PET HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY TERMS AND CONDITIONS



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I. DEFINITIONS USED THROUGHOUT THIS POLICY

Some words or phrases in the **policy** have been defined below. Defined words or phrases are printed in bold type and have the following meanings, unless a different meaning is described in a particular coverage or endorsement.

You, Your The named insured as shown on the declarations page, and the spouse or

partner, if residing at the same address.

We, Us, OurThe company providing this insurance, or the company's designated

representative.

Pet, Your Pet Any dog or cat named and described on the **declarations page** and for which a

premium has been paid.

Accident(s) An unexpected or unintended event, which is specific as to place and time, and

causes injury to your pet.

Behavioral Disorder(s) Any change in your pet's temperament, activity or inactivity that is abnormal,

dysfunctional or unusual for which there is no underlying **medical condition(s)**. **Behavioral disorders** include, but are not limited to, aggression, separation

anxiety or phobias.

Bilateral Condition A condition or disease that can affect both sides of the **pet**'s body.

Clinical Sign(s) Changes in your pet's normal healthy state, its bodily functions or behavior (as

observed by any individual, recorded in your pet's medical record, or identified

in previous examinations, or treatment(s) for your pet.

Co-pay(s) The percentage of **your** total claim for which **you** are responsible for paying. This

is calculated before any applicable **deductible** is applied.

Complementary Therapy Treatment and therapies, often used in combination with

conventional or standard veterinary practices, that are related to a covered surgical procedure or **illness** and administered by a **veterinarian** or a veterinary staff member under the direct supervision of a **veterinarian**. These therapies include, but are not limited to, acupuncture, chiropractic **treatment**, laser

treatment, hydrotherapy, and physiotherapy.

Congenital Anomaly(ies)

or Disorder(s) Any condition(s) that is present from birth, whether inherited or caused by the

environment, which may cause or contribute to **illness** or disease.

Curable Medical

Condition Any medical condition that can be completely resolved without recurrence or

any manifestations of clinical signs.

Curable Exclusionary

Period

An exclusionary period in which any curable medical condition that has shown clinical sign(s) or received treatment, up to one (1) year prior to the original inception date of the policy, during the waiting period, or during

your pet's first exam will be excluded for the next one (1) year. If during that subsequent one (1) year period, the curable medical condition, has not been treated or shown clinical sign(s), it then becomes eligible for coverage. If, however, during that subsequent one (1) year or sometime after, the curable medical condition is treated or shows clinical sign(s), that condition will be excluded for the life of your pet.

Declarations Page

A written document comprising part of this **policy** which identifies the named insured, **policy** number, insured **pet**, insured coverage options selected, **policy period**, any applicable **co-pay(s)** and/or **deductible(s)** and the **maximum annual policy coverage** provided.

Deductible(s)

The fixed amount per **policy period** for which **you** are responsible for paying prior to receiving any claims settlement that will be deducted from any reimbursement made to **you**, after any **co-pay** amount has been deducted.

Degenerative Disorder(s)

A condition characterized by the progressive loss of function and/or structure of the affected tissues or organs.

Dental Disease(s) or Illnesses

A condition(s) affecting the teeth and/or gums including but not limited to halitosis, calculus, gingivitis, gingival recession, gingival hyperplasia, attrition, and stomatitis.

Excess Insurance

Reimbursement under this **policy** will only be available once limits for coverage under any other **policy** have been exhausted.

Exclusion(s)

Any situation, event or **medical condition** not covered by this **policy**.

Experimental Treatment

Drugs, therapies, or **treatments** that are unproven, have been confined largely to laboratory use, or have progressed to limited **pet** application and trials, and lack wide recognition from the scientific community as a proven and effective measure of **treatment**.

First Exam

The earliest in person comprehensive exam of **your pet** administered by a **veterinarian** encompassing all body systems of the **pet** that is documented in a written veterinarian record.

Illness(es)

Any change to the normal healthy state of **your pet** such as a sickness, disease or **medical condition** (except **behavioral disorders**) not caused by an **accident**.

Injury(ies)

Physical harm to **your pet** caused by normal activity or an **accident**.

