

PLAN DOCUMENT AND SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

FOR

MINIMUM ESSENTIAL COVERAGE PLAN

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ARTICLE I
**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PLAN: ADOPTION OF THE PLAN DOCUMENT AND SUMMARY
PLAN DESCRIPTION**

THIS PLAN DOCUMENT AND SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION, made by Axiom Staffing Group (the “Company” or the “Plan Sponsor”) as of 01/01/2016, hereby sets forth the provisions of the Axiom Staffing Group **Minimum Essential Coverage Plan** (the “Plan”). Any wording which may be contrary to Federal Laws or Statutes is hereby understood to meet the standards set forth in such. Also, any changes in Federal Laws or Statutes which could affect the Plan are also automatically a part of the Plan, if required.

Effective Date

The Plan Document is effective as of the date first set forth above, and each amendment is effective as of the date set forth therein (the “Effective Date”). The Plan shall take effect for each Participating Employer on the Effective Date as indicated, unless a different date is set forth opposite such Participating Employer’s name.

Adoption of the Plan Document

The Plan Sponsor, as the settlor of the Plan, hereby adopts this Plan Document as the written description of the Plan. This Plan Document represents both the Plan Document and the Summary Plan Description, which is required by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, 29 U.S.C. et seq. (“ERISA”). This Plan Document amends and replaces any prior statement of the health care coverage contained in the Plan or any predecessor to the Plan.

ARTICLE II **INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE; GENERAL PLAN INFORMATION**

Welcome to the Minimum Essential Coverage Plan. This document is a summary of your Preventive medical benefits, including information on eligibility requirements, termination, COBRA, and what to do if you do not agree with how a claim has been paid, and wish to appeal. Please feel free to call Caprock HealthPlans at 1-800-747-9446, if you have questions regarding any of these items.

Introduction and Purpose

The Plan Sponsor has established the Plan for the benefit of eligible Employees, in accordance with the terms and conditions described herein. Plan benefits may be self-funded through a benefit fund or a trust established by the Plan Sponsor and self-funded with contributions from Participants and/or the Plan Sponsor, or may be funded solely from the general assets of the Plan Sponsor. The Plan's benefits and administration expenses are paid directly from the Employer's general assets. Participants in the Plan may be required to contribute toward their benefits. Contributions received from Participants are used to cover Plan costs and are expended immediately.

The purpose of this Plan Document is to set forth the terms and provisions of the Plan that provide for the payment or reimbursement of all or a portion of certain expenses for eligible benefits. The Plan Document is maintained by the Plan Sponsor and may be inspected at any time during normal working hours by any Participant.

General Plan Information

Name of Plan: Axiom Staffing Group **Minimum Essential Coverage Plan**

Plan Sponsor/Plan Administrator (Named "Fiduciary)/ Agent for Service of Process
Axiom Staffing Group
"2475 Northwinds Parkway, Suite 575, Alpharetta, GA 30009
Enrollment First, Inc. 6712 Deane Hill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919
Phone: 865.684.1030
Email: Eligibility@Enroll1st.com

Privacy Compliance Coordinator

Contact Information:

Axiom Staffing Group
Rebecca Wilson
2475 Northwinds Parkway, Ste. 575
Alpharetta, GA 30009
Phone: 678.775.3946
Email: rwilson@axiomstaffing.com

Plan Sponsor ID No. (EIN): 58-2449544
Source of Funding: Self-Funded

Plan Status: Non-Grandfathered

Applicable Law: ERISA

Plan Year: 2016

Plan Number:

Plan Type: Medical

Third Party Administrator: HPHG, LLC dba Caprock HealthPlans

Mailing Address:
PO Box 54139
Lubbock, TX 79453-4139

Street Address:
4401 82nd Street
Ste 1200
Lubbock, TX 79424
Phone: 800-747-9446
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Plan Eligibility Requirements

The information below is a brief outline of several of the requirements for meeting eligibility specifications for coverage under this Plan. Conditions may change, and this Plan reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan at any time. Please see: **Article VI - Eligibility for Coverage**, and **Article VII Termination of Coverage**, for further detailed information regarding eligibility and termination provisions.

Waiting Period	First day of the month following date of hire.
Employee	<p>“Employee” shall mean a person who is a regular full time Employee of the Participating Employer, regularly scheduled to work for the Participating Employer at least 30 hours per week in an Employer / Employee relationship.</p> <p>Each Employee will become eligible for coverage under this Plan with respect to himself or herself on the first day of the month following completion of a Service Waiting Period specified above, provided the Employee has begun work for his or her Participating Employer. If the Employee is unable to begin work as scheduled, then his or her coverage will become effective on such later date when the Employee begins work. Each Employee who was covered under the Prior Plan, if any, will be eligible on the Effective Date of this Plan. Any Service Waiting Period or portion thereof satisfied under the Prior Plan, if any, will be applied toward satisfaction of the Service Waiting Period of this Plan.</p>
Dependent	<p>“Dependent” shall mean one or more of the following person(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a.) <i>Spouse</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An Employee’s lawfully married Spouse possessing a marriage license who is not divorced from the Employee, or an Employee’s common law Spouse, based upon a common law marriage which is legally recognized in the jurisdiction in which the Employee has his or her principal residence; b.) <i>Child</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. An Employee’s Child to the end of the month in which they attain 26 years of age. “Child” shall mean, in addition to the Employee’s own blood descendant of the first degree or lawfully adopted Child, a Child placed with a covered Employee in anticipation of adoption, a covered Employee’s Child who is an Alternate Recipient under a Qualified Medical Child Support Order as required by the Federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, any stepchild, an “eligible foster Child,” which is defined as an individual placed with the Employee by an authorized placement agency or by judgment, decree or other order of a court of competent jurisdiction or any other Child for whom the Employee has obtained legal guardianship; or 3. An Employee’s Child, regardless of age, who was continuously covered prior to attaining the limiting age under the provisions above, who is mentally or physically incapable of sustaining his or her own living. Such Child must have been mentally or physically incapable of earning his or her own living prior to attaining the limiting age under the provisions above. Written proof of such incapacity and dependency satisfactory to the Plan must be furnished and approved by the Plan within 31 days after the date the Child attains the limiting age under the provisions above. The time limit for written proof of incapacity and dependency is 31 days following the original eligibility date for a new or re-enrolling Employee. The Plan may require, at reasonable intervals, subsequent proof satisfactory to the Plan during the next two years after such date. After such two year period, the Plan may require such proof, but not more often than once each year. <p>“Dependent” does not include any person who is a member of the armed forces of any Country or who is a resident of a Country outside the United States. The Plan reserves the right to require documentation, satisfactory to the Plan Administrator, which establishes a Dependent relationship.</p>
Termination	The last day of the month when no longer in an eligible class, or as otherwise specified.
Extensions of Coverage	<p>The continuation of coverage described below will run concurrently with any COBRA continuation coverage:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the event of a layoff, coverage will continue for 18 months following the date of layoff; 2. In the event of Total Disability, coverage will continue for 18 months following termination of Active

	<p>Employment; or</p> <p>3. In the event of a Leave of Absence which does not meet the requirements of FMLA Leave, coverage will continue for 18 months.</p>
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Legal Entity; Service of Process

The Plan is a legal entity. Legal notice may be filed with, and legal process served upon, the Plan Administrator.

Not a Contract

This Plan Document and any amendments constitute the terms and provisions of coverage under this Plan. The Plan Document shall not be deemed to constitute a contract of any type between the Company and any Participant or to be consideration for, or an inducement or condition of, the employment of any Employee. Nothing in this Plan Document shall be deemed to give any Employee the right to be retained in the service of the Company or to interfere with the right of the Company to discharge any Employee at any time; provided, however, that the foregoing shall not be deemed to modify the provisions of any collective bargaining agreements which may be entered into by the Company with the bargaining representatives of any Employees.

Mental Health Parity

Pursuant to the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008, this Plan applies its terms uniformly and enforces parity between covered Preventive health care benefits and covered Preventive mental health and substance abuse disorder screening and counseling benefits relating to financial cost sharing restrictions and treatment duration limitations. For further details, please contact the Plan Administrator.

Applicable Law

This is a self-funded benefit plan coming within the purview of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”). The Plan is funded with Employee and/or Employer contributions. As such, when applicable, Federal law and jurisdiction preempt State law and jurisdiction.

Discretionary Authority

The Plan Administrator shall have sole, full and final discretionary authority to interpret all Plan provisions, including the right to remedy possible ambiguities, inconsistencies and/or omissions in the Plan and related documents; to make determinations in regards to issues relating to eligibility for benefits; to decide disputes that may arise relative to a Participants’ rights; and to determine all questions of fact and law arising under the Plan.

ARTICLE III DEFINITIONS

The following words and phrases shall have the following meanings when used in the Plan Document. **The following definitions are not an indication that charges for particular care, supplies or services are eligible for payment under the Plan, however they may be used to identify ineligible expenses; please refer to the appropriate sections of the Plan Document for that information.**

“Actively At Work” or “Active Employment”

“Actively At Work” or “Active Employment” shall mean performance by the Employee of all the regular duties of his or her occupation at an established business location of the Participating Employer, or at another location to which he or she may be required to travel to perform the duties of his or her employment. An Employee shall be deemed Actively at Work if the Employee is absent from work due to a health factor. In no event will an Employee be considered Actively at Work if he or she has effectively terminated employment.

“ADA”

“ADA” shall mean the American Dental Association.

“Adverse Benefit Determination”

“Adverse Benefit Determination” shall mean any of the following:

1. A denial in benefits;
2. A reduction in benefits;
3. A recession of coverage;
4. A termination of benefits; or
5. A failure to provide or make payment (in whole or in part) for a benefit, including any such denial, reduction, termination, or failure to provide or make payment that is based on a determination of a Claimant’s eligibility to participate in the Plan.

“Affordable Care Act” (ACA)

The “Affordable Care Act” means the health care reform law enacted in March 2010. The law was enacted in two parts: the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was signed into law on March 23, 2010 and was amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act on March 30, 2010. The name “Affordable Care Act” is commonly used to refer to health care reform law.

“AHA”

“AHA” shall mean the American Hospital Association.

“Allowable Expenses”

“Allowable Expenses” shall mean the Usual and Customary charge for any Medically Necessary, Reasonable, and eligible item of expense, at least a portion of which is covered under a plan. When some Other Plan pays first in accordance with the Application to Benefit Determination section herein, this Plan’s Allowable Expenses shall in no event exceed the Other Plan’s Allowable Expenses. When some Other Plan provides benefits in the form of services rather than cash payments, the reasonable cash value of each service rendered, in the amount that would be payable in accordance with the terms of the Plan, shall be deemed to be the benefit. Benefits payable under any Other Plan include the benefits that would have been payable had claim been duly made therefore.

“Alternate Recipient”

“Alternate Recipient” shall mean any Child of a Participant who is recognized under a Medical Child Support Order as having a right to enrollment under this Plan as the Participant’s eligible Dependent. For purposes of the benefits provided under this Plan, an Alternate Recipient shall be treated as an eligible Dependent, but for purposes of the reporting and disclosure requirements under ERISA, an Alternate Recipient shall have the same status as a Participant.

“AMA”

“AMA” shall mean the American Medical Association.

“Annual Enrollment Period”

“Annual Enrollment Period” shall occur each Plan Year.

“Assignment of Benefits”

“Assignment of Benefits” shall mean an arrangement whereby the Participant, at the discretion of the Plan Administrator, assigns their right to seek and receive payment of eligible Plan benefits, less Deductibles, co-payments and the coinsurance percentage that is not paid by the Plan, in strict accordance with the terms of this Plan Document, to a Provider. If a Provider accepts said arrangement, Providers’ rights to receive Plan benefits are equal to those of a Participant, and are limited by the terms of this Plan Document. A Provider that accepts this arrangement indicates acceptance of an “Assignment of Benefits” and Deductibles, co-payments and the coinsurance percentage that is the responsibility of the Participant, as consideration in full for services, supplies, and/or treatment rendered. The Plan Administrator may revoke or disregard an Assignment of Benefits at its discretion and continue to treat the Participant as the sole beneficiary.

“Calendar Year”

“Calendar Year” shall mean the 12-month period from January 1 through December 31 of each year.

“Child” and/or “Children”

See Article II – Introduction and Purpose; General Plan Information.

“CHIP” / CHIPRA

“CHIP” refers to the Children’s Health Insurance Program or Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 or any provision or section thereof, which is herein specifically referred to, as such act, provision or section may be amended from time to time.

“Claim Determination Period”

“Claim Determination Period” shall mean each Calendar Year.

“Clean Claim”

A “Clean Claim” is one that can be processed in accordance with the terms of this document without obtaining additional information from the service Provider or a third party. It is a claim which has no defect or impropriety. A defect or impropriety shall include a lack of required sustaining documentation as set forth and in accordance with this document, or a particular circumstance requiring special treatment which prevents timely payment as set forth in this document, and only as permitted by this document, from being made. A Clean Claim does not include claims under investigation for fraud and abuse or claims under review for Medical Necessity and Reasonableness, or fees under review for Usual and Customariness, or any other matter that may prevent the charge(s) from being Covered Expenses in accordance with the terms of this document.

Filing a Clean Claim. A Provider submits a Clean Claim by providing the required data elements on the standard claims forms, along with any attachments and additional elements or revisions to data elements, of which the Provider has knowledge. The Plan Administrator may require attachments or other information in addition to these standard forms (as noted elsewhere in this document and at other times prior to claim submittal) to ensure charges constitute Covered Expenses as defined by and in accordance with the terms of this document. The paper claim form or electronic file record must include all required data elements and must be complete, legible, and accurate. A claim will not be considered to be a Clean Claim if the Participant has failed to submit required forms or additional information to the Plan as well.

“COBRA”

“COBRA” shall mean the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, as amended.

“Covered Expense” or “Covered Service”

“Covered Expense” or “Covered Service” is a service or supply provided in accordance with the terms of this document, whose applicable charge amount does not exceed the Maximum Payable Amount. It means a Usual and Customary fee for a Reasonable, Medically Necessary service, treatment or supply, meant to improve a condition or participant’s health, which is eligible for coverage in this Plan. Covered Expenses will be determined based upon all other Plan provisions. When more than one treatment option is available, and one option is no more effective than another, the Covered Expense is the least costly option that is no less effective than any other option.

All treatment is subject to benefit payment maximums shown in the Summary of Benefits and as determined elsewhere in this document.

“Custodial Care”

“Custodial Care” shall mean care or confinement provided primarily for the maintenance of the Participant, essentially designed to assist the Participant, whether or not Totally Disabled, in the activities of daily living, which could be rendered at home or by persons without professional skills or training. This care is not reasonably expected to improve the underlying medical condition, even though it may relieve symptoms or pain. Such care includes, but is not limited to, bathing, dressing, feeding, preparation of special diets, assistance in walking or getting in and out of bed, supervision over medication which can normally be self-administered and all domestic activities.

“Dependent”

See Article II – Introduction and Purpose; General Plan Information – “Plan Eligibility Requirements”.

“Diagnosis”

“Diagnosis” shall mean the act or process of identifying or determining the nature and cause of a Disease or Injury through evaluation of patient history, examination, and review of laboratory data.

“Diagnostic Service”

“Diagnostic Service” shall mean a test or procedure performed for specified symptoms to detect or to monitor a Disease or condition. It must be ordered by a Physician or other professional Provider.

“Disease”

“Disease” shall mean any disorder which does not arise out of, which is not caused or contributed to by, and which is not a consequence of, any employment or occupation for compensation or profit; however, if evidence satisfactory to the Plan is furnished showing that the individual concerned is covered as an Employee under any workers’ compensation law, occupational Disease law or any other legislation of similar purpose, or under the maritime doctrine of maintenance, wages, and cure, but that the disorder involved is one not covered under the applicable law or doctrine, then such disorder shall, for the purposes of the Plan, be regarded as a Sickness, Illness or Disease.

“Drug”

“Drug” shall mean insulin and prescription legend Drugs. A prescription legend Drug is a Federal legend Drug (any medicinal substance which bears the legend: “Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without a prescription”) or a State restricted Drug (any medicinal substance which may be dispensed only by prescription, according to State law) and which, in either case, is legally obtained from a licensed Drug dispenser only upon a prescription of a currently licensed Physician.

“Employee”

See Article II – Introduction and Purpose; General Plan Information – “Plan Eligibility Requirements”.

“Employer”

“Employer” is the participating entity (or entities), and its’ affiliates, as specified as a “Participating Employer” in Article II Introduction and Purpose; General Plan Information, and whose participation in this Plan has not terminated.

“ERISA”

“ERISA” shall mean the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended.

“Essential Health Benefits”

“Essential Health Benefits” shall mean, under section 1302(b) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, those health benefits under preventive and wellness services.

“Family Unit”

“Family Unit” shall mean the Employee, his or her Spouse and Children.

“Final Internal Adverse Benefit Determination”

“Final Internal Adverse Benefit Determination” shall mean an Adverse Benefit Determination that has been upheld by the Plan at the conclusion of the internal claims and appeals process, or an Adverse Benefit Determination with respect to which the internal claims and appeals process has been deemed exhausted.

“FMLA”

“FMLA” shall mean the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended.

“FMLA Leave”

“FMLA Leave” shall mean a Leave of Absence, which the Company is required to extend to an Employee under the provisions of the FMLA.

“GINA”

“GINA” shall mean the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (Public Law No. 110-233), which prohibits group health plans, issuers of individual health care policies, and Employers from discriminating on the basis of genetic information.

“HIPAA”

“HIPAA” shall mean the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, as amended.

“Hospital”

“Hospital” shall mean an Institution that meets all of the following requirements:

1. It provides medical and surgical facilities for the treatment and care of Injured or Sick persons on an Inpatient basis;
2. It is under the supervision of a staff of Physicians;
3. It provides 24 hour a day nursing service by Registered Nurses;
4. It is duly licensed as a Hospital, except that this requirement will not apply in the case of a State tax supported Institution;
5. It is not, other than incidentally, a place for rest, a place for the aged, a nursing home or a custodial or training type Institution, or an Institution which is supported in whole or in part by a Federal government fund; and
6. It is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals sponsored by the AMA and the AHA.

The requirement of surgical facilities shall not apply to a Hospital specializing in the care and treatment of mentally ill patients, provided such Institution is accredited as such a facility by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals sponsored by the AMA and the AHA.

“Illness”

“Illness” shall have the meaning set forth in the definition of “Disease.”

“Incurred”

A Covered Expense is “Incurred” on the date the service is rendered or the supply is obtained. With respect to a course of treatment or procedure which includes several steps or phases of treatment, Covered Expenses are Incurred for the various steps or phases as the services related to each step are rendered and not when services relating to the initial step or phase are rendered. More specifically, Covered Expenses for the entire procedure or course of treatment are not Incurred upon commencement of the first stage of the procedure or course of treatment.

“Injury”

“Injury” shall mean an Accidental Bodily Injury, which does not arise out of, which is not caused or contributed to by, and which is not a consequence of, any employment or occupation for compensation or profit.

“Institution”

“Institution” shall mean a facility, operating within the scope of its license, whose purpose is to provide organized health care and treatment to individuals, such as a Hospital or any other such facility that the Plan approves.

“Late Enrollee”

“Late Enrollee” shall mean a Participant who enrolls in the Plan other than the earliest date on which coverage can become effective for the individual under the terms of the Plan; or through special enrollment.

“Leave of Absence”

“Leave of Absence” shall mean a Leave of Absence of an Employee that has been approved by his or her Participating Employer, as provided for in the Participating Employer’s rules, policies, procedures and practices.

“Legal Separation”

“Legal Separation” shall mean an arrangement to remain married but live apart, following a court order.

“Maximum Amount” or “Maximum Allowable Charge”

“Maximum Amount” and/or “Maximum Allowable Charge” shall mean the benefit payable for a specific coverage item or benefit under the Plan. Maximum Allowable Charge(s) will be the lesser of:

1. The Usual and Customary amount;
2. The allowable charge specified under the terms of the Plan;
3. The negotiated rate established in a contractual arrangement with a Provider; or
4. The actual billed charges for the covered services.

The Plan will reimburse the actual charge billed if it is less than the Usual and Customary amount. The Plan has the discretionary authority to decide if a charge is Usual and Customary and for a Medically Necessary and Reasonable service.

The Plan will utilize a vendor to provide Medicare and Cost based provider reimbursement data which will be utilized to establish the Maximum Allowable Charge. At the Plan Administrators sole discretion, and if applicable, the Maximum Allowable Charge will not exceed:

1. Facility claims billed on UB92 or UB04 will be reimbursed at 130% of Medicare%. If no Medicare pricing data or cost data is available, payment will be based upon 130% of a regional Medicare approximate provided by a third party vendor. The third party vendor will provide the regional Medicare approximation based upon 130% for Professional/130% for Institutional claims Medicare/Equivalent. In the event there is a pre-negotiated maximum allowable rate established with the provider, the pre-established rate will create the Maximum Allowable Charge.
2. If the Plan does not have a practitioner network, the following provisions will apply: Physician claims billed on HCFA will be reimbursed at 130% of Medicare. If no Medicare pricing data or cost data is available payment will be based upon 130% of a regional Medicare approximate provided by a third party vendor. The third party vendor will provide the regional Medicare approximation based upon 130% for Professional/130% for Institutional claims Medicare/Equivalent. In the event there is a pre-negotiated maximum allowable rate established with the provider, the pre-established rate will create the Maximum Allowable Charge.

