

**GROUP LIFE
INSURANCE CERTIFICATE**

STRYKER CORPORATION

IMPORTANT NOTICES

The group policy is issued in the state of Delaware and will be governed by its laws.

FOREWORD

Life insurance provides individuals and their families with financial protection. The Life Insurance Benefit described in this booklet will help secure your family's financial security in the event of your death.

The need for life insurance protection depends on individual circumstances and financial situations. This valuable coverage should add an extra dimension to your personal insurance portfolio.

In an effort to make your benefit program more comprehensive and responsive to your needs, your Employer is providing this insurance to you at no cost.

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA
1601 CHESTNUT STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19192-2235
(800) 732-1603 TDD (800) 336-2485
A STOCK INSURANCE COMPANY

**GROUP INSURANCE
CERTIFICATE**

We, the LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA, have issued a Group Policy, 03509A, to TRUSTEE OF THE GROUP INSURANCE TRUST FOR EMPLOYERS IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY on behalf of STRYKER CORPORATION.

This certificate describes the benefits and basic provisions of your coverage. You should read it with care so you will understand your coverage.

This is not the insurance contract. It does not waive or alter any of the terms of the Policy. If questions arise, the Policy will govern. You may examine the Policy at the office of the Policyholder or the Administrator.

This certificate replaces any and all certificates which may have been issued to you in the past under the Policy.

These materials are being made available electronically for your convenience. Cigna has provided the final documents to your employer. Care should be taken to ensure you are reviewing the most complete, accurate and up to date version. Any questions regarding content may be directed to your employer or Cigna.



William J. Smith, President

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS2

WHO IS ELIGIBLE3

WHEN COVERAGE BEGINS4

WHEN COVERAGE ENDS4

WHEN COVERAGE CONTINUES4

LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS.....5

ACCIDENT INSURANCE BENEFITS.....7

CLAIM PROVISIONS9

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.....13

GENERAL PROVISIONS13

DEFINITIONS.....14

ERISA CLAIM PROCEDURES16

SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS

Policy Effective Date: January 1, 2022

Policy Anniversary Date: January 1

Policy Number: 03509A

Class Definition

You are eligible for insurance if you are a member of the class defined below.

All active part-time (working 20 to 39 hours per week) and full-time (working 40 hours per week) employees, whose assignment, transfer or employment is being managed by the Global Mobility program, as classified below:

- Stryker employees who agree to be transferred on a fixed-term international assignment from their home country to another country with the intent of returning to their home country or country of origin upon completion of the assignment, who have not localized to the host country payroll, are not eligible for host country benefits package, or are not yet active in the destination country benefits package.
- Stryker employees who would not receive adequate benefit coverage under the applicable benefit plan while the employee is in the destination country. The determination of adequacy of coverage will be made by the Plan Administrator on a location or case by case basis.

All active employees located in a country where the Plan Administrator has determined that employees of a certain global grade in that country do not receive adequate benefit coverage under the applicable local benefit plan while the employee is in the country. The determination of adequacy of coverage will be made by the Plan Administrator on a location basis for employees of a certain global grade(s) in that country.

Note: Stryker employees who are U.S. Expatriates are not eligible for Life and Accident Insurance Benefits.

Your Eligibility Waiting Period

The Eligibility Waiting Period is the period of time you must be in Active Service to be eligible for coverage. It will be extended by the number of days you are not in Active Service.

If you were hired on or before the Policy Effective Date:
No Waiting Period

If you were hired after the Policy Effective Date:
No Waiting Period

LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS

Employee Benefits

Amount of Insurance 2 times your Annual Compensation
Maximum Benefit: the lesser of 2.0 times Annual Compensation or \$500,000

Age Based Reductions

If you are age 65 or older, your Life Insurance Benefits are payable as follows:

Age 65 to 69 65% of Life Insurance Benefits

Age 70 and over 50% of Life Insurance Benefits

ACCIDENT INSURANCE BENEFITS

Employee Benefits

Amount of Insurance

Same as Life Insurance Benefits

Age Based Reductions

Accident Insurance Benefits will reduce the same as Life Insurance Benefits

TL-004774

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

Classes of Eligible Persons

A person may be insured only once under the Policy, even though he or she may be eligible under more than one class. Persons for whom coverage is prohibited under applicable law will not be considered eligible under this policy.

EMPLOYEE

An Employee in one of the Classes of Eligible Employees shown in the Schedule of Benefits is eligible to be insured on the Policy Effective Date.

TL-004710.CGHB

WHEN COVERAGE BEGINS

You will be insured on the date you become eligible, if you are not required to contribute to the cost of this insurance.

If you are not in Active Service on the date insurance would otherwise go into effect, it will be effective on the date you return to Active Service.

