



Ameritas Life Insurance Corp.

A STOCK COMPANY
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

GROUP EYE CARE INSURANCE POLICY

The Policyholder	CLEVELAND COUNTY SCHOOLS	Policy Number	10-350890
State of Delivery	North Carolina	Plan Effective Date	January 1, 2017
Premium Due Date 1st of each month.		Renewal Date	January 1

Ameritas Life Insurance Corp. agrees to pay, with respect to each Insured Person, the group insurance benefits provided in this policy.

This policy is issued to the Policyholder in consideration of the Policyholder's application and the payment of premiums, as provided herein.

This policy is delivered in and governed by the laws of the state of delivery .

READ YOUR POLICY CAREFULLY. THIS POLICY IS A LEGAL CONTRACT BETWEEN THE POLICYHOLDER AND AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP.

LATE ENTRANTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO A WAITING PERIOD. SEE PAGE 9060.

IMPORTANT CANCELLATION INFORMATION. PLEASE READ THE PROVISION ENTITLED "TERMINATION OF THE POLICY" FOUND WITHIN THE GENERAL PROVISIONS ON PAGE 9323.

THIS POLICY IS NOT A MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT POLICY. If you are eligible for Medicare, review the Guide to Health Insurance for People with Medicare available from the company.

AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP.

Corporate Secretary

President

**NOTICE CONCERNING COVERAGE
LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS UNDER THE NORTH
CAROLINA LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE GUARANTY
ASSOCIATION ACT**

Residents of this state who purchase life insurance, annuities or health insurance should know that the insurance companies licensed in this state to write these types of insurance are members of the North Carolina Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association. The purpose of this association is to assure that policyholders will be protected, within limits, in the unlikely event that a member insurer becomes financially unable to meet its obligations. If this should happen, the guaranty association will assess its other member insurance companies for the money to pay the claims of insured persons who live in this state and, in some cases, to keep coverage in force. The valuable extra protection provided by these insurers through the guaranty association is not unlimited, however. And, as noted in the box below, this protection is not a substitute for consumers' care in selecting companies that are well-managed and financially stable.

The North Carolina Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association may not provide coverage for this policy. If coverage is provided, it may be subject to substantial limitations or exclusions, and require continued residency in North Carolina. You should not rely on coverage by the North Carolina Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association in selecting an insurance company or in selecting an insurance policy.

Coverage is NOT provided for your policy or any portion of it that is not guaranteed by the insurer or for which you have assumed the risk, such as a variable contract sold by prospectus.

Insurance companies or their agents are required by law to give or send you this notice.

However, insurance companies and their agents are prohibited by law from using the existence of the guaranty association to induce you to purchase any kind of insurance policy.

The North Carolina Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association
Post Office Box 10218
Raleigh, North Carolina 27605-0218

North Carolina Department of Insurance, Consumer Services Division
1201 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1201

The state law that provides for this safety net coverage is called the North Carolina Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association Act. On the back of this page is a brief summary of this law's coverages, exclusions and limits. This summary does not cover all provisions of the law; nor does it in any way change anyone's rights or obligations under the act or the rights or obligations of the guaranty association.

COVERAGE

Generally, individuals will be protected by the life and health insurance guaranty association if they live in this state and hold a life or health insurance contract, or an annuity, or if they are insured under a group insurance contract, issued by a member insurer. The beneficiaries, payees or assignees of insured persons are protected as well, even if they live in another state.

(please turn to back of page)

EXCLUSIONS FROM COVERAGE

However, persons holding such policies are not protected by this association if:

- * they are eligible for protection under the laws of another state (this may occur when the insolvent insurer was incorporated in another state whose guaranty association protects insureds who live outside that state);
- * the insurer was not authorized to do business in this state;
- * their policy was issued by an HMO, a fraternal benefit society, a mandatory state pooling plan, a mutual assessment company or similar plan in which the policyholder is subject to future assessments, or by an insurance exchange.

The association also does not provide coverage for:

- * any policy or portion of a policy which is not guaranteed by the insurer or for which the individual has assumed the risk, such as a variable contract sold by prospectus;
- * any policy of reinsurance (unless an assumption certificate was issued);
- * interest rate yields that exceed the average rate specified in the law;
- * dividends;
- * experience or other credits given in connection with the administration of a policy by a group contractholder;
- * employers' plans to the extent they are self funded (that is, not insured by an insurance company, even if an insurance company administers them);
- * unallocated annuity contracts (which give rights to group contractholders, not individuals), unless they fund a government lottery or a benefit plan of an employer, association or union, except that unallocated annuities issued to employee benefit plans protected by the Federal Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation are not covered;
- * a policy or contract commonly known as Medicare Part C or Part D or any regulations issued pursuant thereto.

LIMITS ON AMOUNT OF COVERAGE

The act also limits the amount the association is obligated to pay out as follows:

- (1) The guaranty association cannot pay out more than the insurance company would owe under the policy or contract.
- (2) Except as provided in (3), (4) and (5) below, the guaranty association will pay a maximum of \$300,000 per individual, per insolvency, no matter how many policies or types of policies issued by the insolvent company.
- (3) The guaranty association will pay a maximum of \$500,000 with respect to basic hospital, medical and surgical insurance and major medical insurance.
- (4) The guaranty association will pay a maximum of \$1,000,000 with respect to the payee of a structured settlement annuity.

(5) The guaranty association will pay a maximum of \$5,000,000 to any one unallocated annuity contract holder.

NOTICE OF NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE
CONCERNING GROUP INSURANCE PREMIUM

UNDER NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE SECTION 58-50-40, NO PERSON, EMPLOYER, PRINCIPAL, AGENT, TRUSTEE, OR THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PAYMENT OF GROUP HEALTH OR LIFE INSURANCE OR GROUP HEALTH PLAN PREMIUMS, SHALL: (1) CAUSE THE CANCELLATION OR NONRENEWAL OF GROUP HEALTH OR LIFE INSURANCE, HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR DENTAL SERVICE CORPORATION PLAN, MULTIPLE EMPLOYER WELFARE ARRANGEMENT, OR GROUP HEALTH PLAN COVERAGES AND THE CONSEQUENTIAL LOSS OF THE COVERAGES OF THE PERSONS INSURED, BY WILLFULLY FAILING TO PAY THOSE PREMIUMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE INSURANCE OR PLAN CONTRACT, AND (2) WILLFULLY FAIL TO DELIVER, AT LEAST 45 DAYS BEFORE THE TERMINATION OF THOSE COVERAGES, TO ALL PERSONS COVERED BY THE GROUP POLICY A WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE PERSON'S INTENTION TO STOP PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS. THIS WRITTEN NOTICE MUST ALSO CONTAIN A NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS COVERED BY THE GROUP POLICY OF THEIR RIGHTS TO HEALTH INSURANCE CONVERSION POLICIES UNDER ARTICLE 53 OF CHAPTER 58 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES AND THEIR RIGHTS TO PURCHASE INDIVIDUAL POLICIES UNDER THE FEDERAL HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT AND UNDER ARTICLE 68 OF CHAPTER 58 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES. VIOLATION OF THIS LAW IS A FELONY. ANY PERSON VIOLATING THIS LAW IS ALSO SUBJECT TO A COURT ORDER REQUIRING THE PERSON TO COMPENSATE PERSONS INSURED FOR EXPENSES OR LOSSES INCURRED AS A RESULT OF THE TERMINATION OF THE INSURANCE.

GRIEVANCE AND APPEAL PROCEDURES

If all or part of a claim is denied, you may appeal. You may request in writing a review of our benefit decision. This request must be within 180 days after receiving notice of the denial.

You may send us written comments and other items to support your claim. You may request at no charge any non-privileged information that is relevant to your appeal. You may request the names of the experts we may have consulted for advice about Your claim. You may also request, at no charge, any clinical rationale and/or specific clinical guidelines relied upon by them for any benefit determinations related to clinical necessity.

