

HOSPITAL INDEMNITY PLAN 1



**METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

CERTIFICATE OF HOSPITAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company ("MetLife"), a stock company, certifies that You and Your Dependents are insured for the benefits described in this Certificate, subject to the provisions of this Certificate. References to coverage for Your Dependents throughout this Certificate only apply if insurance is in effect for Your Dependents. Please refer to the Covered Persons Specifications page and Eligibility Provisions: Dependent Insurance section for details.

This Certificate is issued to You under the Group Policy. This Certificate includes the terms and provisions of the Group Policy that describe Your insurance. **PLEASE READ THIS CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY.** The Group Policy is a contract between MetLife and the Group Policyholder. It may be changed or ended without Your consent or notice to You.

Group Policyholder: Evans County Board of Education
Group Policy Number: 5946555
MetLife Toll Free Number: 1-800-GETMET8

Important Notice: The insurance evidenced by this Certificate provides limited benefits. The benefit amounts shown on the Schedule are not based on any medical expenses that are incurred. You should have medical coverage in force when You enroll for this insurance.

This is a supplement to health insurance and is not a substitute for major medical coverage. Lack of major medical coverage (or other minimum essential coverage) may result in an additional payment with Your taxes.

30-Day Right to Examine Certificate. Please read this Certificate carefully. If You are not satisfied for any reason, You may notify Us that You are cancelling Your Certificate within 30 days from the date of delivery by calling us at 1-800-GETMET8. If You notify Us that You are cancelling within the 30 day period, this Certificate will be void from the beginning. We will refund any premium or Contribution paid within 30 days after We receive Your notice of cancellation.

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

Maryland Residents: The Group Policy providing coverage under this Certificate was issued in a jurisdiction other than Maryland and may not provide all of the benefits required by Maryland law.

WE ARE REQUIRED BY STATE LAW TO INCLUDE THE NOTICE(S) SECTION WHICH FOLLOWS THIS PAGE.
PLEASE READ THE(SE) NOTICE(S) CAREFULLY.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF FLORIDA

If You were a resident of Florida on Your Certificate effective date, this notice applies to You.

The following provision is added to the When Insurance Ends section of this Certificate if that section does not include an Extension of Benefits provision. If the When Insurance Ends section includes an Extension of Benefits provision, We will only pay benefits under one provision, which will be the one that pays the most.

EXTENSION OF BENEFITS

If a Covered Person is Confined on the date Your insurance ends, and You do not continue insurance under the At Your Option: Continuation with Premium Payment provision, We will pay certain benefits for such Covered Person if the Confinement continues after Your insurance ends, in accordance with, and subject to all of the following:

- No benefits will be available under this Extension of Benefits provision if Your insurance ends due to non-payment of premium.
- The Confinement Benefit will be payable if requirements for payment of that benefit are met while the Covered Person is Confined. No other benefits will be payable.
- Benefits payable under this Extension of Benefits provision will be paid in accordance with and subject to the terms and conditions of this Certificate, except as set forth in this provision.
- Benefits under this Extension of Benefits provision will end on the earlier of:
 - the date the Covered Person is no longer Confined; or
 - the end of the number of days that Confinement Benefits are payable for the Confinement.
- If the Covered Person is again Confined at any time after discharge, no further benefits will be payable.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF MAINE

If You were a resident of Maine on Your Certificate effective date, this notice applies to You.

You have the right to designate a third party to receive notice if Your insurance is in danger of lapsing due to a default on Your part, such as non-payment of a Contribution that is due. You may make this designation by completing a "Third Party Notice Request Form" and sending it to MetLife. Once You have made a designation, You may cancel or change it by filling out a new Third Party Notice Request Form and sending it to MetLife. The designation will be effective as of the date MetLife receives the form. Call MetLife at the toll-free telephone number shown on the face page of this Certificate to obtain a Third Party Notice Request Form.

Within 90 days after cancellation of coverage for nonpayment of premium, You, any person authorized to act on Your behalf, or any covered Dependent may request reinstatement of the Certificate on the basis that You suffered from cognitive impairment or functional incapacity at the time of cancellation.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Page
NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF FLORIDA	2
NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF MAINE	3
COVERED PERSON SPECIFICATIONS.....	5
SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE.....	6
DEFINITIONS	7
ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU.....	13
Eligible Class.....	13
Date You Are Eligible For Insurance	13
Enrollment Process	13
Date Your Insurance Takes Effect.....	13
Benefit Changes	13
ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: DEPENDENT INSURANCE.....	14
Eligible Class For Dependent Insurance	14
Date You Are Eligible For Dependent Insurance.....	14
Enrollment Process	14
Date Dependent Insurance Takes Effect.....	14
Benefit changes	15
SPECIAL RULES FOR COVERED PERSONS PREVIOUSLY INSURED UNDER ANOTHER INSURANCE	
POLICY ISSUED TO THE GROUP POLICYHOLDER.....	16
HOSPITAL BENEFITS	18
Hospital Admission Benefits	18
Hospital Confinement Benefits.....	19
OTHER BENEFITS.....	20
Health Screening Benefit	20
EXCLUSIONS.....	22
WHEN INSURANCE ENDS.....	23
Date Your Insurance Ends.....	23
Date Dependent Insurance Ends.....	23
Extension of Benefits	24
Change in Class.....	24
CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE.....	25
At Your Option: Continuation With Premium Payment.....	25
For Mentally Or Physically Handicapped Children	26
For Family And Medical Leave	26
CLAIMS	27
Notice of Claim.....	27
Claim Form.....	27
Proof of Loss.....	27
Payment Of Benefits	27
Your Beneficiary.....	28
Authorizations	28
Examinations.....	28
Autopsy	28
Time Limit on Legal Actions.....	28
Refund To Us For Overpayment of Benefits.....	28
GENERAL PROVISIONS	29
Entire Contract.....	29
Incontestability: Statements Made By You	29
Misstatements.....	29
Assignment	29
Conformity with Law.....	29
Standard of Time	29
Access To Discounts For Services	29