TL-004712

WHEN COVERAGE ENDS

Coverage will end on the earliest of the following dates:

1. the date you are eligible for coverage under a plan intended to replace this coverage;
2. the date we terminate the Policy;
3. the date you are no longer in an eligible class;
4. the date coinciding with the end of the last period for which required premiums are paid;
5. the date you are no longer in Active Service;
6. for an Employee, the date the Employer cancels participation under the Policy.

TL-004714

WHEN COVERAGE CONTINUES

Extended Death Benefit

If an Employee is under age 60 and his or her Active Service ends due to Disability and he or she is Disabled on the date his or her Life Insurance Benefits ends, the Insurance Company will continue his or her Life Insurance Benefits as shown in the Schedule of Benefits until the earlier of the following dates.

1. The date you are no longer Disabled.
2. 12 months after the date your Life Insurance Benefits would otherwise end.

Amount of Insurance

If the Employee dies during the period his or her Life Insurance Benefits are continued, the Insurance Company will pay the Life Insurance Benefit in effect on the day before he or she became Disabled. However, the Life Insurance Benefit payable will be subject to the provisions of the Policy that may reduce or terminate coverage on account of age, retirement or a change in eligible class.

TL-008770

“Disability”/“Disabled” means because of Injury or Sickness you are unable to perform all the material duties of your Regular Occupation; or are receiving disability benefits under the Employer’s plan.

“Regular Occupation” means the occupation you routinely perform at the time the Disability begins. We will consider the duties of the occupation as it is normally performed in the general labor market in the national economy.

TL-009745

WHAT IS COVERED

LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS

Death Benefit

If an Insured dies, we will pay the Life Insurance Benefit in force for that Insured on the date of his or her death.

TL-004730

Conversion Privilege for Life Insurance Each Insured may convert all or any portion of his or her Life Insurance that would end under the Policy due to:

1. termination of employment;
2. termination of membership in an eligible class under the Policy;
3. termination of the Policy; or
4. reduction in insurance based on attained age.

The Insured may apply for any type of life insurance the Insurance Company offers to persons of the same age in the amount applied for, except the Insured may not:

1. choose term insurance;
2. apply for an amount of insurance greater than the coverage amount terminating under the Policy (also, the conversion policy will not provide accident, disability or other benefits); or
3. apply for more than \$10,000 of insurance if the Policy is terminated or amended to terminate the insurance for any class of Insureds, or the Employer cancels participation under the Policy. Conversion in these cases is only permitted if the Insured has been covered by the Policy or, any group life insurance policy issued to the Employer which the Policy replaced, for at least 3 years.

If the Insured becomes eligible for coverage under any group life policy within 31 days of termination of coverage under this Policy, the Insured may not convert an amount of insurance greater than the amount of coverage terminating under the Policy less the amount for which he or she may be covered under the other policy.

To apply for conversion insurance, the Insured must, within 31 days after coverage under the Policy ends:

1. submit an application to the Insurance Company; and
2. pay the required premium.

Evidence of insurability is not required.

WHAT IS COVERED

LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS (Continued)

Premium for the conversion insurance will be based on the age and class of risk of the Insured and the type and amount of coverage issued.

If the Insured has assigned ownership of his group coverage, the owner/assignee must apply for the individual policy.

Conversion insurance will become effective on the 31st day after the date coverage under the Policy ends provided the application is received by the Insurance Company and the required premium has been paid.

If the Insured dies during the 31-day conversion period, the Life Insurance benefits will be paid under the Policy regardless of whether he or she applied for conversion insurance. If a conversion policy is issued, it will be in exchange for any further benefits for that type and amount of insurance from this Policy.

Extension of Conversion Period

If an Insured is eligible for conversion insurance and is not notified of this right at least 15 days prior to the end of the 31-day conversion period, the conversion period will be extended. The Insured will have 15 days from the date notice is given to apply for conversion insurance. In no event will the conversion period be extended beyond 90 days. Notice, for the purpose of this section, means written notice presented to the Insured by the Employer or mailed to the Insured's last known address as reported by the Employer.

If the Insured dies during the extended conversion period, but more than 31 days after his or her coverage under the Policy terminates, Life Insurance benefits:

1. will not be paid under the Policy; and
2. will be payable under the conversion insurance; provided:
 - a. the Insured's application for conversion insurance has been received by the Insurance Company; and
 - b. the required premium has been paid.

Prior Conversion Limitation

If an Insured is covered under a life insurance conversion policy previously issued by the Insurance Company, he or she will not be eligible for this Conversion Privilege unless the prior coverage has ended.

**WHAT IS NOT COVERED
LIFE EXCLUSIONS**

No benefits are payable for war or an act of war, whether or not declared or active participation in a riot.

No benefits are payable for an insured on full-time active duty for more than 30 days in the Armed Forces of any nation. (If the Insured sends proof of service, the Insurance Company will refund any premiums paid for coverage during this time. Reserve or National Guard active duty or training are not excluded unless it extends beyond 31 days.)

No benefits are payable for claim payments that are illegal under applicable law.