The appeal review will be conducted by someone other than the person who denied the claim. The new reviewer will not be subordinate to that person. The person conducting the review will not give deference to the initial denial decision. For a dental benefit, denials may be based in whole or in part on a medical judgment. This includes determinations with regard to whether a service was considered experimental, investigational, and/or not medically necessary. The person conducting the review will consult with a qualified health care professional.

This health care professional will be someone other than the person who made the original judgment and will not be subordinate to that person. Our review will include any written comments or other items You submit to support Your claim.

If Your appeal is about urgent care, You may call Toll Free at 877-897-4328 and an Expedited Review will be conducted. Verbal notification of our decision will be made within 72 hours, followed by written notice within 3 calendar days after that.

If Your appeal is about dental benefit decisions related to clinical or medical necessity, a Standard Consultant Review will be conducted. A written decision will be provided within 30 calendar days of the receipt of the request for appeal.

If Your appeal is about benefit decisions related to coverage, a Standard Administrative Review will be conducted. A written decision will be provided within 60 calendar days of the receipt of the request for appeal.

Any request for review concerning this claim should be sent to:

**Quality Control
P.O. Box 82657
Lincoln, NE 68501-2657
877-897-4328 (Toll Free)
Fax 402-309-2579**

**You also have the right to contact the Department of Insurance:
North Carolina Department of Insurance
1201 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1201
800-546-5664 - in North Carolina
919-807-6750 - outside North Carolina**

Pursuant to NCGS 58-50-61 and 62, services provided by the Managed Care Patient Assistance Program are available through the North Carolina Department of Insurance. To access this program, contact:

Health Insurance Smart NC
North Carolina Department of Insurance
1201 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1201

877-885-0231

Non-Insurance Products/Services

From time to time we may arrange, at no additional cost to you or your group, for third- party service providers to provide you access to discounted goods and/or services, such as purchase of eye wear or prescription drugs. These discounted goods or services are not insurance. While we have arranged these discounts, we are not responsible for delivery, failure or negligence issues associated with these goods and services. The third-party service providers would be liable.

To access details about non-insurance discounts and third-party service providers, you may contact our customer connections team or your plan administrator.

These non-insurance goods and services will discontinue upon termination of your insurance or the termination of our arrangements with the providers, whichever comes first.

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**SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS
OUTLINE OF COVERAGE**

The Insurance for each Insured and each Insured Dependent will be based on the Insured's class shown in this Schedule of Benefits.

<u>Benefit Class</u>	<u>Class Description</u>
Class 1	Eligible Active Employee Electing Vision
Class 99	Eligible Cobra Member Electing Vision

Class Number 1

EYE CARE EXPENSE BENEFITS

When you select a Participating Provider, a discounted fee schedule is used which is intended to provide you, the Insured, reduced out of pocket costs.

Deductible Amount:

When a Participating Provider is used:

Exams - Each Benefit Period	\$10
Contact Lens Fitting and Evaluation - Each Benefit Period	\$60
Frames and Lenses - Each Benefit Period	\$15

When a Non-Participating Provider is used:

Exams - Each Benefit Period	\$10
Frames and Lenses - Each Benefit Period	\$15

Please refer to the EYE CARE EXPENSE BENEFITS page for details regarding frequency, limitations, and exclusions.

Class Number 99

EYE CARE EXPENSE BENEFITS

When you select a Participating Provider, a discounted fee schedule is used which is intended to provide you, the Insured, reduced out of pocket costs.

Deductible Amount:

When a Participating Provider is used:

Exams - Each Benefit Period	\$10
Contact Lens Fitting and Evaluation - Each Benefit Period	\$60
Frames and Lenses - Each Benefit Period	\$15

When a Non-Participating Provider is used:

Exams - Each Benefit Period	\$10
Frames and Lenses - Each Benefit Period	\$15

Please refer to the EYE CARE EXPENSE BENEFITS page for details regarding frequency, limitations, and exclusions.

PREMIUMS

TABLE OF MONTHLY PREMIUM RATES

Classes 01,99

Eye Care Insurance	\$10.68 per Insured Person
	\$10.24 One Dependent Only
	\$18.88 Two or More Dependents

PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS. The first premium will be due on the Policy Effective Date to cover the period from that date to the first Premium Due Date. Other premiums will be due on or before each Premium Due Date. Premiums are payable at our Home Office or at some other location to which we and the Policyholder agree.

PREMIUM DUE DATE. The Premium Due Date will be the first day of the month that falls on or after the Policy Effective Date. If we agree with the Policyholder to the payment of premiums on a basis other than monthly, the Premium Due Date will be fixed to match the correct basis. If there is a change in the method of payment or Premium Due Date, a pro-rata charge in the premium due will be made.

PREMIUM STATEMENTS. The premium due as of any Premium Due Date is the number of units in force on such date for each type of insurance multiplied by the rate shown in the Table of Premium Rates. A premium statement will be made as of the Premium Due Date showing the premium payable. If premiums are payable on other than a monthly basis, each statement will show any pro-rata premium charges and credits in the last premium period due to changes in the number of Insureds and in the amount of insurance for which people are insured. This is subject to the rules below.

SIMPLIFIED ACCOUNTING. The premium will start on the Premium Due Date falling on or after the date the insurance or the increase in the insurance is effective for: a) a person becoming insured; or b) an increase in the amount of insurance on any person. The premium will stop on the Premium Due Date falling on or after the date of termination of insurance or through the date of service of the last paid claim. There will be no pro-rata charges or credits for a partial month. If premiums are payable other than monthly, charges and credits will be figured as though the Premium Due Date is monthly.

We will be liable for the return of unearned premiums (premium for the period which claims were not paid) to the Policyholder only for the 3 months before the date we receive evidence that a return is due.

ADJUSTMENTS IN PREMIUM RATES. We may change the rates shown in the Table of Premium Rates by giving the Policyholder at least 45 days advance written notice. We may change the rates at any time the Schedule of Benefits, or any other terms and conditions of the policy, are changed. We will not change the rates until the Renewal Date shown on the policy cover or more than once in any 12 month period thereafter, unless there is a change in the Schedule of Benefits or a change in any other terms and conditions in the policy.

Notwithstanding the above, We the Company reserves the right to change any one or more of the rates prior to the Renewal Date or more than once in any 12 month period thereafter upon the occurrence of any one or more of the following:

1. We determine that the average number of dependent children for each Insured with Dependent coverage exceeds 4.0; and/or

2. We determine that the number of Insureds is less than 80% of those Insureds initially enrolled under the Policy as of either (i) the Plan Effective Date, if during the period of time between the Plan Effective Date and the Renewal Date, or (ii) the most recent 12 month anniversary of the Renewal Date: and/or
3. We are required by either the federal government or by any state or local government or by any agency thereof to pay a new or increased tax, assessment, or monetary charge of any kind (other than a new or any increase to the amount of tax we pay based upon our net operating income). Such taxes, assessments or fees would include those that are charged or assessed in connection with the operation of a health care exchange authorized by federal or state law.

Should any of the above occur and should we elect to change rates as a result, we agree to notify the Policyholder of the corresponding rate changes at least 45 days in advance of the Premium Due Date for which the rate change shall be effective. The right to change rates as well as the timing of such changes in the above two limited situations shall at all times be subject to applicable state laws and regulations.

RENEWAL DATE Renewal Date refers to the date each calendar year that the coverage issued under the group policy is considered for renewal. The Renewal Date(s) are shown on the policy cover. The Renewal Date(s) will never be less than 12 months from the Plan Effective Date.

DEFINITIONS

COMPANY refers to Ameritas Life Insurance Corp. The words "we", "us" and "our" refer to Company. Our Home Office address is 5900 "O" Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68510.

POLICYHOLDER refers to the Policyholder stated on the face page of the policy.

