

YOUR BENEFIT PLAN

Watauga County Schools

Basic Life Insurance

Optional Life Insurance

Dependent Life Insurance

MetLife[®]

Watauga County Schools
175 Pioneer Trail
Boone, NC 28607

TO OUR EMPLOYEES:

All of us appreciate the protection and security insurance provides.

This certificate describes the benefits that are available to you. We urge you to read it carefully.

Watauga County Schools

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Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
One Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10010-3690

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company ("MetLife"), a stock company, certifies that You and Your Dependents are insured for the benefits described in this certificate, subject to the provisions of this certificate. This certificate is issued to You under the Group Policy and it includes the terms and provisions of the Group Policy that describe Your insurance. **PLEASE READ THIS CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY.**

This certificate is part of the Group Policy. The Group Policy is a contract between MetLife and the Policyholder and may be changed or ended without Your consent or notice to You.

Policyholder: Watauga County Schools
Group Policy Number: 109803-1-G
Type of Insurance: Term Life Insurance
MetLife Toll Free Number(s):
For Claim Information FOR LIFE CLAIMS: 1-800-638-6420

THIS CERTIFICATE ONLY DESCRIBES LIFE INSURANCE. THE INSURANCE DESCRIBED DOES NOT PROVIDE BENEFITS FOR LOSS CAUSED BY SICKNESS.

THE BENEFITS OF THE POLICY PROVIDING YOU COVERAGE ARE GOVERNED PRIMARILY BY THE LAWS OF A STATE OTHER THAN FLORIDA.

THE GROUP INSURANCE POLICY PROVIDING COVERAGE UNDER THIS CERTIFICATE WAS ISSUED IN A JURISDICTION OTHER THAN MARYLAND AND MAY NOT PROVIDE ALL THE BENEFITS REQUIRED BY MARYLAND LAW.

For Residents of North Dakota: If you are not satisfied with your Certificate, You may return it to Us within 20 days after You receive it, unless a claim has previously been received by Us under Your Certificate. We will refund within 30 days of our receipt of the returned Certificate any Premium that has been paid and the Certificate will then be considered to have never been issued. You should be aware that, if you elect to return the Certificate for a refund of premiums, losses which otherwise would have been covered under your Certificate will not be covered.

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

For Texas Residents:

Para Residentes de Texas:

IMPORTANT NOTICE

AVISO IMPORTANTE

To obtain information or make a complaint:

Para obtener informacion o para someter una queja:

You may call MetLife's toll free telephone number for information or to make a complaint at

usted puede llamar al numero de telefono gratis de MetLife para informacion o para someter una queja al

1-800-638-6420

1-800-638-6420

You may contact the Texas Department of Insurance to obtain information on companies, coverages, rights or complaints at

Puede comunicarse con el Departamento de Seguros de Texas para obtener informacion acerca de companias, coberturas, derechos o quejas al

1-800-252-3439

1-800-252-3439

You may write the Texas Department of Insurance
P.O. Box 149104
Austin, TX 78714-9104
Fax # (512) 475-1771

Puede escribir al Departamento de Seguros de Texas
P.O. Box 149104
Austin, TX 78714-9104
Fax # (512) 475-1771

PREMIUM OR CLAIM DISPUTES: Should You have a dispute concerning Your premium or about a claim You should contact MetLife first. If the dispute is not resolved, You may contact the Texas Department of Insurance.

DISPUTAS SOBRE PRIMAS O RECLAMOS: Si tiene una disputa concerniente a su prima o a un reclamo, debe comunicarse con MetLife primero. Si no se resuelve la disputa, puede entonces comunicarse con el departamento (TDI).

ATTACH THIS NOTICE TO YOUR CERTIFICATE:
This notice is for information only and does not become a part or condition of the attached document.

UNA ESTE AVISO A SU CERTIFICADO:
Este aviso es solo para proposito de informacion y no se convierte en parte o condicion del documento adjunto.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALL STATES

LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS WILL BE REDUCED IF AN ACCELERATED BENEFIT IS PAID

DISCLOSURE: The Life Insurance accelerated benefit offered under this certificate is intended to qualify for favorable tax treatment under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. If this benefit qualifies for such favorable tax treatment, the benefit will be excludable from Your income and not subject to federal taxation. Tax laws relating to accelerated benefits are complex. You are advised to consult with a qualified tax advisor about circumstances under which You could receive an accelerated benefit excludable from income under federal law.

DISCLOSURE: Receipt of an accelerated benefit may affect Your, Your Spouse's or Your family's eligibility for public assistance programs such as Medical Assistance (Medicaid), Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), Supplementary Social Security Income (SSI), and drug assistance programs. You are advised to consult with a qualified tax advisor and with social service agencies concerning how receipt of such payment will affect Your, Your Spouse's and Your family's eligibility for public assistance.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ARKANSAS

If You have a question concerning Your coverage or a claim, first contact the Policyholder or group account administrator. If, after doing so, You still have a concern, You may call the toll free telephone number shown on the Certificate Face Page.

If You are still concerned after contacting both the Policyholder and MetLife, You should feel free to contact:

Arkansas Insurance Department
Consumer Services Division
1200 West Third
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1904
1-800-852-5494

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF CALIFORNIA

IMPORTANT NOTICE

TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, OR TO MAKE A COMPLAINT, CONTACT THE POLICYHOLDER OR THE METLIFE CLAIM OFFICE SHOWN ON THE EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS YOU RECEIVE AFTER FILING A CLAIM.

IF, AFTER CONTACTING THE POLICYHOLDER AND/OR METLIFE, YOU FEEL THAT A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION HAS NOT BEEN REACHED, YOU MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE CALIFORNIA INSURANCE DEPARTMENT AT:

**DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
300 SOUTH SPRING STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013
1 (800) 927-4357**

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF GEORGIA

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The laws of the state of Georgia prohibit insurers from unfairly discriminating against any person based upon his or her status as a victim of family violence.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF MINNESOTA

This is a life insurance policy which pays accelerated death benefits at your option under conditions specified in the policy. This policy is not a long-term care policy meeting the requirements of sections M.S.62A.46 to 62A.56 or chapter 62S.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ILLINOIS

IMPORTANT NOTICE

To make a complaint to MetLife you may write to:

MetLife
1 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10010

The address of the Illinois Department of Insurance is:

Illinois Department of Insurance
Public Services Division
Springfield, Illinois 62767

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF NORTH DAKOTA

FREE LOOK PERIOD FOR LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE

If You are not satisfied with Your certificate, You may return it to Us within 20 days after You receive it, unless a claim has previously been received by Us under Your certificate. We will refund within 30 days of Our receipt of the returned certificate any Premium that has been paid and the certificate will then be considered to have never been issued. You should be aware that, if You elect to return the certificate for a refund of premiums losses which otherwise would have been covered under Your certificate will not be covered.

CIVIL UNION NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF VERMONT

Vermont law provides that the following definitions apply to your certificate:

- Terms that mean or refer to a marital relationship, or that may be construed to mean or refer to a marital relationship, such as "marriage," "spouse," "husband," "wife," "dependent," "next of kin," "relative," "beneficiary," "survivor," "immediate family" and any other such terms include the relationship created by a Civil Union established according to Vermont law.
- Terms that mean or refer to the inception or dissolution of a marriage, such as "date of marriage," "divorce decree," "termination of marriage" and any other such terms include the inception or dissolution of a Civil Union established according to Vermont law.
- Terms that mean or refer to family relationships arising from a marriage, such as "family," "immediate family," "dependent," "children," "next of kin," "relative," "beneficiary," "survivor" and any other such terms include family relationships created by a Civil Union established according to Vermont law.
- "Dependent" includes a spouse, a party to a Civil Union established according to Vermont law, and a child or children (natural, step-child, legally adopted or a minor or disabled child who is dependent on the insured for support and maintenance) who is born to or brought to a marriage or to a Civil Union established according to Vermont law.
- "Child" includes a child (natural, stepchild, legally adopted or a minor or disabled child who is dependent on the insured for support and maintenance) who is born to or brought to a marriage or to a Civil Union established according to Vermont law.
- "Civil Union" means a civil union established pursuant to Act 91 of the 2000 Vermont Legislative Session, entitled "Act Relating to Civil Unions".