COVERED PERSON SPECIFICATIONS

Certificate Effective Date:	The later of January 1, 2026 or the Certificate Effective Date shown on the insured's corresponding personalized Covered Person Specifications page or the Group Policyholder's participant file which has been provided to MetLife
Group Policyholder:	Evans County Board of Education
Group Policy Number:	5946555
MetLife Contact Information:	1-800-GETMET8
Your Name:	See the Insured's corresponding personalized Covered Person Specifications page or the Group Policyholder's participant file which has been provided to MetLife
Your Certificate Number:	See the Insured's corresponding personalized Covered Person Specifications page or the Group Policyholder's participant file which has been provided to MetLife
Coverage for Your Dependents	See the Insured's corresponding personalized Covered Person Specifications page or the Group Policyholder's participant file which has been provided to MetLife

This Covered Person Specifications page is part of Your Certificate. Please keep it with Your Certificate.

SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE

IMPORTANT NOTE: Payment of the benefits listed in this Schedule is subject to all of the conditions, maximums, limitations, exclusions and Proof requirements contained in the provisions of this Certificate. PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY.

The benefits listed only apply to Dependents if insurance is in effect for Your Dependents under this Certificate. Please refer to the Covered Person Specifications page and the Eligibility Provisions: Dependent Insurance section of this Certificate for details.

HOSPITAL BENEFITS

Admission Benefit

Benefit / Limit

\$1,000 for the day of admission

We will pay the Admission Benefit no more than: one time per Confinement; and 4 times per Covered Person, per calendar year

Confinement Benefit

The Confinement Benefit is not payable for a day for which the Admission Benefit is payable.

\$100 per day

We will pay the Confinement Benefit for no more than:

365 days per Covered Person, per Confinement

Confinement Benefit for Newborn Nursery Care

\$200 per day

We will pay the Confinement Benefit for Newborn Nursery Care for no more than 3 days per newborn baby

ICU Supplemental Confinement Benefit

\$100 per day

We will pay the ICU Supplemental Confinement Benefit for no more than:

365 days per Covered Person, per Confinement

OTHER BENEFITS

Health Screening Benefit

Benefit / Limit

\$50 per day

We will pay the Health Screening Benefit no more than 1 time per Covered Person, per calendar year

DEFINITIONS

As used in this Certificate, the terms listed below will have the meanings set forth below. Other terms may be defined where they are used. When defined terms are used in this Certificate, they will appear with initial capitalization. The plural use of a term defined in the singular will share the same meaning.

Accident means an act or event which:

- is unforeseen, unexpected and unanticipated;
- is definite as to time and place;
- is not a Sickness; and
- occurs while insurance is in effect under this Certificate.

The term Accident includes unavoidable exposure to the elements if such exposure was a direct result of an Accident.

Accidental means happening by Accident.

Actively at Work or Active Work means that You are performing all of the usual and customary duties of Your job on a Full-Time basis. This must be done at:

- the Group Policyholder's place of business;
- an alternate place approved by the Group Policyholder; or
- a place to which the Group Policyholder's business requires You to travel.

You will be deemed to be Actively at Work during weekends or Group Policyholder approved vacations, holidays or temporary business closures if You were Actively at Work on the last scheduled work day preceding such time off.

Certificate means this Certificate including any riders attached to it.

Complications of Pregnancy means diseases or conditions, the diagnoses of which are distinct from pregnancy and not associated with normal pregnancy or Routine Childbirth, but are adversely affected or caused by pregnancy, such as: acute nephritis; nephrosis; cardiac decompensation; non-elective or emergency Caesarean section; ectopic pregnancy which is terminated; a spontaneous termination of pregnancy when a viable birth is not possible; puerperal infection; eclampsia; hyperemesis gravidarum and pre-eclampsia requiring Confinement; toxemia; missed abortion; or disease of the vascular, hemopoietic, nervous or endocrine systems.

The term Complications of Pregnancy does not include: false labor; occasional spotting; doctor prescribed rest during the period of pregnancy; morning sickness; multiple gestation pregnancy; elective abortion; or conditions of comparable severity associated with management of a difficult pregnancy.

Confined or Confinement means the assignment to a bed as a resident inpatient in a Hospital (including an Intensive Care Unit of a Hospital) on the advice of a Physician or confinement in an observation area within a Hospital for a period of no less than 20 continuous hours on the advice of a Physician.

Contribution means the amount You must pay towards the total premium charged by Us for insurance under this Certificate.

Covered Person means You and, if insured under the Group Policy for the insurance described in this Certificate, Your Dependents.

Dependent means Your Spouse, and/or Dependent Child. No person can be insured for Hospital Indemnity Insurance under the Group Policy as both an employee and a Dependent.

DEFINITIONS (Continued)

Dependent Child means the following:

- Your biological child, while such child is younger than the Dependent Child Age Limit;
- Your adopted child, while such child is younger than the Dependent Child Age Limit;
- Your stepchild, while such child is younger than the Dependent Child Age Limit;
- any other child while such child is under the Dependent Child Age Limit as follows: (a) a child for whom You or Your Spouse are a legal guardian, (b) Your or Your Spouse's foster child, (c) a child for whom You or Your Spouse are chiefly responsible to provide support, (d) a child who resides with You as a regular member of Your household, (e) a child for whom You or Your Spouse are legally required to provide insurance, or (f) a child who was able to be claimed by You or Your Spouse as a dependent for Federal Income Tax purposes. Any other child also includes a grandchild who: (a) was able to be claimed by You or Your Spouse as a dependent for Federal Income Tax purposes, (b) resides with You, (c) is in Your or Your Spouse's custody, (d) is supported by You or Your Spouse, or (e) is a child of Your Dependent Child while the Dependent Child is under the Dependent Child Age Limit; or
- a Dependent Child who is a disabled child and whose age exceeds the Dependent Child Age Limit on the Certificate Effective Date who: (a) has been diagnosed with a developmental disability, mental illness or disorder, or physical disability, (b) is incapable of self-sustaining employment, and (c) is chiefly dependent on You or Your Spouse for support and maintenance. Coverage for a disabled child will take effect in accordance with the Eligibility Provisions: Dependent Insurance section of Your Certificate without regard to whether such child is under a Medical Restriction.

