



Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
200 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10166-0188

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company ("MetLife"), a stock company, certifies that You 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: The Recreation & Welfare Association Inc
of the National Institute of Health

Group Policy Number: TS 05726209-G

Type of Insurance: Disability Income Insurance: Short Term
Benefits

MetLife Toll Free Number(s):
For General Information 1-800-275-4638

THIS CERTIFICATE ONLY DESCRIBES DISABILITY INSURANCE.

THE BENEFITS OF THE POLICY PROVIDING YOUR COVERAGE ARE GOVERNED PRIMARILY BY THE LAW 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:

IMPORTANT NOTICE

To obtain information or make a complaint:

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

1-800-275-4638

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

1-800-252-3439

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

Web: <http://www.tdi.state.tx.us>

Email: ConsumerProtection@tdi.state.tx.us

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.

ATTACH THIS NOTICE TO YOUR CERTIFICATE:

This notice is for information only and does not become a part or condition of the attached document.

Para Residentes de Texas:

AVISO IMPORTANTE

Para obtener informacion o para someter una queja:

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

1-800-275-4638

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

1-800-252-3439

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

Web: <http://www.tdi.state.tx.us>

Email: ConsumerProtection@tdi.state.tx.us

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).

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 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 Street
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
(501) 371-2640 or (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 IDAHO

If You have a question concerning Your coverage or a claim, first contact the Policyholder. 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:

Idaho Department of Insurance
Consumer Affairs
700 West State Street, 3rd Floor
PO Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0043
1-800-721-3272 or www.DOI.Idaho.gov

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ILLINOIS

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

MetLife
200 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10166

The address of the Illinois Department of Insurance is:

Illinois Department of Insurance
Public Services Division
Springfield, Illinois 62767

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF INDIANA

Questions regarding your policy or coverage should be directed to:

**Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
1-800-275-4638**

If you (a) need the assistance of the government agency that regulates insurance; or (b) have a complaint you have been unable to resolve with your insurer you may contact the Department of Insurance by mail, telephone or email:

State of Indiana Department of Insurance
Consumer Services Division
311 West Washington Street, Suite 300
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Consumer Hotline: (800) 622-4461; (317) 232-2395

Complaint can be filed electronically at *www.in.gov/doi*

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF MAINE

You have the right to designate a third party to receive notice if Your insurance is in danger of lapsing due to a default on Your part, such as nonpayment of a contribution that is due. The intent is to allow reinstatements where the default is due to the insured person's suffering from cognitive impairment or functional incapacity. You may make this designation by completing a "Third-Party Notice Request Form" and sending it to MetLife. Once You have made a designation, You may cancel or change it by filling out a new Third-Party Notice Request Form and sending it to MetLife. The designation will be effective as of the date MetLife receives the form. Call MetLife at the toll-free telephone number shown on the face page of this certificate to obtain a Third-Party Notice Request Form. Within 90 days after cancellation of coverage for nonpayment of premium, You, any person authorized to act on Your behalf, or any covered Dependent may request reinstatement of the certificate on the basis that You suffered from cognitive impairment or functional incapacity at the time of cancellation.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF MASSACHUSETTS

CONTINUATION OF DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE

1. If Your Disability Income Insurance ends due to a Plant Closing or Covered Partial Closing, such insurance will be continued for 90 days after the date it ends.
2. If Your Disability Income Insurance ends because:
 - You cease to be in an Eligible Class; or
 - Your employment terminates;

for any reason other than a Plant Closing or Covered Partial Closing, such insurance will continue for 31 days after the date it ends.

Continuation of Your Disability Income Insurance under the CONTINUATION WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT subsection will end before the end of continuation periods shown above if You become covered for similar benefits under another plan.

Plant Closing and **Covered Partial Closing** have the meaning set forth in Massachusetts Annotated Laws, Chapter 151A, Section 71A.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF UTAH

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

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

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

The basic protections provided by the Association are:

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

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

Note: Certain policies and contracts may not be covered or fully covered. For example, coverage does not extend to any portion of a policy or contract that the insurer does not guarantee, such as certain investment additions to the account value of a variable life insurance policy or a variable annuity contract. Coverage is conditioned on residency in this state and there are substantial limitations and exclusions. For a complete description of coverage, consult Utah Code, Title 3 IA, Chapter 28.

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

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

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

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

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

NOTICE 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
200 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10166
Attn: Corporate Consumer 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:

The Office of the Managed Care Ombudsman
Bureau of Insurance
P.O. Box 1157
Richmond, VA 23209
1-877-310-6560 - toll-free
1-804-371-9032 - locally
www.scc.virginia.gov - web address
ombudsman@scc.virginia.gov - email

Or:

The Virginia Department of Health (The Center for Quality Health Care Services and Consumer Protection)
3600 West Broad St
Suite 216
Richmond, VA 23230
1-800-955-1819

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.

CIVIL UNION NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF VERMONT

The following applies to all ERISA governed groups:

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.

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
200 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10166-0188
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 608-266-0103 in Madison.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALL STATES

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

This certificate does not replace or affect any requirement for coverage by workers' compensation insurance.

MANDATORY DISABILITY INCOME BENEFIT LAWS

For Residents of California, Hawaii, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island and Puerto Rico

This certificate does not affect any requirement for any government mandated temporary disability income benefits law.

