

**HOSPITAL INDEMNITY PLAN 1**



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

**Certificate Rider**

**Group Policy No.:** 0216418

**Policyholder:** Dougherty County School System

**Rider Effective Date:** The later of January 1, 2024 or the date that applies to the insured's Certificate as shown in the insured's Certificate or the Group Policyholder's participant file which has been provided to MetLife.

Your Certificate is changed as follows:

The following notices are added to the Notices section of Your Certificate:

**NOTICES  
GROUP HOSPITAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE**

**THERE MAY BE DIFFERENCES IN BENEFITS, ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, LIMITATIONS OR EXCLUSIONS THAT APPLY BASED ON STATE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STATE IN WHICH YOU RESIDE ON THE INITIAL DATE OF YOUR COVERAGE.**

**PLEASE READ ANY NOTICE(S) THAT FOLLOW BELOW CAREFULLY. ANY SUCH NOTICE(S) PROVIDE REQUIRED DISCLOSURES AND INFORMATION ABOUT SIGNIFICANT STATE REQUIREMENTS.**

**PLEASE CONTACT US WITH QUESTIONS OR FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.**

**ARKANSAS NOTICE:**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION CONCERNING YOUR COVERAGE OR A CLAIM, FIRST CONTACT YOUR GROUP EMPLOYER OR GROUP ACCOUNT ADMINISTRATOR. IF, AFTER DOING SO, YOU STILL HAVE A CONCERN, YOU MAY CALL METLIFE'S TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE**

**NUMBER: 1-800-GET-MET8**

**IF YOU ARE STILL CONCERNED AFTER CONTACTING BOTH YOUR GROUP EMPLOYER AND METLIFE, YOU SHOULD FEEL FREE TO CONTACT:**

**ARKANSAS INSURANCE DEPARTMENT  
1 COMMERCE WAY, SUITE 102  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72202  
(800) 852-5494 or (501) 371-2640**

**YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE ARKANSAS INSURANCE DEPARTMENT (AID). YOU MAY CALL AID TO REQUEST A COMPLAINT FORM AT (800) 852-5494 or (501) 371-2640**

**COLORADO NOTICES:**

**THIS IS A LIMITED HEALTH BENEFIT COVERAGE POLICY AND IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR MAJOR MEDICAL COVERAGE. LACK OF MAJOR MEDICAL COVERAGE (OR MINIMUM ESSENTIAL COVERAGE) MAY RESULT IN AN ADDITIONAL PAYMENT WITH YOUR TAXES.**

**In Colorado, the type of insurance provided under this Certificate is referred to as Group Accident and Sickness Insurance.**

It is unlawful to knowingly provide false, incomplete or misleading facts or information to an insurance company for the purpose of defrauding or attempting to defraud the company. Penalties may include imprisonment, fines, denial of insurance and civil damages. Any insurance company or agent of an insurance company who knowingly provides false, incomplete, or misleading facts or information to a policyholder or claimant for the purpose of defrauding or attempting to defraud the policyholder or claimant with regard to a settlement or award payable from insurance proceeds shall be reported to the Colorado Division of Insurance within the Department of Regulatory Agencies.

**CONTACT US**

If You have questions about Your insurance coverage You may contact MetLife at 1-800-GET-MET8.

MetLife Toll Free Number(s):

For Claim Information	1-800-GET-MET8
For General Information	1-800-GET-MET8

To make a complaint to MetLife, You may Write to:

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company  
Attn: Consumer Relations Department  
700 Quaker Lane, 2nd Floor  
Warwick, Rhode Island 02886

Or call MetLife at 1-800-GET MET8 or 1-800-438-6388.

**Appeals:** If We deny Your claim, in whole or in part, Our denial letter will provide information on the process to appeal the claim.