TL-004752.CGHB

ACCIDENT INSURANCE BENEFITS

If you are an Employee and insured under the Policy for Accident Insurance on the date of an Accident, we will pay the Accident Insurance Benefits for a loss shown in the Schedule of Losses. If more than one loss results from the same Accident, we will pay only the largest Benefit Amount to which you are entitled. The loss must be a result of bodily Injuries caused directly, and from no other causes, by an Accident, and must occur within 365 days of the Accident.

Schedule of Losses	Benefit Amount
Life, or Two Members	100%
One Member	50%
Thumb and Index Finger of the Same Hand	25%

"Member" means a hand, foot or the entire sight of an eye. Loss of a hand or foot means complete Severance through or above the wrist or ankle joint. Loss of sight means the total, permanent loss of sight of the eye. The loss of sight must be irrecoverable by natural, surgical or artificial means.

Loss of a thumb and index finger means complete Severance through or above the metacarpophalangeal joints (the joints between the fingers and the hand).

"Severance" means the complete separation and dismemberment of the part from the body.

TL-004754

WHAT IS NOT COVERED

ACCIDENT EXCLUSIONS

The Insurance Company will not pay Accident Insurance Benefits for a loss which in any way results directly or indirectly from any of the following.

1. Suicide, attempted suicide or intentionally self-inflicted injury, while sane or insane (except in Missouri, this applies only while sane).
2. Voluntary self-administration of any drug or chemical substance not prescribed by, and taken according to the directions of, a doctor. (Accidental ingestion of a poisonous substance is not excluded.)
3. Sickness, disease or bodily infirmity; medical or surgical treatment; or bacterial or viral infection, no matter how contracted. (This does not include bacterial infection that is the natural and foreseeable result of an accidental bodily injury or accidental food poisoning.)
4. While an Insured in on full-time active duty for more than 30 days in any Armed Forces. (If the Insured sends proof of service, the Insurance Company will refund any premiums paid for coverage during this time. Reserve or National Guard active duty or training are not excluded unless it extends beyond 31 days.)
5. Travel or flight in, or getting in or out of: an aircraft being used for test or experiment; an aircraft the Insured is flying, is learning to fly, or is part of the crew of; a military aircraft, other than transport aircraft flown by the U.S. Air Mobility Command (AMC) or a similar air transport service of another country; an aircraft owned or leased by or for the Employer, its subsidiaries or affiliates, or the Insured or a member of his or her household; an aircraft that does not have a valid FAA normal or transport type certificate of airworthiness; or an aircraft that is not flown by a pilot with a valid license.
6. Commission of a felony.
7. No benefits are payable for war or an act of war, whether or not declared or active participation in a riot.
8. No benefits are payable for claim payments that are illegal under applicable law.

TL-004768.CGHB

CLAIM PROVISIONS

Notice of Claim

Written notice of claim, or notice by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, must be given to us within 31 days after a covered loss occurs or begins or as soon as reasonably possible. If written notice, or notice by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, is not given in that time, the claim will not be invalidated or reduced if it is shown that notice was given as soon as was reasonably possible. Notice can be given at our home office in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania or to our agent. Notice should include the Employer's name, the Policy Number and the claimant's name and address.

Claim Forms

When we receive notice of claim, we will send claim forms for filing proof of loss. If we do not send claim forms within 15 days after notice is received by us, the proof requirements will be met by submitting, within the time required under the "Proof of Loss" section, written proof, or proof by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, of the nature and extent of the loss.

Claimant Cooperation Provision

If you fail to cooperate with us in our administration of your claim, we may terminate the claim. Such cooperation includes, but is not limited to, providing any information or documents needed to determine whether benefits are payable or the actual benefit amount due.

Insurance Data

The Employer is required to cooperate with us in the review of claims and applications for coverage. Any information we provide to the Employer in these areas is confidential and may not be used or released by the Employer if not permitted by applicable privacy laws.

Proof of Loss

You must provide written proof of loss to us, or proof by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, within 90 days after the date of the loss for which a claim is made. If written proof of loss, or proof by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, is not given in that 90 day period, the claim will not be invalidated nor reduced if it is shown that it was given as soon as was reasonably possible. In any case, written proof of loss, or proof by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, must be given not more than one year after the 90 day period. If written proof of loss, or proof by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, is provided outside of these time limits, the claim will be denied. These time limits will not apply due to lack of legal capacity.

CLAIM PROVISIONS **(Continued)**

Time of Payment

Benefits due under the Policy for a loss, other than a loss for which the Policy provides installment payments, will be paid immediately upon receipt of due written proof of such loss.

Subject to the receipt of satisfactory written proof of loss, all accrued benefits for loss for which the Policy provides installment payments will be paid monthly; any balance remaining unpaid upon the termination of liability will be paid immediately upon receipt of due written proof, unless otherwise stated in the Description of Benefits.