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SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS

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

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

| BENEFIT | BENEFIT AMOUNT AND HIGHLIGHTS |
|---|---|
| Disability Income Insurance For You: Short Term Benefits | |
| For All Active Full-Time Employees, including Employees covered under a Special Groups Retirement: | |
| Weekly Benefit..... | 66.667% of the first \$3,462 of Your Predisability Earnings, subject to the INCOME WHICH WILL REDUCE YOUR DISABILITY BENEFIT section. |
| Maximum Weekly Benefit..... | \$2,308 |
| Minimum Weekly Benefit..... | \$20 subject to the Overpayments and Rehabilitation Incentive subsection of this certificate. |
| Elimination Period..... | For Injury <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 days of Disability For Sickness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 days of Disability |
| Maximum Benefit Period..... | 52 weeks |
| Rehabilitation Incentives..... | Yes |
| Additional Benefits | |
| Organ Donor Benefit..... | Yes |

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

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

Appropriate Care and Treatment means medical care and treatment that is:

- given by a Physician whose medical training and clinical specialty are appropriate for treating Your Disability;
- consistent in type, frequency and duration of treatment with relevant guidelines of national medical research, health care coverage organizations and governmental agencies;
- consistent with a Physician's diagnosis of Your Disability; and
- intended to maximize Your medical and functional improvement.

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

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

Contributory Insurance includes: Disability Income Insurance: Short Term Benefits.

Disabled or Disability means that, due to Sickness or as a direct result of accidental injury:

- You are receiving Appropriate Care and Treatment and complying with the requirements of such treatment; and
- You are unable to earn more than 80% of Your Predisability Earnings at Your Own Occupation for any employer.

For purposes of determining whether a Disability is the direct result of an accidental injury, the Disability must have occurred within 90 days of the accidental injury and resulted from such injury independent of other causes.

If Your occupation requires a license, the fact that You lose Your license for any reason will not, in itself, constitute Disability.

Elimination Period means the period of Your Disability during which We do not pay benefits. The Elimination Period begins on the day You become Disabled and continues for the period shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

Employee means a person who is a current member of the Policyholder, and either works for an Employer or is a federal contractor. Employees covered under a Special Groups Retirement means Law Enforcement Officers, Air Traffic Controllers, and Firefighters who are subject to the retirement provisions for special groups.

Employer means the United States Federal Government and all of her branches, agencies, bureaus, boards, commissions and divisions.

DEFINITIONS

Full-Time means Active Work on the Employer's regular work schedule for the class of employees to which You belong. The work schedule must be at least 20 hours a week. Full-Time does not include temporary or seasonal employees with contracts of 12 months or less.

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

Organ Transplant Procedure means the surgical removal of any one or more of Your organs for the purpose of transplanting to another person.

Own Occupation means the essential functions You regularly perform that provide Your primary source of earned income.

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 the service is performed and must act within the scope of that license. Such person must also be certified and/or registered if required by such jurisdiction.

The term does not include:

- You, or
- 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.

Employer's Retirement Plan means a plan which:

- provides retirement benefits to employees; and
- is funded in whole or in part by Employer contributions.

The term does not include:

- profit sharing plans;
- thrift or savings plans;
- non-qualified plans of deferred compensation;
- plans under IRC Section 401(k) or 457;
- individual retirement accounts (IRA);
- tax sheltered annuities (TSA) under IRC Section 403(b);
- stock ownership plans; or
- Keogh (HR-10) plans.

Predisability Earnings means gross salary or wages You were earning from the Employer as reflected by the premium reported on Your behalf. Predisability Earnings may include salary categorized as base pay systems and additional compensation as reported by Your Employer. We calculate this amount on a weekly basis.

If you do not have regular work hours, your Predisability Earnings are based on the average number of hours you worked per month during the preceding 12 calendar months (or during your period of employment if less than 12 months). In no event will the number of hours be more than 173 hours.

The term includes:

- locality pay; and
- administratively uncontrollable overtime; and

DEFINITIONS

- commissions You earned averaged over the 12 month period before Disability began, or over the period of Your employment, if less; and
- bonuses You earned averaged over the 12 month period before Disability began, or over the period of Your employment, if less; and
- contributions You were making through a salary reduction agreement with the Employer to any of the following:
 - an Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 401(k), 403(b) or 457 deferred compensation arrangement;
 - an executive non-qualified deferred compensation arrangement; and
 - Your fringe benefits under an IRC Section 125 plan.

The term does not include:

- awards;
- the grant, award, sale, conversion and/or exercise of shares of stock or stock options;
- the Employer's contributions on Your behalf to any deferred compensation arrangement or pension plan; or
- any other compensation from the Employer.

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.

Rehabilitation Program means a program that has been approved by Us for the purpose of helping You return to work. It may include, but is not limited to, Your participation in one or more of the following activities:

- return to work on a modified basis with a goal of resuming employment for which You are reasonably qualified by training, education, experience and past earnings;
- on-site job analysis;
- job modification/accommodation;
- training to improve job-seeking skills;
- vocational assessment;
- short-term skills enhancement;
- vocational training; or
- restorative therapies to improve functional capacity to return to work.

Sickness means illness, disease or pregnancy, including complications of pregnancy.

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.

Spouse means Your lawful Spouse.

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 Active Full-Time Employees, including Employees covered under a Special Groups Retirement

DATE YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR INSURANCE

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

If You are in an eligible class on January 01, 2014, You will be eligible for insurance on that date.

If You enter an eligible class after January 01, 2014, You will be eligible for insurance on the first day of the month coincident with or next 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.