**CONNECTICUT NOTICES:**

**This Certificate does not replace or otherwise effect any statutorily required workers' compensation insurance required to be provided to You by law.**

**BENEFITS FOR CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS ARE LIMITED TO THE BENEFITS LISTED IN YOUR OUTLINE OF COVERAGE.**

**FLORIDA NOTICE:**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

For information about coverage or assistance in resolving complaints  
contact Us at 1-800-GET-MET8

**IDAHO NOTICES:**

**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 the number set forth in the Certificate. 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.**

You may contact the Idaho Department of Insurance at:

Idaho Department of Insurance  
Consumer Affairs  
700 W State Street, 3rd Floor  
PO Box 83720

Boise, ID 83720-0043  
1-800-721-3272 or 208-334-4250  
[www.doi.idaho.gov](http://www.doi.idaho.gov)

**Notice to Buyer: This is a Hospital Confinement Indemnity Certificate. This certificate provides limited benefits. Benefits provided are supplemental and are not intended to cover all medical expenses.**

**BENEFITS FOR IDAHO RESIDENTS ARE LIMITED TO THE HOSPITAL BENEFITS LISTED IN YOUR OUTLINE OF COVERAGE.**

**THIS IS A LIMITED CERTIFICATE – READ IT CAREFULLY**

**THE CONFINEMENT BENEFIT FOR NEWBORN NURSERY CARE SHOWN ON THE SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE OF THIS CERTIFICATE IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR, AND DOES NOT APPLY TO, NEW HAMPSHIRE RESIDENTS.**

THIS IS A SUPPLEMENT TO HEALTH INSURANCE AND IS NOT A SUBSTITUTUTE FOR MAJOR MEDICAL COVERAGE.

**NOTICE TO BUYER: THIS IS A HOSPITAL CONFINEMENT INDEMNITY CERTIFICATE. THIS CERTIFICATE PROVIDES LIMITED BENEFITS. BENEFITS PROVIDED ARE SUPPLEMENTAL AND ARE NOT INTENDED TO COVER ALL MEDICAL EXPENSES.**

This Certificate provides limited benefits. Benefits provided are not intended to cover medical expenses.

**Notice to Buyer: This is an ancillary health Certificate. This Certificate provides limited benefits. Benefits provided are supplemental and are not intended to cover all medical expenses.**

This Certificate may, at any time within 30 days after its receipt by the Certificateholder, be returned by delivering it or mailing it to Us or the agent through whom it was purchased or by calling Us at the number set forth in the Certificate. Immediately upon such delivery, mailing or cancellation by phone, the Certificate will be deemed void from the beginning, and any premium paid on it will be refunded.

This Certificate does not provide comprehensive health insurance coverage. It is not intended to satisfy the individual mandate of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) or provide the minimum essential coverage required by the ACA (often referred to as "Major Medical Coverage"). It does not provide coverage for hospital, medical, surgical, or major medical expenses.

**Patients' Bill of Rights**

Pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 151:21, the rights and responsibilities of each patient admitted to a facility, except those admitted by a home health care provider, shall include, as a minimum, the following:

- I. The patient shall be treated with consideration, respect, and full recognition of the patient's dignity and individuality, including privacy in treatment and personal care and including being informed of the name, licensure status, and staff position of all those with whom the patient has contact, pursuant to RSA 151:3-b.
- II. The patient shall be fully informed of a patient's rights and responsibilities and of all procedures governing patient conduct and responsibilities. This information must be provided orally and in writing before or at admission, except for emergency admissions. Receipt of the information must be acknowledged by the patient in writing. When a patient lacks the capacity to make informed judgments the signing must be by the person legally responsible for the patient.
- III. The patient shall be fully informed in writing in language that the patient can understand, before or at the time of admission and as necessary during the patient's stay, of the facility's basic per diem rate and of those services included and not included in the basic per diem rate. A statement of services that are not normally covered by Medicare or Medicaid shall also be included in this disclosure.