“Medical Record Review”

“Medical Record Review” is the process by which the Plan, based upon a Medical Record Review and audit, determines that a different treatment or different quantity of a Drug or supply was provided which is not supported in the billing, then the Plan Administrator may determine the **Maximum Allowable Charge** according to the Medical Record Review and audit results.

“Medicare”

“Medicare” shall mean the program of health care for the aged established by Title XVIII of the Social Security Act of 1965, as amended.

“Mental or Nervous Disorder”

“Mental or Nervous Disorder” shall mean any Disease or condition, regardless of whether the cause is organic, that is classified as a Mental or Nervous Disorder in the current edition of International Classification of Diseases, published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is listed in the current edition of Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, published by the American Psychiatric Association or other relevant State guideline or applicable sources.

“Network”

“Network” or “In-Network” shall mean the medical Practitioner Network the Plan contracts with to access discounted fees for service for Participants. The Plan may not have a Network, refer to the Participant’s identification card to see if the Plan does have a Network.

“No-Fault Auto Insurance”

“No-Fault Auto Insurance” is the basic reparations provision of a law providing for payments without determining fault in connection with automobile Accidents.

“Non-Occupational Injury”

“Non-occupational Injury” shall have the meaning set forth in the definition of “Injury.”

“Nurse”

“Nurse” shall mean an individual who has received specialized nursing training and is authorized to use the designation Registered Nurse (R.N.), Licensed Vocational Nurse (L.V.N.) or Licensed Practical Nurse (L.P.N.), and who is duly licensed by the State or regulatory agency responsible for such license in the State in which the individual performs the nursing services.

“Open Enrollment Period”

“Open Enrollment Period” shall mean a month determined by the Plan Sponsor in each Plan Year.

“Other Plan”

“Other Plan” shall include, but is not limited to:

1. Any primary payer besides the Plan;
2. Any other group health plan;
3. Any other coverage or policy covering the Participant;
4. Any first party insurance through medical payment coverage, personal Injury protection, no-fault coverage, uninsured or underinsured motorist coverage;
5. Any policy of insurance from any insurance company or guarantor of a responsible party;
6. Any policy of insurance from any insurance company or guarantor of a third party;
7. Workers’ compensation or other liability insurance company; or
8. Any other source, including but not limited to crime victim restitution funds, any medical, disability or other benefit payments, and school insurance coverage.

“Participant”

“Participant” shall mean any Employee or Dependent who is eligible for benefits under the Plan.

“Physician”

“Physician” shall mean a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) or Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.). Coverage is provided for services provided within the scope of the practitioner or suppliers license. Scope of practice refers to (1) the extent to which providers may render health care services and the extent they may do so independently and (2) the type of diseases, ailments, and injuries a health care provider may address. This includes the health profession’s standard practices, or the assessments of the legal and physician community regarding who may perform a task and how it must be done as well as the health professional’s training, skill, education, and experience. In addition, the precedent of law and the pattern of malpractice rulings defining the accepted scope of practice in an area.

“Plan Year”

“Plan Year” shall mean a period commencing on the Effective Date or any anniversary of the adoption of this Plan and continuing until the next succeeding anniversary.

“Practitioner”

“Practitioner” means a Provider other than a Facility. Coverage is provided for services provided within the scope of the practitioner or suppliers license. Scope of practice refers to (1) the extent to which providers may render health care services and the extent they may do so independently and (2) the type of diseases, ailments, and injuries a health care provider may address. This includes the health profession’s standard practices, or the assessments of the legal and physician community regarding who may perform a task and how it must be done as well as the health professional’s training, skill, education, and experience. In addition, the precedent of law and the pattern of malpractice rulings defining the accepted scope of practice in an area.

“Pre-negotiated Maximum Allowable Rate”

“Pre-negotiated Maximum Allowable Rate” shall mean any negotiated agreement with a Provider which established a maximum allowable reimbursement for the Plan at a level other than the defined Maximum Allowable Charge. The Pre-negotiated Maximum

Allowable Rate must be agreed upon in writing prior to the Member receiving services from the Provider. Any Provider agreeing to a Pre-negotiated Maximum Allowable Rate must agree to waive all rights to balance bill the plan or member for any amounts over and above the agreed upon Pre-negotiated Maximum Allowable Rate.

“Preventive Care”

“Preventive Care” shall mean certain Preventive Care services.

This Plan intends to comply with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act’s (PPACA) requirement to offer coverage for certain preventive services without cost-sharing. To comply with PPACA, and in accordance with the recommendations and guidelines, the Plan will provide coverage for:

- Evidence-based items or services rated A or B in the United States Preventive Services Task Force recommendations;
- Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices adopted by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
- Comprehensive guidelines for infants, Children, and adolescents supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA); and
- Comprehensive guidelines for women supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Copies of the recommendations and guidelines may be found here:

<http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/uspsabreccs.htm> or at <https://www.healthcare.gov/prevention>. For more information, you may contact the Plan Administrator / Employer at the phone number specified in **Article II Introduction and Purpose; General Plan Information**.

“Prior to Effective Date” or “After Termination Date”

“Prior to Effective Date” or “After Termination Date” are dates occurring before a Participant gains eligibility from the Plan, or dates occurring after a Participant loses eligibility from the Plan, as well as charges Incurred Prior to the Effective Date of coverage under the Plan or after coverage is terminated, unless Extension of Benefits applies.

“Privacy Standards”

“Privacy Standards” shall mean the standards of the privacy of individually identifiable health information, as pursuant to HIPAA.

“Provider”

“Provider” shall mean an entity whose primary responsibility is related to the supply of medical care. Each Provider must be licensed, registered or certified by the appropriate State agency where the medical care is performed, as required by that State’s law where applicable. Where there is no applicable State agency, licensure, or regulation, the Provider must be registered or certified by the appropriate professional body. The Plan Administrator may determine that an entity is not a “Provider” as defined herein if that entity is not deemed to be a “Provider” by CMS for purposes arising from payment and/or enrollment with Medicare; however, the Plan Administrator is not so bound by CMS determination of an entity’s status as a Provider.

“Reasonable”

“Reasonable” and/or “Reasonableness” shall mean in the administrator’s discretion, services or supplies, or fees for services or supplies which are necessary for care and treatment. Determination that fee(s) or services are Reasonable will be made by the Plan Administrator, taking into consideration unusual circumstances or complications requiring additional time, skill and experience in connection with a particular service or supply; industry standards and practices as they relate to similar scenarios; and the cause of Injury or Illness necessitating the service(s) and/or charge(s).

This determination will consider, but will not be limited to, the findings and assessments of the following entities: (a) The National Medical Associations, Societies, and organizations; and (b) The Food and Drug Administration. To be Reasonable, service(s) and/or fee(s) must be in compliance with generally accepted billing practices for unbundling or multiple procedures. A finding of Provider negligence and/or malpractice is not required for service(s) and/or fee(s) to be considered not Reasonable.

Charge(s) and/or services are not considered to be Reasonable, and as such are not eligible for payment (exceed the Maximum Allowable Charge), when they result from Provider error(s) and/or facility-acquired conditions deemed “reasonably preventable” through the use of evidence-based guidelines, taking into consideration but not limited to CMS guidelines.

The Plan reserves for itself and parties acting on its behalf the right to review charges processed and/or paid by the Plan, to identify charge(s) and/or service(s) that are not Reasonable and therefore not eligible for payment by the Plan.

“Security Standards”

“Security Standards” shall mean the final rule implementing HIPAA’s Security Standards for the Protection of Electronic PHI, as amended.

“Service Waiting Period”

“Service Waiting Period” shall mean an interval of time during which the Employee is in the continuous, Active Employment of his or her Participating Employer.

“Spouse”

See Article II – Introduction and Purpose; General Plan Information.

“Third Party Administrator”

“Third Party Administrator” shall mean the claims administrator which provides customer service and claims payment services only and does not assume any financial risk or obligation with respect to those claims.

“Total Disability”

“Total Disability” shall mean an individual is determined as being disabled for Social Security purposes and provides such evidence to the Plan of the determination as the Plan Administrator may, in its sole discretion, require.

“Totally Disabled”

“Totally Disabled” shall have the same meaning set forth in the definition of “Total Disability.”

“Uniformed Services”

“Uniformed Services” shall mean the Armed Forces, the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard, when engaged in active duty for training, inactive duty training, or full time National Guard duty, the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service, and any other category of persons designated by the President of the United States in time of war or Emergency.

“USERRA”

“USERRA” shall mean the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (“USERRA”).

“Usual and Customary”

If the Plan includes a Network, the following provision will apply: “Usual and Customary” (U&C) shall mean Covered Expenses which are identified by the Plan Administrator, taking into consideration the fee(s) which the Provider most frequently charges (or accepts for) the majority of patients for the service or supply, the cost to the Provider for providing the services, the prevailing range of fees charged in the same “area” by Providers of similar training and experience for the service or supply, and the Medicare reimbursement rates. The term(s) “same geographic locale” and/or “area” shall be defined as a metropolitan area, county, or such greater area as is necessary to obtain a representative cross-section of Providers, persons or organizations rendering such treatment, services, or supplies for which a specific charge is made. To be Usual and Customary, fee(s) must be in compliance with generally accepted billing practices for unbundling or multiple procedures. However, for facility fees, except in instances where, in the Plan Administrator’s discretion, claim specific facts indicate the Usual and Customary rate exceeds it, Usual and Customary shall not exceed 130% of the current Medicare allowable fee for the appropriate same geographic area, applicable to the treatment, supplies, and/or services.

If the Plan does not include a Network, the following provision will apply: “Usual and Customary” (U&C) shall mean covered expenses which are identified by the Plan Administrator, taking into consideration the fee(s) which the Provider most frequently charges the majority of patients for the service or supply, the cost to the Provider for providing the services, the prevailing range of fees charged in the same “area” by Providers of similar training and experience for the service or supply, and the Medicare reimbursement rates. Except in instances where, in the Plan Administrator’s discretion, claim specific facts indicate the Usual and Customary rate exceeds it, Usual and Customary shall not exceed 130% of the current Medicare allowable fee for the appropriate same geographic area, applicable to the treatment, supplies, and/or services.

The term(s) “same geographic locale” and/or “area” shall be defined as a metropolitan area, county, or such greater area as is necessary to obtain a representative cross-section of Providers, persons or organizations rendering such treatment, services, or supplies for which a specific charge is made. To be Usual and Customary, fee(s) must be in compliance with generally accepted billing practices for unbundling or multiple procedures.

The term “Usual” refers to the amount of a charge made for medical services, care, or supplies, to the extent that the charge does not exceed the common level of charges made by other medical professionals with similar credentials, or health care facilities, pharmacies, or equipment suppliers of similar standing, which are located in the same geographic locale in which the charge is Incurred.

The term “Customary” refers to the form and substance of a service, supply, or treatment provided in accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice to one individual, which is appropriate for the care or treatment of the same sex, comparable age and who receive such services or supplies within the same geographic locale.

The term “Usual and Customary” does not necessarily mean the actual charge made nor the specific service or supply furnished to a Plan Participant by a Provider of services or supplies, such as a physician, therapist, nurse, hospital, or pharmacist. The Plan Administrator will determine what the Usual and Customary charge is, for any procedure, service, or supply, and whether a specific procedure, service or supply is Usual and Customary.

Usual and Customary charges may, at the Plan Administrator’s discretion, alternatively be determined and established by the Plan using normative data such as, but not limited to, Medicare cost to charge ratios, average wholesale price (AWP) for prescriptions, manufacturer’s retail pricing (MRP) for supplies and devices, Cost Plus, Regional Medicare Derivative, CMS established algorithms, CMS conversion values, publicly available data, or comparison of like services and facilities in proximity to non-certified CMS facilities, publicly available cost report data for facilities reported by cost center or by aggregate cost data when cost center data is unavailable.

All other defined terms in this Plan Document shall have the meanings specified in the Plan Document where they appear.

ARTICLE IV SUMMARY OF BENEFITS

The Plan covers Preventive Care Services for eligible adults and Children, and Women’s Preventive Services in compliance with the regulations specified in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (PPACA), and as any accompanying amendments to such regulations specify. An example of services required to be covered are detailed in the Schedule which follows, however further information can be found at <https://www.healthcare.gov/preventive-care-benefits>. The ages, frequency and populations are for example only, as benefits provided will be subject to the current recommendations under the PPACA at the time services are rendered, and in accordance with Reasonable medical judgment. A Participant is entitled to the services described hereafter provided Covered Expenses are ordered by a Provider or Practitioner. Furthermore, payment for Covered Expenses will be subject to all Plan exclusions, limitations and provisions as set forth in this Plan Document.

Network Provider Organization Information

The following provision applies when the Plan includes a Network. To determine if the Plan includes a Network, please refer to the Participant’s identification card.

For Physicians and Practitioners of service, the Preferred Practitioner Organization (PPO), or Network, is comprised of individuals and entities that have contracted with the Plan to provide services to Participants at pre-negotiated rates. However, for the purposes of this Plan, the PPO does *not* include services and supplies when provided and/or billed by a Hospital or other facility.

Because these Network Providers have agreed to charge reduced fees to persons covered under the Plan, the Plan can afford to reimburse a greater amount of their fees. Subject to the Plan’s provisions, benefits will be payable with no cost-sharing when from In-Network Providers. Note, however, benefits will be paid at the In-Network level (i.e. no cost sharing), in the event there is not a Network Provider available to provide such services within the Network servicing area.

The participating Provider list changes frequently; therefore, it is recommended that a Participant verify with the Provider that he or she is still a participating Network Provider before receiving services. In addition, for further information regarding the website address for the PPO Network, please refer to the Participant’s identification card.

Choice of Providers

The Plan is not intended to disturb the Physician-patient relationship. Each Participant has a free choice of any Physician or surgeon, and the Physician-patient relationship shall be maintained. Physicians and other healthcare Providers are not agents or delegates of the Plan Sponsor, Company, Plan Administrator, Employer or Third Party Administrator. The delivery of medical and other healthcare services on behalf of any Participant remains the sole prerogative and responsibility of the attending Physician or other healthcare Provider. The Participant, together with his or her Physician, is ultimately responsible for determining the appropriate course of medical treatment, regardless of whether the Plan will pay for all or a portion of the cost of such care. It is the Participant’s choice which Provider to use.

Claims Audit

In addition to the Plan’s Medical Record Review process, the Plan Administrator may use its discretionary authority to utilize an independent bill review and/or claim audit program or service for a complete claim. While every claim may not be subject to a bill review or audit, the Plan Administrator has the sole discretionary authority for selection of claims subject to review or audit.

The analysis will be employed to identify charges billed in error and/or charges that are not Usual and Customary and/or Medically Necessary and Reasonable, if any, and may include a patient medical billing records review and/or audit of the patient's medical charts and records.

Upon completion of an analysis, a report will be submitted to the Plan Administrator or its agent to identify the charges deemed in excess of the Usual and Customary and Reasonable amounts or other applicable provisions, as outlined in this Plan Document.

Despite the existence of any agreement to the contrary, the Plan Administrator has the discretionary authority to reduce any charge to a Usual and Customary and Reasonable charge, in accordance with the terms of this Plan Document.

Schedule of Benefits

Preventive Care Services		
Annual Maximum	Unlimited	
Benefits are payable for eligible procedures incurred as part of Preventive Care Services only. Treatment of a diagnosed Illness or Injury is not payable under this benefit. Proper bill coding and identification of services is required to insure proper payment of claims.		
Covered Preventive Expense	Benefit Level	Limits
Includes Preventive Health Services specified by Health Reform Law A and B recommendations as determined by USPSTF ⁽¹⁾	100% ⁽²⁾	Some services are subject to age and visit limitations
Preventive Care Services include, but are not limited to:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Routine Physical Exam• Annual Well Woman Exam• Annual Routine Mammogram <i>(limited to age 40 and older or family history of breast cancer)</i>• Routine Bone Density Test <i>(limited to age 60 and older or certain risk factors for Osteoporosis)</i>• Well Baby Exam and Well Child Exam• Routine Immunizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Routine Hearing Screening (<i>newborn</i>)• Influenza/Pneumococcal Vaccine• All FDA approved women's contraception methods/sterilization procedures• Routine Colonoscopy <i>(limited to age 50 and older or family history of colon cancer – once every 5/10 years)</i>• Routine Vision Screening <i>(under age 19 years of age)</i>• Alcohol and Drug Use <i>(assessments/screening)</i>	
<p>(1) The Preventive Care Services identified through the followings link are recommended services, not mandated services: http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/uspabreccs/htm. It is up to the Physician or Provider to determine which services to provide.</p> <p>(2) The Plan utilizes the PHCS Practitioner only Network for Physician and Practitioner's claims. The Plan does not utilize a Network for any facilities. Under the terms of this Plan, the allowed charges for all facilities, Hospitals and institutions and non-PHCS Practitioners will be the minimum reimbursement of 130% of Medicare's Reference Based Pricing. Plan Participants may use the services of any facility or provider of their choice subject to the exclusions and any other Plan provisions, as noted herein. To discuss this provision or for any other questions, please contact Caprock HealthPlans at 1-800-747-9446.</p>		

ARTICLE V **MEDICAL AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS**

Covered Services

Benefits mandated through the PPACA legislation include Preventive Care such as wellness or office exams billed by the Physician with a covered preventive diagnosis, immunizations, screenings, and other services that are listed as recommended by Health Reform Law A and B recommendations as determined by USPSTF the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF).

A. Preventive Care Services for Adults.

Wellness or routine office exams billed by Physicians with the below services with a covered preventive diagnosis are covered under the Plan.

Charges for covered Preventive Care Services:

1. Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm one-time screening for men of specified ages who have ever smoked, ages 65-75;
2. Alcohol Misuse screening and counseling, ages 18 and older;
3. Aspirin use for men and women of certain ages, Men 45 + Women 55+;
4. Blood Pressure screening for all adults, ages 18 and older;
5. Cholesterol screening for adults of certain ages or at higher risk;
6. Colorectal Cancer screening for adults over 50;
7. Depression screening for adults;
8. Type 2 Diabetes screening for adults with high blood pressure;
9. Diet counseling for adults at higher risk for chronic disease;
10. HIV screening for all adults at higher risk;
11. Immunization vaccines for adults--doses, recommended ages, and recommended populations vary:
 - Hepatitis A;
 - Hepatitis B;
 - Herpes Zoster;
 - Human Papillomavirus;
 - Influenza (Flu Shot);
 - Measles, Mumps, Rubella;
 - Meningococcal;
 - Pneumococcal;
 - Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis; and
 - Varicella.
12. Obesity screening and counseling for all adults;
13. Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) prevention counseling for adults at higher risk;
14. Tobacco Use screening for all adults and cessation interventions for tobacco users; and
15. Syphilis screening for all adults at higher risk.

B. Preventive Care Services for Children.

Wellness or routine office exams billed by Physicians with the below services with a covered preventive diagnosis are covered under the Plan.

Recommended Well Baby/Child Visit Schedule:

- Ages: zero to eleven months – six visits
- Ages: one to four years – seven visits
- Ages: five to ten years – annual visits
- Ages: eleven to fourteen years – annual visits
- Ages: fifteen to seventeen years – annual visits

Charges for other covered Preventive Care Services:

1. Alcohol and drug use assessments for adolescents;
2. Autism screening for Children at 18 and 24 months;
3. Behavioral assessments for Children of all ages (ages: zero to eleven months, one to four years, five to ten years, eleven to fourteen years, fifteen to seventeen years);

4. Blood Pressure screening for Children (ages: zero to eleven months, one to four years, five to ten years, eleven to fourteen years, fifteen to seventeen years);
5. Cervical Dysplasia screening for sexually active females;
6. Congenital Hypothyroidism screening for newborns;
7. Depression screening for adolescents;
8. Developmental screening for Children under age three , and surveillance throughout childhood;
9. Dyslipidemia screening for Children at higher risk of lipid disorders (ages: one to four years, five to ten years, eleven to fourteen years, fifteen to seventeen years);
10. Fluoride Chemoprevention supplements for Children without fluoride in their water source, ages six months – five years;
11. Gonorrhea preventive medication for the eyes of all newborns;
12. Hearing screening for all newborns;
13. Height, Weight and Body Mass Index measurements for children (ages: zero to eleven months, one to four years, five to ten years, eleven to fourteen years, fifteen to seventeen years);
14. Hematocrit or Hemoglobin screening for Children;
15. Hemoglobinopathies or sickle cell screening for newborns;
16. HIV screening for adolescents at higher risk;
17. Immunization vaccines for Children from birth through age 18 - doses, recommended ages, and recommended populations vary:
 - Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis;
 - Haemophilus influenzae type b;
 - Hepatitis A;
 - Hepatitis B;
 - Human Papillomavirus;
 - Inactivated Poliovirus;
 - Influenza (Flu Shot);
 - Measles, Mumps, Rubella;
 - Meningococcal;
 - Pneumococcal;
 - Rotavirus; and
 - Varicella.
18. Iron supplements for Children ages six to twelve months at risk for anemia;
19. Lead screening for children at risk of exposure;
20. Medical History for all children throughout development (ages: zero to eleven months, one to four years, five to ten years, eleven to fourteen years, fifteen to seventeen years);
21. Obesity screening and counseling;
22. Oral Health risk assessment for young Children (ages: zero to eleven months, one to four years, five to ten years);
23. Phenylketonuria (PKU) screening for this genetic disorder in newborns;
24. Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) prevention counseling and screening for adolescents at higher risk;
25. Tuberculin testing for children at higher risk of tuberculosis (ages: zero to eleven months, one to four years, five to ten years, eleven to fourteen years, fifteen to seventeen years); and
26. Vision screening for all Children.