If Your employment terminates due to a leave for military service, You may enroll again for insurance within 6 months of the date You return from military leave, provided You return to Active Work. If You become insured again, the limitation for Pre-existing Conditions will be applied as if Your insurance had remained in effect with no interruption.

DATE YOUR INSURANCE TAKES EFFECT

Rules for Contributory Insurance

If You request Contributory Insurance **before** the date You become eligible for such insurance, such insurance will take effect on the date You become eligible, provided You are Actively at Work on that date.

- If You request Contributory Insurance **within 31 days of** the date You become eligible for such insurance, such insurance will take effect on the later of:
 - the date You become eligible for such insurance; and
 - the date You enroll provided 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.

See the DEFINITIONS section of this certificate for a complete list of Contributory Insurance benefits.

Increase in Insurance

You are not required to give evidence of insurability for an increase in insurance due to a change in class of employee, an increase in Your earnings, or a requested increase in insurance. The increase will take effect on the later of:

- the first day of the pay period for which a salary allotment reflecting the increased has been taken; or
- the date of the increase in Your earnings, provided You are Actively at Work on that date.

Decrease in Insurance

A decrease in insurance due to a change in class of employee or a decrease in Your earnings will take effect on the day after the date of change.

If You make a Written application to decrease Your insurance, that decrease will take effect as of the date of Your application.

Changes in Your Disability Income Insurance will only apply to Disabilities commencing on or after the date of the change.

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU

DATE YOUR INSURANCE ENDS

Your insurance will end on the earliest of:

1. the date the Group Policy ends;
2. the date insurance ends for Your class;
3. the end of the period for which the last premium has been paid for You; or
4. for Disability Income Insurance: Short Term Benefits, the date You cease to be in an eligible class. You will cease to be in an eligible class on the date You cease Active Work in an eligible class, if You are not disabled on that date; or
5. for Disability Income Insurance: Short Term Benefits, the date Your employment ends; or
6. for Disability Income Insurance: Short Term Benefits, the date You retire in accordance with the date Your employment ends; or
7. for Disability Income Insurance: Short Term Benefits, the date You cease to be a member of the Policyholder.

Reinstatement of Disability Income Insurance

If Your insurance ends, You may become insured again as follows:

1. If Your insurance ends because:

- You cease to be in an eligible class; or
- Your employment ends; and

You become a member of an eligible class again within 3 months of the date Your insurance ended, You will not have to complete a new Waiting Period or provide evidence of Your insurability.

2. If Your insurance ends because You cease making the required contribution while on an approved Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) or other legally mandated leave of absence, and You become a member of an eligible class within 31 days of the earlier of:

- The end of the period of leave You and the Employer agreed upon; or
- The end of the eligible leave period required under the FMLA or other similar legally mandated leave of absence law,

You will not have to complete a new Waiting Period or provide evidence of Your insurability.

3. In all other cases where Your insurance ends because the required premium for Your insurance has ceased to be paid, You will be required to provide evidence of Your insurability.

If You become insured again as described in either item 1 or 2 above, the limitation for Pre-existing conditions will be applied as if Your insurance had remained in effect with no interruption.

CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT

FOR FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

Certain leaves of absence may qualify for continuation of insurance under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA), or other legally mandated leave of absence or similar laws. Please contact the Employer for information regarding such legally mandated leave of absence laws.

AT THE POLICYHOLDER'S OPTION

The Policyholder has elected to continue insurance by paying premiums for employees who are not Disabled and cease Active Work in an eligible class for any of the reasons specified below:

- for the period You cease Active Work in an eligible class due to injury or Sickness, up to 3 months;
- for the period You cease Active Work in an eligible class due to an Employer's approved leave of absence, up to the end of the month You cease Active Work.

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.

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: SHORT TERM BENEFITS

If You become Disabled while insured, Proof of Disability must be sent to Us. When We receive such Proof, We will review the claim. If We approve the claim, We will pay the Weekly Benefit up to the Maximum Benefit Period shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS, subject to the DATE BENEFIT PAYMENTS END section.

To verify that You continue to be Disabled without interruption after Our initial approval of the Disability claim, We may periodically request that You send Us Proof that You continue to be Disabled. Such Proof may include physical exams, exams by independent medical examiners, in-home interviews, or functional capacity exams, as needed.

While You are Disabled, the Weekly Benefits described in this certificate will not be affected if:

- Your insurance ends; or
- the Group Policy is amended to change the plan of benefits for Your class.

BENEFIT PAYMENT

If We approve Your claim, benefits will begin to accrue on the day after the day You complete Your Elimination Period. We will pay the first Weekly Benefit one week after the date benefits begin to accrue. We will make subsequent payments weekly thereafter so long as You remain Disabled. Payment will be based on the number of days You are Disabled during each week. For any partial week of Disability, payment will be made at a daily rate of 1/7th of the Weekly Benefit payable.

We will pay Weekly Benefits to You. If You die, We will pay the amount of any due and unpaid benefits as described in the GENERAL PROVISIONS subsection entitled Disability Income Benefit Payments: Who We Will Pay.

While You are receiving Weekly Benefits, You will be required to continue to pay for the cost of any disability income insurance defined as Contributory Insurance.

RECOVERY FROM A DISABILITY

For purposes of this subsection, the term Active Work only includes those days You actually work.

The provisions of this subsection will not apply if Your insurance has ended and You are eligible for coverage under another group short term disability plan.

If You Return to Active Work Before Completing Your Elimination Period

If You return to Active Work before completing Your Elimination Period and then become Disabled, You will have to complete a new Elimination Period.