INSURED refers to a person:

- a. who is a Member of the eligible class; and
- b. who has qualified for insurance by completing the eligibility period, if any; and
- c. for whom the insurance has become effective.

CHILD. Child refers to the child of the Insured or a child of the Insured's spouse, if they otherwise meet the definition of Dependent.

Class Number 1

DEPENDENT refers to:

- a. an Insured's spouse.
- b. each unmarried and married child less than 26 years of age, for whom the Insured, the Insured's spouse is legally responsible, including natural born children, adopted children from the date of placement for adoption, and children covered under a Qualified Medical Child Support Order as defined by applicable Federal and State laws. Grandchildren, spouses of Dependents and other Dependent family members under the age of 26 are not eligible for coverage under this plan.
- c. each unmarried child age 26 or older who is Totally Disabled and becomes Totally Disabled as defined below while insured as a dependent under b. above. Coverage of such child will not cease if proof of dependency and disability is given within 31 days of attaining the limiting age and subsequently as may be required by us but not more frequently than annually after the initial two-year period following the child's attaining the limiting age. Any costs for providing continuing proof will be at our expense.

Class Number 99

DEPENDENT refers to:

- d. an Insured's spouse.
- e. each unmarried and married child less than 26 years of age, for whom the Insured, the Insured's spouse is legally responsible, including natural born children, adopted children from the date of placement for adoption, and children covered under a Qualified Medical Child Support Order as defined by applicable Federal and State laws. Grandchildren, spouses of Dependents and other Dependent family members under the age of 26 are not eligible for coverage under this plan.
- f. each unmarried child age 26 or older who is Totally Disabled and becomes Totally Disabled as defined below while insured as a dependent under b. above. Coverage of such child will not cease if proof of dependency and disability is given within 31 days of attaining the limiting age and subsequently as may be required by us but not more frequently than annually after the initial two-

year period following the child's attaining the limiting age. Any costs for providing continuing proof will be at our expense.

All Classes

TOTAL DISABILITY describes the Insured's Dependent as:

1. Continuously incapable of self-sustaining employment because of mental retardation or physical handicap; and
2. Chiefly dependent upon the Insured for support and maintenance.

DEPENDENT UNIT refers to all of the people who are insured as the dependents of any one Insured.

PROVIDER refers to any person who is licensed by the law of the state in which treatment is provided within the scope of the license.

NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDERS. A Non-Participating Provider is any other provider and may also be referred to as an "Out-of-Network Provider." Members are required to pay the difference between the plan payment and the provider's actual fee for covered services. Therefore, the out-of-pocket expenses may be lower if services are provided by a Participating Provider.

A child enrolled due to a court or an administrative order shall not be considered a late entrant.

PLAN EFFECTIVE DATE refers to the date coverage under the policy becomes effective. The Plan Effective Date for the Policyholder is shown on the policy cover. The effective date of coverage for an Insured is shown in the Policyholder's records.

All insurance will begin at 12:01 A.M. on the Effective Date. It will end after 11:59 P.M. on the Termination Date. All times are stated as Standard Time of the residence of the Insured.

PLAN CHANGE EFFECTIVE DATE refers to the date that the policy provisions originally issued to the Policyholder change as requested by the Policyholder. The Plan Change Effective date for the Policyholder will be shown on the policy cover, if the Policyholder has requested a change. The plan change effective date for an Insured is shown in the Policyholder's records or on the cover of the certificate.

CONDITIONS FOR INSURANCE COVERAGE

ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBLE CLASS FOR MEMBERS. The members of the eligible class(es) are shown on the Schedule of Benefits. Each member of the eligible class (referred to as "Member") will qualify for such insurance on the day he or she completes the required eligibility period, if any. Members choosing to elect coverage will hereinafter be referred to as "Insured."

Class Number 1

If employment is the basis for membership, a member of the Eligible Class for Insurance is any eligible active employee electing vision working at least 30 hours per week. If membership is by reason other than employment, then a member of the Eligible Class for Insurance is as defined by the Policyholder.

If both spouses are Members and if either of them insures their dependent children, then the spouse, whoever elects, will be considered the dependent of the other. As a dependent, the person will not be considered a Member of the Eligible Class, but will be eligible for insurance as a dependent.

ELIGIBLE CLASS FOR DEPENDENT INSURANCE. Each Member of the eligible class(es) for dependent coverage is eligible for the Dependent Insurance under the policy and will qualify for this Dependent Insurance on the first of the month falling on or first following the latest of:

1. the day he or she qualifies for coverage as a Member;
2. the day he or she becomes a Member; or
3. the day he or she first has a dependent.

COVERAGE FOR NEWBORN, FOSTER AND ADOPTED CHILDREN. A newborn child will be covered from the date of birth. An adopted child, foster child and other child in court-ordered custody will be covered from the date of placement in the Insured's residence.

Coverage for such child shall consist of coverage for dental expenses, subject to applicable deductibles, coinsurance percentages, maximums and limitations, resulting from care or treatment of congenital defects, birth abnormalities and premature birth, including, but not limited to, necessary care for individuals born with cleft lip or cleft palate.

The Insured may give us written notice within 30 days of the date of birth or placement of a dependent child to start coverage. If timely notice is given, we will not charge an additional premium for the 30-day notice period. If timely notice is not given, we will charge the applicable additional premium from the date of birth or placement for an adopted child. We will not deny coverage for a child due to the failure of the Insured to notify us within 30 days of the child's birth or placement. If no additional premiums are required due to adequate dependent coverage already existing, the 30-day notice period will be waived and no written notice is required.

A Member must be an Insured to also insure his or her dependents.

If employment is the basis for membership, a member of the Eligible Class for Dependent Insurance is any eligible active employee electing vision working at least 30 hours per week and has eligible dependents. If membership is by reason other than employment, then a member of the Eligible Class for Insurance is as defined by the Policyholder.

Any spouse who elects to be a dependent rather than a member of the Eligible Class for Personal Insurance, as explained above, is not a member of the Eligible Class for Dependent Insurance.

When a member of the Eligible Class for Dependent Insurance dies and, if at the date of death, has dependents insured, the Policyholder has the option of offering the dependents of the deceased employee continued coverage. If elected by the Policyholder and the affected dependents, the name of such deceased member will continue to be listed as a member of the Eligible Class for Dependent Insurance.

CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS. Member Insurance: An Insured is required to contribute to the payment of his or her insurance premiums.

Dependent Insurance: An Insured is required to contribute to the payment of insurance premiums for his or her dependents.

SECTION 125. This policy is provided as part of the Employer's Section 125 Plan. Each Member has the option under the Section 125 Plan of participating or not participating in this policy.

If a Member does not elect to participate when initially eligible, the Member may elect to participate at a subsequent Election Period. This Election Period will be held each year and those who elect to participate in this policy at that time will have their insurance become effective on January 1.

Members may change their election option only during an Election Period, except for a change in family status. Such events would be marriage, divorce, birth of a child, death of a spouse or child, or termination of employment of a spouse.

ELIGIBILITY PERIOD. For Members on the Plan Effective Date of the policy, coverage is effective immediately.

For persons who become Members after the Plan Effective Date of the policy, qualification will occur on the first of the month falling on or first following the date of employment. In no event, will the waiting period exceed 90 days after a Member's first day of employment.

If employment is the basis for membership in the Eligible Class for Members, an Insured whose eligibility terminates and is established again, may or may not have to complete a new eligibility period before he or she can again qualify for insurance.

EFFECTIVE DATE. Each Member has the option of being insured and insuring his or her Dependents. To elect coverage, he or she must agree in writing to contribute to the payment of the insurance premiums. The Effective Date for each Member and his or her Dependents, will be the first of the month falling on or first following:

1. the date on which the Member qualifies for insurance, if the Member agrees to contribute on or before that date.
2. the date on which the Member agrees to contribute, if that date is within 31 days after the date he or she qualifies for insurance.