To Whom Payable

Death Benefits will be paid to the Insured's named beneficiary, if any, on file at the time of payment or to the certificate owner if alive. If there is no named beneficiary or surviving beneficiary, Death Benefits will be paid to the first surviving class of the following living relatives: spouse; child or children; mother or father; brothers or sisters; or to the executors or administrators of the Insured's estate. We may reduce the amount payable by any indebtedness due.

All other benefits unless otherwise stated in the Policy, will be payable to the Insured or the certificate owner if other than the Insured.

Any other accrued benefits which are unpaid at your death will, at our option, be paid either to your beneficiary or to the executor or administrator of your estate.

If we pay benefits to the executor or administrator of your estate or to a person who is incapable of giving a valid release, we may pay up to \$1,000 to a relative by blood or marriage whom we believe is equitably entitled. This good faith payment satisfies our legal duty to the extent of that payment.

Change of Beneficiary

You may change your beneficiary at any time by giving written notice to the Employer or to us. The beneficiary's consent is not required for this or any other change which you may make unless your designation of beneficiary is irrevocable.

No change in beneficiary will take effect until the form is received by the Employer or us. When this form is received, it will take effect as of the date of the form. If you die before the form is received, we will not be liable for any payment that was made before receipt of the form.

Physical Examination and Autopsy

We may, at our expense, exercise the right to examine any person for whom a claim is pending as often as we may reasonably require. Also, we may, at our expense, require an autopsy unless prohibited by law.

Legal Actions

No action at law or in equity may be brought to recover benefits under the Policy less than 60 days after written proof of loss, or proof by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, has been furnished as required by the Policy. No such action shall be brought more than 3 years after the time satisfactory proof of loss is required to be furnished.

CLAIM PROVISIONS
(Continued)

Time Limitations

If any time limit stated in the Policy for giving notice of claim or proof of loss, or for bringing any action at law or in equity, is less than that permitted by the law of the state in which you live when the Policy is issued, then the time limit provided in the Policy is extended to agree with the minimum permitted by the law of that state.

Physician/Patient Relationship

You have the right to choose any Physician who is practicing legally. We will in no way disturb the Physician/patient relationship.

TL-004724

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Premiums

The premiums for this Policy will be based on the rates currently in force, the plan and the amount of insurance in effect.

If the Insured's coverage amount is reduced due to his or her attained age, premium will be based on the amount of coverage in force on the day after the reduction took place.

Reinstatement of Insurance

Your coverage may be reinstated without satisfying the Insurability Requirement, if your insurance ends because you are on an unpaid leave of absence and you apply for Reinstatement within 31 days of your return to Active Service.

After your insurance ends, it may be reinstated at any date prior to five years after the date of termination if the following conditions are met.

1. The Policy is still in force.
2. You are eligible under the Policy.
3. You send us a written request for reinstatement and a new enrollment form.
4. The required premium is paid.
5. The Insurability Requirement, if applicable, is satisfied.

TL-004722

GENERAL PROVISIONS**Incontestability**

All statements made by the Employer or by an Insured are representations not warranties. No statement will be used to deny or reduce benefits or as a defense to a claim, unless a copy of the instrument containing the statement has been furnished to the claimant. In the event of death or legal incapacity, the beneficiary or representative must receive the copy.

After two years from an Insured's effective date of insurance, or from the effective date of any added or increased benefits, no such statement will cause insurance to be contested except for fraud or eligibility for insurance.

Misstatement of Age

If an Insured's age has been misstated, we will adjust all benefits to the amounts that would have been purchased for the correct age.

Workers' Compensation Insurance

The Policy is not in lieu of and does not affect any requirements for insurance under any Workers' Compensation Insurance Law.

Assignment of Benefits

We will not be affected by the assignment of your certificate until the original assignment or a certified copy of the assignment is filed with us. We will not be responsible for the validity or sufficiency of an assignment. An assignment of benefits will operate so long as the assignment remains in force provided insurance under the Policy is in effect. This insurance may not be levied on, attached, garnisheed, or otherwise taken for a person's debts. This prohibition does not apply where contrary to law.

GENERAL PROVISIONS **(Continued)**

Clerical Error

A person's insurance will not be affected by error or delay in keeping records of insurance under the Policy. If such an error is found, the premium will be adjusted fairly.

Ownership of Records

All records maintained by the Insurance Company are, and shall remain, the property of the Insurance Company.

TL-004728

DEFINITIONS

Please note, certain words used in this document have specific meanings. These terms will be capitalized throughout this document. The definition of any word, if not defined in the text where it is used, may be found either in this Definitions section or in the Schedule of Benefits.

Accident

The term Accident means a sudden, unforeseeable external event that causes you bodily Injury and occurs while your coverage is in force under the Policy.

Active Service

If you are an Employee, you are in Active Service with the Employer on a day which is one of the Employer's scheduled work days if either of the following conditions are met.