If You Return to Active Work After Completing Your Elimination Period

If You return to Active Work after You begin to receive Weekly Benefits, We will consider You to have recovered from Your Disability.

If You return to Active Work for a period of 90 days or less, and then become Disabled again due to the same or related Sickness or accidental injury, We will not require You to complete a new Elimination Period. For the purpose of determining Your benefits, We will consider such Disability to be a part of the original Disability and will use the same Predisability Earnings and apply the same terms, provisions and conditions that were used for the original Disability.

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: SHORT TERM BENEFITS

REHABILITATION INCENTIVES

Rehabilitation Program Incentive

If You participate in a Rehabilitation Program, We will increase Your Weekly Benefit by an amount equal to 10% of the Weekly Benefit. We will do so before We reduce Your Weekly Benefit by any Other Income.

Work Incentive

If You work while You are Disabled and receiving Weekly Benefits, Your Weekly Benefit will be adjusted as follows:

- Your Weekly Benefit will be increased by Your Rehabilitation Program Incentive, if any; and
- reduced by Other Income as defined in the DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: INCOME WHICH WILL REDUCE YOUR DISABILITY BENEFIT section.

Your Weekly Benefit as adjusted above will not be reduced by the amount You earn from working, except to the extent that such adjusted Weekly Benefit plus the amount You earn from working and the income You receive from Other Income exceeds 100% of Your Predisability Earnings as calculated in the definition of Disability.

In addition, the Minimum Weekly Benefit will not apply.

Family Care Incentive

If You work or participate in a Rehabilitation Program while You are Disabled, We will reimburse You for up to \$100 for weekly expenses You incur for each family member to provide:

- care for Your or Your Spouse's child, legally adopted child, or child for whom You or Your Spouse are legal guardian and who is:
 - living with You as part of Your household;
 - dependent on You for support; and
 - under age 13.

The child care must be provided by a licensed child care provider who may not be a member of Your immediate family or living in Your residence.

- care for Your family member who is:
 - living with You as part of Your household;
 - chiefly dependent on You for support; and
 - incapable of independent living, regardless of age, due to mental or physical handicap as defined by applicable law.

Care to Your family member may not be provided by a member of Your immediate family.

We will make reimbursement payments to You on a weekly basis starting with the 4th Weekly Benefit payment. Payments will not be made beyond the Maximum Benefit Period. We will not reimburse You for any expenses for which You are eligible for payment from any other source. You must send Proof that You have incurred such expenses.

Moving Expense Incentive

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: SHORT TERM BENEFITS

If You participate in a Rehabilitation Program while You are Disabled, We may reimburse You for expenses You incur in order to move to a new residence recommended as part of such Rehabilitation Program. Such expenses must be approved by Us in advance.

You must send Proof that You have incurred such expenses for moving.

We will not reimburse You for such expenses if they were incurred for services provided by a member of Your immediate family or someone who is living in Your residence.

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: INCOME WHICH WILL REDUCE YOUR DISABILITY BENEFIT

We will reduce Your Disability benefit by the amount of all Other Income. Other Income includes the following:

1. any disability or retirement benefits which You receive or are eligible to receive because of Your disability or retirement under:
 - Federal Social Security Act;
 - Railroad Retirement Act;
 - Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS);
 - Civil Servants Retirement System (CSRS);
 - any state or public employee retirement or disability plan; or
 - any pension or disability plan of any other nation or political subdivision thereof;
2. any income received for disability or retirement under the Employer's Retirement Plan, to the extent that it can be attributed to the Employer's contributions;
3. any income received for disability under:
 - a group insurance policy to which the Employer has made a contribution, such as:
 - benefits for loss of time from work due to disability; and
 - installment payments for permanent total disability.
 - a no-fault auto law for loss of income, excluding supplemental disability benefits;
 - a government compulsory benefit plan or program which provides payment for loss of time from Your job due to Your disability, whether such payment is made directly by the plan or program, or through a third party;
 - a self-funded plan, or other arrangement if the Employer contributes toward it or makes payroll deductions for it;
 - any sick pay, vacation pay or other salary continuation that the Employer pays to You;
 - Unemployment insurance law or program; and/or
4. any income that You receive from working while Disabled. This includes but is not limited to salary, commissions, overtime pay, bonus or other extra pay arrangements from any source.
5. recovery amounts that You receive for loss of income as a result of claims against a third party by judgment, settlement or otherwise, including future earnings.

REDUCING YOUR DISABILITY BENEFIT BY THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

If there is a reasonable basis for You to apply for benefits under the Federal Social Security Act, We expect You to apply for them. To apply for Social Security benefits means to pursue such benefits until You receive approval from the Social Security Administration, or a notice of denial of benefits from an administrative law judge.

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: INCOME WHICH WILL REDUCE YOUR DISABILITY BENEFIT

We will reduce the amount of Your Disability benefit by the amount of Social Security benefits We estimate that You, are eligible to receive because of Your Disability or retirement. We will start to do this after You have received 24 months of Disability benefit payments, unless We have received:

- approval of Your claim for Social Security benefits; or
- a notice of denial of such benefits indicating that all levels of appeal have been exhausted.

However, within 6 months following the date You became Disabled, You must:

- send Us Proof that You have applied for Social Security benefits;
- sign a reimbursement agreement in which You agree to repay Us for any overpayments We may make to You under this insurance; and
- sign a release that authorizes the Social Security Administration to provide information directly to Us concerning Your Social Security benefits eligibility.