All references in this notice to Civil Unions are limited to Civil Unions in which the parties are residents of Vermont.

If dependent insurance for a spouse and/or child is not provided under your certificate, such insurance is not added by virtue of this notice.

For purposes of dependent insurance, any person who meets the definition of "dependent" as set forth in this notice is required to meet all other applicable requirements in order to qualify for such insurance.

This notice does not limit any definitions or terms included in your certificate. It broadens definitions and terms only to the extent required by Vermont law.

DISCLOSURE:

Vermont law grants parties to a Civil Union the same benefits, protections and responsibilities that flow from marriage under state law. However, some or all of the benefits, protections and responsibilities related to life and health insurance that are available to married persons under federal law may not be available to parties to a Civil Union. For example, a federal law, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 known as "ERISA", controls the employer/employee relationship with regard to determining eligibility for enrollment in private employer benefit plans. Because of ERISA, Act 91 does not state requirements pertaining to a private employer's enrollment of a party to a Civil Union in an ERISA employee benefit plan. However, governmental employers (not federal government) are required to provide life and health benefits to the dependents of a party to a Civil Union if the public employer provides such benefits to dependents of married persons. Federal law also controls group health insurance continuation rights under "COBRA" for employers with 20 or more employees as well as the Internal Revenue Code treatment of insurance premiums. As a result, parties to a Civil Union and their families may or may not have access to certain benefits under this notice and the certificate to which it is attached that derive from federal law. You are advised to seek expert advice to determine your rights under this notice and the certificate to which it is attached.

FOR RESIDENTS OF VIRGINIA

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR INSURANCE

In the event you need to contact someone about this insurance for any reason please contact your agent. If no agent was involved in the sale of this insurance, or if you have additional questions you may contact the insurance company issuing this insurance at the following address and telephone number:

MetLife
1 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10010
Attn: Corporate Customer Relations Department

To phone in a claim related question, you may call Claims Customer Service at:
1-800-275-4638

If you have been unable to contact or obtain satisfaction from the company or the agent, you may contact the Virginia State Corporation Commission's Bureau of Insurance at:

Life and Health Division
Bureau of Insurance
P.O. Box 1157
Richmond, VA 23209
1-800-552-7945 - In-state toll-free
1-804-786-3741 - Out-of-state

Written correspondence is preferable so that a record of your inquiry is maintained. When contacting your agent, company or the Bureau of Insurance, have your policy number available.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF WEST VIRGINIA

FREE LOOK PERIOD:

If You are not satisfied with Your certificate, You may return it to Us within 10 days after You receive it, unless a claim has previously been received by Us under Your certificate. We will refund within 10 days of our receipt of the returned certificate any Premium that has been paid and the certificate will then be considered to have never been issued. You should be aware that, if You elect to return the certificate for a refund of premiums, losses which otherwise would have been covered under Your certificate will not be covered.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF WISCONSIN

KEEP THIS NOTICE WITH YOUR INSURANCE PAPERS

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

MetLife
Attn: Corporate Consumer Relations Department
1 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10010-3690
1-800-638-5433

You can also contact the **OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE**, a state agency which enforces Wisconsin's insurance laws, and file a complaint. You can contact the **OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE** by contacting:

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

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALL STATES FRAUD WARNING

If You have applied for insurance under a policy issued in one of the following states, or if You reside in one of the following states, note the following applicable warning:

For Residents of New York - only applies to Accident and Health Insurance (AD&D/Disability/Dental)

Any person who knowingly and with intent to defraud any insurance company or other person files an application for insurance or statement of claim containing any materially false information, or conceals for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any fact material thereto, commits a fraudulent insurance act, which is a crime, and shall also be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars and the stated value of the claim for each such violation.

For Residents of Florida

Any person who knowingly and with intent to injure, defraud or deceive any insurer files a statement of claim or an application containing any false, incomplete or misleading information is guilty of a felony of the third degree.

For Residents of Kansas and Massachusetts

Any person who knowingly and with intent to defraud any insurance company or other person files an application for insurance or a statement of claim containing any materially false information or conceals, for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any fact material thereto commits a fraudulent insurance act, and may subject such person to criminal and civil penalties.

For Residents of New Jersey

Any person who includes any false or misleading information on an application for an insurance policy or who knowingly files a statement of claim containing any false or misleading information is subject to criminal and civil penalties.

For Residents of Oklahoma

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

For Residents of Oregon

Any person who knowingly and with intent to defraud any insurance company or other person files an application for insurance containing any materially false information or conceals, for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any fact material thereto may be guilty of insurance fraud, and may be subject to criminal and civil penalties.

For Residents of Virginia

Any person who, with the intent to defraud or knowing that he is facilitating a fraud against an insurer, submits an application or statement of claim containing a false or deceptive statement may have violated state law.

For Residents of All Other States

Any person who knowingly and with intent to defraud any insurance company or other person files an application for insurance or a statement of claim containing any materially false information or conceals, for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any fact material thereto commits a fraudulent insurance act, which is a crime and subjects such person to criminal and civil penalties.

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SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS

This schedule shows the benefits that are available under the Group Policy. You and Your Dependents will only be insured for the benefits:

- for which You and Your Dependents become and remain eligible;
- which You elect, if subject to election; and
- which are in effect.

BENEFIT

BENEFIT AMOUNT AND HIGHLIGHTS

Life Insurance For You

Basic Life Insurance

For All Employees:

For Active Employees	\$1,000
Accelerated Benefit Option	None

Optional Life Insurance

For All Employees:

For Active Employees who elect:

Option 1	\$10,000
Option 2	\$20,000
Option 3	\$30,000
Option 4	\$40,000
Option 5	\$50,000
Option 6	\$100,000

Maximum Optional Life Benefit

\$100,000

Non-Medical Issue Amount

\$50,000

Accelerated Benefit Option

Up to 50% of Your Optional Life amount not to exceed \$50,000.

SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (continued)

If You Are Age 70 Or Older

If You are age 70 or older on Your effective date of insurance, the appropriate percentage from the following table will be applied to the amount of Your Life Insurance on Your effective date of insurance adjusted for any later changes in Your salary.

If You are under age 70 on the effective date of Your insurance, the amount of Your Life insurance on and after age 70 will be determined by applying the appropriate percentage from the following table to the amount of Your insurance in effect on the day before Your 70th birthday, adjusted for any later changes in Your salary:

<u>Age of Employee</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
70 but less than 75	65%
75 but less than 80	45%
80 and older	30%

Life Insurance For Your Dependents

For Spouse And Child:

For Your Spouse

Option 1	\$10,000
Option 2	\$20,000
Maximum dependent life benefit.....	\$20,000
Non-Medical Issue Amount.....	\$10,000
Accelerated Benefit Option	Up to 50% of Your Dependent Life amount not to exceed \$10,000.
For each of Your Children.....	\$5,000

If Your Spouse is age 70 or older on his effective date of insurance, Life Insurance is not available. If Your Spouse is under age 70 on his effective date of insurance, the Spouse's Life Insurance will end on the date he attains age 70.