The term Dependent Child does not mean an unborn or stillborn child.

A person cannot be insured for Hospital Indemnity Insurance as a Dependent Child of more than one employee under the Group Policy.

Dependent Child Age Limit means:

- the end of the calendar month in which the Dependent Child reaches age 26.

Dependent Insurance means insurance under this Certificate for Your Dependents.

DEFINITIONS (Continued)

Emergency Room means an area within a Hospital that is dedicated to the provision of emergency care. This area must:

- be staffed and equipped to handle trauma;
- be supervised and provide treatment by Physicians; and
- provide care seven days per week, 24 hours per day.

The term Emergency Room includes short stay observation units or clinical decision units within a Hospital that assess, within a period of less than 20 continuous hours, whether to discharge or admit patients.

Full-Time means Active Work on the Group Policyholder's regular work schedule for the class of employees to which You belong. The work schedule must be at least 15 hours per week.

Group Policy means the policy of insurance issued by Us to the Group Policyholder under which this Certificate is issued.

Group Policyholder means Evans County Board of Education.

Hospital means a short-term, acute care, general facility which:

- is primarily engaged in providing, by or under the continuous supervision of Physicians, to inpatients, diagnostic and therapeutic services for diagnosis, treatment and care of injured or sick persons;
- has organized departments of medicine;
- has facilities for major Surgery either on its premises or through contractual arrangement with another Hospital;
- has a requirement that every patient must be under the care of a Physician or dentist;
- provides 24-hour nursing service by or under the supervision of a registered professional nurse (R.N.);
- is duly licensed by the agency responsible for licensing such Hospitals; and
- is not, other than incidentally, a place of rest, a place primarily for the treatment of tuberculosis, a place for the aged, a place for drug addicts or alcoholics, or a place for convalescent, custodial, educational or rehabilitative care.

The term Hospital does not include a separate unit of a Hospital that is licensed as a hospice facility, nursing home, skilled nursing facility, assisted living facility, rehabilitation facility or an outpatient Surgery facility.

Injury means any bodily harm that results directly from an Accident.

DEFINITIONS (Continued)

Intensive Care Unit or ICU means a place which:

- is a specifically dedicated area of a Hospital that is restricted to patients who are critically ill or injured and who require intensive, comprehensive monitoring and care;
- is separate and apart from the surgical recovery room and from rooms, beds and wards customarily used for patient Confinement;
- is permanently equipped with special lifesaving equipment for the care of the critically ill or injured;
- is under close observation by a specially trained nursing staff assigned exclusively to the intensive care unit on a 24 hour basis; and
- has a Physician assigned to the intensive care unit on a full-time basis.

The term Intensive Care Unit includes Hospital units with the following names: intensive care unit; coronary care unit; neonatal intensive care unit; pulmonary care unit; burn unit; or transplant unit.

Medical Restriction means a person is:

- restricted to the person's home under a Physician's care;
- receiving or applying to receive disability benefits from any source;
- an inpatient in a Hospital;
- receiving care in a hospice facility, an intermediate care facility or a long-term care facility; or
- receiving chemotherapy, radiation therapy or dialysis.

Newborn Nursery Care means routine well baby care provided to a newborn baby while Confined immediately following a Covered Person's childbirth of such baby.

DEFINITIONS (Continued)

Physician means:

- a person licensed to practice medicine and prescribe and administer drugs or to perform Surgery in the jurisdiction where such services are performed; or
- a medical practitioner who is licensed to provide a service for which a benefit is payable under this Certificate, according to the laws and regulations of the jurisdiction where such service is performed, and who is acting within the scope of such license.

The term Physician does not include:

- You;
- Your Spouse or anyone to whom You are related by blood or marriage;
- anyone with whom You are residing;
- Your adopted or stepchild;
- anyone with whom You share a business interest; or
- Your employee.

Proof means Written evidence satisfactory to Us that a claimant has satisfied the conditions and requirements for any benefit described in this Certificate. When a claim is made for any benefit described in this Certificate, Proof must establish:

- the nature and extent of the loss or condition;
- Our obligation to pay the claim; and
- the claimant's right to receive payment.

Except as provided in the Examinations and Autopsy provisions of this Certificate, Proof must be provided at the claimant's expense.

Routine Childbirth means the vaginal delivery of a child or children or the delivery of a child or children by elective Cesarean section.

Routine Pregnancy means a normal pregnancy that does not have Complications of Pregnancy.

DEFINITIONS (Continued)

Schedule means the Schedule of Benefits that appears in this Certificate, and the Covered Person Specifications page.

Sickness means:

- a physical illness, physical infirmity or physical disease;
- Complications of Pregnancy; or
- Routine Childbirth.

The term Sickness does not include Routine Pregnancy.

Signed means any symbol or method executed or adopted by a person with the present intention to authenticate a record. The signature may be transmitted by paper or electronic media, provided it is consistent with applicable law.

Spouse means Your lawful spouse.

Surgery means a procedure performed by a Physician involving an incision of the Covered Person's skin or tissue that, in and of itself, is intended to be curative, palliative or exploratory.

United States means the United States of America, its territories and its possessions.

We, Us and Our mean Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

Write, Written or Writing means a record that may be transmitted by paper or electronic media, and that is consistent with applicable law.

You and Your means an employee who is insured under the Group Policy for the insurance described in this Certificate.