If You do not satisfy the above requirements, We will reduce Your Disability benefits by such estimated Social Security benefits starting with the first Disability benefit payment coincident with the date You were eligible to receive Social Security benefits.

In either case, when You do receive approval or final denial of Your claim for Social Security benefits as described above, You must notify Us immediately. We will adjust the amount of Your Disability benefit. You must promptly repay Us for any overpayment.

SINGLE SUM PAYMENT

If You receive Other Income in the form of a single sum payment, You must, within 10 days after receipt of such payment, give Written Proof satisfactory to Us of:

- the amount of the single sum payment;
- the amount to be attributed to income replacement; and
- the time period for which the payment applies.

When We receive such Proof, We will adjust the amount of Your Disability benefit.

If We do not receive the Written Proof described above, and We know the amount of the single sum payment, We may reduce Your Disability benefit by an amount equal to such benefit until the single sum has been exhausted.

If We adjust the amount of Your Disability benefit due to a single sum payment, the amount of the adjustment will not result in a benefit amount less than the minimum amount, except in the case of an Overpayment.

If You receive Other Income in the form of a single sum payment and We do not receive the Written Proof described above within 10 days after You receive the single sum payment, We will adjust the amount of Your Disability benefit by the amount of such payment.

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: INCOME WHICH WILL NOT REDUCE YOUR DISABILITY BENEFIT

We will not reduce Your Disability benefit to less than the Minimum Benefit shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS, or by:

- cost of living adjustments that are paid under any of the above sources of Other Income;
- reasonable attorney fees included in any award or settlement. If the attorney fees are incurred because of Your successful pursuit of Social Security disability benefits, such fees are limited to those approved by the Social Security Administration;
- group credit insurance;
- mortgage disability insurance benefits;
- early retirement benefits that have not been voluntarily taken by You;
- veteran's benefits;
- individual disability income insurance policies;
- benefits received from an accelerated death benefit payment; or
- amounts rolled over to a tax qualified plan unless subsequently received by You while You are receiving benefit payments.

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: DATE BENEFIT PAYMENTS END

Your Disability benefit payments will end on the earliest of:

- the end of the Maximum Benefit Period;
- the date You are no longer Disabled;
- the date You die;
- the date You fail to have a medical exam requested by Us as described in the Physical Exams subsection of the GENERAL PROVISIONS section;
- the date You fail to provide required Proof of continuing Disability.

While You are Disabled, the benefits described in this certificate will not be affected if:

- Your insurance ends ; or
- the Group Policy is amended to change the plan of benefits for Your class.

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE

ADDITIONAL SHORT TERM BENEFIT: ORGAN DONOR

If You become Disabled as a result of an Organ Transplant Procedure while insured, Proof of the Disability must be sent to Us. When We receive such Proof, We will review the claim. If We approve the claim, We will pay the Organ Donor benefit shown below.

If We pay this benefit, You will not have to complete an Elimination Period and You will not be subject to the PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS section for purposes of such organ transplant procedure.

BENEFIT AMOUNT

We will increase Your Weekly Benefit by an additional amount equal to 10% of Your Weekly Benefit. This increase will be applied to the first Weekly Benefit payment and continue while You remain Disabled, up to the Maximum Benefit Period.

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS

Pre-existing Condition means a Sickness or accidental injury for which You:

- received medical treatment, consultation, care, or services;
- took prescription medication or had medications prescribed; or
- had symptoms or conditions that would cause a reasonably prudent person to seek diagnosis, care or treatment

in the 12 months before Your insurance under this certificate takes effect.

We will pay benefits for a Disability that results from a Pre-existing Condition, if Your Elimination Period starts after the earlier of the date You:

- have not received medical treatment, consultation or services for the Pre-existing Condition for 3 months following the date Your Disability insurance takes effect under this certificate; or
- have been Actively at Work for 18 consecutive months after the date Your Disability insurance takes effect under this certificate.

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: LIMITED DISABILITY BENEFITS

For Occupational Disabilities

We will not pay benefits for any Disability:

- which happens in the course of any work performed by You for wage or profit; or
- for which You are eligible to receive benefits under workers' compensation or a similar law.

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: EXCLUSIONS

We will not pay for any Disability caused or contributed to by:

1. war, whether declared or undeclared, or act of war, insurrection, rebellion, or terrorist act;
2. Your active participation in a riot;
3. intentionally self-inflicted injury;
4. attempted suicide; or
5. commission of or attempt to commit or taking part in a felony.

We will not pay Short Term Benefits for any Disability caused or contributed to by elective treatment or procedures, such as:

1. cosmetic surgery or treatment primarily to change appearance;
2. sex-change surgery;
3. reversal of sterilization;
4. liposuction;
5. visual correction surgery; and
6. in vitro fertilization; embryo transfer procedure; or artificial insemination. However, pregnancies and complications from any of these procedures will be treated as a Sickness.

FILING A DISABILITY INCOME 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.

If You are unable to report for Active Work due to a Sickness or accidental injury, and You think that You may be Disabled, You should contact MetLife or Your benefits representative to initiate a claim. We recommend that You do so no later than 14 days after the first day You are unable to report for Active Work so that Your claim can be processed in a timely manner.

When a claimant files an initial claim for Disability Income insurance benefits described in this certificate, both the notice of claim and the required Proof should be sent to us within 90 days after the end of the Elimination Period.

Notice of claim and Proof may also be given to Us by following the steps set forth below:

Step 1

A claimant may give Us notice by calling Us at the toll free number shown in the Certificate Face Page within 20 days of the date of a loss.