C. Preventive Care Services for Women (Including Pregnant Women).

Wellness or office exams billed by Physicians with the below services, with a covered preventive diagnosis are covered under the Plan annually or as needed when provided during pre-natal visits.

Charges for covered Preventive Care Services as listed below:

1. Anemia screening on a routine basis for pregnant women;
2. Bacteriuria urinary tract or other infection screening for pregnant women, at 12-16 weeks or first pre-natal visit;
3. BRCA counseling about genetic testing for women at higher risk;
4. Breast Cancer Mammography screenings every one to two years for women over forty;
5. Breast Cancer Chemoprevention counseling for women at higher risk;

6. Breastfeeding comprehensive support and counseling from trained providers, as well as access to breastfeeding supplies, for pregnant and nursing women;
7. Cervical Cancer screening for sexually active women;
8. Chlamydia Infection screening for younger women and other women at higher risk;
9. Contraception: Food and Drug Administration-approved contraceptive methods, sterilization procedures, and patient education and counseling, not including abortifacient drugs;
10. Domestic and interpersonal violence screening and counseling for all women;
11. Folic Acid supplements for women who may become pregnant;
12. Gestational diabetes screening for women 24 to 28 weeks pregnant and those at high risk of developing gestational diabetes;
13. Gonorrhea screening for all women at higher risk;
14. Hepatitis B screening for pregnant women at their first prenatal visit;
15. Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) screening and counseling for sexually active women;
16. Human Papillomavirus (HPV) DNA Test: high risk HPV DNA testing every three years for women with normal cytology results who are 30 or older;
17. Osteoporosis screening for women over age 60 depending on risk factors;
18. Rh Incompatibility screening for all pregnant women and follow-up testing for women at higher risk;
19. Tobacco Use screening and interventions for all women, and expanded counseling for pregnant tobacco users;
20. Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) counseling for sexually active women;
21. Syphilis screening for all pregnant women or other women at increased risk; and
22. Well-woman visits to obtain recommended preventive services.

D. Routine Patient Costs for Participation in an Approved Clinical Trial

Charges for any Medically Necessary services which are included in the scope of coverage as provided under this Plan, when a Participant is participating in a phase I, II, III or IV clinical trial, conducted in relation to the prevention, detection or treatment of a life-threatening disease or condition, provided:

- a. The clinical trial is approved by:
 - i. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services;
 - ii. The National Institute of Health;
 - iii. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration;
 - iv. The U.S. Department of Defense;
 - v. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; or
 - vi. An Institutional review board of an Institution that has an agreement with the Office for Human Research Protections of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and
- b. The research Institution conducting the Approved Clinical Trial and each health professional providing routine patient care through the Institution, agree to accept reimbursement at the applicable Allowable Expense, as payment in full for routine patient care provided in connection with the Approved Clinical Trial.

Coverage will not be provided for:

1. The cost of an Investigational new drug or device that is not approved for any indication by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, including a drug or device that is the subject of the Approved Clinical Trial;
2. The cost of a service that is not a health care service, regardless of whether the service is required in connection with participation in an Approved Clinical Trial;
3. The cost of a service that is clearly inconsistent with widely accepted and established standards of care for a particular Diagnosis;
4. A cost associated with managing an Approved Clinical Trial;
5. The cost of a health care service that is specifically excluded by the Plan; or
6. Services that are part of the subject matter of the Approved Clinical Trial and that are customarily paid for by the research Institution conducting the Approved Clinical Trial.

**ARTICLE VI ELIGIBILITY FOR
COVERAGE;**

Eligibility for Individual Coverage

Please refer to the chart contained in **Article II -Introduction and Purpose; General Plan Information** for further details regarding Employee eligibility provisions that may apply.

Eligibility Dates for Dependent Coverage

Each Employee will become eligible for coverage under this Plan for his or her Dependents on the latest of the following dates:

1. His or her date of eligibility for coverage for himself or herself under the Plan;
2. The date coverage for his or her Dependents first becomes available under any amendment to the Plan, if such coverage was not provided under the Plan on the Effective Date of the Plan; and
3. The first date upon which he or she acquires a Dependent.

In no event will any Dependent Child be covered as a Dependent of more than one Employee who is covered under the Plan.

Any reference in this Plan to an Employee's Dependent being covered means that such Employee is covered for Dependent Coverage.

Effective Dates of Coverage; Conditions

The coverage for which an individual is eligible under this Plan will become effective on the date specified below, subject to the conditions of this section.

1. Enrollment Form. Coverage for an Employee or his or her Dependents must be requested by the Employee on a form furnished by the Plan Administrator and will become effective on the date such Employee or Dependents are eligible, provided the Employee has enrolled for such coverage on a form satisfactory to the Plan Administrator within the 30 day period immediately following the date of eligibility.
2. Birth of Dependent Child. If a Dependent Child is born after the date the Employee's coverage for himself or herself under the Plan becomes effective and the Employee has coverage under this Plan for his or her Dependents, coverage shall take effect from and after the moment of birth, to the extent of the benefits provided herein, and any limitations of this Plan with respect to congenital defects shall not apply to such Child. Such coverage shall continue for the 30-day period commencing on the date of birth. In order to continue such coverage after the 30th day, prior to the end of the 30 day period, the Employee must make written application to the Plan for such Child and agree to make any required contribution.

If the Employee does not have coverage under this Plan for any Dependents at the date of such Child's birth, then coverage for such Child shall be available only if, during the first 30 days following the date of birth, the Employee makes written application to the Plan for such Child and agrees to make any required contribution. In that event, coverage will be effective as of the moment of birth, to the extent of the benefits provided herein, and any limitations of this Plan with respect to congenital defects shall not apply to such Child.

3. Newly Acquired Dependents. If an Employee acquires a Dependent while the Employee is eligible for coverage for Dependents, coverage for the newly acquired Dependent shall be effective on the date the Dependent becomes eligible, provided application is made to the Plan within 30 days of the date of eligibility and any required contributions are made.
4. Requirement for Employee Coverage. No coverage for Dependents of an Employee will become effective unless the Employee is, or simultaneously becomes, eligible for coverage for himself or herself under the Plan.
5. Coverage as Both Employee and Dependent. No person may be simultaneously covered under this Plan as both an Employee and a Dependent.
6. Medicaid Coverage. An individual's eligibility for any State Medicaid benefits will not be taken into account by the Plan in determining that individual's eligibility under the Plan.
7. FMLA Leave. Regardless of any requirements set forth in the Plan, the Plan shall at all times comply with FMLA.

Special and Open Enrollment

Subject to the Plan Administrator's determination, the Plan provides special enrollment periods that allow Employee's to enroll in the Plan, even if they declined enrollment during an initial or subsequent eligibility period.

Loss of Other Coverage

If an Employee declined enrollment for himself or herself or his or her Dependents (including his or her Spouse) because of other health coverage, he or she may enroll for coverage for himself or herself and/or his or her Dependents if the other health coverage is

lost. The Employee must make written application for special enrollment within 30 days of the date the other health coverage was lost.

The following conditions apply to any eligible Employee and Dependents:

An Employee may enroll during this special enrollment period:

1. If the Employee is eligible for coverage under the terms of this Plan;
2. The Employee is not currently enrolled under the Plan;
3. When enrollment was previously offered, the Employee declined because of coverage under another group health plan or health insurance coverage. The Employee must have provided a written statement that other health coverage was the reason for declining enrollment under this Plan; and
4. If the other coverage was terminated due to loss of eligibility for the coverage (including due to Legal Separation, divorce, death, termination of employment, or reduction in the number of hours), or because Employer contributions for the coverage were terminated.

An Employee who is already enrolled in a benefit package may enroll in another benefit package under the Plan if a Dependent of that Employee has a special enrollment right in the Plan because the Dependent lost eligibility for other coverage. The Employee must make written application for special enrollment in the new benefit package within 30 days of the date the other health coverage was lost.

The Employee is not eligible for this special enrollment right if:

1. The other coverage was COBRA Continuation Coverage and the Employee did not exhaust the maximum time available to him or her for that COBRA coverage; or
2. The other coverage was lost due to non-payment of requisite contribution / premium or for cause (such as making a fraudulent claim or an intentional misrepresentation of a material fact in connection with the Other Plan).

If the conditions for special enrollment are satisfied, coverage for the Employee and/or his or her Dependent(s) will be effective at 12:01 A.M. on the first day of the first calendar month beginning after the date the written request is received by the Plan.

New Dependent

If an Employee acquires a new Dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, he or she may be able to enroll himself or herself and his or her Dependents during a special enrollment period. The Employee must make written application for special enrollment no later than 30 days after he or she acquires the new Dependent. The following conditions apply to any eligible Employee and Dependents:

An Employee may enroll himself or herself and/or his or her eligible Dependents during this special enrollment period if:

1. The Employee is eligible for coverage under the terms of this Plan; and
2. The Employee has acquired a new Dependent through marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

If the conditions for special enrollment are satisfied, coverage for the Employee and his or her Dependent(s) will be effective at 12:01 A.M.:

1. For a marriage, on the first day of the month following the date of the marriage;
2. For a birth, on the date of birth; or
3. For an adoption or placement for adoption, on the date of the adoption or placement for adoption.

Additional Special Enrollment Rights

Employees and Dependents who are eligible but not enrolled are entitled to enroll under the following circumstances:

1. The Employee's or Dependent's Medicaid or State Child Health Insurance Plan (i.e. CHIP) coverage has terminated as a result of loss of eligibility and the Employee requests coverage under the Plan within 60 days after the termination; or
2. The Employee or Dependent become eligible for a contribution / premium assistance subsidy under Medicaid or a State Child Health Insurance Plan (i.e. CHIP), and the Employee requests coverage under the Plan within 60 days after eligibility is determined.

Open Enrollment

Participants may enroll for coverage during Open Enrollment Periods. Coverage for Participants enrolling during an Open Enrollment Period will become effective on the first day of the Plan Year, unless a newly hired Employee has not satisfied the Service Waiting Period, in which event coverage for the Employee and his or her Dependents will become effective on the first day of the month following completion of the Service Waiting Period.

“Open Enrollment Period” shall mean a month determined by Plan Sponsor in each Plan Year.

Effective Date of Coverage; Conditions

All conditions for effectiveness of coverage under the Plan, which are set forth in the section entitled “Effective Dates of Coverage; Conditions,” will apply to Participants enrolling during a special or Open Enrollment Period. Coverage for Participants enrolling during a special enrollment period will become effective on the first day of the month following the receipt by the Plan of the Participant’s enrollment form, in the case of enrollment due to loss of coverage or marriage, and on the date of birth, adoption or placement for adoption in the case of such events.

Qualified Medical Child Support Orders

The Plan Administrator shall enroll for immediate coverage under this Plan any Alternate Recipient who is the subject of a Medical Child Support Order that is a “Qualified Medical Child Support Order” (“QMCSO”) if such an individual is not already covered by the Plan as an eligible Dependent, once the Plan Administrator has determined that such order meets the standards for qualification set forth below.

“Alternate Recipient” shall mean any Child of a Participant who is recognized under a Medical Child Support Order as having a right to enrollment under this Plan as the Participant’s eligible Dependent. For purposes of the benefits provided under this Plan, an Alternate Recipient shall be treated as an eligible Dependent, but for purposes of the reporting and disclosure requirements under ERISA, an Alternate Recipient shall have the same status as a Participant.

“Medical Child Support Order” shall mean any judgment, decree or order (including approval of a domestic relations settlement agreement) issued by a court of competent jurisdiction that:

1. Provides for Child support with respect to a Participant’s Child or directs the Participant to provide coverage under a health benefits plan pursuant to a State domestic relations law (including a community property law); or
2. Enforces a law relating to medical Child support described in Social Security Act §1908 (as added by Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 §13822) with respect to a group health plan.

“National Medical Support Notice” or “NMSN” shall mean a notice that contains the following information:

1. Name of an issuing State agency;
2. Name and mailing address (if any) of an Employee who is a Participant under the Plan;
3. Name and mailing address of one or more Alternate Recipients (i.e., the Child or children of the Participant or the name and address of a substituted official or agency that has been substituted for the mailing address of the Alternate Recipients(s)); and
4. Identity of an underlying Child support order.

“Qualified Medical Child Support Order” or “QMCSO” is a Medical Child Support Order that creates or recognizes the existence of an Alternate Recipient’s right to, or assigns to an Alternate Recipient the right to, receive benefits for which a Participant or eligible Dependent is entitled under this Plan. In order for such order to be a QMCSO, it must clearly specify the following:

1. The name and last known mailing address (if any) of the Participant and the name and mailing address of each such Alternate Recipient covered by the order;
2. A reasonable description of the type of coverage to be provided by the Plan to each Alternate Recipient, or the manner in which such type of coverage is to be determined;
3. The period of coverage to which the order pertains; and
4. The name of this Plan.

In addition, a National Medical Support Notice shall be deemed a QMCSO if it:

1. Contains the information set forth above in the definition of “National Medical Support Notice;”

2. Identifies either the specific type of coverage or all available group health coverage. If the Employer receives an NMSN that does not designate either specific type(s) of coverage or all available coverage, the Employer and the Plan Administrator will assume that all are designated;
3. Informs the Plan Administrator that, if a group health plan has multiple options and the participant is not enrolled, the issuing agency will make a selection after the NMSN is qualified, and, if the agency does not respond within 20 days, the Child will be enrolled under the Plan's default option (if any); and
4. Specifies that the period of coverage may end for the Alternate Recipient(s) only when similarly situated Dependents are no longer eligible for coverage under the terms of the Plan, or upon the occurrence of certain specified events.

However, such an order need not be recognized as "qualified" if it requires the Plan to provide any type or form of benefit, or any option, not otherwise provided to the Participants and Eligible Participants without regard to this section, except to the extent necessary to meet the requirements of a State law relating to Medical Child Support Orders, as described in Social Security Act §1908 (as added by Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 §13822).

Upon receiving a Medical Child Support Order, the Plan Administrator shall, as soon as administratively possible:

1. Notify the Participant and each Alternate Recipient covered by the Order (at the address included in the Order) in writing of the receipt of such Order and the Plan's procedures for determining whether the Order qualifies as a QMCSO; and
2. Make an administrative determination if the order is a QMCSO and notify the Participant and each affected Alternate Recipient of such determination.

Upon receiving a National Medical Support Notice, the Plan Administrator shall:

1. Notify the State agency issuing the notice with respect to the Child whether coverage of the Child is available under the terms of the Plan and, if so:
 - a. Whether the Child is covered under the Plan; and
 - b. Either the effective date of the coverage or, if necessary, any steps to be taken by the custodial parent or by the official of a State or political subdivision to effectuate the coverage; and
2. Provide to the custodial parent (or any State official serving in a substitute capacity) a description of the coverage available and any forms or documents necessary to effectuate such coverage.

To give effect to this requirement, the Plan Administrator shall:

1. Establish reasonable, written procedures for determining the qualified status of a Medical Child Support Order or National Medical Support Notice; and
2. Permit any Alternate Recipient to designate a representative for receipt of copies of the notices that are sent to the Alternate Recipient with respect to the Order.

"Late Enrollee" shall mean a Participant who enrolls in the Plan other than:

1. On the earliest date on which coverage can become effective for the individual under the terms of the Plan; or
2. Through special enrollment.

Acquired Companies

Eligible Employees of an acquired company who are Actively at Work and were covered under the Prior Plan of the acquired company will be eligible for the benefits under this Plan on the date of acquisition. Any waiting period previously satisfied under the prior health plan will be applied toward satisfaction of the Service Waiting Period of this Plan. In the event that an acquired company did not have a health plan, all eligible Employees will be eligible on the date of the acquisition.

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act "GINA"

"GINA" prohibits group health plans, issuers of individual health care policies, and Employers from discriminating on the basis of genetic information.

The term "genetic information" means, with respect to any individual, information about:

1. Such individual's genetic tests;
2. The genetic tests of family members of such individual; and
3. The manifestation of a Disease or disorder in family members of such individual.

The term "genetic information" includes participating in clinical research involving genetic services. Genetic tests would include analysis of human DNA, RNA, chromosomes, proteins, or metabolite that detect genotypes, mutations, or chromosomal changes.

Genetic information is a form of Protected Health Information (PHI) as defined by and in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), and is subject to applicable Privacy and Security Standards.

Family members as it relates to GINA include Dependents, plus all relatives to the fourth degree, without regard to whether they are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. Underwriting as it relates to GINA includes any rules for determining eligibility, computing premiums or contributions. Offering reduced premiums or other rewards for providing genetic information would be impermissible underwriting.

GINA will not prohibit a health care Provider who is treating an individual from requesting that the patient undergo genetic testing. The rules permit the Plan to obtain genetic test results and use them to make claims payment determinations when it is necessary to do so to determine whether the treatment provided to the patient was medically advisable and/or necessary.

The Plan may request, but not require, genetic testing in certain very limited circumstances involving research, so long as the results are not used for underwriting, and then only with written notice to the individual that participation is voluntary and will not affect eligibility for benefits, premiums or contributions. In addition, the Plan will notify and describe its activity to the Health and Human Services secretary of its activities falling within this exception.

While the Plan may collect genetic information after initial enrollment, it may not do so in connection with any annual renewal process where the collection of information affects subsequent enrollment. The Plan will not adjust premiums or increase group contributions based upon genetic information, request or require genetic testing or collect genetic information either prior to or in connection with enrollment or for underwriting purposes.

ARTICLE VII TERMINATION OF COVERAGE

Termination Dates of Individual Coverage

The coverage of any Employee for himself or herself under this Plan will terminate on the earliest to occur of the following dates:

1. The last day of the month following termination of the Plan;
2. The last day of the month in, or with respect to which, he or she requests that such coverage be terminated, provided such request is made on or before such date;
3. The last day of the month for which the Employee has made a contribution, in the event of his or her failure to make, when due, any contribution for coverage for himself or herself to which he or she has agreed in writing;
4. The last day of the month in which he or she ceases to be eligible for such coverage under the Plan;
5. The last day of the month in which the termination of employment occurs; or
6. The last day of the month in which an Employee or his or her Dependent submits, or has knowledge of the submission of, a fraudulent claim or any fraudulent information to the Plan, including enrollment information.

Termination Dates of Dependent Coverage

The coverage for any Dependents of any Employee who are covered under the Plan will terminate on the earliest to occur of the following dates:

1. The date of termination of the Plan;
2. Upon the discontinuance of coverage for Dependents under the Plan;
3. The date of termination of the Employee's coverage for himself or herself under the Plan;
4. The date of the expiration of the last period for which the Employee has made a contribution, in the event of his or her failure to make, when due, any contribution for coverage for Dependents to which he or she has agreed in writing;
5. In the case of a Child age 26 or older for whom coverage is being continued due to mental or physical inability to earn his or her own living, the earliest to occur of:
 - a. Cessation of such inability;
 - b. Failure to furnish any required proof of the uninterrupted continuance of such inability or to submit to any required examination; or
 - c. Upon the Child's no longer being dependent on the Employee for his or her support;
6. The last day of the month such person ceases to be a Dependent, as defined herein, except as may be provided for in other areas of this section; or
7. Immediately after an Employee or his or her Dependent submits, or has knowledge of the submission of, a fraudulent claim or any fraudulent information to the Plan, including enrollment information.

Rescission of Coverage

Coverage under this Plan may be rescinded under certain circumstances. A determination by the Plan that a rescission is warranted will be considered an Adverse Benefit Determination for purposes of review and appeal. A Participant whose coverage is being

rescinded will be provided a thirty (30) day notice period as described under Health Care Reform and regulatory guidance. Such notice shall be considered an Adverse Benefit Determination. At the conclusion of the thirty (30) day notice period, coverage shall be terminated retroactive to the date identified in the notification. Claims Incurred after the retroactive date of termination shall not be further processed and/or paid under the Plan. Claims Incurred after the retroactive date of termination that were paid under the Plan will be treated as erroneously paid claims under this Plan.