Class Number 99

If employment is the basis for membership, a member of the Eligible Class for Insurance is any eligible cobra member electing vision working at least 30 hours per week. If membership is by reason other than employment, then a member of the Eligible Class for Insurance is as defined by the Policyholder.

If both spouses are Members and if either of them insures their dependent children, then the spouse, whoever elects, will be considered the dependent of the other. As a dependent, the person will not be considered a Member of the Eligible Class, but will be eligible for insurance as a dependent.

ELIGIBLE CLASS FOR DEPENDENT INSURANCE. Each Member of the eligible class(es) for dependent coverage is eligible for the Dependent Insurance under the policy and will qualify for this Dependent Insurance on the first of the month falling on or first following the latest of:

1. the day he or she qualifies for coverage as a Member;
2. the day he or she becomes a Member; or
3. the day he or she first has a dependent.

COVERAGE FOR NEWBORN, FOSTER AND ADOPTED CHILDREN. A newborn child will be covered from the date of birth. An adopted child, foster child and other child in court-ordered custody will be covered from the date of placement in the Insured's residence.

Coverage for such child shall consist of coverage for dental expenses, subject to applicable deductibles, coinsurance percentages, maximums and limitations, resulting from care or treatment of congenital defects, birth abnormalities and premature birth, including, but not limited to, necessary care for individuals born with cleft lip or cleft palate.

The Insured may give us written notice within 30 days of the date of birth or placement of a dependent child to start coverage. If timely notice is given, we will not charge an additional premium for the 30-day notice period. If timely notice is not given, we will charge the applicable additional premium from the date of birth or placement for an adopted child. We will not deny coverage for a child due to the failure of the Insured to notify us within 30 days of the child's birth or placement. If no additional premiums are required due to adequate dependent coverage already existing, the 30-day notice period will be waived and no written notice is required.

A Member must be an Insured to also insure his or her dependents.

If employment is the basis for membership, a member of the Eligible Class for Dependent Insurance is any eligible cobra member electing vision working at least 30 hours per week and has eligible dependents. If membership is by reason other than employment, then a member of the Eligible Class for Insurance is as defined by the Policyholder.

Any spouse who elects to be a dependent rather than a member of the Eligible Class for Personal Insurance, as explained above, is not a member of the Eligible Class for Dependent Insurance.

When a member of the Eligible Class for Dependent Insurance dies and, if at the date of death, has dependents insured, the Policyholder has the option of offering the dependents of the deceased employee continued coverage. If elected by the Policyholder and the affected dependents, the name of such deceased member will continue to be listed as a member of the Eligible Class for Dependent Insurance.

CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS. Member Insurance: An Insured is required to contribute to the payment of his or her insurance premiums.

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Members may change their election option only during an Election Period, except for a change in family status. Such events would be marriage, divorce, birth of a child, death of a spouse or child, or termination of employment of a spouse.

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For persons who become Members after the Plan Effective Date of the policy, qualification will occur on the first of the month falling on or first following the date of employment. In no event, will the waiting period exceed 90 days after a Member's first day of employment.

If employment is the basis for membership in the Eligible Class for Members, an Insured whose eligibility terminates and is established again, may or may not have to complete a new eligibility period before he or she can again qualify for insurance.

EFFECTIVE DATE. Each Member has the option of being insured and insuring his or her Dependents. To elect coverage, he or she must agree in writing to contribute to the payment of the insurance premiums. The Effective Date for each Member and his or her Dependents, will be the first of the month falling on or first following:

1. the date on which the Member qualifies for insurance, if the Member agrees to contribute on or before that date.
2. the date on which the Member agrees to contribute, if that date is within 31 days after the date he or she qualifies for insurance.

All Classes

EXCEPTIONS. If employment is the basis for membership, a Member must be in active service on the date the insurance, or any increase in insurance, is to take effect. If not, the insurance will not take effect until the day he or she returns to active service. Active service refers to the performance in the customary manner by an employee of all the regular duties of his or her employment with his or her employer on a full time basis at one of the employer's business establishments or at some location to which the employer's business requires the employee to travel.

A Member will be in active service on any regular non-working day if he or she is not totally disabled on that day and if he or she was in active service on the regular working day before that day.

If membership is by reason other than employment, a Member must not be totally disabled on the date the insurance, or any increase in insurance, is to take effect. The insurance will not take effect until the day after he or she ceases to be totally disabled.

TERMINATION DATES

Class Number 1

INSUREDS. The insurance for any Insured, will automatically terminate on the end of the month falling on or next following the **earliest of:**

1. the date the Insured ceases to be a Member;
2. the last day of the period for which the Insured has contributed, if required, to the payment of insurance premiums; or
3. the date the policy is terminated.

DEPENDENTS. The insurance for all of an Insured's dependents will automatically terminate on the end of the month falling on or next following the **earliest of:**

1. the date on which the Insured's coverage terminates;
2. the date on which the Insured ceases to be a Member;
3. the last day of the period for which the Insured has contributed, if required, to the payment of insurance premiums; or
4. the date all Dependent Insurance under the policy is terminated.

The insurance for any Dependent will automatically terminate on the end of the month falling on or next following the day before the date on which the dependent no longer meets the definition of a dependent. See "Definitions."

Class Number 99

INSUREDS. The insurance for any Insured, will automatically terminate on the end of the month falling on or next following the **earliest of:**

1. the date the Insured ceases to be a Member;
2. the last day of the period for which the Insured has contributed, if required, to the payment of insurance premiums; or
3. the date the policy is terminated.

DEPENDENTS. The insurance for all of an Insured's dependents will automatically terminate on the end of the month falling on or next following the **earliest of:**

1. the date on which the Insured's coverage terminates;
2. the date on which the Insured ceases to be a Member;
3. the last day of the period for which the Insured has contributed, if required, to the payment of insurance premiums; or
4. the date all Dependent Insurance under the policy is terminated.

The insurance for any Dependent will automatically terminate on the end of the month falling on or next following the day before the date on which the dependent no longer meets the definition of a dependent. See "Definitions."

All Classes

CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE. If coverage ceases according to TERMINATION DATE, some or all of the insurance coverages may be continued. Contact your plan administrator for details.

Injury or Sickness For Certain Dependents

Coverage will continue for a Dependent student (see Definition of Dependent on 9060) for a covered Dependent student who takes a leave of absence from school due to an injury or illness for a period of twelve months from

the last day of attendance in school, provided, however, that nothing in this provision shall require coverage of a dependent student beyond the age at which coverage would otherwise terminate.

EYE CARE EXPENSE BENEFITS

Class Number 1

If an Insured has Covered Expenses under this section, we pay benefits as described. The Insured can choose any provider at any time.

COVERED EXPENSES

Covered Expenses include the lesser of:

- a. the charge for the covered procedure furnished; or
- b. the Maximum Covered Expense for such services or supplies shown in the Schedule of Eye Care Services.

Covered Expenses are the eye care expenses incurred by an Insured for services or supplies. We pay up to the Maximum Covered Expense shown in the Schedule of Eye Care Services.

DEDUCTIBLE AMOUNT

The Deductible Amount is on the Schedule of Benefits. It is an amount of Covered Expenses for which no benefits are payable. It applies separately to each Insured. Benefits are paid only for those Covered Expenses that are over the Deductible Amount.

PARTICIPATING PROVIDERS

A Participating Provider is a provider who has agreed to participate in the VSP network and agrees to provide services and supplies to the Insured at a discounted fee. For questions related to providers or benefit payments, VSP's Customer Care Division is available at (800) 877-7195.

NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER

A Non-Participating Provider is any other provider. Non-Participating providers may be referred to as Affiliate or Open Access Providers. Non-Participating Providers are not subject to our Quality Management Programs. Your out-of-pocket expenses may be greater when you visit a Non-Participating Provider. However, more cost savings or convenience may be available through VSP arrangements with Affiliate Providers. You may contact VSP's Customer Care Division for details at (800) 877-7195.