Step 2

We will send a claim form to the claimant and explain how to complete it. The claimant should receive the claim form within 15 days of giving Us notice of claim.

Step 3

When the claimant receives the claim form, the claimant should fill it out as instructed and return it with the required Proof described in the claim form.

If the claimant does not receive a claim form within 15 days after giving Us notice of claim, Proof may be sent using any form sufficient to provide Us with the required Proof.

Step 4

The claimant must give Us Proof not later than 90 days after the end of the Elimination Period.

If notice of claim or Proof is not given within the time limits described in this section, the delay will not cause a claim to be denied or reduced if such notice and Proof are given within 90 days after the end of the Elimination Period or if it is not reasonably possible to give notice of claim or Proof within such period, they are given as soon as is reasonably possible thereafter.

Items to be Submitted for a Disability Income Insurance Claim

When submitting Proof on an initial or continuing claim for Disability Income insurance, the following items may be required:

- documentation which must include, but is not limited to, the following information:
 - the date Your Disability started;
 - the cause of Your Disability;
 - the prognosis of Your Disability;
 - the continuity of Your Disability; and
- Your application for:
 - Other Benefit Sources;
 - Federal Social Security disability benefits; and
 - Workers' compensation benefits or benefits under a similar law.
- Written authorization for Us to obtain and release medical, employment and financial information and any other items We may reasonably require to document Your Disability or to determine Your receipt of or eligibility for Other Benefit Sources;

FILING A DISABILITY INCOME CLAIM

- any and all medical information, including but not limited to:
 - x-ray films; and
 - photocopies of medical records, including:
 - histories;
 - physical, mental or diagnostic examinations; and
 - treatment notes; and
- the names and addresses of all:
 - physicians and medical practitioners who have provided You with diagnosis, treatment or consultation;
 - hospitals or other medical facilities which have provided You with diagnosis, treatment or consultation; and
 - pharmacies which have filled Your prescriptions within the past three years;
- additional proof elements as required and described within the additional plan provisions for which you are filing a claim for benefits.

Time Limit on Legal Actions. A legal action on a claim may only be brought against Us during a certain period. This period begins 60 days after the date Proof is filed and ends 3 years after the date such Proof is required.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Assignment

The rights and benefits under the Group Policy are not assignable prior to a claim for benefits, except as required by law. We are not responsible for the validity of an assignment.

Disability Income Benefit Payments: Who We Will Pay

We will make any benefit payments during Your lifetime to You or Your legal representative as Beneficiary. Any payment made in good faith will discharge Us from liability to the extent of such payment.

Upon Your death, We will pay any amount that is or becomes due to Your designated Beneficiary. If there is no Beneficiary designated or no surviving designated Beneficiary at Your death We may determine the Beneficiary for any amount that is or becomes due according to the following order:

1. Your Spouse, if alive;
2. Your child(ren), if there is no surviving Spouse;
3. Your parent(s), if there is no surviving child(ren);
4. Your sibling(s), if there is no surviving parent(s);
5. Your estate, if there is no such surviving sibling(s).

If more than one person is eligible to receive payment, We will divide the benefit amount in equal shares.

Payment to a minor or incompetent will be made to such person's guardian. The term "children" or "child" includes natural and adopted children.

Any periodic payments owed to Your estate may be paid in a single sum. Any payment made in good faith will discharge Us from liability to the extent of such payment.

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 avoid 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.

Misstatement of Age

If Your 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.

GENERAL PROVISIONS (CONTINUED)

Physical Exams

If a claim is submitted for insurance benefits, We have the right to ask the insured to be examined by a Physician(s) of Our choice as often as is reasonably necessary to process the claim. We will pay the cost of such exam.

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.

Overpayments

Recovery of Overpayments

We have the right to recover any amount that We determine to be an overpayment.

An overpayment occurs if We determine that:

- the total amount paid by Us on Your claim is more than the total of the benefits due to You under this certificate; or
- payment We made should have been made by another group plan.

If such overpayment occurs, You have an obligation to reimburse Us. Our rights and Your obligations in this regard are described in the reimbursement agreement that You are required to sign when You submit a claim for benefits under this certificate. This agreement:

- confirms that You will reimburse Us for all overpayments; and
- authorizes Us to obtain any information relating to sources of Other Income.

How We Recover Overpayments

We may recover the overpayment from You by:

- stopping or reducing any future Disability benefits, including the Minimum Benefit, payable to You or any other payee under the Disability sections of this certificate;
- demanding an immediate refund of the overpayment from You; and
- taking legal action.

If the overpayment results from Our having made a payment to You that should have been made under another group plan, We may recover such overpayment from one or more of the following:

- any other insurance company;
- any other organization; or
- any person to or for whom payment was made.

Lien and Repayment

If You become Disabled and You receive Disability benefits under this certificate and You receive payment from a third party for loss of income with respect to the same loss of income for which You received benefits under this certificate (for example, a judgment, settlement, payment from Federal Social Security or payment pursuant to Workers' Compensation laws), You shall reimburse Us from the proceeds of such payment up to an amount equal to the benefits paid to You under this certificate for such Disability. Our right to receive

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GENERAL PROVISIONS (CONTINUED)

reimbursement from any such proceeds shall be a claim or lien against such proceeds and Our right shall provide Us with a first priority claim or lien over any such proceeds up to the full amount of the benefits paid to You under this certificate for such Disability. You agree to take all action necessary to enable Us to exercise Our rights under this provision, including, without limitation:

- notifying Us as soon as possible of any payment You receive or are entitled to receive from a third party for loss of income with respect to the same loss of income for which You received benefits under this certificate;
- furnishing of documents and other information as requested by Us or any person working on Our behalf; and
- holding in escrow, or causing Your legal representative to hold in escrow, any proceeds paid to You or any party by a third party for loss of income with respect to the same loss of income for which You received benefits under this certificate, up to an amount equal to the benefits paid to You under this certificate for such Disability, to be paid immediately to Us upon Your receipt of said proceeds.