ARTICLE VIII CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE

Employer Continuation Coverage

Continued coverage *may* be available for eligible Participants and their covered Dependents as provided by the Employer. Please refer to the eligibility chart contained in **Article II -Introduction and Purpose; General Plan Information** for further details regarding any continuation of coverage provisions that may apply.*

**Note: For any Employer –sponsored continuation of coverage that exists as described in Article II Introduction and Purpose; General Plan Information, coverage will be considered to run concurrently with COBRA continuation coverage, unless otherwise stated.*

Continuation During Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leave

Regardless of the established leave policies mentioned above, the Plan shall at all times comply with FMLA. During any leave taken under FMLA, the Employee will maintain coverage under this Plan on the same conditions as coverage would have been provided if the covered Employee had been continuously employed during the entire leave period.

Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA)

This applies to Employers with 50 or more Employees for at least 20 workweeks in the current or preceding Calendar Year. The following are some definitions identified by the FMLA:

Covered Service Member

“Covered Service Member” shall mean current service members and covered veterans who are undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy due to a serious Injury or Illness, rather than just current service members. A covered veteran is an individual who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable at any time during the five-year period prior to when the eligible Employee takes FMLA Leave to care for the covered veteran.

Eligible Employee

“Eligible Employee” shall mean an individual who has been employed by the Plan Sponsor for at least 12 months, has performed at least 1250 hours of service during the previous 12 month period, and has worked at a location where at least 50 Employees are employed by the Employer within 75 miles.

Family Member

“Family Member” shall mean the (a) Employee's biological, step, or foster parent or (b) a natural, adopted, foster, or stepchild, or a legal ward under 18 years of age, or 18 years and older and incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability or (c) Spouse.

Serious Illness or Injury (of a service member of covered veteran)

“Serious Illness or Injury” shall mean an Illness or Injury Incurred in the line of duty that may render the service member medically unfit to perform his or her military duties. A serious Injury or Illness for a current service member includes an Injury or Illness that existed before the beginning of the service member’s active duty and was aggravated by service in the line of duty on active duty in the armed forces. A serious Injury or Illness for a covered veteran means an Injury or Illness that was Incurred or aggravated by the service member in the line of duty on active duty in the armed forces and manifested itself before or after the service member became a veteran.

These definitions are listed as a guide and the actual wording of the FMLA, as amended, shall supersede these definitions.

Basic Leave Entitlement

FMLA requires covered Employers to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to eligible Employees for the following reasons:

1. for incapacity due to Pregnancy, prenatal medical care or Child birth;
2. to care for the Employee’s Child after birth, or placement for adoption or foster care;
3. to care for the Employee’s Spouse, son, daughter or parent, who has a serious health condition; or
4. for a serious health condition that makes the Employee unable to perform the Employee’s job.

Military Family Leave Entitlements

Eligible Employees whose Spouse, son, daughter or parent is on covered active duty or call to covered active duty status may use their 12-week leave entitlement to address certain qualifying exigencies. Qualifying exigencies may include attending certain military events, arranging for alternative childcare, addressing certain financial and legal arrangements, attending certain counseling sessions, and attending post-deployment reintegration briefings.

FMLA also includes a special leave entitlement that permits eligible Employees to take up to 26 weeks of leave to care for a covered service member during a single 12-month period. A covered service member is:

(1) a current member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation or therapy, is otherwise in outpatient status, or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list, for a serious Injury or Illness*; or (2) a veteran who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable at any time during the five-year period prior to the first date the eligible Employee takes FMLA Leave to care for the covered veteran, and who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy for a serious Injury or Illness.*

***The FMLA definitions of “serious Injury or Illness” for current service members and veterans are distinct from the FMLA definition of “serious health condition.”**

Benefits and Protections

During FMLA Leave, the Employer must maintain the Employee’s health coverage under any “group health plan” on the same terms as if the Employee had continued to work. Upon return from FMLA Leave, most Employees must be restored to their original or equivalent positions with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms.

Use of FMLA Leave cannot result in the loss of any employment benefit that accrued prior to the start of an Employee’s leave.

Eligibility Requirements

Employees are eligible if they have worked for a covered Employer for at least 12 months, have 1,250 hours of service in the previous 12 months, and if at least 50 Employees are employed by the Employer within 75 miles.

Definition of Serious Health Condition

A serious health condition is an Illness, Injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves either an overnight stay in a medical care facility, or continuing treatment by a health care Provider for a condition that either prevents the Employee from performing the functions of the Employee’s job, or prevents the qualified family member from participating in school or other daily activities.

Subject to certain conditions, the continuing treatment requirement may be met by a period of incapacity of more than 3 consecutive calendar days combined with at least two visits to a health care Provider or one visit and a regimen of continuing treatment, or incapacity due to Pregnancy, or incapacity due to a chronic condition. Other conditions may meet the definition of continuing treatment.

Use of Leave

An Employee does not need to use this leave entitlement in one block. Leave can be taken intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule when Medically Necessary. Employees must make reasonable efforts to schedule leave for planned medical treatment so as not to unduly disrupt the Employer’s operations. Leave due to qualifying exigencies may also be taken on an intermittent basis.

Substitution of Paid Leave for Unpaid Leave

Employees may choose or Employers may require use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA Leave. In order to use paid leave for FMLA Leave, Employees must comply with the Employer’s normal paid leave policies.

Employee Responsibilities

Employees must provide 30 days advance notice of the need to take FMLA Leave when the need is foreseeable. When 30 days notice is not possible, the Employee must provide notice as soon as practicable and generally must comply with an Employer’s normal call-in procedures.

Employees must provide sufficient information for the Employer to determine if the leave may qualify for FMLA protection and the anticipated timing and duration of the leave. Sufficient information may include that the Employee is unable to perform job functions, the family member is unable to perform daily activities, the need for hospitalization or continuing treatment by a health care Provider, or circumstances supporting the need for military family leave. Employees also must inform the Employer if the requested leave is for a reason for which FMLA Leave was previously taken or certified. Employees also may be required to provide a certification and periodic recertification supporting the need for leave.

Employer Responsibilities

Covered Employers must inform Employees requesting leave whether they are eligible under FMLA. If they are, the notice must specify any additional information required as well as the Employees' rights and responsibilities. If they are not eligible, the Employer must provide a reason for the ineligibility.

Covered Employers must inform Employees if leave will be designated as FMLA-protected and the amount of leave counted against the Employee's leave entitlement. If the Employer determines that the leave is not FMLA-protected, the Employer must notify the Employee.

Unlawful Acts by Employers

FMLA makes it unlawful for any Employer to:

1. interfere with, restrain, or deny the exercise of any right provided under FMLA; and
2. discharge or discriminate against any person for opposing any practice made unlawful by FMLA or for involvement in any proceeding under or relating to FMLA.

Enforcement

An Employee may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor or may bring a private lawsuit against an Employer.

FMLA does not affect any Federal or State law prohibiting discrimination, or supersede any State or local law or collective bargaining agreement which provides greater family or medical leave rights.

FMLA section 109 (29 U.S.C. § 2619) requires FMLA covered Employers to post the text of this notice. Regulation 29 C.F.R. § 825.300(a) may require additional disclosures.

For additional information:

1-866-4US-WAGE (1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627

WWW.WAGEHOUR.DOL.GOV

U.S. Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division

WHD Publication 1420 · Revised February 2013

Continuation During USERRA

Participants who are absent from employment because they are in the Uniformed Services may elect to continue their coverage under this Plan for up to 24 months. To continue coverage, Participants must comply with the terms of the Plan, including election during the Plan's annual enrollment period, and pay their contributions, if any. In addition, USERRA also requires that, regardless of whether a Participant elected to continue his or her coverage under the Plan, his or her coverage and his or her Dependents' coverage be reinstated immediately upon his or her return to employment, so long as he or she meets certain requirements contained in USERRA. Participants should contact their participating Employer for information concerning their eligibility for USERRA and any requirements of the Plan.

Continuation During COBRA – Introduction

The right to this form of continued coverage was created by a Federal law, under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, as amended ("COBRA"). COBRA Continuation Coverage can become available to Participants when they otherwise would lose their group health coverage. It also can become available to other members of the Participant's family who are covered under the Plan when they otherwise would lose their group health coverage. The entire cost (plus a reasonable administration fee) must be paid by the person. Coverage will end in certain instances, including if the Participant or their covered Dependents fail to make timely payment of contributions or premiums. Participants should check with their Employer to see if COBRA applies to them and/or their covered Dependents.

COBRA Continuation Coverage

"COBRA Continuation Coverage" is a continuation of Plan coverage when coverage otherwise would end because of a life event known as a "Qualifying Event." Life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment benefits and weekly income or long term disability benefits (if a part of the Employer's plan) are not considered for continuation under COBRA.

Qualifying Events

Specific Qualifying Events are listed below. After a Qualifying Event, COBRA Continuation Coverage must be offered to each person who is a "Qualified Participant." The Employee, the Employee's Spouse, and the Employee's Dependent Children could become Qualified Participants if coverage under the Plan is lost because of the Qualifying Event.

A covered Employee (meaning an Employee covered under the Plan) will become a Qualified Participant if he or she loses his or her coverage under the Plan because either one of the following Qualifying Events happens:

1. The hours of employment are reduced; or
2. The employment ends for any reason other than gross misconduct.

The Spouse of a covered Employee will become a Qualified Participant if he or she loses his or her coverage under the Plan because any of the following Qualifying Events happens:

1. The spouse dies;
2. The spouse's hours of employment are reduced;
3. The spouse's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
4. The spouse becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); or
5. The spouse becomes divorced from his or her Spouse.

Dependent Children will become Qualified Participants if they lose coverage under the Plan because any of the following Qualifying Events happens:

1. The parent-covered Employee dies;
2. The parent-covered Employee's hours of employment are reduced;
3. The parent-covered Employee's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
4. The parent-covered Employee becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (Part A, Part B, or both);
5. The parents become divorced; or
6. The Child stops being eligible for coverage under the Plan as a Dependent Child.

If a proceeding in bankruptcy is filed with respect to the Plan Sponsor, and that bankruptcy results in the loss of coverage of any retired Employee, Spouse, surviving Spouse, and Dependent children covered under the Plan, such member will become a Qualified Participant with respect to the bankruptcy.

Employer Notice of Qualifying Events

When the Qualifying Event is the end of employment (for reasons other than gross misconduct), reduction of hours of employment, death of the covered Employee, or the covered Employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both), the Employer must notify the COBRA Administrator of the Qualifying Event.

Employee Notice of Qualifying Events

Each covered Employee or Qualified Participant is responsible for providing the COBRA Administrator with the following notices, in writing, either by U.S. First Class Mail or hand delivery:

1. Notice of the occurrence of a Qualifying Event that is a divorce of a covered Employee (or former Employee) from his or her Spouse;
2. Notice of the occurrence of a Qualifying Event that is an individual's ceasing to be eligible as a Dependent Child under the terms of the Plan;
3. Notice of the occurrence of a second Qualifying Event after a Qualified Participant has become entitled to COBRA Continuation Coverage with a maximum duration of 18 (or 29) months;
4. Notice that a Qualified Participant entitled to receive COBRA Continuation Coverage with a maximum duration of 18 months has been determined by the Social Security Administration ("SSA") to be disabled at any time during the first 60 days of COBRA Continuation Coverage; and
5. Notice that a Qualified Participant, with respect to whom a notice described above has been provided, has subsequently been determined by the SSA to no longer be disabled.

The COBRA Administrator is:

HPHG, LLC dba Caprock HealthPlans

PO Box 54139

Lubbock, TX 79453-4139

Phone: 800-747-9446

Fax: 806-698-5823

A form of notice is available, free of charge, from the COBRA Administrator and must be used when providing the notice.

Deadline for Providing the Notice

For Qualifying Events described above, the notice must be furnished by the date that is 60 days after the latest of:

1. The date on which the relevant Qualifying Event occurs;
2. The date on which the Qualified Participant loses (or would lose) coverage under the Plan as a result of the Qualifying Event; or
3. The date on which the Qualified Participant is informed, through the furnishing of the Plan's SPD or the general notice, of both the responsibility to provide the notice and the Plan's procedures for providing such notice to the COBRA Administrator.

For the disability determination described above, the notice must be furnished by the date that is 60 days after the latest of:

1. The date of the disability determination by the SSA;
2. The date on which a Qualifying Event occurs;
3. The date on which the Qualified Participant loses (or would lose) coverage under the Plan as a result of the Qualifying Event; or
4. The date on which the Qualified Participant is informed, through the furnishing of the Plan's SPD or the general notice, of both the responsibility to provide the notice and the Plan's procedures for providing such notice to the COBRA Administrator.

In any event, this notice must be furnished before the end of the first 18 months of COBRA Continuation Coverage.

For a change in disability status described above, the notice must be furnished by the date that is 30 days after the later of:

1. The date of the final determination by the SSA that the Qualified Participant is no longer disabled; or
2. The date on which the Qualified Participant is informed, through the furnishing of the Plan's SPD or the general notice, of both the responsibility to provide the notice and the Plan's procedures for providing such notice to the COBRA Administrator.

The notice must be postmarked (if mailed), or received by the COBRA Administrator (if hand delivered), by the deadline set forth above. If the notice is late, the opportunity to elect or extend COBRA Continuation Coverage is lost, and if the person is electing COBRA Continuation Coverage, his or her coverage under the Plan will terminate on the last date for which he or she is eligible under the terms of the Plan, or if the person is extending COBRA Continuation Coverage, such Coverage will end on the last day of the initial 18-month COBRA coverage period.

Who Can Provide the Notice

Any individual who is the covered Employee (or former Employee), a Qualified Participant with respect to the Qualifying Event, or any representative acting on behalf of the covered Employee (or former Employee) or Qualified Participant, may provide the notice, and the provision of notice by one individual shall satisfy any responsibility to provide notice on behalf of all related Qualified Participants with respect to the Qualifying Event.

Required Contents of the Notice

The notice must contain the following information:

1. Name and address of the covered Employee or former Employee;
2. Identification of the initial Qualifying Event and its date of occurrence, if the person is already receiving COBRA Continuation Coverage and wishes to extend the maximum coverage period;
3. A description of the Qualifying Event (for example, divorce, cessation of Dependent status, entitlement to Medicare by the covered Employee or former Employee, death of the covered Employee or former Employee, disability of a Qualified Participant or loss of disability status);
4. In the case of a Qualifying Event that is divorce, name(s) and address(es) of Spouse and Dependent child(ren) covered under the Plan, date of divorce, and a copy of the decree of divorce;
5. In the case of a Qualifying Event that is Medicare entitlement of the covered Employee or former Employee, date of entitlement, and name(s) and address(es) of Spouse and Dependent Child(ren) covered under the Plan;
6. In the case of a Qualifying Event that is a Dependent Child's cessation of Dependent status under the Plan, name and address of the Child, reason the Child ceased to be an eligible Dependent (for example, attained limiting age, lost student status or other);
7. In the case of a Qualifying Event that is the death of the covered Employee or former Employee, the date of death, and name(s) and address(es) of Spouse and Dependent Child(ren) covered under the Plan;
8. In the case of a Qualifying Event that is disability of a Qualified Participant, name and address of the disabled Qualified Participant, name(s) and address(es) of other family members covered under the Plan, the date the disability began, the date of the SSA's determination, and a copy of the SSA's determination;

9. In the case of a Qualifying Event that is loss of disability status, name and address of the Qualified Participant who is no longer disabled, name(s) and address(es) of other family members covered under the Plan, the date the disability ended and the date of the SSA's determination; and
10. A certification that the information is true and correct, a signature and date.

If a copy of the decree of divorce or the SSA's determination cannot be provided by the deadline for providing the notice, complete and provide the notice, as instructed, by the deadline and submit the copy of the decree of divorce or the SSA's determination within 30 days after the deadline. The notice will be timely if done so. However, no COBRA Continuation Coverage, or extension of such Coverage, will be available until the copy of the decree of divorce or the SSA's determination is provided.

If the notice does not contain all of the required information, the COBRA Administrator may request additional information. If the individual fails to provide such information within the time period specified by the COBRA Administrator in the request, the COBRA Administrator may reject the notice if it does not contain enough information for the COBRA Administrator to identify the plan, the covered Employee (or former Employee), the Qualified Participants, the Qualifying Event or disability, and the date on which the Qualifying Event, if any, occurred.

Electing COBRA Continuation Coverage

Complete instructions on how to elect COBRA Continuation Coverage will be provided by the COBRA Administrator within 14 days of receiving the notice of the Qualifying Event. The individual then has 60 days in which to elect COBRA Continuation Coverage. The 60 day period is measured from the later of the date coverage terminates and the date of the notice containing the instructions. If COBRA Continuation Coverage is not elected in that 60 day period, then the right to elect it ceases.

Each Qualified Participant will have an independent right to elect COBRA Continuation Coverage. Covered Employees may elect COBRA Continuation Coverage on behalf of their Spouses, and parents may elect COBRA Continuation Coverage on behalf of their Children.

In the event that the COBRA Administrator determines that the individual is not entitled to COBRA Continuation Coverage, the COBRA Administrator will provide to the individual an explanation as to why he or she is not entitled to COBRA Continuation Coverage.

Duration of COBRA Continuation Coverage

COBRA Continuation Coverage will be available up to the maximum time period shown below. Generally, multiple Qualifying Events which may be combined under COBRA will not continue coverage for more than 36 months beyond the date of the original Qualifying Event. When the Qualifying Event is "entitlement to Medicare," the 36 month continuation period is measured from the date of the original Qualifying Event. For all other Qualifying Events, the continuation period is measured from the date of the Qualifying Event, not the date of loss of coverage.

When the Qualifying Event is the death of the covered Employee (or former Employee), the covered Employee's (or former Employee's) becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both), a divorce or Legal Separation, or a Dependent Child's losing eligibility as a Dependent Child, COBRA Continuation Coverage lasts for up to a total of 36 months.

When the Qualifying Event is the end of employment or reduction of the covered Employee's hours of employment, and the covered Employee became entitled to Medicare benefits less than 18 months before the Qualifying Event, COBRA Continuation Coverage for Qualified Participants other than the covered Employee lasts until 36 months after the date of Medicare entitlement. For example, if a covered Employee becomes entitled to Medicare eight months before the date on which his or her employment terminates, COBRA Continuation Coverage for his or her Spouse and Children can last up to 36 months after the date of Medicare entitlement, which is equal to 28 months after the date of the Qualifying Event (36 months minus 8 months).

Otherwise, when the Qualifying Event is the end of employment (for reasons other than gross misconduct) or reduction of the covered Employee's hours of employment, COBRA Continuation Coverage generally lasts for only up to a total of 18 months. There are two ways in which this 18-month period of COBRA Continuation Coverage can be extended.

Disability Extension of COBRA Continuation Coverage

If an Employee or anyone in an Employee's family covered under the Plan is determined by the SSA to be disabled and the Employee notifies the COBRA Administrator as set forth above, the Employee and his or her entire family may be entitled to receive up to an additional 11 months of COBRA Continuation Coverage, for a total maximum of 29 months. The disability would have to have started at some time before the 60th day of COBRA Continuation Coverage and must last at least until the end of the 18-month period of COBRA Continuation Coverage. An extra fee will be charged for this extended COBRA Continuation Coverage.

Second Qualifying Event Extension of COBRA Continuation Coverage

If an Employee's family experiences another Qualifying Event while receiving 18 months of COBRA Continuation Coverage, the Spouse and Dependent Children in the family can get up to 18 additional months of COBRA Continuation Coverage, for a maximum of 36 months, if notice of the second Qualifying Event properly is given to the Plan as set forth above. This extension may be available to the Spouse and any Dependent Children receiving COBRA Continuation Coverage if the covered Employee or former Employee dies, becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both), or gets divorced or legally separated, or if the Dependent Child stops being eligible under the Plan as a Dependent Child, but only if the event would have caused the Spouse or Dependent Child to lose coverage under the Plan had the first Qualifying Event not occurred.

Shorter Duration of COBRA Continuation Coverage

COBRA Continuation Coverage also may end before the end of the maximum period on the earliest of the following dates:

1. The date the Employer ceases to provide a group health plan to any Employee;
2. The date on which coverage ceases by reason of the Qualified Participant's failure to make timely payment of any required contributions or premium;
3. The date that the Qualified Participant first becomes, after the date of election, covered under any other group health plan (as an Employee or otherwise), or entitled to either Medicare Part A or Part B (whichever comes first) (except as stated under COBRA's special bankruptcy rules). However, a Qualified Participant who becomes covered under a group health plan which has a pre-existing condition limit must be allowed to continue COBRA Continuation Coverage for the length of a Pre-Existing condition or to the COBRA maximum time period, if less (note: there are limitations on plans imposing a pre-existing condition exclusion and such exclusions will become prohibited beginning in 2014 under the Affordable Care Act); or
4. The first day of the month that begins more than 30 days after the date of the SSA's determination that the Qualified Participant is no longer disabled, but in no event before the end of the maximum coverage period that applied without taking into consideration the disability extension.

Contribution and/or Premium Requirements

Once COBRA Continuation Coverage is elected, the individual must pay for the cost of the initial period of coverage within 45 days. Payments then are due on the first day of each month to continue coverage for that month. If a payment is not received within 30 days of the due date, COBRA Continuation Coverage will be canceled and will not be reinstated.