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU

ELIGIBLE CLASS

CLASS 1

All Active Full-Time Employees

DATE YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR INSURANCE

You may only become eligible for the Hospital Indemnity Insurance available for Your eligible class.

If You are in an eligible class on the date insurance becomes available for the class, You will be eligible for insurance on the date You complete any applicable eligibility waiting period set by the Group Policyholder.

If you enter an eligible class after the date insurance becomes available to members of that class, You will be eligible for insurance on the date You complete any applicable eligibility waiting period set by the Group Policyholder.

ENROLLMENT PROCESS

If You are eligible for insurance, You may enroll for such insurance by completing the required form. You must also provide Written permission to deduct Contributions from Your pay for such insurance, if You are required to make such Contributions.

DATE YOUR INSURANCE TAKES EFFECT

Provided that You are Actively at Work in an eligible class, insurance under this Certificate will take effect for You on the Certificate effective date. If You are not Actively at Work in an eligible class on the date insurance would otherwise take effect, insurance will take effect on the date You return to Active Work in an eligible class.

BENEFIT CHANGES

Once Your insurance takes effect, You may only change Your benefits in accordance with the options available through the Group Policyholder. Please contact Us or the Group Policyholder for more information.

If You are not Actively at Work in an eligible class on the date an increase in benefits would otherwise take effect, the increase will not take effect until You return to Active Work in a class that is eligible for the increase.

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: DEPENDENT INSURANCE

ELIGIBLE CLASS FOR DEPENDENT INSURANCE

All Class 1 employees of the Group Policyholder as specified in the Eligibility Provisions: Insurance For You section of this Certificate are eligible for Dependent Insurance.

DATE YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR DEPENDENT INSURANCE

If You are in a class of employees who are eligible for Dependent Insurance on the date Your insurance takes effect, You will be eligible for Dependent Insurance on the later of the following:

- the date Your insurance takes effect; and
- the date an individual becomes Your first Dependent.

If You enter a class of employees who are eligible for Dependent Insurance after the date Your insurance takes effect, You will be eligible for Dependent Insurance on the later of the following:

- the date You enter a class eligible for Dependent Insurance; and
- the date an individual becomes Your first Dependent.

ENROLLMENT PROCESS

If You become eligible for Dependent Insurance, You may enroll for such insurance by providing Us with any information We require for each Dependent to be insured. You must also provide Written permission to deduct Contributions from Your pay for Dependent Insurance, if You are required to make such Contributions.

DATE DEPENDENT INSURANCE TAKES EFFECT

Newborn Children

A Dependent Child born to You while insurance is in effect under the Certificate will be covered:

- from the moment of birth and does not need to be enrolled if Dependent Insurance is already in effect for at least one other Dependent Child; or
- for 60 days from the moment of birth if Dependent Insurance is not already in effect for at least one other Dependent Child. To continue coverage beyond the first 60 days You must notify Us of the child's birth and give Written permission to deduct Contributions from Your pay for Dependent Insurance for the newborn child.

The effective date of insurance for a newborn child will be determined without regard to whether the child is under a Medical Restriction.

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: DEPENDENT INSURANCE (Continued)

Adopted Children

A Dependent Child adopted by You or Placed for Adoption with You while insurance is in effect under the Certificate will be covered:

- from the moment of birth if Placement for Adoption or adoption occurs within 60 days after the child's birth; or
- from the date of adoption or Placement for Adoption if the child is adopted by You or Placed for Adoption with You more than 60 days after the child's birth.

The child does not need to be enrolled if Dependent Coverage is already in effect for at least one other Dependent Child. If Dependent Coverage is not already in effect for at least one other Dependent Child, then to continue the child's coverage beyond the first 60 days of coverage, You must notify Us of the child's adoption or Placement for Adoption and give Written permission to deduct Contributions from Your pay for Dependent Insurance for the adopted child. You must do this within 60 days of the date the child is adopted by You or Placed for Adoption with You.

The effective date of insurance for a newly adopted child will be determined without regard to whether the child is under a Medical Restriction.

Placed for Adoption or Placement for Adoption means the assumption and retention by You of a legal obligation for total or partial support of a child in anticipation of Your adoption of the child.

Other Dependents

Dependent Insurance for a Dependent who is not under a Medical Restriction will take effect on the later of:

- the date You are enrolled for Dependent Insurance for such Dependent; or
- the date a person becomes Your Dependent.

If a Dependent is under a Medical Restriction on the date insurance for such Dependent would otherwise take effect, insurance for the Dependent will take effect on the date the Dependent is no longer under a Medical Restriction.

BENEFIT CHANGES

Benefit changes with respect to a Dependent are subject to the Benefit Changes provision in the Eligibility Provisions: Insurance for You section of this Certificate.

SPECIAL RULES FOR COVERED PERSONS PREVIOUSLY INSURED UNDER ANOTHER INSURANCE POLICY ISSUED TO THE GROUP POLICYHOLDER

The Group Policy is replacing another policy of group insurance that provided similar benefits, that was issued to the Group Policyholder. This section explains how the replacement of that other group insurance policy will affect people who were covered under that policy.

In this section, the terms listed below will have the meanings listed below.

New Policy means the Group Policy under which this Certificate is issued.

Old Policy means the policy of group insurance that was replaced by the New Policy.

Replacement Date means the effective date of the New Policy.

Transferring Dependents means each of Your Dependents who:

- was insured under the Old Policy on the date it ended; and
- meets the requirements to be eligible for insurance under the New Policy, or is a Disabled Child.

If You were insured under the Old Policy on the date it ended and, You meet the requirements to be eligible for insurance under the New Policy (without regard to any requirement that You be Actively at Work), You, and each of Your Transferring Dependents will be insured under the New Policy on the Replacement Date subject to and in accordance with the provisions of this section.

You and each of Your Transferring Dependents will be automatically enrolled and insured under the New Policy on the Replacement Date.