DEFINITIONS

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

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

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

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

Beneficiary means the person(s) to whom We will pay insurance as determined in accordance with the General Provisions section.

Child means the following:

Your natural child, adopted or stepchild who is:

- at least 15 days old, under age 19; or
- under age 26 and who is:
 - a full-time student at an accredited school, college or university that is licensed in the jurisdiction where it is located;
 - unmarried
 - supported by you; and
 - not employed on a full-time basis.

The term does not include any person who:

- is in the military of any country or subdivision of any country;
- lives outside of the United States or Canada; or
- a person who is insured under the Group Policy as an employee.

Contributory Insurance means insurance for which the Policyholder requires You to pay any part of the premium.

Contributory Insurance includes: Optional Life Insurance and Dependent Life Insurance.

Dependent(s) means Your Spouse and/or Child.

Full-Time means Active Work on the Policyholder's regular work schedule for the eligible class of employees to which You belong. The work schedule must be at least 30 hours a week.

Hospital means a facility which is licensed as such in the jurisdiction in which it is located and:

- provides a broad range of medical and surgical services on a 24 hour a day basis for injured and sick persons by or under the supervision of a staff of Physicians; and
- provides a broad range of nursing care on a 24 hour a day basis by or under the direction of a registered professional nurse.

DEFINITIONS (continued)

Hospitalized means:

- admission for inpatient care in a Hospital;
- receipt of care in the following:
 - a hospice facility; or
 - an intermediate care facility; or
 - a long term care facility; or
- receipt of the following treatment, wherever performed:
 - chemotherapy; or
 - radiation therapy; or
 - dialysis.

Noncontributory Insurance means insurance for which the Policyholder does not require You to pay any part of the premium.

Physician means:

- a person licensed to practice medicine in the jurisdiction where such services are performed; or
- any other person whose services, according to applicable law, must be treated as Physician's services for purposes of the Group Policy. Each such person must be licensed in the jurisdiction where he performs the service and must act within the scope of that license. He must also be certified and/or registered if required by such jurisdiction.

The term does not include:

- You;
- Your Spouse; or
- any member of Your immediate family including Your and/or Your Spouse's:
 - parents;
 - children (natural, step or adopted);
 - siblings;
 - grandparents;
 - or grandchildren.

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

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

Proof must be provided at the claimant's expense.

Signed means any symbol or method executed or adopted by a person with the present intention to authenticate a record, which is on or transmitted by paper or electronic media which is acceptable to Us and consistent with applicable law.

DEFINITIONS (continued)

Spouse means Your lawful Spouse.

The term does not include any person who:

- is in the military of any country or subdivision of any country;
- lives outside of the United States or Canada; or
- is insured under the Group Policy as an employee.

We, Us and **Our** mean MetLife.

Written or **Writing** means a record which is on or transmitted by paper or electronic media which is acceptable to Us and consistent with applicable law.

You and **Your** mean an employee who is insured under the Group Policy for the insurance described in this certificate.

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU

ELIGIBLE CLASS(ES)

All Full-Time employees of the Policyholder.

DATE YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR INSURANCE

You may only become eligible for the insurance available for Your eligible class as shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

If You are in an eligible class on July 1, 2003, You will be eligible for the insurance described in this certificate on that date.

If You enter an eligible class after July 1, 2003, You will be eligible for insurance on the first day of the month following the date You enter that class.

ENROLLMENT PROCESS

If You are eligible for insurance, You may enroll for such insurance by completing the required form. In addition, You must give evidence of Your Insurability satisfactory to Us at Your expense if You are required to do so under the section entitled EVIDENCE OF INSURABILITY. If You enroll for Contributory Insurance, You must also give the Policyholder written permission to deduct premiums from Your pay for such insurance. You will be notified by the Policyholder how much You will be required to contribute.

Previous Employment With The Policyholder

If You were employed by the Policyholder and insured by Us under a policy of group life insurance when Your employment ended, You will not be eligible for life insurance under this Group Policy if You are re-hired by the Policyholder within 2 years after such employment ended, unless You surrender any individual policy of life insurance to which You converted when Your employment ended.

The cash value, if any, of such surrendered insurance will be paid to You.

The insurance listed below is part of a flexible benefits plan established by the Policyholder. Subject to the rules of the flexible benefits plan and the Group Policy, you may enroll for:

- Life Insurance For You;

only when You are first eligible or during an annual enrollment period or if You have a Qualifying Event . You should contact the Policyholder for more information regarding the flexible benefits plan.

DATE YOUR INSURANCE THAT IS PART OF THE FLEXIBLE BENEFITS PLAN TAKES EFFECT

Enrollment When First Eligible

If You complete the enrollment process within 31 days of becoming eligible for insurance, such insurance will take effect as follows:

- if You are **not required** to give evidence of Your insurability, such insurance will take effect on the date You become eligible for such insurance if You are Actively at Work on that date. You are not required to give evidence of Your insurability for Basic Life Insurance.
- if You are **required** to give evidence of Your insurability and We determine that You are insurable, the benefit will take effect on the date We state in Writing, provided You are Actively at Work on that date.

If You do not complete the enrollment process within 31 days of becoming eligible, You will not be able to enroll for insurance until the next annual enrollment period, as determined by the Policyholder, following the date You first became eligible. At that time You will be able to enroll for insurance for which You are then eligible.

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU (continued)

If You are not Actively at Work on the date insurance would otherwise take effect, insurance will take effect on the day You resume Active Work. In addition to having been Actively at Work on the date Your Life Insurance benefit is to take effect, You must also have been Actively at Work for at least 20 hours during the 7 calendar days preceding that date.

Enrollment During First Annual Enrollment Period Following the Date You Became Eligible

If You complete the enrollment process at the first annual enrollment period following the date You became eligible for such insurance, such insurance will take effect as follows:

- **If You are not required** to give evidence of Your insurability, such insurance will take effect on the first day of the month following the annual enrollment period, if You are Actively at Work on that day. You are not required to give evidence of Your insurability for Basic Life Insurance.
- if You are **required** to give evidence of Your insurability and We determine that You are insurable, such insurance will take effect on the date We state in Writing, if You are Actively at Work on that date.

If You are not Actively at Work on the date insurance would otherwise take effect, insurance will take effect on the day You resume Active Work. In addition to having been Actively at Work on the date Your Life Insurance benefit is to take effect, You must also have been Actively at Work for at least 20 hours during the 7 calendar days preceding that date.

Enrollment During Any Subsequent Annual Enrollment Period

During any annual enrollment period **as determined by the Policyholder**, You may enroll for insurance for which You are eligible or choose a different option than the one for which you are currently enrolled. The insurance enrolled for changes to Your insurance made during an annual enrollment period will take effect as follows:

- for any amount for which You are **not required** to give evidence of Your insurability, such insurance will take effect on the first day of the month following the annual enrollment period, if You are Actively at Work on that day. You are not required to give evidence of Your insurability for Basic Life Insurance.
- for any amount for which You are **required** to give evidence of Your insurability and We determine that You are insurable, such insurance will take effect on the date We state in Writing, if You are Actively at Work on that date.

If You are not Actively at Work on the date an amount of insurance would otherwise take effect, that amount of insurance will take effect on the day You resume Active Work. For a Contributory Life Insurance Benefit to take effect, in addition to having been Actively at Work on the date the insurance benefit is to take effect, You must also have been Actively at Work for at least 20 hours during the 7 calendar days preceding that date.

Enrollment Due to a Qualifying Event

Under the rules of the flexible benefit plan, You may enroll for insurance for which You are eligible or change the amount of Your insurance between annual enrollment periods only if You have a Qualifying Event.