Current Addresses

In order to protect the rights of the Employee's family, the Employee should keep the COBRA Administrator informed of any changes in the addresses of family members.

ARTICLE IX GENERAL LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

This section applies to all benefits provided under any section of this Plan. This Plan does not cover any charge for care, supplies, treatment, and/or services:

Alcohol. To a Participant, arising from taking part in any activity made illegal due to the use of alcohol. Expenses will be covered for Injured Participants other than the person partaking in an activity made illegal due to the use of alcohol, and expenses may be covered for Substance Abuse treatment as specified in this Plan, if applicable. This exclusion does not apply (a) if the Injury resulted from being the victim of an act of domestic violence, or (b) resulted from a documented medical condition (including both physical and mental health conditions);

Custodial Care. Services that do not restore health, unless specifically mentioned otherwise;

Deductible Applicable. That are not payable due to the application of any specified Deductible provisions contained herein;

Error. That are required to treat injuries that are sustained or an Illness that is contracted, including infections and complications, while the Participant was under, and due to, the care of a Provider wherein such Illness, Injury, infection or complication is not reasonably expected to occur. This exclusion will apply to expenses directly or indirectly resulting from the circumstances of the course of treatment that, in the opinion of the Plan Administrator, in its sole discretion, unreasonably gave rise to the expense;

Excess. That exceed the Maximum Allowable, are not Covered Expenses, Covered Services, not payable under the Plan due to application of any Plan maximum or limit or because the charges are in excess of the Usual and Customary amount, or are for services not deemed to be Reasonable or Medically Necessary, based upon the Plan Administrator's determination as set forth by and within the terms of this document;

Experimental. That are Experimental or Investigational, except as otherwise specified;

Family Member. That are performed by a person who is related to the Participant as a Spouse, parent, Child, brother or sister, whether the relationship exists by virtue of “blood” or “in law;”

Government. That are expenses to the extent paid, or which the Participant is entitled to have paid or obtain without cost, in accordance with the laws or regulations of any government;

Government-Operated Facilities.

1. Services furnished to the Participant in any veterans Hospital, military Hospital, Institution or facility operated by the United States government or by any State government or any agency or instrumentality of such governments.
2. Services or supplies which can be paid for by any government agency, even if the patient waives his rights to those services or supplies.

NOTE: This exclusion does not apply to treatment of non-service related disabilities or for Inpatient care provided in a military or other Federal government Hospital to Dependents of active duty armed service personnel or armed service retirees and their Dependents. This exclusion does not apply where otherwise prohibited by law;

Hazardous Pursuit, Hobby or Activity. Of an Injury or Sickness that results from engaging in a hazardous pursuit, hobby or activity. A pursuit, hobby or activity is hazardous if it involves or exposes an individual to risk of a degree or nature not customarily undertaken in the course of the Participant’s customary occupation or if it involves leisure time activities commonly considered as involving unusual or exceptional risks, characterized by a constant threat of danger or risk of bodily harm **including but not limited to:** hang gliding, skydiving, bungee jumping, automobile racing, and professional team sports;

Illegal Acts. For any Injury or Sickness which is Incurred while taking part or attempting to take part in an illegal activity, including but not limited to misdemeanors and felonies. It is not necessary that an arrest occur, criminal charges be filed, or, if filed, that a conviction result. Proof beyond a reasonable doubt is not required to be deemed an illegal act. This exclusion does not apply (a) if the Injury resulted from being the victim of an act of domestic violence, or (b) resulted from a documented medical condition (including both physical and mental health conditions);

Incurred by Other Persons. For expenses actually Incurred by other persons;

Ineligible Procedure. Incurred due to an ineligible procedure;

Medical Necessity. That are not Medically Necessary;

Medicare. For benefits that are provided, or which would have been provided had the Participant enrolled, applied for, or maintained eligibility for such care and service benefits, under Title XVIII of the Federal Social Security Act of 1965 (Medicare), including any amendments thereto, or under any Federal law or regulation, except as provided in the sections entitled “Coordination of Benefits” and “Medicare;”

Military Service. Conditions which are determined by the Veteran’s Administration to be connected to active service in the military of the United States, except to the extent prohibited or modified by law;

Negligence. For Injuries resulting from negligence, misfeasance, malfeasance, nonfeasance or malpractice on the part of any licensed Physician;

No Legal Obligation. That are provided to a Participant for which the Provider of a service customarily makes no direct charge, or for which the Participant is not legally obligated to pay, or for which no charges would be made in the absence of this coverage, including but not limited to fees, care, supplies, or services for which a person, company or any other entity except the Participant or this benefit plan, may be liable for necessitating the fees, care, supplies, or services;

Not Acceptable. That are not accepted as standard practice by the AMA, ADA, or the Food and Drug Administration;

Not Actually Rendered. That are not actually rendered;

Not Specifically Covered. That are not specifically covered under this Plan;

Occupational. For any condition, Illness, Injury or complication thereof arising out of or in the course of employment, including self-employment, or an activity for wage or profit; If you are covered as a Dependent under this Plan and you are self-employed or

employed by an Employer that does not provide health benefits, make sure that you have other medical benefits to provide for your medical care in the event that you are hurt on the job. In most cases workers compensation insurance will cover your costs, but if you do not have such coverage you may end up with no coverage at all. The claim would be considered if the claim is denied by workers' compensation;

Other than Attending Physician. Other than those certified by a Physician who is attending the Participant as being required for the treatment of Injury or Disease, and performed by an appropriate Provider;

Prior to Coverage. That are rendered or received prior to or after any period of coverage hereunder, except as specifically provided herein;

Prohibited by Law. To the extent that payment under this Plan is prohibited by law;

Provider Error. Required as a result of unreasonable Provider error;

Self-Inflicted. That are the result of intentionally self-inflicted Injuries or Illnesses. This exclusion does not apply (a) if the Injury resulted from being the victim of an act of domestic violence, or (b) resulted from a documented medical condition (including both physical and mental health conditions);

Subrogation, Reimbursement, and/or Third Party Responsibility. Of an Injury or Sickness not payable by virtue of the Plan's subrogation, reimbursement, and/or third party responsibility provisions; and

War. Incurred as a result of war or any act of war, whether declared or undeclared, or any act of aggression, when the Participant is a member of the armed forces of any Country, or during service by a Participant in the armed forces of any Country. This exclusion does not apply to any Participant who is not a member of the armed forces.

With respect to any Injury which is otherwise covered by the Plan, the Plan will not deny benefits otherwise provided for treatment of the Injury if the Injury results from being the victim of an act of domestic violence or a medical condition.

ARTICLE X PLAN ADMINISTRATION

The Plan is administered by the Plan Administrator. The Plan Administrator has retained the services of the Third Party Administrator to provide certain claims processing and other technical services. Subject to the claims processing and other technical services delegated to the Third Party Administrator, the Plan Administrator reserves the unilateral right and power to administer and to interpret, construe and construct the terms and provisions of the Plan, including without limitation, correcting any error or defect, supplying any omission, reconciling any inconsistency and making factual determinations.

Plan Administrator

The Plan is administered by the Plan Administrator within the purview of ERISA, and in accordance with these provisions. An individual or entity may be appointed by the Plan Sponsor to be Plan Administrator and serve at the convenience of the Plan Sponsor. If the Plan Administrator resigns, dies, is otherwise unable to perform, is dissolved, or is removed from the position, the Plan Sponsor shall appoint a new Plan Administrator as soon as reasonably possible.

The Plan Administrator shall administer this Plan in accordance with its terms and establish its policies, interpretations, practices, and procedures. It is the express intent of this Plan that the Plan Administrator shall have maximum legal discretionary authority to construe and interpret the terms and provisions of the Plan, to make determinations regarding issues which relate to eligibility for benefits (including the determination of what services, supplies, care and treatments are Experimental), to decide disputes which may arise relative to a Participant's rights, and to decide questions of Plan interpretation and those of fact relating to the Plan. The decisions of the Plan Administrator as to the facts related to any claim for benefits and the meaning and intent of any provision of the Plan, or its application to any claim, shall receive the maximum deference provided by law and will be final and binding on all interested parties. Benefits under this Plan will be paid only if the Plan Administrator decides, in its discretion, that the Participant is entitled to them.

If due to errors in drafting, any Plan provision does not accurately reflect its intended meaning, as demonstrated by prior interpretations or other evidence of intent, or as determined by the Plan Administrator in its sole and exclusive judgment, the provision shall be considered ambiguous and shall be interpreted by the Plan Administrator in a fashion consistent with its intent, as determined by the Plan Administrator. The Plan may be amended retroactively to cure any such ambiguity, notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary.

The foregoing provisions of this Plan may not be invoked by any person to require the Plan to be interpreted in a manner which is inconsistent with its interpretations by the Plan Administrator. All actions taken and all determinations by the Plan Administrator shall be final and binding upon all persons claiming any interest under the Plan subject only to the claims appeal procedures of the Plan.

Duties of the Plan Administrator

The duties of the Plan Administrator include the following:

1. To administer the Plan in accordance with its terms;
2. To determine all questions of eligibility, status and coverage under the Plan;
3. To interpret the Plan, including the authority to construe possible ambiguities, inconsistencies, omissions and disputed terms;
4. To make factual findings;
5. To decide disputes which may arise relative to a Participant's rights and/or availability of benefits;
6. To prescribe procedures for filing a claim for benefits, to review claim denials and appeals relating to them and to uphold or reverse such denials;
7. To keep and maintain the Plan documents and all other records pertaining to the Plan;
8. To appoint and supervise a Third Party Administrator to pay claims;
9. To perform all necessary reporting as required by ERISA;
10. To establish and communicate procedures to determine whether a Medical Child Support Order is a QMCSO;
11. To delegate to any person or entity such powers, duties and responsibilities as it deems appropriate; and
12. To perform each and every function necessary for or related to the Plan's administration.

Amending and Terminating the Plan

The Plan Sponsor expects to maintain this Plan indefinitely; however, as the settlor of the Plan, the Plan Sponsor, through its directors and officers, may, in its sole discretion, at any time, amend, suspend or terminate the Plan in whole or in part. This includes amending the benefits under the Plan or the trust agreement (if any).

Any such amendment, suspension or termination shall be enacted, if the Plan Sponsor is a corporation, by resolution of the Plan Sponsor's directors and officers, which shall be acted upon as provided in the Plan Sponsor's Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws, as applicable, and in accordance with applicable Federal and State law. Notice shall be provided as required by ERISA. In the event that the Plan Sponsor is a different type of entity, then such amendment, suspension or termination shall be taken and enacted in accordance with applicable Federal and State law and any applicable governing documents. In the event that the Plan Sponsor is a sole proprietorship, then such action shall be taken by the sole proprietor, in his or her own discretion.

If the Plan is terminated, the rights of the Participants are limited to expenses incurred before termination. All amendments to this Plan shall become effective as of a date established by the Plan Sponsor.

Summary of Material Reduction (SMR)

A Material Reduction generally means any modification that would be considered by the average participant to be an important reduction in covered services or benefits. Examples include reductions in benefits or increases in Deductibles or copayments.

The Plan Administrator shall notify all eligible Employees of any plan amendment considered a Material Reduction in covered services or benefits provided by the Plan as soon as administratively feasible after its adoption, but no later than 60 days after the date of adoption of the reduction. Eligible Employees and beneficiaries must be furnished a summary of such reductions, and any changes so made shall be binding on each Participant. The 60 day period for furnishing a summary of Material Reduction does not apply to any Employee covered by the Plan who would reasonably expect to receive a summary through other means within the next 90 days.

Material Reduction disclosure provisions are subject to the requirements of ERISA and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and any related amendments.

Summary of Material Modification (SMM)

A Summary of Material Modifications reports changes in the information provided within the Summary Plan Description. Examples include a change to Deductibles, eligibility or the addition or deletion of coverage.

The Plan Administrator shall notify all covered Employees of any plan amendment considered a Summary of Material Modifications by the Plan as soon as administratively feasible after its adoption, but no later than within 210 days after the close of the Plan Year in which the changes became effective.

Note: The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) requires that if a Plan's Material Modifications are not reflected in the Plan's most recent Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC) then the Plan must provide written notice to Participants at least 60 days before the effective date of the Material Modification.

Misuse of Identification Card

If an Employee or covered Dependent permits any person who is not a covered member of the Family Unit to use any identification card issued, the Plan Sponsor may give Employee written notice that his (and his family's) coverage will be terminated at the end of 31 days from the date written notice is given.

ARTICLE XI CLAIM PROCEDURES; PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

The procedures outlined below must be followed by Participants to obtain payment of health benefits under this Plan.

Health Claims

All claims and questions regarding health claims should be directed to the Third Party Administrator. The Plan Administrator shall be ultimately and finally responsible for adjudicating such claims and for providing full and fair review of the decision on such claims in accordance with the following provisions and with ERISA. Benefits under the Plan will be paid only if the Plan Administrator decides in its discretion that the Participant is entitled to them. The responsibility to process claims in accordance with the Plan Document may be delegated to the Third Party Administrator; provided, however, that the Third Party Administrator is not a fiduciary of the Plan and does not have the authority to make decisions involving the use of discretion.

Each Participant claiming benefits under the Plan shall be responsible for supplying, at such times and in such manner as the Plan Administrator in its sole discretion may require, written proof that the expenses were Incurred or that the benefit is covered under the Plan. If the Plan Administrator in its sole discretion shall determine that the Participant has not Incurred a Covered Expense or that the benefit is not covered under the Plan, or if the Participant shall fail to furnish such proof as is requested, no benefits shall be payable under the Plan.

A call from a Provider who wants to know if an individual is covered under the Plan, or if a certain procedure is covered by the Plan, prior to providing treatment is not a "claim," since an actual claim for benefits is not being filed with the Plan. These are simply requests for information, and any response is not a guarantee of benefits, since payment of benefits is subject to all Plan provisions, limitations and exclusions. Once treatment is rendered, a Clean Claim must be filed with the Plan (which will be a "Post service Claim"). At that time, a determination will be made as to what benefits are payable under the Plan.

A Participant has the right to request a review of an Adverse Benefit Determination. If the claim is denied at the end of the appeal process, as described below, the Plan's final decision is known as a Final Adverse Benefit Determination. If the Participant receives notice of a Final Adverse Benefit Determination, or if the Plan does not follow the claims procedures properly, the Participant then has the right to request an independent external review. The external review procedures are described below.

The claims procedures are intended to provide a full and fair review. This means, among other things, that claims and appeals will be decided in a manner designed to ensure the independence and impartiality of the persons involved in making these decisions.

Benefits will be payable to a Participant, or to a Provider that has accepted an Assignment of Benefits as consideration in full for services rendered.

According to Federal regulations which apply to the Plan, there are four types of claims: Pre-service (Urgent and Non-urgent), Concurrent Care and Post service. However, as noted below, because of this Plan's design, there are no Pre-service Urgent Care Claims which may be filed with the Plan.

1. Pre-service Claims. A "Pre-service Claim" is a claim for a benefit under the Plan where the Plan conditions receipt of the benefit, in whole or in part, on approval of the benefit in advance of obtaining medical care. However, if the Plan does not require the Participant to obtain approval of a medical service prior to getting treatment, then there is no "Pre-service Claim." The Participant simply follows the Plan's procedures with respect to any notice which may be required after receipt of treatment, and files the claim as a Post-service Claim.

A "Pre-service Urgent Care Claim" is any claim for medical care or treatment with respect to which the application of the time periods for making non urgent care determinations could seriously jeopardize the life or health of the Participant or the Participant's ability to regain maximum function, or, in the opinion of a Physician with knowledge of the Participant's medical condition, would subject the Participant to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the care or treatment that is the subject of the claim.

If a Participant needs medical care for a condition which could seriously jeopardize his or her life, obtain such care without delay, and communicate with the Plan as soon as reasonably possible.

The Plan does not require the Participant to obtain approval of any urgent care or Emergency medical services or admissions prior to getting treatment for an urgent care or Emergency situation, so there are no "Pre-service Urgent Care Claims" under

the Plan. The Participant simply follows the Plan's procedures with respect to any notice which may be required after receipt of treatment, and files the claim as a Post-service Claim.

Pre-admission certification of a non-Emergency Hospital admission is a "claim" only to the extent of the determination made – that the type of procedure or condition warrants Inpatient confinement for a certain number of days. The rules regarding Pre-service Claims will apply to that determination only. Once a Participant has the treatment in question, the claim for benefits relating to that treatment will be treated as a Post-service Claim.

2. **Concurrent Claims**. A "Concurrent Claim" arises when the Plan has approved an on-going course of treatment to be provided over a period of time or number of treatments, and either:

- a. The Plan determines that the course of treatment should be reduced or terminated; or
- b. The Participant requests extension of the course of treatment beyond that which the Plan has approved.

If the Plan does not require the Participant to obtain approval of a medical service prior to getting treatment, then there is no need to contact the Plan Administrator to request an extension of a course of treatment. The Participant simply follows the Plan's procedures with respect to any notice which may be required after receipt of treatment, and files the claim as a Post-service Claim.

3. **Post-service Claims**. A "Post-service Claim" is a claim for a benefit under the Plan after the services have been rendered.

When Claims Must Be Filed

Post-service health claims must be filed with the Third Party Administrator within 180 days of the date charges for the service were Incurred. Benefits are based upon the Plan's provisions at the time the charges were Incurred. Claims filed later than that date shall be denied.

A pre-service claim (including a concurrent claim that also is a pre-service claim) is considered to be filed when the request for approval of treatment or services is made and received by the Third Party Administrator in accordance with the Plan's procedures.

Upon receipt of the required information, the claim will be deemed to be filed with the Plan. The Third Party Administrator will determine if enough information has been submitted to enable proper consideration of the claim. If not, more information may be requested as provided herein. This additional information must be received by the Third Party Administrator within 45 days from receipt by the Participant of the request for additional information. Failure to do so may result in claims being declined or reduced.

Timing of Claim Decisions

The Plan Administrator shall notify the Participant, in accordance with the provisions set forth below, of any Adverse Benefit Determination (and, in the case of pre-service claims and concurrent claims, of decisions that a claim is payable in full) within the following timeframes:

1. **Pre-service Urgent Care Claims**:

- a. If the Participant has provided all of the necessary information, as soon as possible, taking into account the medical exigencies, but not later than 72 hours after receipt of the claim.
- b. If the Participant has not provided all of the information needed to process the claim, then the Participant will be notified as to what specific information is needed as soon as possible, but not later than 72 hours after receipt of the claim.
- c. The Participant will be notified of a determination of benefits as soon as possible, but not later than 72 hours, taking into account the medical exigencies, after the earliest of:
 - i. The Plan's receipt of the specified information; or
 - ii. The end of the period afforded the Participant to provide the information.
- d. If there is an Adverse Benefit Determination, a request for an expedited appeal may be submitted orally or in writing by the Participant. All necessary information, including the Plan's benefit determination on review, may be transmitted between the Plan and the Participant by telephone, facsimile, or other similarly expeditious method. Alternatively, the Participant may request an expedited review under the external review process.

2. **Pre-service Non-urgent Care Claims**:

- a. If the Participant has provided all of the information needed to process the claim, in a reasonable period of time appropriate to the medical circumstances, but not later than 15 days after receipt of the claim, unless an extension has been requested, then prior to the end of the 15-day extension period.