Benefits for Confinement in Progress on the Replacement Date

If You were or a Transferring Dependent was Confined on the last day that the Old Policy was in effect for treatment of an Injury or a Sickness and such person remains Confined on the Replacement Date, We will pay the Confinement Benefit shown on the Schedule for each day of continuous Confinement after the Replacement Date for up to 31 days - the Confinement Benefit will be determined as if the first day coverage is effective under the New Policy is the day of Confinement.

SPECIAL RULES FOR COVERED PERSONS PREVIOUSLY INSURED UNDER ANOTHER INSURANCE POLICY ISSUED TO THE GROUP POLICYHOLDER (Continued)

The following limitations and requirements apply to this provision:

- The requirements for payment of benefits specified in this Certificate must be met, except as described in this provision.
- The requirement that an Accident must occur while insurance is in effect under this Certificate does not apply to payment of benefits under this provision.
- The Admission Benefit is not payable under this provision.
- If the person who was Confined and receiving payment of benefits under this provision is discharged and within 180 days is again Confined for the same or related Injury or Sickness, We will treat the subsequent Confinement as a continuation of the previous Confinement for purposes of determining the benefits payable under this Certificate.
- We may reduce any amounts payable under this provision, by any amounts payable under the Old Policy for the same services. In no case will the benefits payable under both the Old Policy and the New Policy exceed the benefits payable under the New Policy.
- The only benefits available under this Certificate for a Confinement that was in progress when the Old Policy ended and the New Policy began are those that are described in this provision.
- We will not pay any benefits which require payment of a Confinement Benefit if the Confinement Benefit that would be the basis of the payment is paid under this provision.

Disabled Child means a child who:

- has attained the Dependent Age Limit but otherwise meets the definition of Dependent Child;
- is incapable of self-sustaining employment by reason of developmental disability, mental impairment or disorder, or physical disability; and
- is chiefly dependent on You for support and maintenance.

HOSPITAL BENEFITS

Payment of the Hospital Benefits described in this section are subject to all of the conditions, maximums, limitations, exclusions and Proof requirements contained in the provisions of this Certificate.

HOSPITAL ADMISSION BENEFITS

Admission Benefit

If a Covered Person is admitted for Confinement to a Hospital for treatment of an Injury or Sickness, We will pay the Admission Benefit shown on the Schedule for the day of admission, subject to all of the following:

- The admission must occur on or after the date that coverage took effect under this Certificate for such Covered Person.
- The Admission Benefit is not payable for Emergency Room treatment or outpatient treatment.
- We will only pay the Admission Benefit for a Covered Person for one Hospital admission at a time, even if the admission is caused by more than one Injury or Sickness or a combination of Injury and Sickness.
- For Hospital admission for treatment of an Injury, the admission must occur within 180 days after the Accident occurs.
- If a Covered Person is discharged from a Confinement for which We paid an Admission Benefit and, within 90 days is again Confined for the same or related Injury or Sickness, We will treat the subsequent Confinement as a continuation of the previous Confinement (and an additional Admission Benefit will not be payable).
- We will only pay an Admission Benefit for a newborn baby who is born in a Hospital if, due to a Sickness or Injury, the newborn baby is admitted to the Intensive Care Unit.
- If a Covered Person is admitted to a Hospital and is then transferred to another Hospital, We will not pay an additional Admission Benefit.
- We will pay the Admission Benefit no more than the number of times shown on the Schedule.

HOSPITAL BENEFITS (Continued)

HOSPITAL CONFINEMENT BENEFITS

Confinement Benefit

If a Covered Person is Confined in a Hospital for treatment of an Injury or Sickness, We will pay the Confinement Benefit shown on the Schedule for each day of Confinement, subject to all of the following:

- The Confinement must begin while coverage is in effect under this Certificate for such Covered Person. For Confinement for treatment of an Injury, the Confinement must begin within 180 days after the Accident occurs.
- If the Covered Person is discharged from the Hospital and, within 90 days is again Confined for the same or related Injury or Sickness, We will treat the subsequent Confinement as a continuation of the previous Confinement.
- If a Covered Person is Confined in a Hospital and is then transferred to another Hospital, We will treat the transfer as a continuation of the prior Confinement.
- We will only pay one Confinement Benefit per Covered Person, per day.
- We will not pay a Confinement Benefit for a day that the Admission Benefit is payable.
- We will pay the Confinement Benefit for no more than the number of days shown on the Schedule.
- For a newborn baby who is receiving Newborn Nursery Care and is not Confined for treatment of a physical illness, infirmity, disease or Injury, We will pay the Confinement Benefit for Newborn Nursery Care shown on the Schedule for such baby, while Confined, up to the number of days shown on the Schedule. If a newborn baby is Confined for treatment of a physical illness, infirmity, disease or Injury, We will pay the Confinement Benefit instead of the Confinement Benefit for Newborn Nursery Care.

ICU Supplemental Confinement Benefit

We will pay the ICU Supplemental Confinement Benefit shown on the Schedule, in addition to the Confinement Benefit, for each day a Covered Person is Confined in an ICU for treatment of an Injury or Sickness, subject to all of the following:

- The ICU Confinement must meet the requirements for payment of the Confinement Benefit.
- We will only pay the ICU Supplemental Confinement Benefit for a day on which the Confinement Benefit is payable.
- For an ICU Confinement for treatment of an Injury, Confinement in the Intensive Care Unit must begin within 180 days after the Accident occurs.
- We will pay the ICU Supplemental Confinement Benefit for no more than the number of days shown on the Schedule.

OTHER BENEFITS

Payment of the Other Benefits described in this section are subject to all of the conditions, maximums, limitations, exclusions and Proof requirements contained in the provisions of this Certificate.

HEALTH SCREENING BENEFIT

If a Covered Person takes one of the screening/prevention measures listed below while insured under this Certificate, upon submission of Proof, We will pay the Health Screening Benefit shown on the Schedule for the day that the measure is taken, subject to all of the following:

- We will not pay a Health Screening Benefit for a screening/prevention measure if benefits are paid or payable for that same screening/prevention measure under another section of this Certificate.
- We will pay the Health Screening Benefit no more than the number of times shown on the Schedule.