If You have a Qualifying Event, You will have 31 days from the date of that change to make a request. This request must be consistent with the nature of the Qualifying Event. The insurance enrolled for or changes to Your insurance made as a result of a Qualifying Event will take effective on the first day of the month following the date of your request, if You are Actively at Work on that date.

If You are not Actively at Work on the date insurance would otherwise take effect, insurance will take effect on the day You resume Active Work.

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU (continued)

Qualifying Event includes:

- marriage.
- the birth, adoption or placement for adoption of a dependent child.
- divorce, legal separation or annulment.
- the death of a dependent.
- a change in Your or Your dependent's employment status, such as beginning or ending employment, strike, lockout, taking or ending a leave of absence, changes in worksite or work schedule, if it causes You or Your dependent to gain or lose eligibility for group coverage.

DATE YOUR INSURANCE ENDS

Your insurance will end on the earliest of:

1. the date the Group Policy ends; or
2. the date insurance ends for Your class; or
3. the end of the period for which the last premium has been paid for You; or
4. for Basic Life Insurance, the date Your employment ends; Your employment will end if You cease to be Actively at Work in any eligible class, except as stated in the section entitled CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT; or
5. for Basic Life Insurance, the date You retire in accordance with the Policyholder's retirement plan; or
6. for Optional Life Insurance, the date Your employment ends; Your employment will end if You cease to be Actively at Work in any eligible class, except as stated in the section entitled CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT; or
7. for Optional Life Insurance, the date You retire in accordance with the Policyholder's retirement plan.

Please refer to the section entitled LIFE INSURANCE: CONVERSION OPTION FOR YOU for information concerning the option to convert to an individual policy of life insurance if Your Life Insurance ends.

Please refer to the section entitled CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT for information concerning Continuation For Family and Medical Leave, continuation for employees who choose portability.

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS

ELIGIBLE CLASS(ES) FOR DEPENDENT INSURANCE

All Full Time employees of the Policyholder.

DATE YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR DEPENDENT INSURANCE

You may only become eligible for the Dependent insurance available for Your eligible class as shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

If You are in an eligible class on July 1, 2003, You will be eligible for Dependent insurance on the later of:

1. the first day of the month following the date You enter a class eligible for insurance;
2. the date You enter a class eligible for insurance; and
3. the date You obtain a Dependent.

If You enter an eligible class after July 1, 2003, You will be eligible for Dependent insurance on the later of:

1. the first day of the month following the date You enter a class eligible for insurance; and
2. the date You obtain a Dependent.

No person may be insured as a Dependent of more than one employee.

ENROLLMENT PROCESS

If You are eligible for Dependent insurance, You may enroll for such insurance by completing an enrollment form for each Dependent to be insured. In addition, each of Your Dependents must give evidence of his insurability satisfactory to Us at Your expense if required to do so under the section entitled EVIDENCE OF INSURABILITY. If You enroll for Contributory Insurance, You must also give the Policyholder written permission to deduct premiums from Your pay for such insurance. You will be notified by the Policyholder how much You will be required to contribute.

The insurance listed below is part of a flexible benefits plan established by the Policyholder. Subject to the rules of the flexible benefits plan and the Group Policy, you may enroll for:

- Dependent Life Insurance;

only at certain times. You should contact the Policyholder for more information regarding the flexible benefits plan.

When You become eligible under the flexible benefits plan, You may choose an option for Dependent Life Insurance .

DATE INSURANCE THAT IS PART OF THE FLEXIBLE BENEFITS PLAN TAKES EFFECT FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS

If You complete the enrollment process for Dependent insurance within 31 days of becoming eligible for insurance, such insurance will take effect for each enrolled Dependent as follows:

- if the Dependent is **not required** to give evidence of his insurability, such insurance will take effect on the date You become eligible for such insurance if You are Actively at Work on that date and the Dependent satisfies the Additional Requirement stated below.
- if the Dependent is **required** to give evidence of his insurability and We determine that the Dependent is insurable, such insurance will take effect on the date We state in Writing, if You are Actively at Work on that date and the Dependent satisfies the Additional Requirements stated below.

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS (continued)

If You do not complete the enrollment process for any Dependent within 31 days of becoming eligible, You will not be able to enroll for Dependent insurance until the next annual enrollment period, as determined by the Policyholder, in accordance with the rules of the flexible benefits plan. At that time You will be able to enroll for Dependent insurance:

- for which You are then eligible; and
- for Your Dependents who are then eligible.

If You are not Actively at Work on the date Dependent insurance would otherwise take effect, insurance will take effect on the day You resume Active Work.

Enrollment During the Annual Enrollment Period

During any annual enrollment period, You may enroll for Dependent insurance for which You are eligible or change the amount of Your Dependent insurance. The insurance enrolled for or changes to Your insurance made during annual enrollment period will take effect for each enrolled Dependent as follows:

- If the Dependent is **not required** to give evidence of his insurability, such insurance will take effect on the first day of the month following annual enrollment period, if You are Actively at Work on that day and the Dependent satisfies the Additional Requirement stated below.
- If the Dependent is **required** to give evidence of his insurability and We determine that the Dependent is insurable, such insurance will take effect on the date We state in Writing, if You are Actively at Work on that date and the Dependent satisfies the Additional Requirement stated below.

If You are not Actively at Work on the date Dependent insurance would otherwise take effect, insurance will take effect on the day You resume Active Work.

Enrollment Due to a Qualifying Event

Under the rules of the flexible benefit plan, You may enroll for Dependent insurance for which You are eligible or change the amount of Your Dependent insurance between annual enrollment periods only if You have a Qualifying Event.

Qualifying Event includes:

- marriage.
- birth, adoption or placement for adoption of a dependent child.
- divorce, legal separation or annulment.
- death of a dependent.
- a change in Your or Your dependent's employment status, such as beginning or ending employment, strike, lockout, taking or ending a leave of absence, changes in worksite or work schedule, if it causes You or Your dependent to gain or lose eligibility for group coverage.

If You have a Qualifying Event, You will have 31 days from the date of that change to make a request. This request must be consistent with the nature of the Qualifying Event. The insurance enrolled for or changes to Your insurance made as a result of a Qualifying Event will take effect for each enrolled Dependent as follows:

- If the Dependent is **not required** to give evidence of his insurability, such insurance will take effect on the first day of the month following the date of Your request, if You are Actively at Work on that date and the Dependent satisfies the Additional Requirement stated below.
- If the Dependent is **required** to give evidence of his insurability and We determine that the Dependent is insurable, such insurance will take effect on the date We state in Writing, if You are Actively at Work on that date and the Dependent satisfies the Additional Requirement stated below.

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS (continued)

If You are not Actively at Work on the date insurance would otherwise take effect, insurance will take effect on the day You resume Active Work.

Additional Requirement

On the date a Dependent insurance is scheduled to take effect, the Dependent must not be:

- confined at home under a Physician's care;
- receiving or applying to receive disability insurance from any source; or
- Hospitalized.

If the Dependent does not meet this requirement on such date, insurance for the Dependent will take effect on the date he is no longer:

- confined;
- receiving or applying to receive disability insurance from any source; or
- Hospitalized.

DATE YOUR INSURANCE FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS ENDS

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

1. for Dependent Life Insurance, the date all of the Life Insurance under the Group Policy ends;
2. the date You die;
3. the date the Group Policy ends;
4. the date Insurance for Your Dependents ends under the Group Policy;
5. the date Insurance for Your Dependents ends for Your class;
6. for a Spouse, Life insurance will end on the last day of the calendar month the Spouse attains age 70;
7. the last day of the calendar month in which the person ceases to be a Dependent;
8. the date Your employment ends; Your employment will end if You cease to be Actively at Work in any eligible class, except as stated in the section entitled CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT;
9. the end of the period for which the last premium has been paid for the Dependent.