- b. If the Participant has not provided all of the information needed to process the claim, then the Participant will be notified as to what specific information is needed as soon as possible, but not later than 5 days after receipt of the claim. The Participant will be notified of a determination of benefits in a reasonable period of time appropriate to the medical circumstances, either prior to the end of the extension period (if additional information was requested during the initial processing period), or by the date agreed to by the Plan Administrator and the Participant (if additional information was requested during the extension period).
3. Concurrent Claims:
- a. Plan Notice of Reduction or Termination. If the Plan Administrator is notifying the Participant of a reduction or termination of a course of treatment (other than by Plan amendment or termination), before the end of such period of time or number of treatments. The Participant will be notified sufficiently in advance of the reduction or termination to allow the Participant to appeal and obtain a determination on review of that Adverse Benefit Determination before the benefit is reduced or terminated. This rule does not apply if benefits are reduced or eliminated due to plan amendment or termination. A similar process applies for claims based on a rescission of coverage for fraud or misrepresentation.
 - b. Request by Participant Involving Urgent Care. If the Plan Administrator receives a request from a Participant to extend the course of treatment beyond the period of time or number of treatments that is a claim involving urgent care, as soon as possible, taking into account the medical exigencies, but not later than 72 hours after receipt of the claim, as long as the Participant makes the request at least 72 hours prior to the expiration of the prescribed period of time or number of treatments. If the Participant submits the request with less than 24 hours prior to the expiration of the prescribed period of time or number of treatments, the request will be treated as a claim involving urgent care and decided within the urgent care timeframe.
 - c. Request by Participant Involving Non-urgent Care. If the Plan Administrator receives a request from the Participant to extend the course of treatment beyond the period of time or number of treatments that is a claim not involving urgent care, the request will be treated as a new benefit claim and decided within the timeframe appropriate to the type of claim (either as a pre-service non-urgent claim or a post-service claim).
 - d. Request by Participant Involving Rescission. With respect to rescissions, the following timetable applies:
 - i. Notification to Participant 30 days
 - ii. Notification of Adverse Benefit Determination on appeal 30 days
4. Post-service Claims:
- a. If the Participant has provided all of the information needed to process the claim, in a reasonable period of time, but not later than 30 days after receipt of the claim, unless an extension has been requested, then prior to the end of the 15-day extension period.
 - b. If the Participant has not provided all of the information needed to process the claim and additional information is requested during the initial processing period, then the Participant will be notified of a determination of benefits prior to the end of the extension period, unless additional information is requested during the extension period, then the Participant will be notified of the determination by a date agreed to by the Plan Administrator and the Participant.
 - i. Extensions – Pre-service Urgent Care Claims. No extensions are available in connection with Pre-service urgent care claims.
 - ii. Extensions – Pre-service Non-urgent Care Claims. This period may be extended by the Plan for up to 15 days, provided that the Plan Administrator both determines that such an extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the Plan and notifies the Participant, prior to the expiration of the initial 15-day processing period, of the circumstances requiring the extension of time and the date by which the Plan expects to render a decision.
 - iii. Extensions – Post-service Claims. This period may be extended by the Plan for up to 15 days, provided that the Plan Administrator both determines that such an extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the Plan and notifies the Participant, prior to the expiration of the initial 30-day processing period, of the circumstances requiring the extension of time and the date by which the Plan expects to render a decision.
5. Calculating Time Periods. The period of time within which a benefit determination is required to be made shall begin at the time a claim is deemed to be filed in accordance with the procedures of the Plan.

Notification of an Adverse Benefit Determination

The Plan Administrator shall provide a Participant with a notice, either in writing or electronically (or, in the case of pre-service urgent care claims, by telephone, facsimile or similar method, with written or electronic notice following within 3 days), containing the following information:

1. Information sufficient to allow the Participant to identify the claim involved (including date of service, the healthcare Provider, the claim amount, if applicable, and a statement describing the availability, upon request, of the Diagnosis code and its corresponding meaning, and the treatment code and its corresponding meaning);
2. A reference to the specific portion(s) of the Plan Document upon which a denial is based;
3. Specific reason(s) for a denial, including the denial code and its corresponding meaning, and a description of the Plan's standard, if any, that was used in denying the claim;
4. A description of any additional information necessary for the Participant to perfect the claim and an explanation of why such information is necessary;
5. A description of the Plan's review procedures and the time limits applicable to the procedures, including a statement of the Participant's right to bring a civil action under Section 502(a) of ERISA following an Adverse Benefit Determination on final review;
6. A statement that the Participant is entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records and other information relevant to the Participant's claim for benefits;
7. The identity of any medical or vocational experts consulted in connection with a claim, even if the Plan did not rely upon their advice (or a statement that the identity of the expert will be provided, upon request);
8. Any rule, guideline, protocol or similar criterion that was relied upon in making the determination (or a statement that it was relied upon and that a copy will be provided to the Participant, free of charge, upon request);
9. In the case of denials based upon a medical judgment (such as whether the treatment is Medically Necessary or Experimental), either an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination, applying the terms of the Plan to the Participant's medical circumstances, or a statement that such explanation will be provided to the Participant, free of charge, upon request; and
10. In a claim involving urgent care, a description of the Plan's expedited review process.

Appeal of Adverse Benefit Determinations

Full and Fair Review of All Claims

In cases where a claim for benefits is denied, in whole or in part, and the Participant believes the claim has been denied wrongly, the Participant may appeal the denial and review pertinent documents. The claims procedures of this Plan provide a Participant with a reasonable opportunity for a full and fair review of a claim and Adverse Benefit Determination. More specifically, the Plan provides:

1. Participants at least 180 days following receipt of a notification of an initial Adverse Benefit Determination within which to appeal the determination;
2. Participants the opportunity to submit written comments, documents, records, and other information relating to the claim for benefits;
3. Participants the opportunity to review the Claim file and to present evidence and testimony as part of the internal claims and appeals process;
4. For a review that does not afford deference to the previous Adverse Benefit Determination and that is conducted by an appropriate named fiduciary of the Plan, who shall be neither the individual who made the Adverse Benefit Determination that is the subject of the appeal, nor the subordinate of such individual;
5. For a review that takes into account all comments, documents, records, and other information submitted by the Participant relating to the claim, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the prior benefit determination;
6. That, in deciding an appeal of any Adverse Benefit Determination that is based in whole or in part upon a medical judgment, the Plan fiduciary shall consult with a health care professional who has appropriate training and experience in the field of medicine involved in the medical judgment, who is neither an individual who was consulted in connection with the Adverse Benefit Determination that is the subject of the appeal, nor the subordinate of any such individual;
7. For the identification of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the Plan in connection with a claim, even if the Plan did not rely upon their advice;
8. That a Participant will be provided, free of charge: (a) reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information relevant to the Participant's claim in possession of the Plan Administrator or Third Party Administrator; (b) information regarding any voluntary appeals procedures offered by the Plan; (c) information regarding the Participant's right to an external review process; (d) any internal rule, guideline, protocol or other similar criterion relied upon, considered or generated in making the adverse determination; and (e) an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination, applying the terms of the Plan to the Participant's medical circumstances; and
9. That a Participant will be provided, free of charge, and sufficiently in advance of the date that the notice of Final Internal Adverse Benefit Determination is required, with new or additional evidence considered, relied upon, or generated by the Plan in connection with the Claim, as well as any new or additional rationale for a denial at the internal appeals stage, and a reasonable opportunity for the Participant to respond to such new evidence or rationale.

Requirements for Appeal

The Participant must file the appeal in writing (although oral appeals are permitted for pre service urgent care claims) within 180 days following receipt of the notice of an Adverse Benefit Determination. For pre-service urgent care claims, if the Participant chooses to orally appeal, the Participant may telephone:

HPHG, LLC dba Caprock HealthPlans
PO Box 54139
Lubbock, TX 79453-4139
E-mail: claims@caprockhp.com
Fax: 806-698-5823
Phone: 800-747-9446

To file an appeal in writing, the Participant's appeal must be addressed as follows and mailed or faxed as follows:

HPHG, LLC dba Caprock HealthPlans
PO Box 54139
Lubbock, TX 79453-4139
E-mail: claims@caprockhp.com
Fax: 806-698-5823
Phone: 800-747-9446

It shall be the responsibility of the Participant to submit proof that the claim for benefits is covered and payable under the provisions of the Plan. Any appeal must include:

1. The name of the Employee/Participant;
2. The Employee/Participant's social security number;
3. The group name or identification number;
4. All facts and theories supporting the claim for benefits. Failure to include any theories or facts in the appeal will result in their being deemed waived. In other words, the Participant will lose the right to raise factual arguments and theories which support this claim if the Participant fails to include them in the appeal;
5. A statement in clear and concise terms of the reason or reasons for disagreement with the handling of the claim; and
6. Any material or information that the Participant has which indicates that the Participant is entitled to benefits under the Plan.

If the Participant provides all of the required information, it may be that the expenses will be eligible for payment under the Plan.

Timing of Notification of Benefit Determination on Review

The Plan Administrator shall notify the Participant of the Plan's benefit determination on review within the following timeframes:

1. Pre-service Urgent Care Claims: As soon as possible, taking into account the medical exigencies, but not later than 72 hours after receipt of the appeal.
2. Pre-service Non-urgent Care Claims: Within a reasonable period of time appropriate to the medical circumstances, but not later than 30 days after receipt of the appeal.
3. Concurrent Claims: The response will be made in the appropriate time period based upon the type of claim: Pre-service Urgent, Pre-service Non-urgent or Post-service.
4. Post-service Claims: Within a reasonable period of time, but not later than 60 days after receipt of the appeal.

Calculating Time Periods. The period of time within which the Plan's determination is required to be made shall begin at the time an appeal is filed in accordance with the procedures of this Plan, without regard to whether all information necessary to make the determination accompanies the filing.

Manner and Content of Notification of Adverse Benefit Determination on Review

The Plan Administrator shall provide a Participant with notification, with respect to pre-service urgent care claims, by telephone, facsimile or similar method, and with respect to all other types of claims, in writing or electronically, of a Plan's Adverse Benefit Determination on review, setting forth:

1. Information sufficient to allow the Participant to identify the claim involved (including date of service, the healthcare Provider, the claim amount, if applicable, and a statement describing the availability, upon request, of the Diagnosis code and its corresponding meaning, and the treatment code and its corresponding meaning);
2. A reference to the specific portion(s) of the plan provisions upon which a denial is based;

3. Specific reason(s) for a denial, including the denial code and its corresponding meaning, and a description of the Plan's standard, if any, that was used in denying the claim, and a discussion of the decision;
4. A description of any additional information necessary for the Participant to perfect the claim and an explanation of why such information is necessary;
5. A description of available internal appeals and external review processes, including information regarding how to initiate an appeal;
6. A description of the Plan's review procedures and the time limits applicable to the procedures. This description will include information on how to initiate the appeal and a statement of the Participant's right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA following an Adverse Benefit Determination on final review;
7. A statement that the Participant is entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information relevant to the Participant's claim for benefits;
8. The identity of any medical or vocational experts consulted in connection with a claim, even if the Plan did not rely upon their advice (or a statement that the identity of the expert will be provided, upon request);
9. Any rule, guideline, protocol or similar criterion that was relied upon, considered, or generated in making the determination will be provided free of charge. If this is not practical, a statement will be included that such a rule, guideline, protocol or similar criterion was relied upon in making the determination and a copy will be provided to the Participant, free of charge, upon request;
10. In the case of denials based upon a medical judgment (such as whether the treatment is Medically Necessary or Experimental), either an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination, applying the terms of the Plan to the Participant's medical circumstances, will be provided. If this is not practical, a statement will be included that such explanation will be provided to the Participant, free of charge, upon request; and
11. The following statement: "You and your Plan may have other voluntary alternative dispute resolution options, such as mediation. One way to find out what may be available is to contact your local U.S. Department of Labor Office and your State insurance regulatory agency."

Furnishing Documents in the Event of an Adverse Determination

In the case of an Adverse Benefit Determination on review, the Plan Administrator shall provide such access to, and copies of, documents, records, and other information described in the section relating to "Manner and Content of Notification of Adverse Benefit Determination on Review" as appropriate.

Decision on Review

If, for any reason, the Participant does not receive a written response to the appeal within the appropriate time period set forth above, the Participant may assume that the appeal has been denied. The decision by the Plan Administrator or other appropriate named fiduciary of the Plan on review will be final, binding and conclusive and will be afforded the maximum deference permitted by law. All claim review procedures provided for in the Plan must be exhausted before any legal action is brought.

External Review Process

The Federal external review process does not apply to a denial, reduction, termination, or a failure to provide payment for a benefit based on a determination that a participant or beneficiary fails to meet the requirements for eligibility under the terms of a group health plan.

The Federal external review process applies only to:

1. An Adverse Benefit Determination (including a Final Internal Adverse Benefit Determination) by a plan or issuer that involves medical judgment (including, but not limited to, those based on the plan's or issuer's requirements for Medical Necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care, or effectiveness of a covered benefit; or its determination that a treatment is Experimental or Investigational), as determined by the external reviewer; and
2. A rescission of coverage (whether or not the rescission has any effect on any particular benefit at that time).

Standard external review

Standard external review is external review that is not considered expedited (as described in the "expedited external review" paragraph in this section).

1. Request for external review. The Plan will allow a claimant to file a request for an external review with the Plan if the request is filed within 4 months after the date of receipt of a notice of an Adverse Benefit Determination or Final Internal Adverse Benefit Determination. If there is no corresponding date four months after the date of receipt of such a notice, then the request must be filed by the first day of the fifth month following the receipt of the notice. For example, if the date of receipt of the notice is October 30, because there is no February 30, the request must be filed by March 1. If the last filing

date would fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the last filing date is extended to the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday.

2. **Preliminary review.** Within 5 business days following the date of receipt of the external review request, the Plan will complete a preliminary review of the request to determine whether:
 - a. The claimant is or was covered under the Plan at the time the health care item or service was requested or, in the case of a retrospective review, was covered under the Plan at the time the health care item or service was provided;
 - b. The Adverse Benefit Determination or the Final Adverse Benefit Determination does not relate to the claimant's failure to meet the requirements for eligibility under the terms of the Plan (e.g., worker classification or similar determination);
 - c. The claimant has exhausted the Plan's internal appeal process unless the claimant is not required to exhaust the internal appeals process under the interim final regulations; and
 - d. The claimant has provided all the information and forms required to process an external review. Within 1 business day after completion of the preliminary review, the Plan will issue a notification in writing to the claimant. If the request is complete but not eligible for external review, such notification will include the reasons for its ineligibility and contact information for the Employee Benefits Security Administration (toll-free number 866-444-EBSA (3272)). If the request is not complete, such notification will describe the information or materials needed to make the request complete and the Plan will allow a claimant to perfect the request for external review with the four-month filing period or within the 48 hour period following the receipt of the notification, whichever is later.
3. **Referral to Independent Review Organization.** The Plan will assign an independent review organization (IRO) that is accredited by URAC or by a similar nationally-recognized accrediting organization to conduct the external review. Moreover, the Plan will take action against bias and to ensure independence. Accordingly, the Plan will contract with (or direct the Claims Processor to contract with, on its behalf) at least 3 IROs for assignments under the Plan and rotate claims assignments among them (or incorporate other independent unbiased method for selection of IROs, such as random selection). In addition, the IRO may not be eligible for any financial incentives based on the likelihood that the IRO will support the denial of benefits.
4. **Reversal of Plan's decision.** Upon receipt of a notice of a final external review decision reversing the Adverse Benefit Determination or Final Internal Adverse Benefit Determination, the Plan will provide coverage or payment for the claim without delay, regardless of whether the plan intends to seek judicial review of the external review decision and unless or until there is a judicial decision otherwise.

Expedited external review

1. **Request for expedited external review.** The Plan will allow a claimant to make a request for an expedited external review with the Plan at the time the claimant receives:
 - a. An Adverse Benefit Determination if the Adverse Benefit Determination involves a medical condition of the claimant for which the timeframe for completion of a standard internal appeal under the interim final regulations would seriously jeopardize the life or health of the claimant or would jeopardize the claimant's ability to regain maximum function and the claimant has filed a request for an expedited internal appeal; or
 - b. A Final Internal Adverse Benefit Determination, if the claimant has a medical condition where the timeframe for completion of a standard external review would seriously jeopardize the life or health of the claimant or would jeopardize the claimant's ability to regain maximum function, or if the Final Internal Adverse Benefit Determination concerns an admission, availability of care, continued stay, or health care item or service for which the claimant received Emergency Services, but has not been discharged from a facility.
2. **Preliminary review.** Immediately upon receipt of the request for expedited external review, the Plan will determine whether the request meets the reviewability requirements set forth above for standard external review. The Plan will immediately send a notice that meets the requirements set forth above for standard external review to the claimant of its eligibility determination.
3. **Referral to Independent Review Organization.** Upon a determination that a request is eligible for external review following the preliminary review, the Plan will assign an IRO pursuant to the requirements set forth above for standard review. The Plan will provide or transmit all necessary documents and information considered in making the Adverse Benefit Determination or Final Internal Adverse Benefit Determination to the assigned IRO electronically or by telephone or facsimile or any other available expeditious method. The assigned IRO, to the extent the information or documents are available and the IRO considers them appropriate, will consider the information or documents described above under the

procedures for standard review. In reaching a decision, the assigned IRO will review the claim de novo and is not bound by any decisions or conclusions reached during the Plan's internal claims and appeals process.

4. **Notice of final external review decision.** The Plan's (or Claim Processor's) contract with the assigned IRO will require the IRO to provide notice of the final external review decision, in accordance with the requirements set forth above, as expeditiously as the claimant's medical condition or circumstances require, but in no event more than 72 hours after the IRO receives the request for an expedited external review. If the notice is not in writing, within 48 hours after the date of providing that notice, the assigned IRO will provide written confirmation of the decision to the claimant and the Plan.

Appointment of Authorized Representative

A Participant is permitted to appoint an authorized representative to act on his or her behalf with respect to a benefit claim or appeal of a denial. An Assignment of Benefits by a Participant to a Provider will not constitute appointment of that Provider as an authorized representative. To appoint such a representative, the Participant must complete a form which can be obtained from the Plan Administrator or the Third Party Administrator. However, in connection with a claim involving Urgent Care, the Plan will permit a health care professional with knowledge of the Participant's medical condition to act as the Participant's authorized representative without completion of this form. In the event a Participant designates an authorized representative, all future communications from the Plan will be with the representative, rather than the Participant, unless the Participant directs the Plan Administrator, in writing, to the contrary.

Physical Examinations

The Plan reserves the right to have a Physician of its own choosing examine any Participant whose condition, Sickness or Injury is the basis of a claim. All such examinations shall be at the expense of the Plan. This right may be exercised when and as often as the Plan may reasonably require during the pendency of a claim. The Participant must comply with this requirement as a necessary condition to coverage.

Autopsy

The Plan reserves the right to have an autopsy performed upon any deceased Participant whose condition, Sickness, or Injury is the basis of a claim. This right may be exercised only where not prohibited by law.

Payment of Benefits

All benefits under this Plan are payable, in U.S. Dollars, to the covered Employee whose Sickness or Injury, or whose covered Dependent's Sickness or Injury, is the basis of a claim. In the event of the death or incapacity of a covered Employee and in the absence of written evidence to this Plan of the qualification of a guardian for his or her estate, this Plan may, in its sole discretion, make any and all such payments to the individual or Institution which, in the opinion of this Plan, is or was providing the care and support of such Employee.

Assignments

Benefits for medical expenses covered under this Plan may be assigned by a Participant to the Provider as consideration in full for services rendered; however, if those benefits are paid directly to the Employee, the Plan shall be deemed to have fulfilled its obligations with respect to such benefits. The Plan will not be responsible for determining whether any such assignment is valid. Payment of benefits which have been assigned will be made directly to the assignee unless a written request not to honor the assignment, signed by the covered Employee and the assignee, has been received before the proof of loss is submitted.

No Participant shall at any time, either during the time in which he or she is a Participant in the Plan, or following his or her termination as a Participant, in any manner, have any right to assign his or her right to sue to recover benefits under the Plan, to enforce rights due under the Plan or to any other causes of action which he or she may have against the Plan or its fiduciaries.

A Provider which accepts an Assignment of Benefits, in accordance with this Plan as consideration in full for services rendered, is bound by the rules and provisions set forth within the terms of this document.

Benefits due to any Network Provider will be considered "assigned" to such Provider and will be paid directly to such Provider, whether or not a written Assignment of Benefits was executed. Notwithstanding any assignment or non-Assignment of Benefits to the contrary, upon payment of the benefits due under the Plan, the Plan is deemed to have fulfilled its obligations with respect to such benefits, whether or not payment is made in accordance with any assignment or request.

Non U.S. Providers

Medical expenses for care, supplies, or services which are rendered by a Provider whose principal place of business or address for payment is located outside the United States (a "Non U.S. Provider") are payable under the Plan, subject to all Plan exclusions, limitations, maximums and other provisions, under the following conditions:

1. Benefits may not be assigned to a Non U.S. Provider;

2. The Participant is responsible for making all payments to Non U.S. Providers, and submitting receipts to the Plan for reimbursement;
3. Benefit payments will be determined by the Plan based upon the exchange rate in effect on the Incurred Date;
4. The Non U.S. Provider shall be subject to, and in compliance with, all U.S. and other applicable licensing requirements;
5. Claims for benefits must be submitted to the Plan in English; and
6. Travel outside the U.S. cannot be for the express (sole) purpose of obtaining medical care.

Recovery of Payments

Occasionally, benefits are paid more than once, are paid based upon improper billing or a misstatement in a proof of loss or enrollment information, are not paid according to the Plan's terms, conditions, limitations or exclusions, or should otherwise not have been paid by the Plan. As such this Plan may pay benefits that are later found to be greater than the Maximum Allowable Charge. In this case, this Plan may recover the amount of the overpayment from the source to which it was paid, primary payers, or from the party on whose behalf the charge(s) were paid. As such, whenever the Plan pays benefits exceeding the amount of benefits payable under the terms of the Plan, the Plan Administrator has the right to recover any such erroneous payment directly from the person or entity who received such payment and/or from other payers and/or the Participant or Dependent on whose behalf such payment was made.

A Participant, Dependent, Provider, another benefit plan, insurer, or any other person or entity who receives a payment exceeding the amount of benefits payable under the terms of the Plan or on whose behalf such payment was made, shall return or refund the amount of such erroneous payment to the Plan within 30 days of discovery or demand. The Plan Administrator shall have no obligation to secure payment for the expense for which the erroneous payment was made or to which it was applied.