1. You are actively at work. This means you are performing your regular occupation for the Employer on a Full-time basis, either at one of the Employer's usual places of business or at some location to which the Employer's business requires you to travel.
2. The day is a scheduled holiday, vacation day or period of Employer approved paid leave of absence, other than disability or sick leave after 7 days.

You are considered in Active Service on a day which is not one of the Employer's scheduled work days only if you were in Active Service on the preceding scheduled work day.

Annual Compensation

Annual Compensation means an Employee's annual wage or salary as reported by the Employer for work performed for the Employer as of the date the covered loss occurs. It does not include amounts received as bonuses, commissions, overtime pay or other extra compensation.

Employee

For eligibility purposes, you are an Employee if you work for the Employer and are in one of the "Classes of Eligible Employees." Otherwise, you are an Employee if you are an employee of the Employer who is insured under the Policy.

Employer

The Employer who has subscribed to the Policyholder and for the benefit of whose Employees this policy has been issued. The Employer, named as the Subscriber on the front of this Policy, includes any affiliates or subsidiaries covered under the Policy. The Employer is acting as your agent for transactions relating to this insurance. You shall not consider any actions of the Employer as actions of the Insurance Company.

DEFINITIONS **(Continued)**

Full-time

Full-time means the number of hours set by the Employer as a regular work day for Employees in your eligibility class.]

Injury

Any accidental loss or bodily harm that results directly and independently from all other causes from an Accident.

Insurability Requirement

An eligible person satisfies the Insurability Requirement for an amount of coverage on the day we agree in writing to accept you as insured for that amount. To determine a person's acceptability for coverage, we will require you to provide evidence of good health and may require it be provided at your expense.

Insurance Company

The Insurance Company underwriting the Policy is named on your certificate cover page. References to the Insurance Company have been changed to "we", "our", "ours", and "us" throughout the certificate.

Insured

You are an Insured if you are eligible for insurance under the Policy, insurance is elected for you, the required premium is paid and your coverage is in force under the Policy.

Physician

Physician means a licensed doctor practicing within the scope of his or her license and rendering care and treatment to an Insured that is appropriate for the condition and locality. The term does not include you, your spouse, your immediate family (including parents, children, siblings, or spouses of any of the foregoing, whether the relationship derives from blood or marriage), or a person living in your household.

Prior Plan

The Prior Plan refers to the plan of insurance providing similar benefits to you, sponsored by the Employer and in effect directly prior to the Policy Effective Date.

Sickness

The term Sickness means a physical or mental illness.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
for
STRYKER CORPORATION Employee Benefits Plan
required by the Employee Retirement
Income Security Act of 1974

As a Plan participant in STRYKER CORPORATION's Plan, you are entitled to certain information, rights and protection under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

The benefits described in your Certificate are provided under a group insurance Policy issued by the Insurance Company. The Policy is incorporated into the Plan. The Certificate, along with the following Supplemental Information, makes up the Summary Plan Description as required by ERISA.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLAN

- The Plan is established and maintained by STRYKER CORPORATION, the Plan Sponsor.
- The Employer Identification Number (EIN) is 38-1239739.
- The Plan Number is 501.
- The Insurance Plan is administered directly by the Plan Administrator with benefits provided, in accordance with the provisions of the group insurance contract, 03509A, issued by LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA
- The Plan Administrator is:
 - STRYKER CORPORATION
 - 2825 Airview Boulevard
 - Kalamazoo, MI 49002
 - 269.385.7298
-
- The Plan Administrator has authority to control and manage the operation and administration of the Plan.
- The Plan Sponsor may terminate, suspend, withdraw or amend the Plan, in whole or in part, at any time, subject to the applicable provisions of the Policy. (Your rights upon termination or amendment of the Plan are set forth in your Certificate.)
- The agent for service of legal process is the Plan Administrator.
- The Plan of benefits is financed by the Employer.
- The date of the end of the Plan Year is December 31.

YOUR RIGHTS AS SET FORTH BY ERISA

As a participant in the Plan you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides that all plan participants shall be entitled to:

Receive Information About Your Plan and Benefits

Examine, without charge, at the plan administrator's office and at other specified locations, such as worksites and union halls, all documents governing the plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefit 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, 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.

Prudent Actions by Plan Fiduciaries

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

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 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. If it should happen that plan fiduciaries misuse the plan's money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a Federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful the court may order the person you 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 your 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 Benefit Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefit 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 Benefit Security Administration.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO AND EXPECT IF YOU HAVE A CLAIM

The Plan Administrator designates and names the Insurance Company the named fiduciary for deciding claims and appeals for benefits under the Plan. The Insurance Company shall have the authority, in its discretion, to interpret the terms of the Plan, to decide questions of eligibility for coverage or benefits under the Plan, and to make any related findings of fact. All decisions made by the Insurance Company shall be final and binding on Participants and Beneficiaries to the full extent permitted by applicable law.