EYE CARE SUPPLIES

Eye care supplies are all services listed on the Schedule of Eye Care Services. They exclude services related to Eye Care Exams.

REQUEST FOR SERVICES

When requesting services, the Insured must advise the Participating Provider's office that he or she has coverage under this network plan

ACCESS TO PARTICIPATING PROVIDERS

If you are unable to schedule a visit with a Participating Provider within a reasonable period of time or driving distance and are not otherwise in need of emergency services, please contact us at the toll-free number shown on your ID card and we will attempt to locate a Participating Provider for you to visit. However, if we are unable to locate a Provider for you or you are in need of emergency services and are unable to obtain such services from a Participating Provider, we will review and pay the eligible claims submitted as if you had visited a Participating Provider.

ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFITS

We pay benefits to the Participating Provider for services and supplies performed or furnished by them. When a Non-Participating Provider performs services, we pay benefits to the Insured unless arranged differently through an Affiliate or Open Access provider, or otherwise required by state regulation.

EXTENSION OF BENEFITS

If your policy terminates, we will pay claims for eye care services and supplies that you received or ordered prior to your policy's termination. You will have six months following the date of service to submit your claim.

EXPENSES INCURRED

An expense is incurred at the time a service is rendered or a supply item furnished.

Notice: Your actual expenses for covered services may exceed the stated benefit amount because actual provider charges may not be used to determine plan and insured payment obligations.

PROOF OF LOSS

Written proof of loss must be given to us within 180 days after the date of such loss. Failure to furnish such proof within the time required shall not invalidate nor reduce any claim if it was not reasonably possible to give proof within such time, provided such proof is furnished as soon as reasonably possible and in no event, except in the absence of legal capacity of the insured, later than one year from the time proof is otherwise required.

LIMITATIONS

This plan has the following limitation:

Some brands of spectacle frames may be unavailable at all locations for purchase as Covered Expenses, or may be subject to additional out-of-pocket expenses. Insureds may obtain details regarding frame brand availability from their treating provider or by calling VSP's Customer Care Division at (800) 877-7195.

EXCLUSIONS

This plan does not cover:

- Services and/or materials not specifically included in this Schedule as covered Plan Benefits,
- Plano lenses (lenses with refractive correction of less than plus or minus .50 diopter) except as specifically allowed in the frames benefit section below,
- Services or materials that are cosmetic, including Plano contact lenses to change eye color and artistically painted Contact Lenses,
- Two pairs of glasses in lieu of Bifocals,
- Replacement of Spectacle Lenses, Frames, and/or contact lenses furnished under this plan that are lost or damaged, except at the normal intervals when services are otherwise available,
- Orthoptics or vision training and any associated supplemental testing,
- Medical or surgical treatment of the eyes,
- Contact lens modification, polishing or cleaning,
- The refitting of Contact Lenses after the initial 90-day fitting period,
- Contact Lens insurance policies or service contracts,
- Additional office visits associated with contact lens pathology,
- Local, state and/or federal taxes, except where law requires us to pay,

- Membership fees for any retail center in which an Affiliate or Open Access provider office may be located. Covered persons may be required to purchase a membership in such entities as a condition of accessing Plan Benefits.

SCHEDULE OF EYE CARE SERVICES

The following is a complete list of eye care services for which benefits payable under this section, You must first pay a Deductible for certain services as indicated on the Schedule of Benefits in the - Eye Care Expense Benefits section.

SERVICE	WHEN COVERED	PLAN MAXIMUM COVERED EXPENSE	
		<i>Participating Provider</i>	<i>Non-Participating Provider*</i>
Vision Examination(s)			
Eye Exam	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$ 45.00
Contact Lens Fitting	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	See Elective
Contact & Evaluation below			Lenses benefit
Complete Pair of Spectacles			
Lenses (per pair, only one pair of lens type below allowed per covered period)			
Single Vision	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$ 30.00
Lined Bifocal	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$ 50.00
Lined Trifocal	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$ 65.00
Lenticular	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$100.00
Frames			
Single Frame [%]	Once every 12 months	\$165.00	\$ 70.00
Contact Lenses (in lieu of Complete Pair of Spectacles) Includes allowance for Contact Lens Fitting & Evaluation			
Elective	Once every 12 months	\$165.00	\$145.00
Medically Necessary**	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$210.00

Low Vision (for severe visual problems not correctable with regular lenses, as determined by the treating provider)

Insureds can receive professional services for treatment of severe visual problems that are not correctable with regular lenses. The treating provider determines if an Insured's condition meets the criteria for coverage of this benefit. Insureds may contact VSP's Customer Care Division for details at (800-877-7195) for additional information.

*Insureds may receive additional savings and some services may be covered in full by choosing to visit an Affiliate Non-Participating Provider.

**The benefit for Medically Necessary contact lenses is in lieu of the Elective contact lenses benefit listed. The treating provider determines if an Insured meets the coverage criteria for this benefit.

EYE CARE EXPENSE BENEFITS

Class Number 99

If an Insured has Covered Expenses under this section, we pay benefits as described. The Insured can choose any provider at any time.

COVERED EXPENSES

Covered Expenses include the lesser of:

- c. the charge for the covered procedure furnished; or
- d. the Maximum Covered Expense for such services or supplies shown in the Schedule of Eye Care Services.

Covered Expenses are the eye care expenses incurred by an Insured for services or supplies. We pay up to the Maximum Covered Expense shown in the Schedule of Eye Care Services.

DEDUCTIBLE AMOUNT

The Deductible Amount is on the Schedule of Benefits. It is an amount of Covered Expenses for which no benefits are payable. It applies separately to each Insured. Benefits are paid only for those Covered Expenses that are over the Deductible Amount.

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ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFITS

We pay benefits to the Participating Provider for services and supplies performed or furnished by them. When a Non-Participating Provider performs services, we pay benefits to the Insured unless arranged differently through an Affiliate or Open Access provider, or otherwise required by state regulation.

EXTENSION OF BENEFITS

If your policy terminates, we will pay claims for eye care services and supplies that you received or ordered prior to your policy's termination. You will have six months following the date of service to submit your claim.

EXPENSES INCURRED

An expense is incurred at the time a service is rendered or a supply item furnished.

Notice: Your actual expenses for covered services may exceed the stated benefit amount because actual provider charges may not be used to determine plan and insured payment obligations.

PROOF OF LOSS

Written proof of loss must be given to us within 180 days after the date of such loss. Failure to furnish such proof within the time required shall not invalidate nor reduce any claim if it was not reasonably possible to give proof within such time, provided such proof is furnished as soon as reasonably possible and in no event, except in the absence of legal capacity of the insured, later than one year from the time proof is otherwise required.

LIMITATIONS

This plan has the following limitation:

Some brands of spectacle frames may be unavailable at all locations for purchase as Covered Expenses, or may be subject to additional out-of-pocket expenses. Insureds may obtain details regarding frame brand availability from their treating provider or by calling VSP's Customer Care Division at (800) 877-7195.

EXCLUSIONS

This plan does not cover:

- Services and/or materials not specifically included in this Schedule as covered Plan Benefits,
- Plano lenses (lenses with refractive correction of less than plus or minus .50 diopter) except as specifically allowed in the frames benefit section below,
- Services or materials that are cosmetic, including Plano contact lenses to change eye color and artistically painted Contact Lenses,
- Two pairs of glasses in lieu of Bifocals,
- Replacement of Spectacle Lenses, Frames, and/or contact lenses furnished under this plan that are lost or damaged, except at the normal intervals when services are otherwise available,
- Orthoptics or vision training and any associated supplemental testing,
- Medical or surgical treatment of the eyes,
- Contact lens modification, polishing or cleaning,
- The refitting of Contact Lenses after the initial 90-day fitting period,
- Contact Lens insurance policies or service contracts,
- Additional office visits associated with contact lens pathology,
- Local, state and/or federal taxes, except where law requires us to pay,
- Membership fees for any retail center in which an Affiliate or Open Access provider office may be located. Covered persons may be required to purchase a membership in such entities as a condition of accessing Plan Benefits.