The person or entity receiving an erroneous payment may not apply such payment to another expense. The Plan Administrator shall have the sole discretion to choose who will repay the Plan for an erroneous payment and whether such payment shall be reimbursed in a lump sum. When a Participant or other entity does not comply with the provisions of this section, the Plan Administrator shall have the authority, in its sole discretion, to deny payment of any claims for benefits by the Participant and to deny or reduce future benefits payable (including payment of future benefits for other injuries or Illnesses) under the Plan by the amount due as reimbursement to the Plan. The Plan Administrator may also, in its sole discretion, deny or reduce future benefits (including future benefits for other injuries or Illnesses) under any other group benefits plan maintained by the Plan Sponsor. The reductions will equal the amount of the required reimbursement.

Providers and any other person or entity accepting payment from the Plan or to whom a right to benefits has been assigned, in consideration of services rendered, payments and/or rights, agrees to be bound by the terms of this Plan and agree to submit claims for reimbursement in strict accordance with their State's health care practice acts, ICD-9 or CPT standards, Medicare guidelines, HCPCS standards, or other standards approved by the Plan Administrator or insurer. Any payments made on claims for reimbursement not in accordance with the above provisions shall be repaid to the Plan within 30 days of discovery or demand or incur prejudgment interest of 1.5% per month. If the Plan must bring an action against a Participant, Provider or other person or entity to enforce the provisions of this section, then that Participant, Provider or other person or entity agrees to pay the Plan's attorneys' fees and costs, regardless of the action's outcome.

Further, Participants and/or their Dependents, beneficiaries, estate, heirs, guardian, personal representative, or assigns (Participants) shall assign or be deemed to have assigned to the Plan their right to recover said payments made by the Plan, from any other party and/or recovery for which the Participant(s) are entitled, for or in relation to facility-acquired condition(s), Provider error(s), or damages arising from another party's act or omission for which the Plan has not already been refunded.

The Plan reserves the right to deduct from any benefits properly payable under this Plan the amount of any payment which has been made:

1. In error;
2. Pursuant to a misstatement contained in a proof of loss or a fraudulent act;
3. Pursuant to a misstatement made to obtain coverage under this Plan within two years after the date such coverage commences;
4. With respect to an ineligible person;
5. In anticipation of obtaining a recovery if a Participant fails to comply with the Plan's Third Party Recovery, Subrogation and Reimbursement provisions; or
6. Pursuant to a claim for which benefits are recoverable under any policy or act of law providing for coverage for occupational Injury or Disease to the extent that such benefits are recovered. This provision (6) shall not be deemed to require the Plan to pay benefits under this Plan in any such instance.

The deduction may be made against any claim for benefits under this Plan by a Participant or by any of his covered Dependents if such payment is made with respect to the Participant or any person covered or asserting coverage as a Dependent of the Participant.

If the Plan seeks to recoup funds from a Provider, due to a claim being made in error, a claim being fraudulent on the part of the Provider, and/or the claim that is the result of the Provider's misstatement, said Provider shall, as part of its assignment to benefits from the Plan, abstain from billing the Participant for any outstanding amount(s).

Medicaid Coverage

A Participant's eligibility for any State Medicaid benefits will not be taken into account in determining or making any payments for benefits to or on behalf of such Participant. Any such benefit payments will be subject to the State's right to reimbursement for benefits it has paid on behalf of the Participant, as required by the State Medicaid program; and the Plan will honor any Subrogation rights the State may have with respect to benefits which are payable under the Plan.

ARTICLE XII COORDINATION OF BENEFITS

Benefits Subject to This Provision

This provision shall apply to all benefits provided under any section of this Plan.

Excess Insurance

If at the time of Injury, Sickness, Disease or disability there is available, or potentially available any Coverage (including but not limited to Coverage resulting from a judgment at law or settlements), the benefits under this Plan shall apply only as an excess over such other sources of Coverage.

The Plan's benefits will be excess to, whenever possible:

1. Any primary payer besides the Plan;
2. Any first party insurance through medical payment coverage, personal Injury protection, no-fault coverage, uninsured or underinsured motorist coverage;
3. Any policy of insurance from any insurance company or guarantor of a third party;
4. Workers' compensation or other liability insurance company; or
5. Any other source, including but not limited to crime victim restitution funds, any medical, disability or other benefit payments, and school insurance coverage.

Vehicle Limitation

When medical payments are available under any vehicle insurance, the Plan shall pay excess benefits only, without reimbursement for vehicle plan and/or policy Deductibles. This Plan shall always be considered secondary to such plans and/or policies. This applies to all forms of medical payments under vehicle plans and/or policies regardless of its name, title or classification.

Allowable Expenses

"Allowable Expenses" shall mean the Usual and Customary charge for any Medically Necessary, Reasonable, and eligible item of expense, at least a portion of which is covered under a plan. When some Other Plan pays first in accordance with the Application to Benefit Determinations section herein, this Plan's Allowable Expenses shall in no event exceed the Other Plan's Allowable Expenses. When some Other Plan provides benefits in the form of services rather than cash payments, the reasonable cash value of each service rendered, in the amount that would be payable in accordance with the terms of the Plan, shall be deemed to be the benefit. Benefits payable under any Other Plan include the benefits that would have been payable had claim been duly made therefore.

"Claim Determination Period"

"Claim Determination Period" shall mean each Calendar Year.

Effect on Benefits

Application to Benefit Determinations

The plan that pays first according to the rules in the section entitled "Order of Benefit Determination" will pay as if there were no Other Plan involved. The secondary and subsequent plans will pay the balance due up to 100% of the total Allowable Expenses. When there is a conflict in the rules, this Plan will never pay more than 50% of Allowable Expenses when paying secondary. Benefits will be coordinated on the basis of a Claim Determination Period.

When medical payments are available under automobile insurance, this Plan will pay excess benefits only, without reimbursement for automobile plan Deductibles. This Plan will always be considered the secondary carrier regardless of the individual's election under personal Injury protection (PIP) coverage with the automobile insurance carrier.

In certain instances, the benefits of the Other Plan will be ignored for the purposes of determining the benefits under this Plan. This is the case when:

1. The Other Plan would, according to its rules, determine its benefits after the benefits of this Plan have been determined; and
2. The rules in the section entitled "Order of Benefit Determination" would require this Plan to determine its benefits before the Other Plan.

Order of Benefit Determination

For the purposes of the section entitled "Application to Benefit Determinations," the rules establishing the order of benefit determination are:

1. A plan without a coordinating provision will always be the primary plan;
2. If an individual is covered under one plan as a dependent and another plan as an employee, member or subscriber, the plan that covers the person as an employee, member or subscriber (that is, other than as a dependent) is considered primary. The primary plan must pay benefits without regard to the possibility that another plan may cover some expenses. This Plan will deem any Employee plan beneficiary to be eligible for primary benefits from his or her Employer's benefit plan.
3. The plan that covers a person as a dependent (or beneficiary under ERISA) is generally secondary. The plan that covers a person as a dependent is primary only when both plans agree that COBRA or state continuation coverage should always pay secondary when the person who elected COBRA is covered by another plan as a dependent. See the section on Medicare below for exceptions to this rule.
4. If an individual is covered under a Spouse's plan and also under his or her parent's plan, the primary plan is the plan of the individual's Spouse. The plan of the individual's parent(s) is the secondary plan.
5. If one or more plans cover the same person as Dependent Child:
 - The primary plan is the plan of the parent whose birthday is earlier in the year if:
 - The parents are married; or
 - The parents are not separated (whether or not they have been married); or
 - A court decree awards joint custody without specifying that one party has the responsibility to provide health care coverage.
 - If both parents have the same birthday, the plan that has covered either of the parents the longest is primary.
 - If the specific terms of a court decree state that one of the parents is responsible for the Child's health care expenses or health care coverage and the plan of that parent has actual knowledge of those term, that plan is primary. This rule applies to Claim Determination Periods or plan years starting after the plan is given notice of the court decree.
 - If the parents are not married and reside separately, or are divorced or legally separated (whether or not they have ever been married), the order of benefits is;
 - The plan of the custodial parent;
 - The plan of the spouse of the custodial parent;
 - The plan of the non-custodial parent; and then
 - The plan of the spouse of the non-custodial parent.
6. Active or inactive Employee: If an individual is covered under one plan as an active employee (or dependent of an active employee), and is also covered under another plan as a retired or laid off employee (or dependent of a retired or laid off employee), the plan that covers the person as an active employee (or dependent of an active employee) will be primary. This rule does not apply if the rule in the third paragraph above can determine the order of benefits. If the other plan does not have this rule, this rule is ignored.
7. Continuation coverage under COBRA or state law: If a person has elected continuation of coverage under COBRA or state law and also has coverage under another plan, the continuation coverage is secondary. This is true even if the person is enrolled in another plan as a dependent. If the two plans do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule is ignored. This rule does not apply if one of the first four items above applies. (See exception in the Medicare section.)
8. Longer or shorter length of coverage: The plan that covered the person as an employee, member, subscriber or the retiree the longest is the primary.

9. If an active employee is on leave due to active duty in the military in excess of 30 days, the plan that covers the person as an active employee, member, or subscriber is considered primary.
10. If the above rules do not determine the primary plan, the covered expenses may be shared equally between the plans. This plan will not pay more than it would have paid, had it been primary.

Medicare

If a Participant is also receiving benefits under Medicare, including through Medicare Prescription drug coverage, federal law may require this Plan to be primary over Medicare. When this Plan is not primary, the Plan will coordinate benefits with Medicare.

The plan that pays first according to the rules in the section entitled “Order of Benefit Determination” will pay as if there were no Other Plan involved. The secondary and subsequent plans will pay the balance due up to 100% of the total Allowable Expenses. When there is a conflict in the rules, this Plan will never pay more than 50% of Allowable Expenses when paying secondary. Benefits will be coordinated on the basis of a Claim Determination Period.

When this Plan is not primary and a Participant is receiving Medicare Part A but has chosen not to elect Medicare Part B, this Plan will reduce its payment on Medicare Part B services as though Medicare Part B was actually in effect.

Order of Benefit Determination – Medicare

This Plan complies with the Medicare Secondary Payer regulations. Example of these regulations are as follows:

1. This Plan generally pays first under the following circumstances:
 - The Employee continues to be actively employed by the employer and the Employee or Employee’s covered Spouse becomes eligible for and enrolls in Medicare because of age or disability.
 - The Employee continues to be actively employed by the employer, the Employee’s covered Spouse becomes eligible for and enrolls in Medicare, and the Employee’s covered Spouse is also covered under a retiree plan through his or her former employer. In this case, the Plan pays first for the Employee and the Employee’s covered Spouse, Medicare pays second, and the retiree plan pays last.
 - For a Participant with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD), this Plan usually has primary responsibility for the claims of a Participant for 30 months from the date of Medicare eligibility based on ESRD. The 30-month period may also include COBRA continuation coverage or another source of coverage. At the end of the 30-month period, Medicare becomes the primary payer.
2. Medicare generally pays first under the following circumstances:
 - The Employee is no longer actively employed by an employer; and
 - The Employee or Employee’s Spouse has Medicare coverage due to age, plus the Employee and Employee’s Spouse also has COBRA continuation coverage through the Plan; or
 - The Employee or an Employee’s family member has Medicare coverage based on disability, plus the Employee also has COBRA continuation coverage through the Plan. Medicare normally pays first, however the COBRA continuation coverage may pay first for Participants with ESRD until the end of the 30-month period;
 - The Employee or Employee’s Spouse has retiree coverage plus Medicare coverage; or
 - Upon completion of 30 months of Medicare eligibility for an individual with ESRD, Medicare becomes the primary payer.
(Note: If a person with ESRD was eligible for Medicare based on age or other disability before being diagnosed with ESRD and Medicare was previously paying as the primary plan, then the person may continue to receive Medicare benefits on a primary basis.)
3. Medicare is the secondary payer when no-fault insurance, worker’s compensation, or liability insurance is available as the primary payer.

Note: If a Participant is eligible for Medicare as his or her primary plan, all benefits from the Plan will be reduced by the amount Medicare would pay, regardless of whether or not the Participant is enrolled in Medicare.

Right to Receive and Release Necessary Information

For the purpose of determining the applicability of and implementing the terms of this provision or any provision of similar purpose of any Other Plan, this Plan may, without the consent of or notice to any person, release to or obtain from any insurance company, or other organization or individual, any information with respect to any person, which the Plan deems to be necessary for such purposes. Any person claiming benefits under this Plan shall furnish to the Plan such information as may be necessary to implement this provision.

Facility of Payment

Whenever payments which should have been made under this Plan in accordance with this provision have been made under any Other Plans, the Plan Administrator may, in its sole discretion, pay any organizations making such other payments any amounts it shall determine to be warranted in order to satisfy the intent of this provision, and amounts so paid shall be deemed to be benefits paid under this Plan and, to the extent of such payments, this Plan shall be fully discharged from liability.

Right of Recovery

In accordance with the Recovery of Payments provision, whenever payments have been made by this Plan with respect to Allowable Expenses in a total amount, at any time, in excess of the Maximum Amount of payment necessary at that time to satisfy the intent of this Article, the Plan shall have the right to recover such payments, to the extent of such excess, from any one or more of the following as this Plan shall determine: any person to or with respect to whom such payments were made, or such person's legal representative, any insurance companies, or any other individuals or organizations which the Plan determines are responsible for payment of such Allowable Expenses, and any future benefits payable to the Participant or his or her Dependents. Please the Recovery of Payments provision above for more details.

ARTICLE XIII MEDICARE

Applicable to Active Employees and Their Spouses Ages 65 and Over

An active Employee and his or her Spouse (ages 65 and over) may, at the option of such Employee, elect or reject coverage under this Plan. If such Employee elects coverage under this Plan, the benefits of this Plan shall be determined before any benefits provided by Medicare. If coverage under this Plan is rejected by such Employee, benefits listed herein will not be payable even as secondary coverage to Medicare.

Applicable to All Other Participants Eligible for Medicare Benefits

To the extent required by Federal regulations, this Plan will pay before any Medicare benefits. There are some circumstances under which Medicare would be required to pay its benefits first. In these cases, benefits under this Plan would be calculated as secondary payor (as described under the Article entitled "Coordination of Benefits"). The Participant will be assumed to have full Medicare coverage (that is, both Part A & B) whether or not the Participant has enrolled for the full coverage. If the Provider accepts assignment with Medicare, Covered Expenses will not exceed the Medicare approved expenses.

Applicable to Medicare Services Furnished to End Stage Renal Disease ("ESRD") Participants Who AreCovered Under This Plan

If any Participant is eligible for Medicare benefits because of ESRD, the benefits of the Plan will be determined before Medicare benefits for the first 18 months of Medicare entitlement (with respect to charges Incurred on or after February 1, 1991 and before August 5, 1997), and for the first 30 months of Medicare entitlement (with respect to charges Incurred on or after August 5, 1997), unless applicable Federal law provides to the contrary, in which event the benefits of the Plan will be determined in accordance with such law.

ARTICLE XIV MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Applicable Law

This is a self-funded benefit plan coming within the purview of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"). The Plan is funded with Employee and/or Employer contributions. As such, when applicable, Federal law and jurisdiction preempt State law and jurisdiction.

Clerical Error/Delay

Clerical errors made on the records of the Plan and delays in making entries on such records shall not invalidate coverage nor cause coverage to be in force or to continue in force. Rather, the Effective Dates of coverage shall be determined solely in accordance with the provisions of this Plan regardless of whether any contributions with respect to Participants have been made or have failed to be made because of such errors or delays. Upon discovery of any such error or delay, an equitable adjustment of any such contributions will be made.

Conformity With Applicable Laws

This Plan shall be deemed to automatically be amended to conform as required by any applicable law, regulation or the order or judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction governing provisions of this Plan, including, but not limited to, stated maximums, exclusions or limitations. In the event that any law, regulation or the order or judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction causes the Plan Administrator to pay claims which are otherwise limited or excluded under this Plan, such payments will be considered as being

in accordance with the terms of this Plan Document. It is intended that the Plan will conform to the requirements of ERISA, as it applies to Employee welfare plans, as well as any other applicable law.

Fraud

The following actions by any Participant, or a Participant's knowledge of such actions being taken by another, constitute fraud and will result in immediate termination of all coverage under this Plan for the entire Family Unit of which the Participant is a member:

1. Attempting to submit a claim for benefits (which includes attempting to fill a prescription) for a person who is not a Participant of the Plan;
2. Attempting to file a claim for a Participant for services which were not rendered or Drugs or other items which were not provided;
3. Providing false or misleading information in connection with enrollment in the Plan; or
4. Providing any false or misleading information to the Plan.

Headings

The headings used in this Plan Document are used for convenience of reference only. Participants are advised not to rely on any provision because of the heading.

No Waiver or Estoppel

No term, condition or provision of this Plan shall be deemed to have been waived, and there shall be no estoppel against the enforcement of any provision of this Plan, except by written instrument of the party charged with such waiver or estoppel. No such written waiver shall be deemed a continuing waiver unless specifically stated therein, and each such waiver shall operate only as to the specific term or condition waived and shall not constitute a waiver of such term or condition for the future or as to any act other than the one specifically waived.

Plan Contributions

The Plan Administrator shall, from time to time, evaluate the funding method of the Plan and determine the amount to be contributed by the Participating Employer and the amount to be contributed (if any) by each Participant.

The Plan Sponsor shall fund the Plan in a manner consistent with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, ERISA, and such other laws and regulations as shall be applicable to the end that the Plan shall be funded on a lawful and sound basis; but, to the extent permitted by governing law, the Plan Administrator shall be free to determine the manner and means of funding the Plan.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan, the Plan Administrator's obligation to pay claims otherwise allowable under the terms of the Plan shall be limited to its obligation to make contributions to the Plan as set forth in the preceding paragraph. Payment of said claims in accordance with these procedures shall discharge completely the Company's obligation with respect to such payments.

In the event that the Company terminates the Plan, then as of the effective date of termination, the Employer and eligible Employees shall have no further obligation to make additional contributions to the Plan and the Plan shall have no obligation to pay claims incurred after the termination date of the Plan.

Right to Receive and Release Information

For the purpose of determining the applicability of and implementing the terms of these benefits, the Plan Administrator may, without the consent of or notice to any person, release or obtain any information necessary to determine the acceptability of any applicant or Participant for benefits from this Plan. In so acting, the Plan Administrator shall be free from any liability that may arise with regard to such action. Any Participant claiming benefits under this Plan shall furnish to the Plan Administrator such information as may be necessary to implement this provision.

Written Notice

Any written notice required under this Plan which, as of the Effective Date, is in conflict with the law of any governmental body or agency which has jurisdiction over this Plan shall be interpreted to conform to the minimum requirements of such law.

Right of Recovery

In accordance with the Recovery of Payments provision, whenever payments have been made by this Plan in a total amount, at any time, in excess of the Maximum Amount of benefits payable under this Plan, the Plan shall have the right to recover such payments, to the extent of such excess, from any one or more of the following as this Plan shall determine: any person to or with respect to whom such payments were made, or such person's legal representative, any insurance companies, or any other individuals or organizations which the Plan determines are responsible for payment of such amount, and any future benefits payable to the Participant or his or her Dependents. See the Recovery of Payments provision for full details.

Statements

All statements made by the Company or by a Participant will, in the absence of fraud, be considered representations and not warranties, and no statements made for the purpose of obtaining benefits under this document will be used in any contest to avoid or reduce the benefits provided by the document unless contained in a written application for benefits and a copy of the instrument containing such representation is or has been furnished to the Participant.

Any Participant who knowingly and with intent to defraud the Plan, files a statement of claim containing any materially false information, or conceals for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any material fact, commits a fraudulent act. The Participant may be subject to prosecution by the United States Department of Labor. Fraudulently claiming benefits may be punishable by a substantial fine, imprisonment, or both.

Protection Against Creditors

No benefit payment under this Plan shall be subject in any way to alienation, sale, transfer, pledge, attachment, garnishment, execution or encumbrance of any kind, and any attempt to accomplish the same shall be void. If the Plan Administrator shall find that such an attempt has been made with respect to any payment due or to become due to any Participant, the Plan Administrator in its sole discretion may terminate the interest of such Participant or former Participant in such payment. And in such case the Plan Administrator shall apply the amount of such payment to or for the benefit of such Participant or former Participant, his/her Spouse, parent, adult Child, guardian of a minor Child, brother or sister, or other relative of a Dependent of such Participant or former Participant, as the Plan Administrator may determine, and any such application shall be a complete discharge of all liability with respect to such benefit payment. However, at the discretion of the Plan Administrator, benefit payments may be assigned to health care Providers.

Unclaimed Self-Insured Plan Funds

In the event a benefits check issued by the Third Party Administrator for this self-insured Plan is not cashed within one year of the date of issue, the check will be voided and the funds will be returned to this Plan and applied to the payment of current benefits and administrative fees under this Plan. In the event a Participant subsequently requests payment with respect to the voided check, the Third Party Administrator for the self-insured Plan shall make such payment under the terms and provisions of the Plan as in effect when the claim was originally processed. Unclaimed self-insured Plan funds may be applied only to the payment of benefits (including administrative fees) under the Plan pursuant to ERISA.