The screening/prevention measures for which a Health Screening Benefit may be paid are:

- routine health check-up exam
- biopsies for cancer
- blood chemistry panel
- blood test to determine total cholesterol
- blood test to determine triglycerides
- bone marrow testing
- breast MRI
- breast ultrasound
- breast sonogram
- cancer antigen 15-3 blood test for breast cancer (CA 15-3)
- cancer antigen 125 blood test for ovarian cancer (CA 125)
- carcinoembryonic antigen blood test for colon cancer (CEA)
- carotid doppler
- chest x-rays
- clinical testicular exam
- colonoscopy
- complete blood count (CBC)
- dental exam
- digital rectal exam (DRE)
- Doppler screening for cancer
- Doppler screening for peripheral vascular disease
- echocardiogram
- electrocardiogram (EKG)
- electroencephalogram (EEG)
- endoscopy
- eye exam
- fasting blood glucose test
- fasting plasma glucose test
- flexible sigmoidoscopy
- hearing test
- hemoccult stool specimen
- hemoglobin A1C
- human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination
- immunization
- lipid panel
- mammogram
- oral cancer screening
- pap smears or thin prep pap test
- prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test

OTHER BENEFITS (Continued)

- serum cholesterol test to determine LDL and HDL levels
- serum protein electrophoresis
- skin cancer biopsy
- skin cancer screening
- skin exam
- stress test on bicycle or treadmill
- successful completion of smoking cessation program
- tests for sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
- thermography
- two hour post-load plasma glucose test
- ultrasounds for cancer detection
- ultrasound screening of the abdominal aorta for abdominal aortic aneurysms
- virtual colonoscopy
- coronavirus testing

EXCLUSIONS

We will not pay benefits for any loss due to an Accident or Sickness for a Covered Person caused or contributed to by:

- war, whether declared or undeclared; or act of war;
- the Covered Person's active participation in an insurrection, rebellion, riot, or terrorist act;
- the Covered Person's engagement in any activity that constitutes a felony under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the activity occurred;
- dental procedures or Surgery except as the result of an Accident causing Injury to a sound natural tooth;
- cosmetic Surgery, except when such Surgery is performed to:
 - treat an Injury or Sickness;
 - correct a disorder of normal bodily function or structure that was caused by an Injury or Sickness for which coverage is not otherwise excluded under this Certificate; or
 - reconstruct a part of the body which was disfigured or removed as a result of an Injury or Sickness for which coverage is not otherwise excluded under this Certificate; or
- activities required by the Covered Person's service in the armed forces or any auxiliary unit of the armed forces of any country or international authority.

In addition, We will not pay benefits for a Covered Person while incarcerated in any type of penal or detention facility.

The following additional exclusions apply to payment of benefits for any loss due to an Accident:

We will not pay benefits for any loss due to an Accident for a Covered Person caused or contributed to by:

- the Covered Person's operation, while intoxicated, of a motor vehicle involved in the incident. For purposes of this exclusion:
 - intoxicated means that the Covered Person's blood alcohol level met or exceeded .08%; and
 - motor vehicle means any vehicle that is powered by a motor, including, but not limited to: an automobile; a boat; a motorcycle; a truck; an all-terrain vehicle; or a snow mobile;
- the Covered Person's travel or flight in any aircraft except as a fare-paying passenger on a regularly scheduled charter or commercial flight;
- the Covered Person parachuting or otherwise exiting from a motorized or non-motorized aircraft while such aircraft is in flight, except for self-preservation;
- the Covered Person riding in or driving any motor-driven vehicle in a race, stunt show or speed test;
- the Covered Person participating in any semi-professional or professional competitive athletic activity for which any type of compensation or remuneration is received; or
- the Covered Person bungee jumping, base jumping, hang gliding, para-kiting, sail-gliding, scuba diving deeper than 130 feet; spelunking; or mountaineering including rock climbing using ropes and any other climbing equipment. For the purposes of this exclusion the term mountaineering does not include backpacking, mountain biking, hiking or trail running.

WHEN INSURANCE ENDS

Please Note: If insurance ends under this section, in certain cases it may be continued as stated in the Continuation of Insurance section of this Certificate. Please see that section for details.

DATE YOUR INSURANCE ENDS

Your insurance under this Certificate will end on the earliest of:

- the date the Group Policy ends;
- the date You die;
- the date insurance ends for Your class;
- the end of the period for which the last full premium has been paid for Your insurance;
- the end of the calendar month in which You notify Us that You wish to cancel Your insurance;
- the end of the calendar month in which You cease to be in an eligible class, subject to the Change in Class provision of the Eligibility Provisions: Insurance for You section; or
- the end of the calendar month in which Your employment ends.

For residents of Massachusetts:

If You are a resident of Massachusetts and Your insurance under this Certificate is ending under the above provision because Your employment has ended, instead of insurance ending on the date Your employment ends, the following timelines apply:

- If Your employment ends for any reason other than a Plant Closing or a Partial Plant Closing, Your insurance will end 31 days after the date Your employment ends. However, if during such 31 day period You become entitled to benefits under another policy that are similar to the benefits provided under this Certificate, insurance under this Certificate will end on the date You become entitled to such other benefits.
- If Your employment ends due to a Plant Closing or a Partial Plant Closing Your insurance will end 90 days after the date Your employment ends. However, if during such 90 day period, You become entitled to benefits under another policy that are similar to the benefits provided under this Certificate insurance under this Certificate will end on the date You become entitled to such other benefits.