SCHEDULE OF EYE CARE SERVICES

The following is a complete list of eye care services for which benefits payable under this section, You must first pay a Deductible for certain services as indicated on the Schedule of Benefits in the - Eye Care Expense Benefits section.

SERVICE	WHEN COVERED	PLAN MAXIMUM COVERED EXPENSE	
		<i>Participating Provider</i>	<i>Non-Participating Provider*</i>
Vision Examination(s)			
Eye Exam	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$ 45.00
Contact Lens Fitting & Evaluation	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	See Elective Contact Lenses benefit below
Complete Pair of Spectacles			
Lenses (per pair, only one pair of lens type below allowed per covered period)			
Single Vision	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$ 30.00
Lined Bifocal	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$ 50.00
Lined Trifocal	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$ 65.00
Lenticular	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$100.00
Frames			
Single Frame ^o	Once every 12 months	\$165.00	\$ 70.00
Contact Lenses (in lieu of Complete Pair of Spectacles) Includes allowance for Contact Lens Fitting & Evaluation			
Elective	Once every 12 months	\$165.00	\$145.00
Medically Necessary**	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$210.00

Low Vision (for severe visual problems not correctable with regular lenses, as determined by the treating provider) Insureds can receive professional services for treatment of severe visual problems that are not correctable with regular lenses. The treating provider determines if an Insured's condition meets the criteria for coverage of this benefit. Insureds may contact VSP's Customer Care Division for details at (800-877-7195) for additional information.

*Insureds may receive additional savings and some services may be covered in full by choosing to visit an Affiliate Non-Participating Provider.

**The benefit for Medically Necessary contact lenses is in lieu of the Elective contact lenses benefit listed. The treating provider determines if an Insured meets the coverage criteria for this benefit.

COORDINATION OF BENEFITS

This section applies if an Insured person has eye care coverage under more than one Plan definition below. All benefits provided under this policy are subject to this section.

EFFECT ON BENEFITS. The Order of Benefit Determination rules below determine which Plan will pay as the primary Plan. If all or any part of an Allowable Expense under this Plan is an Allowable Expense under any other Plan, then benefits will be reduced so that, when they are added to benefits payable under any other Plan for the same service or supply, the total does not exceed 100% of the total Allowable Expenses.

If another Plan is primary and this Plan is considered secondary, the amount by which benefits have been reduced during the Claim Determination Period will be used by us to pay the Allowable Expenses not otherwise paid which were incurred by you in the same Claim Determination Period. We will determine our obligation to pay for Allowable Expenses as each claim is submitted, based on all claims submitted in the current Claim Determination Period.

DEFINITIONS. The following apply only to this provision of the policy.

1. "Plan" refers to the group policy and any of the following plans, whether insured or uninsured, providing benefits for eye care services or supplies:
 - a. Any group insurance policy, but not including school-accident-type coverage, blanket, franchise individual, automobile or homeowner coverage;
 - b. Any group prepayment, group practice or group or individual service plan; or
 - c. A governmental program or coverage required or provided by any law, except Medicaid and any plan when, by law, its benefits are excess to those of any private insurance program or other non-governmental program.
2. "Allowable Expense" refers to any necessary, reasonable and customary item of expense at least a portion of which is covered under at least one of the Plans covering the Insured person for whom that claim is made. When a Plan provides services rather than cash payments, the reasonable cash value of each service will be both an Allowable Expense and a benefit paid. Benefits payable under another Plan include benefits that would have been payable had a claim been made for them.
3. "Claim Determination Period" refers to a Benefit Period, but does not include any time during which a person has no coverage under this Plan.
4. "Custodial Parent" refers to a parent awarded custody of a minor child by a court decree. In the absence of a court decree, it is the parent with whom the child resides more than half of the calendar year without regard to any temporary visitation.

ORDER OF BENEFIT DETERMINATION. When two or more Plans pay benefits, the rules for determining the order of payment are as follows:

1. A Plan that does not have a coordination of benefits provision is always considered primary and will pay benefits first.
2. If a Plan also has a coordination of benefits provision, the first of the following rules that describe which Plan pays its benefits before another Plan is the rule to use:
 - a. The benefits of a Plan that covers a person as an employee, member or subscriber are determined before those of a Plan that covers the person as a dependent.

- b. If a Dependent child is covered by more than one Plan, then the primary Plan is the Plan of the parent whose birthday is earlier in the year if:
 - i. the parents are married;
 - ii. the parents are not separated (whether or not they ever have been married); or
 - iii. a court decree awards joint custody without specifying that one party has the responsibility to provide Eye Care coverage.

If both parents have the same birthday, the Plan that covered either of the parents longer is primary.

- c. If the Dependent child is covered by divorced or separated parents under two or more Plans, benefits for that Dependent child will be determined in the following order:
 - i. the Plan of the Custodial Parent;
 - ii. the Plan of the spouse of the Custodial Parent;
 - iii. the Plan of the non-Custodial Parent; and then
 - iv. the Plan of the spouse of the non-Custodial Parent.

However, if the specific terms of a court decree establish a parent's responsibility for the child's Eye Care expenses and the Plan of that parent has actual knowledge of those terms, that Plan is primary. This rule applies to Claim Determination Periods or Benefit Periods commencing after the Plan is given notice of the court decree.

- d. The benefits of a Plan that cover a person as an employee who is neither laid-off nor retired (or as that employee's dependent) are determined before those of a Plan that covers that person as a laid-off or retired employee (or as that employee's dependent). If the other Plan does not have this rule, and if, as a result, the Plans do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule will be ignored.
- e. If a person whose coverage is provided under a right of continuation provided by a federal or state law also is covered under another Plan, the Plan covering the person as an employee, member, subscriber or retiree (or as that person's dependent) is primary, and the continuation coverage is secondary. If the other Plan does not have this rule, and if, as a result, the Plans do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule will be ignored.
- f. The benefits of a Plan that has covered a person for a longer period will be determined first.

If the preceding rules do not determine the primary Plan, the allowable expenses shall be shared equally between the Plans meeting the definition of Plan under this provision. In addition, this Plan will not pay more than what it would have paid had it been primary.

RIGHT TO RECEIVE AND RELEASE NECESSARY INFORMATION. We may without your consent and notice to you:

- 1. Release any information with respect to your coverage and benefits under the policy; and

2. Obtain from any other insurance company, organization or person any information with respect to your coverage and benefits under another Plan.

You must provide us with any information necessary to coordinate benefits.

FACILITY OF PAYMENT. When other Plans make payments that should have been made under this Plan according to the above terms, we will, at our discretion, pay to any organizations making these payments any amounts that we decide will satisfy the intent of the above terms. Amounts paid in this way will be benefits paid under this Plan. We will not be liable to the extent of these payments.

RIGHT OF RECOVERY. When we make payments for Allowable Expenses in excess of the amount that will satisfy the intent of the above terms, we will recover these payments, to the extent of the excess, from any persons or organizations to or for whom these payments were made. The amount of the payments made includes the reasonable cash value of any benefits provided in the form of services.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

ENTIRE CONTRACT; CHANGES: This policy, including the endorsements and the attached papers, if any, constitutes the entire contract of insurance. A change in this policy is not valid until the change is approved by an executive officer of the insurer and unless the approval is endorsed on or attached to the policy. An agent does not have authority to change this policy or to waive any of its provisions.

TIME LIMIT ON CERTAIN DEFENSES: (a) After the second anniversary of the date this policy is issued, a misstatement made by the applicant in the application for the policy may not be used to void the policy or to deny a claim for loss incurred or disability (as defined in the policy) beginning after that anniversary.