Maximum Annual Policy Coverage

The most **we** will reimburse during the **policy period** for each type of insured coverage covered by this **policy** as shown on the **declarations page**.

Medical Condition(s)

All **clinical sign(s)** and symptoms resulting from the same diagnostic classification or disease process, regardless of the number of **illnesses**, **injuries** or areas of the body affected.

Medically Necessary

Any **treatment** or procedure which is directly and materially related to a covered **illness** or **injury**, as recommended and documented in **your pet's** medical records by the treating **veterinarian**.

Original Inception Date

The first policy period effective date with us for your pet where continuous

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coverage has been provided without interruption. Any lapse or gap in coverage will reset the date to the next **policy period** after the lapse or gap in coverage.

Orthopedic Conditions

Any Conditions affecting the bones, skeletal muscle, cartilage, tendons, ligaments, and joints. It includes, but is not limited to, elbow dysplasia, hip dysplasia, intervertebral disc degeneration, patellar luxation, and ruptured cranial cruciate ligaments. It does not include cancers or metabolic, hemopoietic, or autoimmune disease.

Pet Insurance

A property insurance **policy** that provides coverage for **accidents, injuries** and **illnesses** of **pets**.

Physical Therapy

Any **treatment** including but not limited to hydrotherapy, laser, underwater treadmill, kinesiotherapy, land-based exercise, massage, stretching, electrical stimulation administered by a **veterinarian** to treat an **injury** or **illness**.

Policy

All **terms and conditions** including any endorsements thereto including the **declarations page**.

Policy Period(s)

The period from the **original inception** date to the expiration date of the **policy** as set forth on the **declarations page**.

Pre-existing Condition(s)

A **condition for** which any of the following are true prior to the original **inception date** of a **pet insurance policy** or during any **waiting period**:

- (1) A veterinarian provided medical advice;
- (2) The **pet** received previous **treatment**; or based on information from **verifiable sources**.
- (3) the **pet** had **clinical signs** or symptoms directly related to the condition for which a claim is being made.

A condition for which coverage is afforded on a **policy** cannot be considered a **pre-existing condition** on any **renewal** of the **policy**.

Preventive Care

Any **treatment**, service or procedure, including but not limited to examinations, medications, surgeries, inoculations or laboratory procedures, for the purpose of prevention of **illness** or **injury** or for the promotion of general health, where there has been no **injury** or **illness**.

Reasonable Cost(s)

The fees regularly charged for a given **treatment**, **sick visit fee**, or procedure by the treating veterinary facility, or the fee regularly charged by a licensed kennel or cattery.

Sick Visit Fee

The **veterinarian** examination cost for treating **your pet's injury** or **illness.**

Supplements

A medicinal substance that a **veterinarian** recommends for the treatment of an **injury** or **illness**. This cannot be an **experimental treatment** and must be proven and widely recognized as an effective measure to treat a covered **injury** or **illness** by the **veterinarian** community. The **supplement** must be listed in the most current edition of the Plumb's Veterinarian Drug Handbook in order for coverage to be afforded by this **policy**.

Terms and Conditions

All provisions of this **policy**.

Treatment(s) Any veterinary care and prescribed medications administered by a **veterinarian**,

or under a veterinarian's direct supervision, in treating your pet's injury or

illness, within the United States or Canada.

Verifiable Sources: Verifiable sources are medical records written by a **veterinarian**, a veterinary

technician, assistant, or other clinical staff. A Pet's owner is also a verifiable

source when used to detail or define the onset of clinical signs.

VeterinarianAn individual who holds a valid license to practice veterinary medicine from the

appropriate licensing entity in the United States or Canadian jurisdiction in

which the individual practices.

Waiting Period The period of time specified in a pet insurance policy that is required to transpire

before some or all of the coverage in the policy can begin.

There is a fifteen (15) day period beginning on the **original inception date of** this **policy** during which **we** will not cover any **injury** resulting from normal activity, **illness, behavioral disorder or any other coverage provided by this policy**, except for, or resulting from, an **accident** to **your pet. Accidents** or **injuries**

resulting from an unexpected event do not have a waiting period.