DATE DEPENDENT INSURANCE ENDS

A Dependent's insurance under this Certificate will end on the earliest of:

- the date Your insurance under this Certificate ends;
- the date Dependent Insurance ends under the Group Policy for all employees or for Your class;
- the end of the calendar month in which the person ceases to be a Dependent;
- the end of the calendar month in which You cease to be in a class that is eligible for Dependent Insurance;
- the end of the calendar month in which the Dependent is no longer eligible as described in the Eligible Classes for Dependent Insurance provision; or
- the end of the period for which the last full premium has been paid for insurance for the Dependent.

WHEN INSURANCE ENDS (Continued)

EXTENSION OF BENEFITS

If a Covered Person is Confined on the date Your insurance ends, and You do not continue insurance under the At Your Option: Continuation with Premium Payment provision, We will pay certain benefits for such Covered Person if the Confinement continues after Your insurance ends, in accordance with, and subject to all of the following:

- No benefits will be available under this Extension of Benefits provision if Your insurance ends due to non-payment of premium.
- The Confinement Benefit will be payable if requirements for payment of those benefits are met while the Covered Person is Confined. No other benefits will be payable.
- Benefits payable under this Extension of Benefits provision will be paid in accordance with and subject to the terms and conditions of this Certificate, except as set forth in this provision.
- Benefits under this Extension of Benefits provision will end on the earlier of:
 - the date the Covered Person is no longer Confined; or
 - the end of the number of days that Confinement Benefits are payable for the Confinement.
- If the Covered Person is again Confined at any time after discharge, no further benefits will be payable.

CHANGE IN CLASS

If there is more than one class eligible for insurance under the Group Policy, and each class has its own certificate, instead of receiving a new certificate when You move between classes, You will remain insured under this Certificate if:

- You move to a class that is eligible for Hospital Indemnity Insurance under the Group Policy; and
- the benefits available to Your new class are identical to the benefits available under this Certificate.

In all other cases when You move between classes, Your insurance under this Certificate will end on the date You are no longer a member of the class eligible for insurance under this Certificate.

CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE

AT YOUR OPTION: CONTINUATION WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT

If Your insurance ends under the Date Your Insurance Ends provision of this Certificate, in certain situations, it may be continued for You and Your Dependents, as described in this provision. This is referred to in this provision as "Continued Insurance". Evidence of insurability will not be required to obtain Continued Insurance. For purposes of this provision, insurance in effect under the Group Policy for which the Group Policyholder remits premium is referred to in this provision as "Group Billed Insurance".

Except as described below, Continued Insurance is subject to all of the conditions, maximums, limitations, exclusions and Proof requirements contained in the provisions of this Certificate.

Requirements for Continued Insurance

Continued Insurance will be available to You if:

- Your Group Billed Insurance ends for any reason other than:
 - non-payment of premium or Contribution; or
 - the end of the Group Policy, provided that Continued Insurance will be available to You if You do not become eligible, within 30 days after the end of the Group Policy, for hospital indemnity insurance under another policy of group insurance available through the Group Policyholder;
- We receive Your completed Written request for Continued Insurance on a form approved by Us within 31 calendar days after Your Group Billed Insurance ends; and
- You pay premiums required for Continued Insurance by the due date specified in the premium notice sent to You.

Changes in Continued Insurance

You may elect to decrease Your insurance after the date that Continued Insurance goes into effect for You if a lower benefit option is available. In addition, You may end insurance for any or all of Your Dependents. Please contact Us for information. You may not increase insurance once Continued Insurance goes into effect.

Contributions for Continued Insurance

The Contribution that You must pay for Continued Insurance is the amount of Your Contribution for Your Group Billed Insurance before it ended, plus any amount of premium that the Group Policyholder paid. The Contribution that You must pay for Continued Insurance will be determined on the same basis as premium rates charged for Group Billed Insurance. We have the right to change premium rates in accordance with the terms set forth in the Group Policy. All payments for Continued Insurance must be made directly to Us by the due date specified in the premium notice We send to You.

CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE (Continued)

End of Continued Insurance

Continued Insurance will end on the earliest of the following dates:

- the date You die;
- if You do not pay a Contribution that is required for Continued Insurance, the end of the period for which the last full premium has been paid for Your insurance;
- with respect to Continued Insurance for a Dependent:
 - the date Continued Insurance for You ends for any reason;
 - the end of the calendar month in which the Dependent no longer meets the definition of a Dependent; or
 - the end of the calendar month in which the Dependent is no longer eligible as described in the Eligibility Provisions: Dependent Insurance section of this Certificate.

FOR MENTALLY OR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Insurance for a Dependent Child may be continued past the age limit if that child is incapable of self-sustaining employment because of a mental or physical handicap as defined by applicable law. Proof of such handicap must be sent to Us within 31 days after the date the Dependent Child attains the age limit and at reasonable intervals after such date, but no more often than annually after the two year period following such Dependent Child's attainment of the limiting age.

Except as stated in the Date Dependent Insurance Ends provision of the When Insurance Ends section of this Certificate, insurance will continue while such Dependent Child:

- remains incapable of self-sustaining employment because of a mental or physical handicap; and
- continues to qualify as a Dependent Child, except for the age limit.

FOR FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

Certain leaves of absence may qualify under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) or similar state laws for continuation of insurance. Please contact the Group Policyholder for information regarding the FMLA or any similar state law.

CLAIMS

NOTICE OF CLAIM

You must give Us notice of a claim under this Certificate by Writing to Us or calling Us at the toll free number shown on the face page of this Certificate within 30 days of the date of the loss.

CLAIM FORM

When We receive notice of a claim under this Certificate, We will provide You or the claimant with a claim form. If We do not provide the claim form within 10 days from the date We received notice of claim, Our claim form requirements will be satisfied if We are provided with the required Proof in support of the claim.

PROOF OF LOSS

Proof must be provided to Us not later than 90 days after the date of the loss. If notice of claim or Proof is not given within the time limits described in this section, the delay will not cause a claim to be denied or reduced if such notice and Proof are given as soon as is reasonably possible.