GRACE PERIOD: Unless, not less than 45 days before the premium due date, We have delivered to You, or have mailed to Your last address as shown by Our records, a written notice of Our intention not to renew this policy beyond the period for which the premium has been accepted, a grace period of at least 31 days will be granted for the payment of each premium due after the first premium. During the grace period, the policy continues in force.

REINSTATEMENT. If a renewal premium is not paid before the expiration of the period granted for the Insured to make the payment, a subsequent acceptance of the premium by the insurer or any agent authorized by the insurer to accept the premium, without requiring in connection with the acceptance an application for reinstatement, reinstates the policy. However, if the insurer or authorized agent requires an application for reinstatement and issues a conditional receipt for the premium tendered, the policy will be reinstated on approval of the application by the insurer or, if the application is not approved, on the 45th day after the date of the conditional receipt unless the insurer before that date has notified the Insured in writing of the insurer's disapproval of the application. The reinstated policy covers only loss resulting from an accidental injury sustained after the date of reinstatement and loss due to sickness that begins more than 10 days after the date of reinstatement. In all other respects the Insured and insurer have the same rights under the reinstated policy as they had under the policy immediately before the due date of the defaulted premium, subject to any provisions endorsed in the policy or attached to the policy in connection with the reinstatement. Any premium accepted in connection with a reinstatement shall be applied to a period for which premium has not been previously paid, but not to any period more than 60 days before the date of reinstatement.

CLAIM FORMS: We will provide You the forms needed for filing proof of loss. If the forms are not provided before the 16th day after the date of the notice, the claimant shall be considered to have complied with the requirements of this policy as to proof of loss on submitting, within the time fixed in the policy for filing proofs of loss, written proof covering the occurrence, the character, and the extent of the loss for which the claim is made.

NOTICE OF CLAIM: Written notice of claim must be given to the insurer within 20 days after the occurrence or commencement of any loss covered by the policy, or as soon thereafter as is reasonable possible. Notice given by or on behalf of the insured or the beneficiary to the insurer at our Home Office or to any authorized agent of the insurer, with information sufficient to identify the insured, shall be deemed notice to the insurer.

PROOF OF LOSS: Written proof of loss must be furnished to the insurer at its said office in the case of a claim for loss within 180 days after the termination of the period for which the insurer is liable and in case of a claim for any other loss within 180 days after the date of the loss. Failure to furnish such proof within the time required shall not invalidate nor reduce any claim if it was not reasonably possible to give proof within such time, provided such proof is furnished as soon as reasonably possible and in no event, except in the absence of legal capacity of the insured, other than one year from the time proof is otherwise required.

TIME OF PAYMENT OF CLAIMS: Indemnities payable under this policy for any loss, other than a loss for which this policy provides any periodic payment, will be paid immediately on receipt of due written proof of the loss. Subject to due written proof of loss, all accrued indemnities for a loss for which this policy provides periodic payment will be paid monthly and any balance remaining unpaid on termination of liability will be paid immediately on receipt of due written proof of loss.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS AND AUTOPSY: At Our own expense We have the right and opportunity to conduct a physical examination of the Insured when and as often as the insurer reasonably requires while a claim under the policy is pending and, in case of death, to require that an autopsy be conducted if not forbidden by law.

LEGAL ACTIONS: An action at law or in equity may not be brought to recover on this policy before the 61st day after the date written proof of loss has been provided in accordance with the requirements of this policy. An action at law or in equity may not be brought after the expiration of three years after the time written proof of loss is required to be provided.

CHANGE OF BENEFICIARY: Unless You make an irrevocable designation of beneficiary, the right to change a beneficiary is reserved for You, and the consent of the beneficiary or beneficiaries is not required for the surrender or assignment of this policy, for any change of beneficiary or beneficiaries, or for any other changes in this policy.

MISSTATEMENT OF AGE: If the age of an Insured has been misstated, the amounts payable under this policy are the amounts the premium paid would have purchased at the correct age.

UNPAID PREMIUM: At the time of payment of a claim under this policy, any premium then due and unpaid or covered by any note or written order may be deducted from the payment.

CANCELLATION: We may cancel this policy at any time for reasons previously disclosed by written notice delivered to You, or mailed to Your last address as shown by Our records, stating when the cancellation is effective, which may not be earlier than 45 days after the date the notice is delivered or mailed. After this policy has been continued beyond its original term, You may cancel the policy at any time by written notice delivered or mailed to Us, effective on receipt or on a later date specified in the notice. In the event of cancellation, We will promptly return the unearned portion of any premium paid. If You cancel, the earned premium shall be computed by the use of the short-rate table last filed with the state official having supervision of insurance in the state where the Insured resided when the policy was issued. If We cancel, the earned premium shall be computed pro rata. Cancellation is without prejudice to any claim originating before the effective date of cancellation

CONFORMITY WITH STATE STATUTES: Any provision of this policy that, on its effective date, conflicts with the statutes of the state in which You reside on the effective date is by this clause effectively amended to conform to the minimum requirements of that state's statutes.

ILLEGAL OCCUPATION: We are not liable for any loss to which a contributing cause was an Insured's commission of or attempt to commit a felony or to which a contributing cause was an Insured's being engaged in an illegal occupation

INTOXICANTS AND NARCOTICS: We are not liable for any loss sustained or contracted in consequence of an Insured's being intoxicated or under the influence of any narcotic unless the narcotic is administered on the advice of a physician

FACILITY OF PAYMENT. If an Insured or beneficiary is not capable of giving Us a valid receipt for any payment or if benefits are payable to the estate of the Insured, then We may, at Our option, pay the benefit up to an amount not to exceed \$5,000, to any relative by blood or connection by marriage of the Insured who is considered by Us to be equitably entitled to the benefit.

Any equitable payment made in good faith will release Us from liability to the extent of payment.

PROVIDER-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP. An Insured may choose any Provider who is licensed by the law of the state in which treatment is provided within the scope of his or her license. We will in no way disturb the provider-patient relationship.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS. Payment of any benefit under this policy is subject to the definitions and all other terms of this policy pertinent to the benefit.

WORKER'S COMPENSATION. The coverage provided under the Policy is not a substitute for coverage under a workmen's compensation or state disability income benefit law and does not relieve the Policyholder of any obligation to provide such coverage.

PAYMENT OF BENEFITS. Participating Providers have agreed to accept assignment of benefits for services and supplies performed or furnished by them. When a Non-Participating Provider performs services, all benefits will be paid to the Insured unless otherwise indicated by the Insured's authorization to pay the Non-Participating Provider directly.

GENERAL PROVISIONS (CONTINUED)

CONFORMITY WITH LAW. Any policy provision that conflicts with the laws of the state in which the policy is issued, when the policy is issued, is automatically changed to meet the minimum requirements of those laws.

ENTIRE CONTRACT. The policy and the application of the Policyholder constitute the entire contract between the parties. A copy of the Policyholder's application is attached to the policy when issued. All statements made by the Policyholder or an Insured will be considered representations and not warranties. No statement made to obtain insurance will be used to void the insurance or reduce the benefits of this policy unless it is in a written application signed by the Policyholder or Insured. A copy of this must have been given to the Policyholder or Insured.

No change in this policy will be valid unless approved in writing by one of our officers and given to the Policyholder for attachment to the policy. No agent has the authority to change this policy or waive any of its provisions. Any change in this policy will be valid even though an Insured may not have agreed to it.

INSURANCE DATA. The Policyholder will furnish, at our request, data necessary to administer this policy. The data will include, but not be limited to data:

- i. necessary to calculate premiums;
- ii. necessary to determine a person's effective date or termination date of insurance;
- iii. necessary to determine the proper coverage level of insurance.