The waiting period will not apply to any renewal of your policy if renewal coverage is continuously maintained. **Medical conditions** for which **clinical sign(s)** were observed during the waiting period are excluded from this **policy** as

pre-existing conditions. (See also Section V.e.)

Working Dog Any dog used for occupational, professional, or business use.

Your Newly Adopted Pet Your dog or cat named and described on the declarations page of this policy that

you have acquired within thirty (30) days prior to your policy's original inception

date.

II. INSURING AGREEMENT

Upon **your** payment of the premium when due, and in reliance on the statements **you** made, **we** will provide coverage as specifically described in and subject to the **terms and conditions** of this **policy** for **your** covered **pet**. Except if stated to the contrary, all insured coverages are subject to all the **terms, conditions** and limitations as stated herein and as shown on the **declarations page**.

III. INSURED COVERAGES

We will provide the coverages to you as set forth in the paragraphs below subject to the following:

- Waiting period.
- Co-pay(s).
- Deductible(s).
- Exclusions.
- Limits of insurance.
- Other terms, conditions and limitations in this policy.

A) POLICY COVERAGE

1. VETERINARY FEES, PRESCRIBED DRUGS AND SUPPLEMENTS

We will reimburse you for the reasonable cost(s) of any medically necessary:

- a. **treatment** during the **policy period** for a covered **accident, illness** or **injury** except where coverage is not available or deemed invalid;
- b. pharmaceuticals that can only be obtained by means of a **veterinarian** prescription to treat an **illness** or **injury** in the quantity of ninety (90) days or less;

c. supplements.

This coverage is subject to **the maximum annual policy coverage** shown on **your declarations page**. All coverage is subject to any applicable **co-pay**, **deductible** or sublimit.

2. ADOPTION SUPPORT

We will waive the waiting period and reimburse you for the reasonable cost of any medically necessary treatment for the below named medical conditions for your newly adopted pet for the lifetime of your policy, subject to the following conditions:

- a. **Clinical signs** and/or diagnosis of the **medical condition** must have presented within 30 days prior to the **original inception date** of **your policy** and noted on **your pets first exam.**
- b. The **treatment** must be for one of the following **medical conditions**:
 - kennel cough,
 - upper respiratory infection,
 - conjunctivitis,
 - feline herpesvirus,
 - ear mites,
 - puppy pyoderma, and
 - ringworm.

This coverage is subject to **the maximum annual policy coverage** shown on **your declarations page**. All coverage is subject to any applicable **co-pay**, **deductible** or sublimit.

3. SPECIAL COVERAGES AND ANNUAL SUBLIMITS

The special coverages have an annual \$1,000 sublimit for the **policy period.** Once the annual sublimit amount is reached for any of the special coverages, no further claims will be reimbursed for **the policy period**. The special coverages:

- do not increase the maximum annual policy coverage on your declarations page,
- are not subject to and not considered in applying co-pay when co-pay conditions otherwise apply,
 and
- are not subject to the applicable **deductible**.

a) BEHAVIORAL FEES AND BEHAVIORAL DISORDER(S) TREATMENT

We will reimburse you for the reasonable cost(s);

- 1. for in person consultations by a **veterinarian** to diagnose **behavioral disorders** during the **policy period**;
- of any medically necessary treatment(s) prescribed or recommended by a veterinarian for behavioral disorder(s);
- 3. For your newly adopted pet, the waiting period does not apply.

This coverage is limited to a \$1,000 annual sublimit.

b) TELEHEALTH CONSULTATION FEES

We will reimburse you for the reasonable cost(s):

- 1. for virtual or remote consultations by a veterinarian during the policy period;
- 2. for a telehealth consultation under the supervision of a **veterinarian**; or
- 3. if a written referral is provided by a **veterinarian** to another provider to perform these services, then the telehealth provider must be a veterinary nurse or technician or certified animal trainer with the following credentials: Master's or PHD in Animal Behavior, or hold one of the following active certifications:
 - a. CAAB (Certified Applied Animal Behaviorist)

- b. CBCC-KA (Certified Behavior Consultant Canine-Knowledge Assessed)
- c. CCBC (Certified Cat Behavioral Consultant)
- d. CPDT-KA (Certified Professional Dog Trainer-Knowledge Assessed)
- e. KPA CTP (Karen Pryor Academy Certified Training Partner)
- 4. For your **newly adopted pet**, the **waiting period** does not apply.