You shall cooperate and You shall cause Your legal representative to cooperate with Us in any recovery efforts and You shall not interfere with Our rights under this provision. Our rights under this provision apply whether or not You have been or will be fully compensated by a third party for any Disability for which You received or are entitled to receive benefits under this certificate.

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

SPECIAL SERVICES

Social Security Assistance Program

If you become Disabled MetLife provides you with assistance in applying for Social Security disability benefits. Before outlining the details of this assistance, you should understand why applying for Social Security disability benefits is important.

Why You Should Apply For Social Security Disability Benefits

Both you and your Employer contribute payroll taxes to Social Security. A portion of those tax dollars are used to finance Social Security's program of disability protection. Since your tax dollars help fund this program, it is in your best interest to apply for any benefits to which you may be entitled. Your spouse and children may also be eligible to receive Social Security disability benefits due to your Disability. There are several reasons why it may be to your financial advantage to receive Social Security disability benefits. Some of them are:

1. Avoids reduced retirement benefits

Should you become disabled and approved for Social Security disability benefits, Social Security will freeze your earnings record as of the date Social Security determines that your disability has begun. This means that the months/years that you are unable to work because of your disability will not be counted against you in figuring your average earnings for retirement and survivors benefit.

2. Medicare Protection

Once you have received 24 months of Social Security disability benefits, you will have Medicare protection for hospital expenses. You will also be eligible to apply for the medical insurance portion of Medicare.

3. Trial Work Period

Social Security provides a trial work period for the rehabilitation efforts of disabled workers who return to work while still disabled. Full benefit checks can continue for up to 9 months during the trial work period.

4. Cost of Living Increases Awarded by Social Security Will Not Reduce Your Disability Benefits

MetLife will not decrease your Disability benefit by the periodic cost of living increases awarded by Social Security. This is also true for any cost of living increases awarded by Social Security to your spouse and children.

This is called a Social Security "freeze." It means that only the Social Security benefit awarded to you and your dependents will be used by MetLife to reduce your Disability benefit; with the following exceptions:

- a) an error by Social Security in computing the initial amount;
- b) a change in dependent status; or
- c) your Employer submitting updated earnings records to Social Security for earnings received prior to your Disability.

Over a period of years, the net effect of these cost of living increases can be substantial.

How MetLife Assists You in the Social Security Approval Process

As soon as you apply for Disability benefits, MetLife begins assisting you with the Social Security approval process.

1. Assistance Throughout the Application Process

MetLife has a dedicated team of Social Security Specialists. These Specialists, many of whom have worked for the Social Security Administration, are also located within our Claim Department. They provide expert assistance up front, offer support while you are completing the Social Security forms, and help guide you through the application process.

2. Guidance Through Appeal Process by Social Security Specialists

Social Security disability benefits may be initially denied, but are often approved following an appeal. If your benefits are denied, our dedicated team of Social Security Specialists provide expert assistance on an appeal if your situation warrants continuing the appeal process. They guide you through each stage of the appeal process. These stages may include:

- a) Reconsideration by the Social Security Administration
- b) Hearing before an Administrative Law Judge
- c) Review by an Appeals Council established within the Social Security Administration in Washington, D.C.
- d) A civil suit in Federal Court

3. Social Security Attorneys and Vendors

Depending on your individual needs, MetLife may provide a referral to an attorney or vendor who specializes in Social Security law. The Social Security approved attorney's fee is credited to the Long Term Disability Overpayment, which results upon your receipt of the retroactive Social Security benefits. The attorney's fee, which is capped by Social Security law, will be deducted from the lump sum social security disability benefits award and will not be used to further reduce your Long Term Disability benefit.

Return To Work Program

Goal of Rehabilitation

The goal of MetLife is to focus on Employees' abilities, instead of disabilities. This "abilities" philosophy is the foundation of our Return to Work Program. By focusing on what Employees can do versus what they can't, we can assist you in returning to work sooner than expected.

Incentives For Returning To Work

Your disability plan is designed to provide clear advantages and financial incentives for returning to work either full-time or part-time, while still receiving a Disability benefit. In addition to financial incentives, there may be personal benefits resulting from returning to work. Many Employees experience higher self-esteem and the personal satisfaction of being self-sufficient and productive once again. If it is determined that you are capable but you do not participate in the Return to Work Program, your Disability benefits may cease.

Return-to-Work Services

As a covered Employee you are automatically eligible to participate in our Return-to-Work Program. The Program aims to identify the necessary training and therapy that can help you return to work. In many cases, this means helping you return to your former occupation, although rehabilitation can also lead to a new occupation which is better suited to your condition and makes the most of your abilities. There is no additional cost to you for the services we provide, and they are tailored to meet your individual needs. These services include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Vocational Analyses

Assessment and counseling to help determine how your skills and abilities can be applied to a new or a modified job with your Employer.

2. Labor Market Surveys

Studies to find jobs available in your locale that would utilize your abilities and skills. Also identify one's earning potential for a specific occupation.