ARTICLE XV **HIPAA PRIVACY**

The Plan provides each member with a separate Notice of Privacy Practices. This Notice describes how the Plan uses and discloses your personal health information. It also describes certain rights you have regarding this information. Additional copies of our Notice of Privacy Practices are available by calling the Plan Sponsor at the phone number included in Article II - Introduction And Purpose; General Plan Information.

Definitions

- **Breach** means an unauthorized acquisition, access, use or disclosure of Protected Health Information (“PHI”) or Electronic Protected Health Information (“ePHI”) that violates the HIPAA Privacy Rule and that compromises the security or privacy of the information.
- **Protected Health Information (“PHI”)** means individually identifiable health information, as defined by HIPAA, that is created or received by us and that relates to the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual; the provision of health care to an individual; or the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual; and that identifies the individual or for which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify the individual. PHI includes information of persons living or deceased.

Commitment to Protecting Health Information

The Plan will comply with the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information (i.e., the “Privacy Rule”) set forth by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (“HHS”) pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (“HIPAA”). Such standards control the dissemination of “protected health information” (“PHI”) of Participants. Privacy Standards will be implemented and enforced in the offices of the Employer and Plan Sponsor and any other entity that may assist in the operation of the Plan.

The Plan is required by law to take reasonable steps to ensure the privacy of the Participant's PHI, and inform him/her about:

1. The Plan's disclosures and uses of PHI;
2. The Participant's privacy rights with respect to his/her PHI;
3. The Plan's duties with respect to his/her PHI;
4. The Participant's right to file a complaint with the Plan and with the Secretary of HHS; and
5. The person or office to contact for further information about the Plan's privacy practices.

Within this provision capitalized terms may be used, but not otherwise defined. These terms shall have the same meaning as those terms set forth in 45 CFR Sections 160.103 and 164.501. Any HIPAA regulation modifications altering a defined HIPAA term or regulatory citation shall be deemed incorporated into this provision.

How Health Information May be Used and Disclosed

In general, the Privacy Rules permit the Plan to use and disclose, the minimum necessary amount, an individual's PHI, without obtaining authorization, only if the use or disclosure is:

1. To carry out Payment of benefits;
2. For Health Care Operations;
3. For Treatment purposes; or
4. If the use or disclosure falls within one of the limited circumstances described in the rules (e.g., the disclosure is required by law or for public health activities).

Disclosure of PHI to the Plan Sponsor for Plan Administration Purposes

In order that the Plan Sponsor may receive and use PHI for plan administration purposes, the Plan Sponsor agrees to:

1. Not use or further disclose PHI other than as permitted or required by the Plan documents or as required by law (as defined in the Privacy Standards);
2. Ensure that any agents, including a subcontractor, to whom the Plan Sponsor provides PHI received from the Plan, agree to the same restrictions and conditions that apply to the Plan Sponsor with respect to such PHI;
3. Establish safeguards for information, including security systems for data processing and storage;
4. Maintain the confidentiality of all PHI, unless an individual gives specific consent or authorization to disclose such data or unless the data is used for health care payment or Plan operations;
5. Receive PHI, in the absence of an individual's express authorization, only to carry out Plan administration functions;
6. Not use or disclose genetic information for underwriting purposes;
7. Not use or disclose PHI for employment-related actions and decisions or in connection with any other benefit or Employee benefit plan of the Plan Sponsor, except pursuant to an authorization which meets the requirements of the Privacy Standards;
8. Report to the Plan any PHI use or disclosure that is inconsistent with the uses or disclosures provided for of which the Plan Sponsor becomes aware;
9. Make available PHI in accordance with section 164.524 of the Privacy Standards (45 CFR 164.524);
10. Make available PHI for amendment and incorporate any amendments to PHI in accordance with section 164.526 of the Privacy Standards (45 CFR 164.526);
11. Make available the information required to provide an accounting of disclosures in accordance with section 164.528 of the Privacy Standards (45 CFR 164.528);
12. Make its internal practices, books and records relating to the use and disclosure of PHI received from the Plan available to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS"), or any other officer or Employee of HHS to whom the authority involved has been delegated, for purposes of determining compliance by the Plan with part 164, subpart E, of the Privacy Standards (45 CFR 164.500 et seq);
13. Report to the Plan any inconsistent uses or disclosures of PHI of which the Plan Sponsor becomes aware;
14. Train Employees in privacy protection requirements and appoint a privacy compliance coordinator responsible for such protections;
15. If feasible, return or destroy all PHI received from the Plan that the Plan Sponsor still maintains in any form and retain no copies of such PHI when no longer needed for the purpose for which disclosure was made, except that, if such return or destruction is not feasible, limit further uses and disclosures to those purposes that make the return or destruction of the PHI infeasible; and
16. Ensure that adequate separation between the Plan and the Plan Sponsor, as required in section 164.504(f)(2)(iii) of the Privacy Standards (45 CFR 164.504(f)(2)(iii)), is established as follows:
 - a. The following Employees, or classes of Employees, or other persons under control of the Plan Sponsor, shall be given access to the PHI to be disclosed:
 - i. Privacy Officer: The access to and use of PHI by the individuals described above shall be restricted to the plan administration functions that the Plan Sponsor performs for the Plan.

- b. In the event any of the individuals described above do not comply with the provisions of the Plan documents relating to use and disclosure of PHI, the Plan Administrator shall impose reasonable sanctions as necessary, in its discretion, to ensure that no further non-compliance occurs. The Plan Administrator will promptly report such violation or non-compliance to the Plan, and will cooperate with the Plan to correct violation or non-compliance and to impose appropriate disciplinary action or sanctions. Such sanctions shall be imposed progressively (for example, an oral warning, a written warning, time off without pay and termination), if appropriate, and shall be imposed so that they are commensurate with the severity of the violation.

Disclosure of Summary Health Information to the Plan Sponsor

The Plan may disclose PHI to the Plan Sponsor of the group health plan for purposes of plan administration or pursuant to an authorization request signed by the Participant. The Plan may use or disclose “summary health information” to the Plan Sponsor for obtaining premium bids or modifying, amending, or terminating the group health plan.

Disclosure of Certain Enrollment Information to the Plan Sponsor

Pursuant to section 164.504(f)(1)(iii) of the Privacy Standards (45 CFR 164.504(f)(1)(iii)), the Plan may disclose to the Plan Sponsor information on whether an individual is participating in the Plan or is enrolled in or has un-enrolled from a health insurance issuer or health maintenance organization offered by the Plan to the Plan Sponsor.

Disclosure of PHI to Obtain Stop-loss or Excess Loss Coverage

The Plan Sponsor may hereby authorize and direct the Plan, through the Plan Administrator or the Third Party Administrator, to disclose PHI to stop-loss carriers, excess loss carriers or managing general underwriters (“MGUs”) for underwriting and other purposes in order to obtain and maintain stop-loss or excess loss coverage related to benefit claims under the Plan. Such disclosures shall be made in accordance with the Privacy Standards.

Other Disclosures and Uses of PHI:

Primary Uses and Disclosures of PHI

1. Treatment, Payment and Health Care Operations: The Plan has the right to use and disclose a Participant’s PHI for all activities as included within the definitions of Treatment, Payment, and Health Care Operations and pursuant to the HIPAA Privacy Rule;
2. Business Associates: The Plan contracts with individuals and entities (Business Associates) to perform various functions on its behalf. In performance of these functions or to provide services, Business Associates will receive, create, maintain, use, or disclose PHI, but only after the Plan and the Business Associate agree in writing to contract terms requiring the Business Associate to appropriately safeguard the Participant’s information; and
3. Other Covered Entities: The Plan may disclose PHI to assist health care Providers in connection with their treatment or payment activities or to assist other covered entities in connection with payment activities and certain health care operations. For example, the Plan may disclose PHI to a health care Provider when needed by the Provider to render treatment to a Participant, and the Plan may disclose PHI to another covered entity to conduct health care operations. The Plan may also disclose or share PHI with other insurance carriers (such as Medicare, etc.) in order to coordinate benefits, if a Participant has coverage through another carrier.

Other Possible Uses and Disclosures of PHI

1. Required by Law: The Plan may use or disclose PHI when required by law, provided the use or disclosure complies with and is limited to the relevant requirements of such law;
2. Public Health and Safety: The Plan may use or disclose PHI when permitted for purposes of public health activities, including disclosures to:
 - a. A public health authority or other appropriate government authority authorized by law to receive reports of Child abuse or neglect;
 - b. Report reactions to medications or problems with products or devices regulated by the Federal Food and Drug Administration or other activities related to quality, safety, or effectiveness of FDA-regulated products or activities;
 - c. Locate and notify persons of recalls of products they may be using; and
 - d. A person who may have been exposed to a communicable Disease or may otherwise be at risk of contracting or spreading a Disease or condition, if authorized by law;
3. The Plan may disclose PHI to a government authority, except for reports of Child abuse or neglect, when required or authorized by law, or with the Participant’s agreement, if the Plan reasonably believes he/she to be a victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence. In such case, the Plan will promptly inform the Participant that such a disclosure has been or will be made unless the Plan believes that informing him/her would place him/her at risk of serious harm (but only to someone in a position to help prevent the threat). Disclosure generally may be made to a minor’s parents or other representatives although there may be circumstances under Federal or State law when the parents or other representatives may not be given access to the minor’s PHI;

4. Health Oversight Activities: The Plan may disclose PHI to a health oversight agency for oversight activities authorized by law. This includes civil, administrative or criminal investigations; inspections; claim audits; licensure or disciplinary actions; and other activities necessary for appropriate oversight of a health care system, government health care program, and compliance with certain laws;
5. Lawsuits and Disputes: The Plan may disclose PHI when required for judicial or administrative proceedings. For example, the Participant's PHI may be disclosed in response to a subpoena, discovery requests, or other required legal processes when the Plan is given satisfactory assurances that the requesting party has made a good faith attempt to advise the Participant of the request or to obtain an order protecting such information, and done in accordance with specified procedural safeguards;
6. Law Enforcement: The Plan may disclose PHI to a law enforcement official when required for law enforcement purposes concerning identifying or locating a suspect, fugitive, material witness or missing person. Under certain circumstances, the Plan may disclose the Participant's PHI in response to a law enforcement official's request if he/she is, or are suspected to be, a victim of a crime and if it believes in good faith that the PHI constitutes evidence of criminal conduct that occurred on the Sponsor's or Plan's premises;
7. Decedents: The Plan may disclose PHI to family members or others involved in decedent's care or payment for care, a coroner, funeral director or medical examiner for the purpose of identifying a deceased person, determining a cause of death or as necessary to carry out their duties as authorized by law. The decedent's health information ceases to be protected after the individual is deceased for 50 years;
8. Research: The Plan may use or disclose PHI for research, subject to certain limited conditions;
9. To Avert a Serious Threat to Health or Safety: The Plan may disclose PHI in accordance with applicable law and standards of ethical conduct, if the Plan, in good faith, believes the use or disclosure is necessary to prevent or lessen a threat to health or safety of a person or to the public;
10. Workers' Compensation: The Plan may disclose PHI when authorized by and to the extent necessary to comply with workers' compensation or other similar programs established by law; and
11. Military and National Security: The Plan may disclose PHI to military authorities of armed forces personnel under certain circumstances. As authorized by law, the Plan may disclose PHI required for intelligence, counter-intelligence, and other national security activities to authorized Federal officials.

Required Disclosures of PHI

1. Disclosures to Participants: The Plan is required to disclose to a Participant most of the PHI in a Designated Record Set when the Participant requests access to this information. The Plan will disclose a Participant's PHI to an individual who has been assigned as his/her representative and who has qualified for such designation in accordance with the relevant State law. Before disclosure to an individual qualified as a personal representative, the Plan must be given written supporting documentation establishing the basis of the personal representation.

The Plan may elect not to treat the person as the Participant's personal representative if it has a reasonable belief that the Participant has been, or may be, subjected to domestic violence, abuse, or neglect by such person, it is not in the Participant's best interest to treat the person as his/her personal representative, or treating such person as his/her personal representative could endanger the Participant; and

2. Disclosures to the Secretary of the U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services: The Plan is required to disclose the Participant's PHI to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services when the Secretary is investigating or determining the Plan's compliance with the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

Instances When Required Authorization Is Needed From Participants Before Disclosing PHI

1. Uses and disclosures for marketing;
2. Sale of PHI; and
3. Other uses and disclosures not described in this section can only be made with authorization from the Participant. The Participant may revoke this authorization at any time.

Participant's Rights

The Participant has the following rights regarding PHI about him/her:

1. Request Restrictions: The Participant has the right to request additional restrictions on the use or disclosure of PHI for treatment, payment, or health care operations. The Participant may request that the Plan restrict disclosures to family members, relatives, friends or other persons identified by him/her who are involved in his/her care or payment for his/her care. The Plan is not required to agree to these requested restrictions;
2. Right to Receive Confidential Communication: The Participant has the right to request that he/she receive communications regarding PHI in a certain manner or at a certain location. The request must be made in writing and how the Participant would like to be contacted. The Plan will accommodate all reasonable requests;

3. Right to Receive Notice of Privacy Practices: The Participant is entitled to receive a paper copy of the plan's Notice of Privacy Practices at any time. To obtain a paper copy, contact the Privacy Compliance Coordinator;
4. Accounting of Disclosures: The Participant has the right to request an accounting of disclosures the Plan has made of his/her PHI. The request must be made in writing and does not apply to disclosures for treatment, payment, health care operations, and certain other purposes. The Participant is entitled to such an accounting for the 6 years prior to his/her request. Except as provided below, for each disclosure, the accounting will include: (a) the date of the disclosure, (b) the name of the entity or person who received the PHI and, if known, the address of such entity or person; (c) a description of the PHI disclosed, (d) a statement of the purpose of the disclosure that reasonably informs the Participant of the basis of the disclosure, and certain other information. If the Participant wishes to make a request, please contact the Privacy Compliance Coordinator;
5. Access: The Participant has the right to request the opportunity to look at or get copies of PHI maintained by the Plan about him/her in certain records maintained by the Plan. If the Participant requests copies, he/she may be charged a fee to cover the costs of copying, mailing, and other supplies. To inspect or copy PHI, or to have a copy of your PHI transmitted directly to another designated person, contact the Privacy Compliance Coordinator. A request to transmit PHI directly to another designated person must be in writing, signed by the Participant and the recipient must be clearly identified. The Plan must respond to the Participant's request within 30 days (in some cases, the Plan can request a 30 day extension). In very limited circumstances, the Plan may deny the Participant's request. If the Plan denies the request, the Participant may be entitled to a review of that denial;
6. Amendment: The Participant has the right to request that the Plan change or amend his/her PHI. The Plan reserves the right to require this request be in writing. Submit the request to the Privacy Compliance Coordinator. The Plan may deny the Participant's request in certain cases, including if it is not in writing or if he/she does not provide a reason for the request; and
7. Fundraising contacts: The Participant has the right to opt out of fundraising contacts.

Questions or Complaints

If the Participant wants more information about the Plan's privacy practices, has questions or concerns, or believes that the Plan may have violated his/her privacy rights, please contact the Plan using the following information. The Participant may submit a written complaint to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services or with the Plan. The Plan will provide the Participant with the address to file his/her complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services upon request.

The Plan will not retaliate against the Participant for filing a complaint with the Plan or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. For Privacy Compliance Coordinator Contact Information, please contact the Plan Sponsor at the number indicated in Article II Purpose of Plan; General Information.

ARTICLE XVI HIPAA SECURITY

Disclosure of Electronic Protected Health Information (“Electronic PHI”) to the Plan Sponsor for Plan Administration Functions

STANDARDS FOR SECURITY OF INDIVIDUALLY IDENTIFIABLE HEALTH INFORMATION (“SECURITY RULE”)

The Security Rule imposes regulations for maintaining the integrity, confidentiality and availability of protected health information that it creates, receives, maintains, or maintains electronically that is kept in electronic format (ePHI) as required under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

Definitions

- **Electronic Protected Health Information (ePHI)**, as defined in Section 160.103 of the Security Standards (45 C.F.R. 160.103), means individually identifiable health information transmitted or maintained in any electronic media.
- **Security Incidents**, as defined within Section 164.304 of the Security Standards (45 C.F.R. 164.304), means the attempted or successful unauthorized access, use, disclosure, modification, or destruction of information or interference with systems operation in an information system.

Plan Sponsor Obligations

To enable the Plan Sponsor to receive and use Electronic PHI for Plan Administration Functions (as defined in 45 CFR §164.504(a)), the Plan Sponsor agrees to:

1. Implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of the Electronic PHI that it creates, receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of the Plan;
2. Ensure that adequate separation between the Plan and the Plan Sponsor, as required in 45 CFR § 164.504(f)(2)(iii), is supported by reasonable and appropriate Security Measures;
3. Ensure that any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom the Plan Sponsor provides Electronic PHI created, received, maintained, or transmitted on behalf of the Plan, agrees to implement reasonable and appropriate administrative, physical, and technical safeguards to protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the Electronic PHI and report to the Plan any security incident of which it becomes aware; and

4. Report to the Plan any security incident of which it becomes aware.

Notification Requirements in the Event of a Breach of Unsecured PHI

The required breach notifications are triggered upon the discovery of a breach of unsecured PHI. A breach is discovered as of the first day the breach is known, or reasonably should have been known.

When a breach of unsecured PHI is discovered, the Plan will:

1. Notify the Participant whose PHI has been, or is reasonably believed to have been, assessed, acquired, used, or disclosed as a result of the breach, in writing, without unreasonable delay and in no case later than 60 calendar days after discovery of the breach. Breach Notification must be provided to individual by:
 - a. Written notice by first-class mail to Participant (or next of kin) at last known address or, if specified by Participant, e-mail;
 - b. If Plan has insufficient or out-of-date contact information for the Participant, the Participant must be notified by a "substitute form";
 - c. If an urgent notice is required, Plan may contact the Participant by telephone.
 - i. The Breach Notification will have the following content:
 1. Brief description of what happened, including date of breach and date discovered;
 2. Types of unsecured PHI involved (e.g., name, Social Security number, date of birth, home address, account number);
 3. Steps Participant should take to protect from potential harm;
 4. What the Plan is doing to investigate the breach, mitigate losses and protect against further breaches;
2. Notify the media if the breach affected more than 500 residents of a State or jurisdiction. Notice must be provided to prominent media outlets serving the State or jurisdiction without unreasonable delay and in no case later than 60 calendar days after the date the breach was discovered;
3. Notify the HHS Secretary if the breach involves 500 or more individuals, contemporaneously with the notice to the affected individual and in the manner specified by HHS. If the breach involves less than 500 individuals, an internal log or other documentation of such breaches must be maintained and annually submitted to HHS within 60 days after the end of each Calendar Year; and
4. When a Business Associate, which provides services for the Plan and comes in contact with PHI in connection with those services discovers a breach has occurred, that Business Associate will notify the Plan without unreasonable delay and in no case later than 60 calendar days after discovery of a breach so that the affected Participants may be notified. To the extent possible, the Business Associate should identify each individual whose unsecured PHI has been, or is reasonably believed to have been, breached.

Any terms not otherwise defined in this section shall have the meanings set forth in the Security Standards.

ARTICLE XVII PARTICIPANT'S RIGHTS

As a Participant in the Plan, you are entitled to certain rights and protections under ERISA. ERISA provides that all Participants are entitled to:

Receive Information About Your Plan and Benefits

Examine, without charge, at the Plan Administrator's office and at other specified locations, such as worksites and union halls (if any), all documents governing the Plan, including insurance contracts, collective bargaining agreements (if any), and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the Plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

Obtain, upon written request to the Plan Administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the Plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements (if any), and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated summary plan description. The Administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.

Receive a summary of the Plan's annual financial report. The Plan Administrator is required by law to furnish each Participant with a copy of this summary annual report.

Continue Group Health Plan Coverage

Continue health care coverage for yourself, Spouse or Dependents if there is a loss of coverage under the Plan as a result of a Qualifying Event. You or your Dependents may have to pay for such coverage. Review this Plan Document and the documents governing the Plan on the rules governing your COBRA Continuation Coverage rights.

Prudent Actions by Plan Fiduciaries

In addition to creating rights for Participants, ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the Plan. The people who operate your Plan, called "fiduciaries" of the Plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other Participants and beneficiaries. No one, including your Employer, your union (if any), or any other person, may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a welfare benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

Enforce Your Rights

If your claim for a welfare benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge, and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules.

Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of Plan documents or the latest annual report from the Plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in a Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the Plan Administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to \$110 a day until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the Plan Administrator. If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a State or Federal court. In addition, if you disagree with the Plan's decision or lack thereof concerning the qualified status of a domestic relations order or a Medical Child Support Order, you may file suit in Federal court. If it should happen that Plan fiduciaries misuse the Plan's money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a Federal court. The court will decide who would pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful, the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

Assistance with Your Questions

If you have any questions about the Plan, you should contact the Plan Administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the Plan Administrator, you should contact the nearest Office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20210. You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.