Please refer to the section entitled LIFE INSURANCE: CONVERSION OPTION FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS for information concerning the option to convert to an individual policy of life insurance if Life Insurance for a Dependent ends.

Please refer to the section entitled CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT for information concerning Continuation For Family and Medical Leave.

CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT

FOR MENTALLY OR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Insurance for a Dependent Child may be continued past the age limit if the Child is incapable of self-sustaining employment because of a mental handicap as defined by applicable law. Proof of such handicap must be sent to Us within 31 days after the date the Child attains the age limit and at reasonable intervals after such date, but not more frequently than annually.

Subject to the Date Insurance for Your Dependents Ends subsection of the section entitled ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS, insurance will continue while such Child:

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

FOR FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

Certain leaves of absence may qualify under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) for continuation of insurance. Please contact the Policyholder for information regarding the FMLA.

AT YOUR OPTION: PORTABILITY

For purposes of this section the term "Portability Eligible Insurance" refers to Optional Life Insurance.

You may request in Writing during the Request Period specified below to continue Your Portability Eligible Insurance under another group policy if such insurance ends because:

- Your employment ends; or
- You cease to be in a class that is eligible for such insurance.

If You request this option, evidence of Your insurability will not be required. We will issue a new certificate of insurance to You which will explain Your new insurance benefits. Your insurance benefits under the new certificate may not be the same as those that ended under the Group Policy. This type of continuation of Portability Eligible Insurance is referred to as "portability".

You may make this request if, on the date of Your request, the following requirements are met:

- the Group Policy is in effect;
- We have not received notice from the Policyholder of its intent to end the Group Policy;
- You have not applied to convert Your Portability Eligible Insurance to an individual policy of insurance as provided in the section entitled LIFE INSURANCE: CONVERSION OPTION FOR YOU; and You reside in a jurisdiction that permits portability.

Request Period. To continue Your Portability Eligible Insurance under a different group policy, We must receive a completed request form from You within the Request Period described below.

If You are given Written notice of the option to continue Portability Eligible Insurance within 15 days before or after the date such insurance ends, the Request Period begins on the date the insurance ends and expires 31 days after such date.

If You are given Written notice of the option to continue Portability Eligible Insurance more than 15 days after but within 90 days of the date such insurance ends, the Request Period begins on the date the insurance ends and expires 45 days after the date of the notice.

If You are not given Written notice of the option to continue Portability Eligible Insurance within 90 days after the date such insurance ends, the Request Period begins on the date the insurance ends and expires at the end of such 90 day period.

Amount of the New Certificate

CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT (continued)

The maximum amount of Life Insurance that may be continued is the lesser of:
the total amount of all such insurance in effect immediately prior to the date it ends; and
\$1,000,000.

Premiums for the New Certificate. When You request to continue Portability Eligible Life Insurance under this subsection, You must pay the first premium due during the Request Period. All premium payments must be made directly to us. When we issue the new certificate to You, We will also provide You with a schedule of premiums and payment instructions.

If You Die During the Request Period. If You die during the Request Period and an application for a new certificate was not received by Us during the Request Period, We will pay Life Insurance in accordance with the section entitled LIFE INSURANCE: CONVERSION OPTION FOR YOU. If an application for a new certificate was received by Us during the Request Period, we will only pay benefits for Portability Eligible Life Insurance in accordance with this subsection.

AT THE POLICYHOLDER'S OPTION

The Policyholder has elected to continue insurance by paying premiums for his employees who cease Active Work in an eligible class for any of the reasons specified below.

1. if You cease Active Work due to injury or sickness contact the Policyholder to determine if Your insurance can be continued and for how long;
2. if You cease Active Work due to strike contact the Policyholder to determine if Your insurance can be continued and for how long;
3. if You cease Active Work due to layoff contact the Policyholder to determine if Your insurance can be continued and for how long;
4. if You cease Active Work due to any other Policyholder approved leave of absence discuss with the Policyholder at the time You receive approval to take the leave of absence whether Your insurance can be continued and for how long.

At the end of any of the continuation periods listed above, Your insurance will be affected as follows:

- if You resume Active Work in an eligible class at this time, You will continue to be insured under the Group Policy;
- if You do not resume Active Work in an eligible class at this time, Your employment will be considered to end and Your insurance will end in accordance with the Date Your Insurance Ends subsection of the section entitled ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU.

If Your insurance ends, Your Dependents' insurance will also end in accordance with the Date Insurance For Your Dependents Ends subsection of the section entitled ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS.

EVIDENCE OF INSURABILITY

We require evidence of insurability satisfactory to Us as follows:

1. In order to become covered for an amount of Optional Life Insurance greater than the Non-Medical Issue Amount as shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

If You do not give Us evidence of Your insurability, or if such evidence of insurability is not accepted by Us as satisfactory, the amount of Your Optional Life Insurance will be limited to the Non-Medical Issue Amount.

2. If You make a request during an annual enrollment period to increase the amount of Your Optional Life Insurance.

If You do not give Us evidence of insurability or the evidence of insurability is not accepted by Us as satisfactory, the amount of Your Optional Life Insurance will not be increased.

3. If You make a request within **31 days of a Qualifying Event** to increase the amount of Your Optional Life Insurance.

If You do not give Us evidence of insurability or the evidence of insurability is not accepted by Us as satisfactory, the amount of Your Optional Life Insurance will not be increased.

The Non-Medical Issue Limit is shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

4. When You make a late request for Optional Life Insurance. A late request is one made more than 31 days after You become eligible.

If You do not give Us evidence of insurability or the evidence of insurability is not accepted by Us as satisfactory, You will not be covered for Optional Life Insurance.

5. In order to become covered for an amount of Life Insurance for Your Dependent Spouse greater than the Non-Medical Issue Amount for Your Dependent Spouse as shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

If You do not give Us evidence of the insurability of Your Dependent Spouse, or if such evidence of insurability is not accepted by Us as satisfactory, the amount of Life Insurance for Your Dependent Spouse will be limited to the Non-Medical Issue Amount for Your Dependent Spouse.

6. If You make a request to increase the amount of Life Insurance for Your Dependent Spouse.

If You do not give Us evidence of the insurability of Your Dependent Spouse, or if such evidence of insurability is not accepted by Us as satisfactory, the amount of Life Insurance for Your Dependent Spouse will not be increased.

7. If You make a request within 31 days of a Qualifying Event to increase the amount of Your Life Insurance for Dependent Spouse.

If You do not give Us evidence of insurability or the evidence of insurability is not accepted by Us as satisfactory, the amount of Your Dependent Spouse's Life Insurance will not be increased.

The Non-Medical Issue Limit is shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

8. If You make a late request for Life Insurance for Your Dependents. A late request is one made more than 31 days after Your Dependent becomes eligible.

If You do not give Us evidence of insurability or the evidence of insurability is not accepted by Us as satisfactory, Your Dependents will not be covered for Life Insurance.

The evidence of insurability is to be given at Your expense.

LIFE INSURANCE: FOR YOU

If You die, Proof of Your death must be sent to Us. When we receive such Proof with the claim, we will review the claim and, if We approve it, will pay the Beneficiary the Life Insurance in effect on the date of Your death.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

We will pay the Life Insurance in one sum. Other modes of payment may be available upon request. For details, call Our toll free number shown on the Certificate Face Page.