Claims for Disability Benefits (applies to all claims filed on or after April 1, 2018)

A disability “claim” is any claim which requires a determination of disability by the Insurance Company regardless of the type of policy under which it arises (for example, short/long term disability, waiver of premium, etc.). A disability claim is “filed” as of the date the Insurance Company first receives, in writing (including electronically) or by telephone (through the Insurance Company’s intake department), notice that a claimant is seeking disability benefits under the Policy. The notice of claim received should provide the date of disability/loss, the claimant’s name and address, and the group Policy holder’s name and address. Properly filed claims will be decided with independence and impartiality.

The Insurance Company has 45 days from the date it receives a claim for disability benefits to determine whether or not benefits are payable in accordance with the terms of the Policy. The Insurance Company may require more time to review the claim if necessary due to matters beyond its control. The review period may be extended for up to two additional 30 day periods. If this should happen, the Insurance Company must provide its extension notice in writing before expiration of the current decision period, explaining the circumstances requiring extension and the date a decision is expected. If the extension is made because additional information must be furnished, the claimant has 45 days within which to provide the requested information and the time for the Insurance Company’s decision shall be tolled (stopped) from the date on which the notification of the extension was sent until the date the Insurance Company receives the claimant’s response or upon the date the requested information is required to be furnished expires, whichever is sooner.

During the review period, the Insurance Company may require a medical examination of the claimant, at its own expense, or additional information regarding the claim. If a medical examination is required, the Insurance Company will notify the claimant of the date and time of the examination and the physician's name and location. If additional information is required, the Insurance Company will notify the claimant, in writing, stating what information is needed and why it is needed.

If the claim is approved, the Insurance Company will pay the appropriate benefit. If the claim decision is adverse, in whole or in part, the Insurance Company will provide written or electronic notice which will include the following information:

1. The specific reason(s) for the decision;
2. Specific reference to the Policy provision(s) on which the decision was based;
3. A description of any additional information required to perfect the claim, and the reason this information is necessary;
4. A description of the review procedures and the time limits applicable to those procedures, including a statement of the claimant’s right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA after the claimant appeals and after the claimant receives an adverse decision on appeal;
5. A discussion of the decision, including an explanation of the basis for disagreeing with or not following: (i) the views presented by the claimant to the Insurance Company of the health care professionals treating the claimant and vocational professionals who evaluated the claimant; (ii) the views of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the Insurance Company in connection with the claimant’s adverse benefit decision, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the benefit decision; and (iii) a disability decision regarding the claimant presented by the claimant to the Insurance Company made by the Social Security Administration;
6. Either the specific internal rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar plan criteria the Insurance Company relied upon in making the decision, or, alternatively, a statement that such rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar plan criteria do not exist;.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO AND EXPECT IF YOU HAVE A CLAIM (Continued)

7. If the adverse decision is based upon medical necessity or experimental treatment or similar exclusion or limit, either an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the decision, applying the terms of the Policy to the claimant's medical circumstances, or a statement that such explanation will be provided free of charge upon request;
8. A statement that the claimant 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 claim for benefits; and
9. A notice provided in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner, to the extent required by ERISA.

Appeal of Denied Disability Claims (applies to all claims filed on or after April 1, 2018)

Whenever a claim decision is fully or partially adverse, unless ERISA provides otherwise, the claimant must appeal once to the Insurance Company. As part of the claimant's appeal, the claimant may receive, upon request, free of charge, copies of all documents, records, and other information relevant to the claim for benefits, and the claimant may submit to the Insurance Company, written comments, documents, records, and other information relating to the claim. The review will take into account all comments, documents, records and other information the claimant submits related to the claim, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial claim decision. Once an appeal request has been received by the Insurance Company, a full and fair review of the claim appeal will take place.

A written request for appeal must be received by the Insurance Company within 180 days from the date the claimant received the adverse decision. If an appeal request is not received within that time, the right to appeal will have been waived. The Insurance Company has 45 days from the date it receives a request for appeal to provide its decision. Under special circumstances, the Insurance Company may require more time to review the claim and can extend the time for decision, once, by an additional 45 days. If this should happen, the Insurance Company must provide the extension notice, in writing, before expiration of the initial decision period, indicating the special circumstances and the date a decision is expected. If the extension is made because additional information must be furnished, the claimant has 45 days within which to provide the requested information and the time for the Insurance Company's decision shall be tolled (stopped) from the date on which the notification of the extension was sent until the date the Insurance Company receives the claimant's response or upon the date the requested information is required to be furnished expires, whichever is sooner.

The review will give no deference to the original claim decision. The review will not be made by the person who made the initial claim decision, or a subordinate of that person. When deciding an appeal based in whole or in part upon medical judgment, the Insurance Company will consult with a medical professional having the appropriate training and experience in the field of medicine involved in the medical judgment. Any medical or vocational experts consulted by the Insurance Company for the review will be identified and will not be the expert who was consulted during the initial claim decision or a subordinate of that expert.