- IV. The patient shall be fully informed by a health care provider of his or her medical condition, health care needs, and diagnostic test results, including the manner by which such results will be provided and the expected time interval between testing and receiving results, unless medically inadvisable and so documented in the medical record, and shall be given the opportunity to participate in the planning of his or her total care and medical treatment, to refuse treatment, and to be involved in experimental research upon the patient's written consent only. For the purposes of this paragraph "health care provider" means any person, corporation, facility, or institution either licensed by this state or otherwise lawfully providing health care services, including, but not limited to, a physician, hospital or other health care facility, dentist, nurse, optometrist, podiatrist, physical therapist, or psychologist, and any officer, employee, or agent of such provider acting in the course and scope of employment or agency related to or supportive of health care services.
- V. The patient shall be transferred or discharged after appropriate discharge planning only for medical reasons, for the patient's welfare or that of other patients, if the facility ceases to operate, or for nonpayment for the patient's stay, except as prohibited by Title XVIII or XIX of the Social Security Act. No patient shall be involuntarily discharged from a facility because the patient becomes eligible for Medicaid as a source of payment.
- VI. The patient shall be encouraged and assisted throughout the patient's stay to exercise the patient's rights as a patient and citizen. The patient may voice grievances and recommend changes in policies and services to facility staff or outside representatives free from restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination, or reprisal.
- VII. The patient shall be permitted to manage the patient's personal financial affairs. If the patient authorizes the facility in writing to assist in this management and the facility so consents, the assistance shall be carried out in accordance with the patient's rights under this subdivision and in conformance with state law and rules.
- VIII. The patient shall be free from emotional, psychological, sexual and physical abuse and from exploitation, neglect, corporal punishment and involuntary seclusion.
- IX. The patient shall be free from chemical and physical restraints except when they are authorized in writing by a physician for a specific and limited time necessary to protect the patient or others from injury. In an emergency, restraints may be authorized by the designated professional staff member in order to protect the patient or others from injury. The staff member must promptly report such action to the physician and document same in the medical records.
- X. The patient shall be ensured confidential treatment of all information contained in the patient's personal and clinical record, including that stored in an automatic data bank, and the patient's written consent shall be required for the release of information to anyone not otherwise authorized by law to receive it. Medical information contained in the medical records at any facility licensed under this chapter shall be deemed to be the property of the patient. The patient shall be entitled to a copy of such records upon request. The charge for the copying of a patient's medical records shall not exceed \$15 for the first 30 pages or \$.50 per page, whichever is greater; provided, that copies of filmed records such as radiograms, x-rays, and sonograms shall be copied at a reasonable cost.
- XI. The patient shall not be required to perform services for the facility. Where appropriate for therapeutic or diversional purposes and agreed to by the patient, such services may be included in a plan of care and treatment.
- XII. The patient shall be free to communicate with, associate with, and meet privately with anyone, including family and resident groups, unless to do so would infringe upon the rights of other patients. The patient may send and receive unopened personal mail. The patient has the right to have regular access to the unmonitored use of a telephone.
- XIII. The patient shall be free to participate in activities of any social, religious, and community groups, unless to do so would infringe upon the rights of other patients.
- XIV. The patient shall be free to retain and use personal clothing and possessions as space permits, provided it does not infringe on the rights of other patients.

- XV. The patient shall be entitled to privacy for visits and, if married, to share a room with his or her spouse if both are patients in the same facility and where both patients consent, unless it is medically contraindicated and so documented by a physician. The patient has the right to reside and receive services in the facility with reasonable accommodation of individual needs and preferences, including choice of room and roommate, except when the health and safety of the individual or other patients would be endangered.
- XVI. The patient shall not be denied appropriate care on the basis of age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, color, marital status, familial status, disability, religion, national origin, source of income, source of payment, or profession.
- XVII. The patient shall be entitled to be treated by the patient's physician of choice, subject to reasonable rules and regulations of the facility regarding the facility's credentialing process.
- XVIII. The patient shall be entitled to have the patient's parents, if a minor, or spouse, or next of kin, unmarried partner, or a personal representative chosen by the patient, if an adult, visit the facility, without restriction, if the patient is considered terminally ill by the physician responsible for the patient's care.
- XIX. The patient shall be entitled to receive representatives of approved organizations as provided in RSA 151:28.
- XX. The patient shall not be denied admission to the facility based on Medicaid as a source of payment when there is an available space in the facility.
- XXI. Subject to the terms and conditions of the patient's insurance plan, the patient shall have access to any provider in his or her insurance plan network and referral to a provider or facility within such network shall not be unreasonably withheld pursuant to RSA 420-J:8, XIV.