PAYMENT OF BENEFITS

When We receive the claim form and Proof, We will review the claim and, if We approve it, We will pay benefits subject to the terms and provisions of this Certificate and the Group Policy as follows:

After We receive a claim, We will mail to You or other person claiming payment under this Certificate, within 15 working days for an electronic claim, and within 30 calendar days for a paper claim, either:

- payment of benefits if Proof has been established; or
- notice which states the reasons We may have for failing to pay the claim, either in whole or in part. Our notice will provide itemization of any documents or other information needed to process the claim or any portions of the claim which are not being paid. If We dispute a portion of the claim, benefits for the undisputed portion of the claim (for which Proof has been established) will be paid by Us in accordance with the terms and provisions of this Certificate.

When all of the itemized documents or other information needed to process the claim have been received by Us, We will then have, for an electronic claim, 15 working days, and for a paper claim 30 calendar days, within which to process the claim and either:

- pay benefits if Proof has been established; or
- mail a notice denying the claim, in whole or in part, which provides Our reasons for such denial.

Receipt of any Proof, claim, or documentation by an entity which administers or processes claims on Our behalf will be deemed receipt of by Us. If we fail to comply with the timeframes stated in this provision, We will pay to You or other person claiming payment under this Certificate, interest in an amount determined by applicable law on the benefits due under the terms of this Certificate.

Unless You have assigned this insurance, all benefits to be paid under this Certificate will be paid to You, except as follows:

- If You are not alive to receive benefits that are payable to You, We will pay any benefits in accordance with the provision below titled Your Beneficiary.
- If You are living when benefits are to be paid to You, but You are not legally competent to claim or receive the benefits, We may pay up to \$1,000 to anyone related to You by blood or marriage who We believe is entitled to payment of the benefits. If We make such a payment in good faith, We will not be liable to anyone for the amount We pay. Any remaining benefits will be paid to Your legal representative.

If benefits have been assigned, We will pay benefits in accordance with the Assignment provision of the General Provisions section.

CLAIMS (Continued)

YOUR BENEFICIARY

A beneficiary may be named by You to receive any benefit that becomes payable to You under this Certificate that You are not alive to receive.

You may request to change Your beneficiary at any time. A beneficiary change request must be made to Us in Writing. Once the request is recorded, the change will take effect as of the date You sign the request, whether or not You are living when We receive the request. The change will be subject to any legal restrictions. It will also be subject to any payment We made or action We took before We recorded the change. If You designated two or more beneficiaries and their shares are not specified, they will share the benefit payable equally.

If there is no beneficiary designated or no surviving beneficiary at Your death, We will determine the beneficiary according to the following order:

1. Your Spouse, if alive;
2. Your child(ren), if there is no surviving Spouse;
3. Your parent(s), if there is no surviving child;
4. Your sibling(s), if there is no surviving parent; or
5. Your estate, if there is no surviving sibling.

Instead of making payment in the order above, We may pay Your estate. Any payment made in good faith will discharge our liability to the extent of such payment. If a beneficiary or a Payee is a minor or incompetent to receive payment, We will pay that person's guardian.

AUTHORIZATIONS

We may require that You provide authorization for Us to obtain medical information and any other information pertinent to Your claim.

EXAMINATIONS

During the pendency of a claim, at Our expense and as often as is reasonably necessary, We may require a Covered Person to have an independent examination by a Physician of Our choice.

During the pendency of a claim, at Our expense and as often as is reasonably necessary, We may have Our representatives conduct telephone or in-person interviews with You regarding Your claim.

AUTOPSY

At Our expense, We have the right to make a reasonable request for an autopsy and/or exhumation where permitted by law. Any such request will set forth the reasons We are requesting the autopsy or exhumation.

TIME LIMIT ON LEGAL ACTIONS

A legal action on a claim may only be brought against Us during a certain period. This period begins 60 days after the date Proof is filed and ends three years after the date such Proof is required to be filed.

REFUND TO US FOR OVERPAYMENT OF BENEFITS

If, at any time, We determine that the benefits paid under this Certificate were more than the benefits due:

- You, or any other person, entity or health care provider to whom We over paid benefits have the obligation to reimburse Us for the amount of such overpayment; and
- We have the right to recover the amount of such overpayment from You, or any other person, entity or health care provider to whom We over paid benefits, including offsetting future benefits payable to You or such other person, entity or health care provider by an amount equivalent to the overpayment.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

ENTIRE CONTRACT

Your insurance is provided under a contract of group insurance with the Group Policyholder. The entire contract with the Group Policyholder is made up of the following:

- the Group Policy and its Exhibits, which include the Certificate(s);
- the Group Policyholder's application; and
- any amendments and/or endorsements to the Group Policy.

INCONTESTABILITY: STATEMENTS MADE BY YOU

Any statement made by You will be considered a representation and not a warranty. We will not use such a statement to void insurance, reduce benefits or defend a claim unless the following requirements are met:

- the statement is in a form that is in Writing;
- You have Signed the form; and
- a copy of the form has been given to You or Your beneficiary.

We will not use Your statements which relate to insurability to contest this insurance after it has been in force for 2 years, unless the statement is fraudulent. In addition, We will not use such statements to contest a benefit increase after the benefit increase has been in force for 2 years, unless such statement is fraudulent.

MISSTATEMENTS

If Your or Your Dependent's age is misstated, the correct age will be used to determine if insurance is in effect and, as appropriate, We will adjust the benefits and/or Contributions.

ASSIGNMENT

The benefits under the Group Policy are not assignable prior to a claim, except as required by law.

CONFORMITY WITH LAW

If the terms and provision of this Certificate do not conform to any applicable law, this Certificate shall be interpreted to so conform.

STANDARD OF TIME

All insurance becomes effective and terminates at 12:01 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, or at 12:01 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time if Daylight Savings Time is then being observed.

ACCESS TO DISCOUNTS FOR SERVICES

You will receive access to discounts for certain services, where available.