LIFE INSURANCE: FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS

If a Dependent dies, Proof of the Dependent's death must be sent to Us. When We receive such Proof with the claim, We will review the claim and, if We approve it, will pay the Beneficiary the Life Insurance in effect on the life of such Dependent on the date of death.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

We will pay the Life Insurance in one sum. Other modes of payment may be available upon request. For details, call Our toll free number shown on the Certificate Face Page.

LIFE INSURANCE: ACCELERATED BENEFIT OPTION (ABO) FOR YOU

For purposes of this section, the term "ABO Eligible Life Insurance" refers to each of Your Life Insurance benefits for which the Accelerated Benefit Option is shown as available in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

If You become Terminally Ill, You or Your legal representative have the option to request Us to pay ABO Eligible Life Insurance before Your death. This is called an accelerated benefit. The request must be made while ABO Eligible Life Insurance is in effect.

Terminally Ill or Terminal Illness means that due to injury or sickness, You are expected to die within 6 months.

Requirements For Payment of an Accelerated Benefit

Subject to the conditions and requirements of this section, We will pay an accelerated benefit to You or Your legal representative if:

- the amount of each ABO Eligible Life Insurance benefit to be accelerated equals or exceeds \$10,000; and
- The ABO Eligible Life Insurance to be accelerated has not been assigned; and
- We have received Proof that You are Terminally Ill.

We will only pay an accelerated benefit for each ABO Eligible Life Insurance benefit once.

Proof of Your Terminal Illness

We will require the following Proof of Your Terminal Illness:

- a completed accelerated benefit claim form;
- a signed Physician's certification that You are Terminally Ill; and
- an examination by a Physician of Our choice, at Our expense, if We request it.

You or Your legal representative should contact the Policyholder to obtain a claim form and information regarding the accelerated benefit.

Upon Our receipt of Your request to accelerate benefits, We will send You a letter with information about the accelerated benefit payment You requested. Our letter will describe the amount of the accelerated benefits We will pay and the amount of Life Insurance remaining after the accelerated benefit is paid.

Accelerated Benefit Amount

We will pay an accelerated benefit up to the percentage shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS for each ABO Eligible Life Insurance benefit in effect for You, subject to the following:

Maximum accelerated benefit amount. The maximum amount We will pay for each ABO Eligible Life Insurance benefit is shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

Interest and Expense Charge. We will decrease the amount of the accelerated benefit We will pay by a discount for the mortality and interest for the actuarially determined life span which includes an administrative charge. This discount is referred to as the Interest and Expense Charge.

The maximum interest rate We will use will be the then current maximum adjustable policy loan interest rate based on Moody's Corporate Bond Yield Averages - Monthly Corporate Averages, published by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. or its successor for the calendar month ending 2 months before the date that You or Your legal representative request an accelerated benefit.

Scheduled reduction of an ABO Eligible Life Insurance benefit. If an ABO Eligible Life Insurance benefit is scheduled to reduce within the 6 month period after the date You or Your legal

LIFE INSURANCE: ACCELERATED BENEFIT OPTION (ABO) FOR YOU (continued)

representative request an accelerated benefit, We will calculate the accelerated benefit using the amount of such ABO Eligible Life Insurance that will be in effect immediately after the reduction(s) scheduled for such period.

Scheduled end of ABO Eligible Life Insurance Benefit. If an ABO Eligible Life Insurance is scheduled to end within 6 months after the date You or Your legal representative request an accelerated benefit, We will not pay an accelerated benefit for such ABO Eligible Life Insurance benefit.

Previous conversion of an ABO Eligible Life Insurance Benefit. We will not pay an accelerated benefit for any amount of ABO Eligible Life Insurance which You previously converted under the section entitled LIFE INSURANCE: CONVERSION OPTION FOR YOU.

We will pay the accelerated benefit in one sum unless You or Your legal representative select another payment mode.

Effect of Payment of an Accelerated Benefit

On premium for Your Life Insurance. After We pay the accelerated benefit, any premium You are required to pay will be based upon the amount of Your Life Insurance remaining after the accelerated benefit is paid.

On Your Life Insurance at Your death. The amount of Life Insurance that We will pay at Your death will be decreased by:

- the amount of the accelerated benefit paid by Us; and
- the Interest and Expense Charge.

On Your Life Insurance at conversion. The amount to which You are entitled to convert under the section entitled LIFE INSURANCE: CONVERSION OPTION FOR YOU, will be decreased by:

- the amount of the accelerated benefit paid by Us; and
- the Interest and Expense Charge.

Date Your Option to Accelerate Benefits Ends

The accelerated benefit option will end on the earliest of:

- the date You attain age 63;
- the date the ABO Eligible Life Insurance ends;
- the date You or Your legal representative assign all ABO Eligible Life Insurance; or
- the date You or Your legal representative have accelerated all ABO Eligible Life Insurance benefits.

LIFE INSURANCE: ACCELERATED BENEFIT OPTION (ABO) FOR YOUR SPOUSE

If Your Spouse becomes Terminally Ill, You or Your legal representative have the option to request Us to pay Life Insurance for Your Spouse before his death. This is called an accelerated benefit. The request must be made while Life Insurance for Your Spouse is in effect.

Terminally Ill or Terminal Illness means that due to injury or sickness, Your Spouse is expected to die within 6 months.

Requirements For Payment of an Accelerated Benefit

Subject to the conditions and requirements of this section, We will pay an accelerated benefit to You or Your legal representative if:

- the amount of Life Insurance for the Terminally Ill Spouse equals or exceeds \$10,000; and
- The ABO Eligible Life Insurance to be accelerated has not been assigned; and
- We have received Proof that Your Spouse is Terminally Ill.

We will only pay an accelerated benefit for Life Insurance for Your Spouse once.

Proof of Your Spouse's Terminal Illness

We will require the following Proof of Your Spouse's Terminal Illness:

- a completed accelerated benefit claim form;
- a signed Physician's certification that Your Spouse is Terminally Ill; and
- an examination by a Physician of Our choice, at Our expense, if We request it.

You or Your legal representative should contact the Policyholder to obtain a claim form and information regarding the accelerated benefit.

Upon Our receipt of Your request to accelerate benefits, We will send You a letter with information about the accelerated benefit payment You requested. Our letter will describe the amount of the accelerated benefits We will pay and the amount of Life Insurance remaining after the accelerated benefit is paid.

Accelerated Benefit Amount

We will pay an accelerated benefit up to the percentage shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS for the amount of Life Insurance in effect for a Terminally Ill Spouse, subject to the following:

Maximum accelerated benefit amount. The maximum amount We will pay is shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

Interest and Expense Charge. We will decrease the amount of the accelerated benefit We will pay by a discount for the mortality and interest for the actuarially determined life span which includes an administrative charge. This discount is referred to as the Interest and Expense Charge.

The maximum interest rate We will use will be the then maximum adjustable policy loan interest rate based on Moody's Corporate Bond Yield Averages - Monthly Corporate Averages, published by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. or its successor for the calendar month ending 2 months before the date that You or Your legal representative request an accelerated benefit.

Scheduled reduction of Life Insurance for a Terminally Ill Spouse. If the Life Insurance in effect for a Terminally Ill Spouse is scheduled to reduce within the 6 month period after the date You or Your legal representative request an accelerated benefit, We will calculate the accelerated benefit using the amount of Life Insurance that will be in effect for Your Spouse immediately after the reduction(s) scheduled for such period.