**NEW MEXICO NOTICES:**

**NOTICE TO CONSUMER: This is a limited benefits health plan. The benefits provided are supplemental to, and not a substitute for, major medical coverage, even in combination with other limited benefits plans. To apply for an individual or small-group major medical plan, please visit the website of the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange at [www.bewellnm.com](http://www.bewellnm.com) or call 1-833-862-3935 (TTY: 711).**

**Consumer Complaint Notice.** If You are a resident of New Mexico, Your coverage will be administered in accordance with the minimum applicable standards of New Mexico law. If You have concerns regarding a claim, premium, or other matters relating to this coverage, You may file a complaint with the New Mexico Office of Superintendent of Insurance (OSI) using the complaint form available on the OSI website and found at: <https://www.osi.state.nm.us/Consumer Assistance/index.aspx>.

**NORTH CAROLINA NOTICES:**

**IMPORTANT CANCELLATION INFORMATION: Please read the provision titled "Date Your Insurance Ends".**

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

- (1) CAUSE THE CANCELLATION OR NONRENEWAL OF GROUP HEALTH OR LIFE INSURANCE, HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR DENTAL SERVICE CORPORATION PLAN, MULTIPLE EMPLOYER WELFARE ARRANGEMENT, OR GROUP HEALTH PLAN COVERAGES AND THE CONSEQUENTIAL LOSS OF THE COVERAGES OF THE PERSONS INSURED BY WILLFULLY FAILING TO PAY THOSE PREMIUMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE INSURANCE OR PLAN CONTRACT, AND
- (2) WILLFULLY FAIL TO DELIVER AT LEAST 45 DAYS BEFORE THE TERMINATION OF THOSE COVERAGES, TO ALL PERSONS COVERED BY THE GROUP POLICY A WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE PERSON'S INTENTION TO STOP PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS. THIS WRITTEN NOTICE MUST ALSO CONTAIN A NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS COVERED BY THE GROUP POLICY OF THEIR RIGHTS, IF ANY, TO HEALTH INSURANCE CONVERSION POLICIES UNDER ARTICLE 53 OF CHAPTER 58 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES AND THEIR RIGHTS TO PURCHASE INDIVIDUAL POLICIES UNDER THE FEDERAL HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT AND UNDER ARTICLE 68 OF CHAPTER 58 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES.

VIOLATION OF THIS LAW IS A FELONY. ANY PERSON VIOLATING THIS LAW IS ALSO SUBJECT TO A COURT ORDER REQUIRING THE PERSON TO COMPENSATE PERSONS INSURED FOR EXPENSES OR LOSSES INCURRED AS A RESULT OF THE TERMINATION OF THE INSURANCE.

**NORTH DAKOTA NOTICE(S):**

**30 Day Right to Examine Certificate:**

Please read the 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 the number set forth in the Certificate. If You notify Us that You are cancelling within the 30 day period, the 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.

**OHIO NOTICE:**

**COVERAGE FOR RESIDENTS OF OHIO INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS DESCRIBED IN THE OUTLINE OF COVERAGE:**

- **ANCILLARY CONFINEMENT BENEFIT FOR CHILDBIRTH**
- **MATERNITY FOLLOW-UP CARE BENEFIT**

**OKLAHOMA NOTICE:**

**WARNING:** Any person who knowingly, and with intent to injure, defraud or deceive any insurer, makes any claim for the proceeds of an insurance policy containing any false, incomplete or misleading information is guilty of a felony.

**SOUTH DAKOTA NOTICE(S):**

**This limited health benefits plan does not provide comprehensive medical coverage. It is a basic or limited benefits Certificate and is not intended to cover all medical expenses. This plan is not designed to cover the costs of serious or chronic illness.**

## **TEXAS NOTICES:**

**THE INSURANCE POLICY UNDER WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED IS NOT A POLICY OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE. YOU SHOULD CONSULT YOUR EMPLOYER TO DETERMINE WHETHER YOUR EMPLOYER IS A SUBSCRIBER TO THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION SYSTEM.**

### **Have a complaint or need help?**

If You have a problem with a claim or Your premium, call Your insurance company or HMO first. If You can't work out the issue, the Texas Department of Insurance may be able to help.

Even if You file a complaint with the Texas Department of Insurance, You should also file a complaint or appeal through Your insurance company or HMO. If You don't, You may lose Your right to appeal.