During the appeal, the Insurance Company may require a medical examination of the claimant, at its own expense, or additional information regarding the claim. If a medical examination is required, the Insurance Company will notify the claimant of the date and time of the examination and the physician's name and location. If additional information is required, the Insurance Company will notify the claimant, in writing, stating what information is needed and why it is needed.

Before the Insurance Company issues an adverse benefit decision on appeal, if the Insurance Company considered, relied upon, or generated any new or additional evidence in connection with the claim, and/or if the Insurance Company intends to rely on any new or additional rationale in connection with that review, then such evidence and/or rationale will be provided to the claimant, free of charge, as soon as possible and sufficiently in advance of the date that the decision on appeal is required to be made, giving the claimant a reasonable opportunity to respond.

If the claim is approved, the Insurance Company will pay the appropriate benefit. If the claim decision on appeal is adverse, in whole or in part, the Insurance Company will provide written or electronic notice that includes:

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO AND EXPECT IF YOU HAVE A CLAIM (Continued)

1. The specific reason(s) for the decision;
2. Specific reference to the Policy provision(s) on which the decision was based;
3. A statement that the claimant 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 claim for benefits;
4. A statement describing any voluntary appeal procedures offered, and the claimant's right to obtain the information about those procedures;
5. A statement of claimant's right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA, including a description of any applicable contractual limitations period that applies to the claimant's right to bring such an action, and the calendar date on which the contractual limitations period expires for the claim;
6. A discussion of the decision, including an explanation of the basis for disagreeing with or not following: (i) the views presented by the claimant to the Insurance Company of the health care professionals treating the claimant and vocational professionals who evaluated the claimant; (ii) the views of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the Insurance Company in connection with the adverse decision, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the adverse decision; and (iii) a disability decision regarding the claimant presented by the claimant to the Insurance Company made by the Social Security Administration;
7. Either the specific internal rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar plan criteria the Insurance Company relied upon in making the decision, or, alternatively, a statement that such rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar plan criteria do not exist;
8. If the adverse decision is based upon medical necessity or experimental treatment or similar exclusion or limit, either an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the decision, applying the terms of the Policy to the claimant's medical circumstances, or a statement that such explanation will be provided free of charge upon request; and
9. A notice provided in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner, to the extent required by ERISA.

Claims for Non-Disability Benefits (applies to all claims filed on or after April 1, 2018)

A non-disability "claim" is any claim which does not require a determination of disability by the Insurance Company regardless of the type of policy under which it arises (for example, a death claim, an accident claim, etc.). A non-disability claim is "filed" as of the date the Insurance Company first receives, in writing or by telephone (through the Insurance Company's intake department), notice that a claimant is seeking benefits under the Policy. The notice of claim should include the group Policy holder's name, the Policy and Certificate number and the claimant's name and address.

The Insurance Company has 90 days from the date the claim is filed to determine whether or not benefits are payable in accordance with the terms of the Policy. The Insurance Company may require more time to review the claim if special circumstances exist. The review period may be extended for up to one additional 90 day period. If this should happen, the Insurance Company will provide the extension notice in writing, before expiration of the initial decision period, indicating the special circumstances and the date a decision is expected.

During the review period, the Insurance Company may require a medical examination of the claimant, at its own expense, or additional information regarding the claim. If a medical examination is required, the Insurance Company will notify the claimant of the date and time of the examination and the physician's name and location. If additional information is required, the Insurance Company must notify the claimant, in writing, stating what information is needed and why it is needed.

If the claim is approved, the Insurance Company will pay the appropriate benefit. If the claim decision is adverse, in whole or in part, the Insurance Company will provide written or electronic notice which will include the following information:

1. The specific reason(s) for the claim decision;
2. Specific reference to the Policy provision(s) on which the decision was based;
3. A description of any additional information required to perfect the claim, and the reason this information is necessary; and
4. A description of the review procedures and the time limits applicable to those procedures, including a statement of the claimant's right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA after the claimant appeals and after the claimant receives an adverse decision on appeal.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO AND EXPECT IF YOU HAVE A CLAIM (Continued)

Appeal of Denied Non-Disability Claims (applies to all claims filed on or after April 1, 2018)

Whenever a claim decision is fully or partially adverse, the claimant must appeal once to the Insurance Company. As part of the claimant's appeal, the claimant may receive, upon request, free of charge, copies of all documents, records, and other information relevant to the claim for benefits, and the claimant may submit to the Insurance Company, written comments, documents, records, and other information relating to the claim. The review will take into account all comments, documents, records and other information the claimant submits related to the claim, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial claim decision. Once an appeal request has been received by the Insurance Company, a full and fair review of the claim appeal will take place.