We shall have the right to inspect any of the Policyholder's records we find necessary to properly administer this policy. Any inspections will be at a time and place convenient to the Policyholder.

We will not refuse to insure a person who is eligible to be insured just because the Policyholder fails or errs in giving us the data necessary to include that person for coverage. An Insured's insurance will not stay in force nor an amount of insurance be continued after the termination date, according to the Conditions for Insurance, because the Policyholder fails or errors in giving us the necessary data concerning an Insured's termination.

CERTIFICATES. We will issue certificates to the Policyholder showing the coverage under the policy. The Policyholder will distribute a certificate to each insured Member. If the terms of the certificate differ from the policy, the terms stated in the policy will govern.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS. There are two requirements that must be met in order for the policy to be placed in force, and to remain in force:

- a. a certain percentage of all Members qualified for insurance must be insured at all times; and
- b. a certain number of Insureds must be insured at all times.

The Participation Requirements are as follows:

Percentage of Members-	60%
Number of Members-	773

TERMINATION OF THE POLICY. The Policyholder may terminate this policy as of any Premium Due Date by giving us written notice before that date.

We may terminate this policy on the earlier of:

1. any Premium Due Date if the participation of Insureds and/or Dependents does not meet the requirements in "Conditions For Insurance." Written notice of termination of insurance must be given to the Policyholder at least 45 days before the date of termination.
2. any Premium Due Date on or after the first policy year, for reasons other than lack of participation. Written notice of termination of insurance must be given to the Policyholder at least 60 days before the date of termination.

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE SECTION 58-50-40. No person, employer, principal, agent, trustee or third party administrator, who is responsible for the payment of group health or life insurance or group health plan premiums, shall: (1) cause the cancellations or nonrenewal of group health or life insurance, hospital, medical, or dental services corporation plan, multiple employer welfare arrangement, or group health plan coverages and the consequential loss of the coverages of the persons insured, by willfully failing to pay those premiums in accordance with the terms of the insurance or plan contract, and (2) willfully fail to deliver, at least 45 days before the termination of those coverages, to all persons covered by the group policy a written notice of the person's intention to stop payment of premiums. This written notice must also contain a notice to all persons covered by the group policy of their rights to health insurance conversion policies under Article 53 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes and their rights to purchase individual policies under the Federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and under Article 68 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes. Violation of this law is a felony. Any person violating this law is also subject to a court order requiring the person to compensate persons insured for expenses or losses incurred as a result of the termination of the insurance.

CONSIDERATION. This policy is issued to the Policyholder in consideration of the application and the payment of premiums specified in this policy.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS. Payment of any benefit under this policy is subject to the definitions and all other terms of this policy pertinent to the benefit.

**CLAIMS REVIEW PROCEDURES
AS REQUIRED UNDER
EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974 (ERISA)**

The following provides information regarding the claims review process and your rights to request a review of any part of a claim that is denied. Please note that certain state laws may also require specified claims payment procedures as well as internal appeal procedures and/or independent external review processes. Therefore, in addition to the review procedures defined below, you may also have additional rights provided to you under state law. If your state has specific grievance procedures, an additional notice specific to your state will also be included within the group policy and your certificate.

CLAIMS FOR BENEFITS

Claims may be submitted by mailing the completed claim form along with any requested information to:

Vision Service Plan
Attn: Out-of-Network Provider Claims
P.O. Box 997105
Sacramento, CA 95899-7105

NOTICE OF DECISION OF CLAIM

We will evaluate your claim promptly after we receive it.

We will provide you written notice regarding the payment under the claim within 30 calendar days following receipt of the claim. This period may be extended for an additional 15 days, provided that we have determined that an extension is necessary due to matters beyond our control, and notify you, prior to the expiration of the initial 30-day period, of the circumstances requiring the extension of time and the date by which we expect to render a decision. If the extension is due to your failure to provide information necessary to decide the claim, the notice of extension shall specifically describe the required information we need to decide the claim.

If we request additional information, you will have 45 days to provide the information. If you do not provide the requested information within 45 days, we may decide your claim based on the information we have received.

If we deny any part of your claim, you will receive a written notice of denial containing:

- a. The reasons for our decision.
- b. Reference to the parts of the Group Policy on which our decision is based.
- c. Reference to any internal rule or guideline relied upon in making our decision, along with your right to receive a copy of these guidelines, free of charge, upon request.
- d. A statement that you may request an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment we relied upon to exclude expenses that are experimental or investigational, or are not necessary or accepted according to generally accepted standards of Eye Care practice.
- e. A description of any additional information needed to support your claim and why such information is necessary.
- f. Information concerning your right to a review of our decision.
- g. Information concerning your right to bring a civil action for benefits under section 502(a) of ERISA following an adverse benefit determination on review.

APPEAL PROCEDURE

If all or part of a claim is denied, you may request a review in writing within 180 days after receiving notice of the benefit denial.

You may send us written comments or other items to support your claim. You may review and receive copies of any non-privileged information that is relevant to your appeal. There will be no charge for such copies. You may request the names of the experts we consulted who provided advice to us about your claim.

The appeal review will be conducted by the Plan's named fiduciary and will be someone other than the person who denied the initial claim and will not be subordinate to that person. The person conducting the review will not give deference to the initial denial decision. If the denial was based in whole or in part on a medical judgment, including determinations with regard to whether a service was considered experimental, investigational, and/or not medically necessary, the person conducting the review will consult with a qualified health care professional. This health care professional will be someone other than the person who made the original judgment and will not be subordinate to that person. Our review will include any written comments or other items you submit to support your claim.

We will review your claim promptly after we receive your request.

If your appeal is about urgent care, you may call Toll Free at 877-897-4328, and an Expedited Review will be conducted. Verbal notification of our decision will be made within 72 hours, followed by written notice within 3 calendar days after that.

If your appeal is about benefit decisions related to clinical or medical necessity, a Standard Consultant Review will be conducted. A written decision will be provided within 30 calendar days of the receipt of the request for appeal.

If your appeal is about benefit decisions related to coverage, a Standard Administrative Review will be conducted. A written decision will be provided within 60 calendar days of the receipt of the request for appeal.

If we deny any part of your claim on review, you will receive a written notice of denial containing:

- a. The reasons for our decision.
- b. Reference to the parts of the Group Policy on which our decision is based.
- c. Reference to any internal rule or guideline relied upon in making our decision along with your right to receive a copy of these guidelines, free of charge, upon request.
- d. Information concerning your right to receive, free of charge, copies of non-privileged documents and records relevant to your claim.
- e. A statement that you may request an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment we relied upon to exclude expenses that are experimental or investigational, or are not necessary or accepted according to generally accepted standards of Eye Care practice.
- f. Information concerning your right to bring a civil action for benefits under section 502(a) of ERISA.

Certain state laws also require specified internal appeal procedures and/or external review processes. In addition to the review procedures defined above, you may also have additional rights provided to you under state law. Please review your certificate for such information, call us, or contact your state insurance regulatory agency for assistance. In any event, you need not exhaust such state law procedures prior to bringing civil action under Section 502(a) of ERISA.

Any request for appeal should be directed to:

Quality Control, P.O. Box 82657, Lincoln, NE 68501-2657.

Application is Hereby Made to

AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP.

by: CLEVELAND COUNTY SCHOOLS

whose main office address is: 400 W MARION ST
SHELBY, NC 28150-5338

for Group Policy No. 10-350890

This group policy is hereby approved. Its terms are hereby accepted.

This Acceptance Application is made in duplicate. One is attached to the policy. The other part has been returned to the Company.

It is agreed that this application supersedes any previous application for the group policy.

CLEVELAND COUNTY SCHOOLS

(Full or Corporate Name of Applicant)

Dated at _____ By _____
(Signature and Title)

On _____, 20__ Witness _____
(To be signed by Resident Agent where required by law)

This copy is to Remain Attached to the Policy