### **Metropolitan Life Insurance Company**

To get information or file a complaint with Your insurance company or HMO:

**Call: Corporate Consumer Relations Department at 1-800-438-6388**

**Toll-free: 1-800-438-6388**

Email: [Johnstown\\_Complaint\\_Referrals@metlife.com](mailto:Johnstown_Complaint_Referrals@metlife.com)

Mail: Metropolitan Life Insurance Company  
700 Quaker Lane, 2nd Floor  
Warwick, Rhode Island 02886

### **The Texas Department of Insurance**

To get help with an insurance question or file a complaint with the state:

Call with a question: 1-800-252-3439

File a complaint: [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

Email: [ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov)

Mail: MC 111-1A, P.O. Box 149091, Austin, TX 78714-9091

### **¿Tiene una queja o necesita ayuda?**

Si tiene un problema con una reclamación o con su prima de seguro, llame primero a su compañía de seguros o HMO. Si no puede resolver el problema, es posible que el Departamento de Seguros de Texas (Texas Department of Insurance, por su nombre en inglés) pueda ayudar.

Aun si usted presenta una queja ante el Departamento de Seguros de Texas, también debe presentar una queja a través del proceso de quejas o de apelaciones de su compañía de seguros o HMO. Si no lo hace, podría perder su derecho para apelar.

## **Metropolitan Life Insurance Company**

Para obtener información o para presentar una queja ante su compañía de seguros o HMO:

**Llame a: Departamento de Relaciones Corporativas del Consumidor al 1-800-438-6388**

**Teléfono gratuito: 1-800-438-6388**

Correo electrónico: [Johnstown\\_Complaint\\_Referrals@metlife.com](mailto:Johnstown_Complaint_Referrals@metlife.com)

Dirección postal: Metropolitan Life Insurance Company  
700 Quaker Lane, 2nd Floor  
Warwick, Rhode Island 02886

## **El Departamento de Seguros de Texas**

Para obtener ayuda con una pregunta relacionada con los seguros o para presentar una queja ante el estado:

Llame con sus preguntas al: 1-800-252-3439

Presente una queja en: [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

Correo electrónico: [ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov)

Dirección postal: MC 111-1A, P.O. Box 149091, Austin, TX 78714-9091

## UTAH NOTICE(S):

### Notice of Protection Provided by Utah Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association

This notice provides a brief summary of the Utah Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association ("the Association") and the protection it provides for policyholders. This safety net was created under Utah law, which determines who and what is covered and the amounts of coverage.

The Association was established to provide protection in the unlikely event that Your life, health, or annuity insurance company becomes financially unable to meet its obligations and is taken over by its insurance regulatory agency. If this should happen, the Association will typically arrange to continue coverage and pay claims, in accordance with Utah law, with funding from assessments paid by other insurance companies.

The basic protections provided by the Association are:

- Life Insurance
  - o \$500,000 in death benefits
  - o \$200,000 in cash surrender or withdrawal values
- Health Insurance
  - o \$500,000 in hospital, medical and surgical insurance benefits
  - o \$500,000 in long-term care insurance benefits
  - o \$500,000 in disability income insurance benefits
  - o \$500,000 in other types of health insurance benefits
- Annuities
  - o \$250,000 in withdrawal and cash values

The maximum amount of protection for each individual, regardless of the number of policies or contracts, is \$500,000. Special rules may apply with regard to hospital, medical and surgical insurance benefits.

**Note: Certain policies and contracts may not be covered or fully covered.** For example, coverage does not extend to any portion of a policy or contract that the insurer does not guarantee, such as certain investment additions to the account value of a variable life insurance policy or a variable annuity contract. Coverage is conditioned on residency in this state and there are substantial limitations and exclusions. For a complete description of coverage, consult Utah Code, Title 31A, Chapter 28.

**Insurance companies and agents are prohibited by Utah law to use the existence of the Association or its coverage to encourage You to purchase insurance. When selecting an insurance company, You should not rely on Association coverage. If there is any inconsistency between Utah law and this notice, Utah law will control.**

To learn more about the above protections, as well as protections relating to group contracts or retirement plans, please visit the Association's website at [www.utlifega.org](http://www.utlifega.org) or contact:

Utah Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Assoc.  
60 East South Temple, Suite 500  
Salt Lake City UT 84111  
(801) 320-9955

Utah Insurance Department  
3110 State Office Building  
Salt Lake City UT 84114-6901  
(801) 538-3800

A written complaint about misuse of this Notice or the improper use of the existence of the Association may be filed with the Utah Insurance Department at the above address.