LIFE INSURANCE: ACCELERATED BENEFIT OPTION (ABO) FOR YOUR SPOUSE (continued)

Scheduled end of Life Insurance for a Terminally Ill Spouse. If the Life Insurance in effect for a Terminally Ill Spouse is scheduled to end within 6 months after the date You or Your legal representative request an accelerated benefit, We will not pay an accelerated benefit.

We will pay the accelerated benefit in one sum unless You or Your legal representative select another payment mode.

Effect of Payment of an Accelerated Benefit

On Premium for Life Insurance. Any premium You are required to pay for Life Insurance for Your Spouse for whom We paid an accelerated benefit will be based upon the amount of Life Insurance for Your Spouse remaining after payment of the accelerated benefit.

On Payment of Life Insurance at a Dependent's death. The amount of Life Insurance that We will pay at death of Your Spouse for whom We paid an accelerated benefit will be decreased by:

- the amount of the accelerated benefit paid by Us for Your Spouse; and
- the Interest and Expense Charge.

On Life Insurance at conversion. The amount to which Your Spouse for whom We paid an accelerated benefit is entitled to convert under the section entitled LIFE INSURANCE: CONVERSION OPTION FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS provision will be decreased by:

- the amount of the accelerated benefit paid by Us for Your Spouse; and
- the Interest and Expense Charge.

Date Your Option to Accelerate Benefits Ends

The accelerated benefit option for Your Spouse will end on the earliest of:

- the date Your Spouse attains age 70;
- the date Life Insurance for Your Spouse ends;
- the date Your rights in Life Insurance for Your Spouse are assigned; or
- the date You or Your legal representative have accelerated all Dependent Life Insurance benefits.

LIFE INSURANCE: CONVERSION OPTION FOR YOU

If Your Life Insurance ends for any of the reasons stated below, You have the option to buy an individual policy of life insurance ("new policy") from Us during the Application Period in accordance with the conditions and requirements of this section. This is referred to as the "option to convert". Evidence of Your insurability will not be required.

When You Will Have the Option to Convert

You will have the option to convert when:

- Your Life Insurance ends because:
 - You cease to be in an eligible class;
 - Your employment ends;
 - the Group Policy ends, provided You have been insured for Life Insurance for at least 5 years; or
 - the Group Policy is amended to end Life Insurance for an eligible class of which You are a member, provided you have been insured for Life Insurance for at least 5 years.

A reduction in the amount of Your Life Insurance as a result of the payment of an accelerated benefit will not give rise to a right to convert under this section.

Application Period

If You opt to convert Your Life Insurance for any of the reasons stated above, We must receive a completed conversion application form from You within 31 days after the date Your Life Insurance ends.

Option Conditions

The option to convert is subject to these conditions:

1. Our receipt within the Application Period of:
 - Your Written application for the new policy; and
 - the premium due for such new policy;
2. the premium rates for the new policy will be based on:
 - Our rates then in use;
 - the form and amount of insurance;
 - Your class of risk; and
 - Your attained age when Your Life Insurance ends;
3. the new policy may be on any form then customarily offered by Us excluding term insurance;
4. the new policy will be issued without an accidental death and dismemberment benefit, a continuation benefit, an accelerated benefit option, a waiver of premium benefit or any other rider or additional benefit; and
5. the new policy will take effect on the 32nd day after the date Your Life Insurance ends; this will be the case regardless of the duration of the Application Period.

Maximum Amount of the New Policy

If Your Life Insurance ends due to the end of the Group Policy or the amendment of the Group Policy to end Life Insurance for an eligible class of which You are a member, the maximum amount of insurance that You may elect for the new policy is the lesser of:

LIFE INSURANCE: CONVERSION OPTION FOR YOU (continued)

- the amount of Your Life Insurance that ends under the Group Policy less the amount of life insurance for which You become eligible under any group policy within 31 days after the date insurance ends under the Group Policy; or
- \$10,000.

If Your Life Insurance ends or is reduced, the maximum amount of insurance that You may elect for the new policy is the amount of Your Life Insurance which ends under the Group Policy.

If You Die Within 31 Days After Your Life Insurance Ends

If You die within 31 days after Your Life Insurance ends, Proof of Your death must be sent to Us. When We receive such Proof with the claim, We will review the claim and if We approve it will pay the Beneficiary the amount of Life Insurance You were entitled to convert.

LIFE INSURANCE: CONVERSION OPTION FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS

If Life Insurance for a Dependent ends for any of the reasons stated below, You or he will have the option to buy from Us an individual policy of life insurance on the life of the Dependent ("new policy") during the Application Period in accordance with the conditions and requirements of this section. This is referred to as "the option to convert". Evidence of the Dependent's insurability will not be required.

When You or a Dependent Will Have the Option to Convert

You will have the option to convert Life Insurance for a Dependent when:

- Life Insurance for the Dependent ends because:
 - You cease to be in an eligible class;
 - Your employment ends;
 - the Group Policy ends, provided You have been insured for Life Insurance for the Dependent for at least 5 years;
 - the Group Policy is amended to end Life Insurance for Dependents for an eligible class of which You are a member, provided you have been insured for Life Insurance for the Dependent for at least 5 years.

A Dependent will have the option to convert when Life Insurance ends because such Dependent ceases to qualify as a Dependent as defined in this certificate.

A reduction in the amount of Life Insurance for a Dependent as a result of the payment of an accelerated benefit will not give rise to a right to convert under this section.

You must notify the Policyholder in the event that a Dependent ceases to qualify as a Dependent as defined in this certificate.

Application Period

If You or a Dependent opt to convert as stated above, We must receive a completed conversion application form within 31 days of the date Life Insurance for the Dependent ends.

Option Conditions

The option to convert is subject to these conditions:

1. Our receipt within the Application Period of:
 - a Written application for the new policy for the Dependent; and
 - the premium due for such new policy;
2. the premium rates for the new policy will be based on:
 - Our rates then in use;
 - the form and amount of insurance;
 - the Dependent's class of risk; and
 - the Dependent's attained age when Life Insurance for such Dependent ends;
3. the new policy may be on any form then customarily offered by Us excluding term insurance;
4. the new policy will be issued without an accidental death and dismemberment benefit, a continuation benefit, an accelerated benefit option, waiver of premium benefit or any other rider or additional benefit; and
5. the new policy will take effect on the 32nd day after the date Life Insurance for the Dependent ends; this will be the case regardless of the duration of the Application Period.

LIFE INSURANCE: CONVERSION OPTION FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS (continued)

Maximum Amount of the New Policy

If Life Insurance for a Dependent ends due to the end of the Group Policy or the amendment of the Group Policy to end Life Insurance for a Dependent for an eligible class of which You are a member, the maximum amount of insurance that You may elect for the new policy is the lesser of:

- the amount of Life Insurance for the Dependent that ends under the Group Policy less the amount of Life Insurance for a Dependent for which You become eligible under any group policy within 31 days after the date insurance ends under the Group Policy; or
- \$10,000.

If Life Insurance for a Dependent ends or is reduced, the maximum amount of insurance that the Dependent may elect for the new policy is the amount of Life Insurance for the Dependent that ends under the Group Policy.

If a Dependent Dies Within the 31 Days After Life Insurance for a Dependent Ends

If a Dependent dies within 31 days after the date Life Insurance for the Dependent ends, Proof of the Dependent's death must be sent to Us. When we receive such Proof with the claim, We will review the claim and if We approve it, will pay the Beneficiary the amount of Life Insurance for the Dependent that could have been converted.

FILING A CLAIM

The Policyholder should have a supply of claim forms. Obtain a claim form from the Policyholder and fill it out carefully. Return the completed claim form with the required Proof to the Policyholder. The Policyholder will certify Your insurance under the Group Policy and send the certified claim form and Proof to Us.