3. Retraining Programs

Programs to facilitate return to your previous job, or to train you for a new job.

4. Job Modifications/Accommodations

Analyses of job demands and functions to determine what modifications may be made to maximize your employment opportunities.

This also includes changes in your job or accommodations to help you perform the previous job or a similar vocation, as required of your employer under the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

5. Job Seeking Skills and Job Placement Assistance

Special training to identify abilities, set goals, develop resumes, polish interviewing techniques, and provide other career search assistance.

Return-to-Work Program Staff

The Case Manager handling your claim will coordinate return-to-work services. You may be referred to a clinical specialist, such as a Nurse Consultant, Psychiatric Clinical Specialist, or Vocational Rehabilitation Consultant, who has advanced training and education to help people with disabilities return to work. One of our clinical specialists will work with you directly, as well as with local support services and resources. They have returned hundreds of individuals to meaningful, gainful employment.

Rehabilitation Vendor Specialists

In many situations, the services of independent vocational rehabilitation specialists may be utilized. Services are obtained at no additional cost to you; MetLife pays for all vendor services. Selecting a rehabilitation vendor is based on:

1. Attending physician's evaluation and recommendations;
2. Your individual vocational needs; and
3. Vendor's credentials, specialty, reputation, and experience.

When working with vendors, we continue to collaborate with you and your doctor to develop an appropriate return-to-work plan.

Privacy Notice to Our Customers

This Privacy Notice is given to you on behalf of **METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY**.

TO PLAN SPONSORS AND GROUP INSURANCE CONTRACTHOLDERS: THIS NOTICE EXPLAINS HOW WE TREAT INFORMATION ABOUT ANYONE WHO APPLIES FOR OR OBTAINS OUR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES UNDER EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS THAT WE INSURE OR GROUP INSURANCE CONTRACTS THAT WE ISSUE. PLEASE NOTE THAT WE REFER TO THESE INDIVIDUALS IN THIS NOTICE BY USING THE TERM “YOU”, AS IF THIS NOTICE WERE BEING ADDRESSED TO THESE INDIVIDUALS.

Why We Need to Know about You: We need to know about you (and anyone else to be insured) so that we can provide the insurance and other products and services you've asked for. We may also need information from you and others to help us verify identities in order to prevent money laundering and terrorism. What we need to know includes address, age and other basic information. But we may need more information, including finances, employment, health, hobbies or business conducted with us, with other MetLife companies (our “**affiliates**”) or with other companies.

How We Learn about You: What we know about you (and anyone else to be insured) we get mostly from you. But we may also have to find out more from other sources in order to make sure that what we know is correct and complete. Those sources may include adult relatives, employers, consumer reporting agencies, health care providers and others. Some of our sources may give us reports and may disclose what they know to others.

How We Protect What We Know About You: We treat what we know about you confidentially. Our employees are told to take care in handling your information. They may get information about you only when there is a good reason to do so. We take steps to make our computer data bases secure and to safeguard the information we have.

How We Use and Disclose What We Know About You: We may use anything we know about you to help us serve you better. We may use it, and disclose it to our affiliates and others, for any purpose allowed by law. For instance, we may use your information, and disclose it to others, in order to:

- Help us evaluate your request for a product or service
- Help us process claims and other transactions
- Confirm or correct what we know about you
- Help us prevent fraud, money laundering, terrorism and other crimes by verifying what we know about you
- Help us comply with the law
- Help us run our business
- Process data for us
- Perform research for us
- Audit our business

Other reasons we may disclose what we know about you include:

- Doing what a court or government agency requires us to do; for example, complying with a search warrant or subpoena
- Telling another company what we know about you, if we are or may be selling all or any part of our business or merging with another company
- Giving information to the government so that it can decide whether you may get benefits that it will have to pay for
- Telling a group customer about its members' claims or cooperating in a group customer's audit of our service
- Telling your health care provider about a medical problem that you have but may not be aware of
- Giving your information to a peer review organization if you have health insurance with us
- Giving your information to someone who has a legal interest in your insurance, such as someone who lent you money and holds a lien on your insurance or benefits

Generally, we will disclose only the information we consider reasonably necessary to disclose.

We may use what we know about you in order to offer you our other products and services. We may share your information with other companies to help us. Here are our other rules on using your information to market products and services:

- We will not share information about you with any of our affiliates for use in marketing its products to you, unless we first notify you. You will then have an opportunity to tell us not to share your information by “opting out.”
- Before we share what we know about you with another financial services company to offer you products or services through a joint marketing arrangement, we will let you “opt-out.”
- We will not disclose information to unaffiliated companies for use in selling their products to you, except through such joint marketing arrangements.
- We will not share your health information with any other company, even one of our affiliates, to permit it to market its products and services to you.

How You Can See and Correct Your Information: Generally, we will let you review what we know about you if you ask us in writing. (Because of its legal sensitivity, we will not show you anything that we learned in connection with a claim or lawsuit.) If you tell us that what we know about you is incorrect, we will review it. If we agree with you, we will correct our records. If we do not agree with you, you may tell us in writing, and we will include your statement when we give your information to anyone outside MetLife.

You Can Get Other Material from Us: In addition to any other privacy notice we may give you, we must give you a summary of our privacy policy once each year. You may have other rights under the law. If you want to know more about our privacy policy, please contact us at our website, www.metlife.com, or write to Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, c/o MetLife Privacy Office - Inst, P.O. Box 489, Warwick, RI 02887-9954. Please identify the specific product or service you are writing about.