**VERMONT NOTICE:**

**THIS POLICY DOES NOT MEET THE MINIMUM COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT. YOU SHOULD NOT PURCHASE THIS POLICY UNLESS YOU ARE ALREADY COVERED BY COMPREHENSIVE MAJOR MEDICAL INSURANCE.**

**WASHINGTON NOTICE(S):**

**Benefits provided under this Certificate are non-coordinated - this means that benefits are payable without regard to any other coverage that You may have.**

**WEST VIRGINIA NOTICE(S):**

**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.**

**WISCONSIN NOTICE:**

**KEEP THIS NOTICE WITH YOUR INSURANCE PAPERS**

**PROBLEMS WITH YOUR INSURANCE?** - If You are having problems with Your insurance company or agent, do not hesitate to contact the insurance company or agent to resolve Your problem.

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company  
700 Quaker Lane, 2nd Floor  
Warwick, Rhode Island 02886

Toll Free Telephone: 1-800-GET-MET8

You can also contact the **OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE**, a state agency which enforces Wisconsin's insurance laws, and file a complaint. You can file a complaint electronically with the **OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE** at its website at <http://oci.wi.gov/> , or by contacting:

Office of the Commissioner of Insurance  
Complaints Department  
P.O. Box 7873  
Madison, WI 53707-7873  
1-800-236-8517  
608-266-0103

The Internal Grievance Review provision described below is added to Your coverage.

**INTERNAL GRIEVANCE REVIEW**

**Expedited Grievance** means a Grievance where any of the following applies:

- the duration of the standard Grievance resolution process will result in serious jeopardy to the life or health of the Covered Person or the ability of the Covered Person to regain maximum function;
- in the opinion of a Physician with knowledge of the Covered Person's medical condition, the Covered Person is subject to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the care or treatment that is the subject of the Grievance; or
- a Physician with knowledge of the Covered Person's medical condition determines that the Grievance shall be treated as an Expedited Grievance.

**Grievance** means any dissatisfaction with the claims practices or administration of the insurance provided under this Certificate that is expressed in Writing to Us by You or on Your behalf.

### **Grievance Procedure**

If a claim for insurance benefits is denied, We will notify You of Your right to file a Grievance. You can file a Grievance by Writing to MetLife at 700 Quaker Lane, 2nd Floor, Warwick, Rhode Island 02886, when We notify You of Your right to file a Grievance. You must do this within three years of the date Your claim is denied. Within five business days of Our receipt of Your Grievance, We will mail to You or Your authorized representative an acknowledgement confirming receipt.

### **Grievance Panel**

Once a Grievance has been filed, a Grievance Panel will promptly investigate the Grievance. The Grievance Panel will consist of at least one person with authority to take corrective action on the claim, and may include at least one person, other than You, who is insured by Us. Prior to the Grievance Panel making a final determination, You or Your authorized representative have the right to appear in person before the Grievance Panel and to present Written questions. At least seven calendar days prior to the Grievance Panel meeting, We will send You Written notification providing information as to the time and place of the meeting. After a decision has been made, a Written decision signed by one voting member of the Grievance Panel and a description of position titles of panel members involved in making the decision will be mailed to You.

### **Grievance Panel Decision Notification**

For Grievances that are subject to ERISA, the decision of the Grievance Panel will be mailed to You within a reasonable period of time, no later than 60 days after the date on which We received the Grievance. However, if We determine that special circumstances require an extension of time for processing the Grievance, Written notice of such extension will be mailed to You within 60 days after the date on which We received the Grievance. The notice will explain the special circumstances requiring the extension, and the date by which We expect the Grievance Panel to reach a decision regarding the Grievance. In no event shall such an extension end later than 120 days from the date on which We received the Grievance.

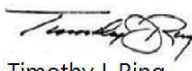
For Grievances that are not subject to ERISA, the decision of the Grievance Panel will be mailed to You no later than 30 calendar days after the date We receive the Grievance. However, if the Grievance Panel is unable to resolve the Grievance within 30 days of the date We received the Grievance, the time to resolve the Grievance may be extended by Us for an additional 30 calendar days if We provide Written notice to You or, if applicable, Your authorized representative, of all of the following:

- that the Grievance Panel has not resolved the Grievance;
- when resolution of the Grievance may be expected; and
- the reason additional time is needed.