When we receive the claim form and Proof We will review the claim and, if We approve it, We will pay benefits subject to the terms and provisions of this certificate and the Group Policy.

CLAIMS FOR LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS

When a claimant files a claim for Life Insurance benefits, Proof should be sent to Us as soon as is reasonably possible after the death of an insured.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Assignment

You may assign Your Life Insurance rights and benefits rights and benefits under the Group Policy as a gift or as a viatical assignment. rights and benefits under the Group Policy as a gift. We will recognize the assignee(s) under such assignment as owner(s) of Your right, title and interest in the Group policy if:

1. a Written form satisfactory to Us, affirming this assignment, has been completed;
2. the Written form has been Signed by You and the assignee(s);
3. the Policyholder acknowledges that Your being assigned is in force on the life of the assignor; and
4. the Written form is delivered to Us for recording.

Viatical assignments may only be made after Your Life Insurance has been in effect under this certificate for 2 years. However, you may make a viatical assignment before the end of the 2 year period if You are Terminally Ill.

Terminally Ill means that You are expected to die within 6 months. As Proof of Your Terminal Illness You or Your legal representative must send Us a signed Physician's certification that You are Terminally Ill. We may also request an exam by a Physician of Our choice, at Our expense.

Beneficiary

You may designate a Beneficiary in Your application or enrollment form. You may change Your Beneficiary at any time. To do so, You must send a Signed and dated, Written request to the Policyholder using a form satisfactory to Us. Your Written request to change the Beneficiary must be sent to the Policyholder within 30 days of the date You Sign such request.

You do not need the Beneficiary's consent to make a change. When We receive the change, it will take effect as of the date You Signed it. The change will not apply to any payment made in good faith by Us before the change request was recorded.

If two or more Beneficiaries are designated and their shares are not specified, they will share the insurance equally.

If there is no Beneficiary designated or no surviving Beneficiary at Your death, We may determine the Beneficiary to be one or more of the following who survive You:

1. Your Estate,
2. Your Spouse;
3. Your Child(ren);
4. Your parent(s); or
5. Your sibling(s).

For Your Life Insurance for Your Dependents, We may pay You as the Beneficiary, if alive. If You are not alive, We may determine the Beneficiary to be one or more of the following who survive You:

1. Your Spouse;
2. Your child(ren);
3. Your parent(s); or
4. Your sibling(s).

Instead of making payment to any of the above, We may pay Your estate. Any payment made in good faith will discharge Our liability to the extent of such payment.

GENERAL PROVISIONS (continued)

If You and any Dependent die within a 24 hour period, We will pay the Dependent's Life Insurance to the Beneficiary receiving payment of Your Life Insurance or, We will pay Your estate. If a Beneficiary or a payee is a minor or incompetent to receive payment, We will pay that person's guardian.

Suicide

For Optional Life

If **You commit suicide** within 2 years from the date Life Insurance for You takes effect, We will not pay such insurance and Our liability will be limited as follows:

- any premium paid by You will be returned to the Beneficiary; and
- any premium paid by the Policyholder will be returned to the Policyholder.

If You commit suicide within 2 years from the date an increase in Your Life Insurance takes effect, We will pay to the Beneficiary the amount of Insurance in effect on the day before the increase. Any premium You paid for the increase will be returned to the Beneficiary. Any premium paid by the Policyholder for the increase will be returned to the Policyholder.

Entire Contract

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

1. the Group Policy and its Exhibits, which include the certificate(s);
2. the Policyholder's application; and
3. any amendments and/or endorsements to the Group Policy.

Incontestability: Statements Made by You

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

1. the statement is in a Written application or enrollment form;
2. You have Signed the application or enrollment form; and
3. a copy of the application or enrollment form has been given to You or Your Beneficiary.

We will not use Your statements which relate to insurability to contest insurance after it has been in force for 2 years during Your life. In addition, We will not use such statements to contest an increase or benefit addition to such insurance after the increase or benefit has been in force for 2 years during Your life.

Misstatement of Age

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

Conformity with Law

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

Autopsy

We have the right to make a reasonable request for an autopsy where permitted by law. Any such request will set forth the reasons We are requesting the autopsy.

THIS IS THE END OF THE CERTIFICATE.
THE FOLLOWING IS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.



Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
One Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10010-3690

VERMONT CIVIL UNION CERTIFICATE RIDER

Group Policy No.: 109803-1-G
Policyholder: Watauga County Schools
Effective Date: July 1, 2003

Your certificate (including any riders attached to your certificate) is changed as follows:

Terms that mean or refer to a marital relationship, or that may be construed to mean or refer to a marital relationship, such as "marriage," "spouse," "husband," "wife," "dependent," "next of kin," "relative," "beneficiary," "survivor," "immediate family" and any other such terms include the relationship created by a Civil Union established according to Vermont law.

Terms that mean or refer to the inception or dissolution of a marriage, such as "date of marriage," "divorce decree," "termination of marriage" and any other such terms include the inception or dissolution of a Civil Union established according to Vermont law.

Terms that mean or refer to family relationships arising from a marriage, such as "family," "immediate family," "dependent," "children," "next of kin," "relative," "beneficiary," "survivor" and any other such terms include family relationships created by a Civil Union established according to Vermont law.

"Dependent" means a spouse, a party to a Civil Union established according to Vermont law, and a child or children (natural, step-child, legally adopted or a minor or disabled child who is dependent on the insured for support and maintenance) who is born to or brought to a marriage or to a Civil Union established according to Vermont law.

"Child" means a child (natural, stepchild, legally adopted or a minor or disabled child who is dependent on the insured for support and maintenance) who is born to or brought to a marriage or to a Civil Union established according to Vermont law.

"Civil Union" means a civil union established pursuant to Act 91 of the 2000 Vermont Legislative Session, entitled "Act Relating to Civil Unions".

All references in this rider to Civil Unions are limited to Civil Unions in which the parties are residents of Vermont.

Any person who meets the definition of "dependent" under this rider for purposes of dependent insurance, is required to meet all other applicable eligibility and enrollment requirements in order to qualify for such insurance.

If dependent insurance for a spouse and/or child is not provided under your certificate, such insurance is not added by virtue of this rider.

This rider does not limit any definitions or terms included in your certificate. It broadens definitions and terms only to the extent required by Vermont law.

This rider is subject to the terms and provisions of your certificate and is to be attached to and made a part of such certificate.

DISCLOSURE:

Vermont law grants parties to a Civil Union the same benefits, protections and responsibilities that flow from marriage under state law. However, some or all of the benefits, protections and responsibilities related to life and health insurance that are available to married persons under federal law may not be available to parties to a Civil Union. For example, a federal law, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 known as "ERISA", controls the employer/employee relationship with regard to determining eligibility for enrollment in private employer benefit plans. Because of ERISA, Act 91 does not state requirements pertaining to a private employer's enrollment of a party to a Civil Union in an ERISA employee benefit plan. However, governmental employers (not federal government) are required to provide life and health benefits to the dependents of a party to a Civil Union if the public employer provides such benefits to dependents of married persons. Federal law also controls group health insurance continuation rights under "COBRA" for employers with 20 or more employees as well as the Internal Revenue Code treatment of insurance premiums. As a result, parties to a Civil Union and their families may or may not have access to certain benefits under this rider and the certificate to which it is attached that derive from federal law. You are advised to seek expert advice to determine your rights under this rider and the certificate to which it is attached.

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Plan Arranged by:



Mark III Brokerage, Inc.

211 Greenwich Road

Charlotte, NC 28211

(704) 365-4280 or (800) 532-1044

www.markiiibrokerage.com

MetLife[®]

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