension and a date by which the final determination will be made.

A notification of an extension to the time period in which a benefit determination will be made will include an explanation of the standards upon which entitlement to a benefit is based, any unresolved issues that prevent a decision of the claim, and the additional information needed to resolve those issues.

If a claimant fails to provide all information needed to make a benefit determination, Guardian will notify the claimant of the specific information that is needed as soon as possible but no later than 45 days after receipt of the claim.

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

### **Group Health Benefits**

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

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

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

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

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

### Disability And Group Health Benefits Claims Procedure (Cont.)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Determination

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

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

# **Determinations**

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

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

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

- the opportunity to submit written comments, documents, records and other information relating to the claim;
- the opportunity, upon request and free of charge, for reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records and other information relating to the claim: and
- a review that takes into account all comments, documents, records and other information submitted by the claimant relating to the claim, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial benefit determination.

In reviewing an appeal, Guardian will

 provide for a review conducted by a named fiduciary who is neither the person who made the initial adverse determination nor that person's subordinate:

### Disability And Group Health Benefits Claims Procedure (Cont.)

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

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

### **Disability Benefits**

Guardian will notify the claimant of its decision not later than 45 days after receipt of the request for review of the adverse determination. This period may be extended by an additional period of up to 45 days if Guardian determines that special circumstances require an extension of the time period for processing and so notifies the claimant before the end of the initial 45-day period.

A notification with respect to an extension will indicate the special circumstances requiring an extension of the time period for review, and the date by which the final determination will be made.

### **Group Health Benefits**

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

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

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

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

### **Termination of This Group Plan**

Your *employer* may terminate this group *plan* at any time by giving us 31 days advance written notice. This *plan* will also end if your *employer* fails to pay a premium due by the end of this grace period.

We may have the option to terminate this *plan* if the number of people insured falls below a certain level.

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

Claim forms and instructions for filing claims may be obtained from the Plan Administrator.

Guardian is the Claims Fiduciary with discretionary authority to determine eligibility for benefits and to construe the terms of the plan with respect to claims.

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

- (a) If a claim is wholly or partially denied, the claimant will be notified of the decision within 90 days after Guardian received the claim.
- (b) If special circumstances require an extension of time for processing the claim, written notice of the extension shall be furnished to the claimant prior to the termination of the initial 90-day period. In no event shall such extension exceed a period of 90 days from the end of such initial period. The extension notice shall indicate the special circumstances requiring an extension of time and the date by which The Guardian expects to render the final decision.
- (c) If a claim is denied, Guardian will provide a notice that will set forth:
  - (1) the specific reason(s) the claim was denied;
  - (2) specific references to the pertinent plan provision on which the denial is based:
  - (3) a description of any additional material or information needed to make the claim valid, and an explanation of why the material or information is needed:
  - (4) an explanation of the plan's claim review procedure. A claimant must file a request for review of a denied claim within 60 days after receipt of written notification of denial of a claim.
- (d) Guardian will notify the claimant of its decision within 60 days of receipt of the request for review. If special circumstances require an extension of time for processing, The Guardian will render a decision as soon as possible, but no later than 120 days after receiving the request. The Guardian will notify the claimant about the extension.

### **Termination of This Group Plan**

Your *employer* may terminate this group *plan* at any time by giving us 31 days advance written notice. This *plan* will also end if your *employer* fails to pay a premium due by the end of this grace period.

We may have the option to terminate this *plan* if the number of people insured falls below a certain level.

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

### YOUR BENEFITS INFORMATION - ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

### www.GuardianAnytime.com

Insured employees and their dependents can access helpful, secure information about their Guardian benefits(s) online at:

GuardianAnytime.com - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Anytime, anywhere you have an internet connection you will be able to:

- Review your benefits
- Look up coverage amounts
- Check the status of a claim
- Print forms and plan materials
- And so much more]

To register, go to www.GuardianAnytime.com



The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America 7 Hanover Square New York, New York 10004-2616