### **Expedited Grievance Resolution**

If Your Grievance qualifies as an Expedited Grievance, You can file the Expedited Grievance by calling a number We will give You when We notify You of Your right to file a Grievance. An Expedited Grievance will be reviewed by a medical director who works for Us. The medical director will render a decision with respect to the Expedited Grievance within 72 hours of the date You call Us to file the Expedited Grievance. You must file an Expedited Grievance within three years of the date Your claim is denied.

**This Certificate Rider is to be attached to and made a part of the Certificate.**

  
Timothy J. Ring  
Secretary

  
Michel Khalaf  
President & CEO



**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: Dougherty County School System  
Group Policy Number: 0216418  
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.

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## COVERED PERSON SPECIFICATIONS

Certificate Effective Date:	The later of January 1, 2024 or the date that applies to the insured's Certificate as shown in the insured's Certificate or the Group Policyholder's participant file which has been provided to MetLife
Group Policyholder: Group Policy Number:	Dougherty County School System 0216418
MetLife Contact Information:	1-800-GETMET8
Your Name:	See Insured's Certificate or the Group Policyholder's participant file which has been provided to MetLife
Your Certificate Number:	See Insured's Certificate or the Group Policyholder's participant file which has been provided to MetLife
Coverage for Your Dependents	See Insured's Certificate 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

#### ICU Supplemental Admission Benefit

\$1,000 for the day of admission

#### 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: 180 days per Covered Person, per calendar year

#### Confinement Benefit for Newborn Nursery Care

\$50 per day

We will pay the Confinement Benefit for Newborn Nursery Care for no more than 2 days per newborn baby

#### ICU Supplemental Confinement Benefit

\$100 per day

We will pay the ICU Supplemental Confinement Benefit for no more than: 180 days per Covered Person, per calendar year

### 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 20 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 Dougherty County School System.

**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 working 20 hours or more

### **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.

## 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.

#### ICU Supplemental Admission Benefit

We will pay the ICU Supplemental Admission Benefit shown on the Schedule, in addition to the Admission Benefit, if a Covered Person, upon initial admission for Confinement to a Hospital for treatment of an Injury or Sickness, is admitted to an ICU, subject to all of the following:

- The admission must meet the requirements for payment of the Admission Benefit.
- For an ICU admission for treatment of an Injury, the admission must occur within 180 days after the Accident occurs.
- If the Covered Person moves to an ICU after initial admission to a Hospital, We will not pay the ICU Supplemental Admission Benefit.

## **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 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
- hemocult stool specimen
- hemoglobin A1C
- human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination
- immunization
- lipid panel
- mammogram
- oral cancer screening

## **OTHER BENEFITS (Continued)**

- pap smears or thin prep pap test
- prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test
- 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:

- the Covered Person's voluntary use, by any means, of:
  - any drug, medication or sedative, unless it is:
    - taken or used as prescribed by a Physician; or
    - an "over the counter" drug, medication or sedative taken as directed;
  - alcohol in combination with any drug, medication, or sedative; or
  - poison, gas, or fumes;
- the Covered Person's suicide or attempted suicide (while sane or insane);
- the Covered Person's intentionally self-inflicted injury;
- 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;
- the Covered Person's mental illness, or the diagnosis or treatment of such mental illness, except for the Covered Person's use of:
  - any drug, medication or sedative that is taken or used as prescribed by a Physician; or
  - an "over the counter" drug, medication or sedative taken as directed; 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; or
- any of the following outside of the United States, Canada or Mexico:
  - any medical or healthcare treatment, services or transportation; or
  - any inpatient admission or stay in any medical or health care 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.

## **EXCLUSIONS (Continued)**

The following additional exclusions applies to payment of benefits for any loss due to a Sickness:

We will not pay benefits under this Certificate for:

- a Dependent Child's Routine Childbirth and any well baby or nursing care provided to the Dependent Child's newborn child; or
- the Covered Person's alcoholism, drug addiction, chemical dependency or complications thereof.

## 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.