A written request for appeal must be received by the Insurance Company within 60 days from the date the claimant received the adverse decision. If an appeal request is not received within that time, the right to appeal will have been waived. The Insurance Company has 60 days from the date it receives a request for appeal to provide its decision. Under special circumstances, the Insurance Company may require more time to review the claim and extend the time for decision, once, by an additional 60 days. If this should happen, the Insurance Company will provide the extension notice, in writing, before expiration of the initial decision period, indicating the special circumstances and the date a decision is expected.

If the appeal decision is adverse, in whole or in part, the Insurance Company will provide written or electronic notice that includes:

1. The specific reason(s) for the claim decision;
2. Specific reference to the Policy provision(s) on which the decision was based;
3. A statement that the claimant 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 claim for benefits;
4. A statement describing any voluntary appeal procedures offered, and the claimant's right to obtain the information about those procedures, and
5. A statement of the claimant's right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA.

Claims for Benefits When you are eligible to receive benefits under the Plan, you must request a claim form or obtain instructions for submitting your claim telephonically or electronically, from the Plan Administrator. All claims you submit must be on the claim form or in the electronic or telephonic format provided by the Insurance Company. You must complete your claim according to directions provided by the Insurance Company. If these forms or instructions are not available, you must provide a written statement of proof of loss. After you have completed the claim form or written statement, you must submit it to the Plan Administrator.

The Plan Administrator has appointed the Insurance Company as the named fiduciary for adjudicating claims for benefits under the Plan, and for deciding any appeals of denied claims. The Insurance Company shall have the authority, in its discretion, to interpret the terms of the Plan, to decide questions of eligibility for coverage or benefits under the Plan, and to make any related findings of fact. All decisions made by the Insurance Company shall be final and binding on Participants and Beneficiaries to the full extent permitted by law.

The Insurance Company has 45 days from the date it receives your claim for disability benefits, or 90 days from the date it receives a claim for any other benefit, to determine whether or not benefits are payable to you in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Policy. The Insurance Company may require more time to review your claim if necessary due to circumstances beyond its control. If this should happen, the Insurance Company must notify you in writing that its review period has been extended for up to two additional periods of 30 days (in the case of a claim for disability benefits), or one additional period of 90 days (in the case of any other benefit). If this extension is made because you must furnish additional information, these extension periods will begin when the additional information is received. You have up to 45 days to furnish the requested information.

During the review period, the Insurance Company may require a medical examination of the Insured, at its own expense; or additional information regarding the claim. If a medical examination is required, the Insurance Company will notify you of the date and time of the examination and the physician's name and location. It is important that you keep any appointments made since rescheduling examinations will delay the claim process. If

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO AND EXPECT IF YOU HAVE A CLAIM (Continued)

additional information is required, the Insurance Company must notify you, in writing, stating the information needed and explaining why it is needed.

Claims for Benefits (applies to all claims filed before April 1, 2018)

If your claim is approved, you will receive the appropriate benefit from the Insurance Company.

If your claim is denied, in whole or in part, you must receive a written notice from the Insurance Company within the review period. The Insurance Company's written notice must include the following information:

1. The specific reason(s) the claim was denied.
2. Specific reference to the Policy provision(s) on which the denial was based.
3. Any additional information required for your claim to be reconsidered, and the reason this information is necessary.
4. In the case of any claim for a disability benefit, identification of any internal rule, guideline or protocol relied on in making the claim decision, and an explanation of any medically-related exclusion or limitation involved in the decision.
5. A statement informing you of your right to appeal the decision, and an explanation of the appeal procedure, including a statement of your right to bring a civil action under Section 502(a) of ERISA if your appeal is denied.

Appeal Procedure for Denied Claims (applies to all claims filed before April 1, 2018)

Whenever a claim is denied, you have the right to appeal the decision. You (or your duly authorized representative) must make a written request for appeal to the Insurance Company within 60 days (180 days in the case of any claim for disability benefits) from the date you receive the denial. If you do not make this request within that time, you will have waived your right to appeal.

Once your request has been received by the Insurance Company, a prompt and complete review of your claim must take place. This review will give no deference to the original claim decision, and will not be made by the person who made the initial claim decision. During the review, you (or your duly authorized representative) have the right to review any documents that have a bearing on the claim, including the documents which establish and control the Plan. Any medical or vocational experts consulted by the Insurance Company will be identified. You may also submit issues and comments that you feel might affect the outcome of the review.

The Insurance Company has 60 days from the date it receives your request to review your claim and notify you of its decision (45 days, in the case of any claim for disability benefits). Under special circumstances, the Insurance Company may require more time to review your claim. If this should happen, the Insurance Company must notify you, in writing, that its review period has been extended for an additional 60 days (45 days in the case of any claim for disability benefits). Once its review is complete, the Insurance Company must notify you, in writing, of the results of the review and indicate the Plan provisions upon which it based its decision.

**UNDERWRITTEN BY:
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA
a Cigna company**

11/2021