Telehealth Consultations do not satisfy the **first exam** requirement.

This coverage is limited to a \$1,000 annual sublimit.

c) ADVERTISING AND REWARD

We will reimburse you for the reasonable and necessary cost of advertising and a reasonable reward paid if your pet is stolen or strays during the policy period.

As soon as **you** discover **your pet** is missing, **you** must:

- 1. Notify the police and ask for a reference or case number and written confirmation of **your** report;
- 2. Notify the five (5) veterinary clinics and animal shelters closest to the area where **your pet** was last seen; and
- 3. Complete and send us a claim form along with all receipts for costs **you** incurred for advertising and paying a reward.

Conditions Applying to Advertising and Reward

We will not reimburse **you** for:

- 1. Any reward not supported by a signed receipt giving the full name and address of the person who found **your pet**;
- 2. Any reward paid to any person living with **you**, related to **you**, employed by **you** or known by **you**; or

Any reward resulting from your neglect or deliberate concealment of your pet

This coverage is limited to a \$1,000 annual sublimit.

d) BOARDING FEES

We will reimburse you for the reasonable cost(s) of boarding your pet at a licensed kennel or cattery while you are in a hospital as a result of your own sickness, disease or bodily injury during the policy period. This coverage is limited to a \$1,000 annual sublimit.

You must:

- 1. Have incurred or have been diagnosed and reported **your** own sickness, disease or bodily injury during the **policy period**;
- 2. Submit a claim form completed by **your** doctor and the kennel or cattery, as soon as possible after **you** are hospitalized as a result of **your** own sickness, disease or bodily injury; and
- 3. Submit the original invoice from the kennel or cattery.

Conditions Applying to Boarding Fees

We will not reimburse you if:

- 1. You are admitted to a hospital for less than ninety-six (96) hours;
- 2. You are treated in a care setting other than a hospital;
- 3. You are admitted to a hospital because of a sickness, disease or bodily injury, which first occurred or manifested itself before your pet was covered under this policy;
- 4. **You** are admitted to a hospital as a result of **your** pregnancy or giving birth;
- 5. You are receiving any treatment that is not related to a sickness, disease or bodily injury; or
- 6. **You** are admitted to a hospital for the treatment of alcohol abuse, drug abuse, suicide attempt or self-inflicted **illness** or **injury**.

e) LOSS DUE TO THEFT OR STRAYING

We will reimburse you for the price you paid for your pet if your pet is stolen or goes missing during the policy period and is not found.

If you have no formal proof of how much you paid for your pet in the form of an original receipt, we will reimburse you the lesser of the current local humane society adoption fee for the species of pet named on the declarations page, or one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150). As soon as you discover your pet is missing, you must:

- Notify the police and ask for a reference or case number and written confirmation of your report; and
- 2. Notify the five (5) veterinary clinics and animal shelters closest to the area where **your pet** was last seen.

If your pet is not found within thirty (30) days, you must complete and send us a completed claim form. This must include the original receipt for the price you paid for your pet. If your pet is found or returns to you, you must repay the full amount we have paid you under this policy within ninety (90) days of the expiration of the policy period in which this benefit was paid or within ninety (90) days of recovering your pet.

Conditions Applying to Loss Due to Theft or Straying

We will not reimburse you if:

1. You, or the person looking after your pet, freely parts with your pet even if tricked into doing

This coverage is limited to a \$1,000 annual sublimit.

f) DEATH FROM AN ACCIDENT, INJURY OR ILLNESS

We will reimburse you for the price you paid for your pet, if your pet dies or has to be euthanized by a veterinarian during the policy period, as a result of an accident, injury or illness.

This coverage is limited to a \$1,000 annual sublimit. If **you** have no formal proof of how much **you** paid for **your pet**, in the form of an original receipt, **we** will pay **you** the lesser of the current local humane society adoption fee for the species of **pet** named on the **declarations page**, or one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150).

Conditions Applying to Death from an Accident, Injury or Illness

We will not reimburse you if:

- 1) Your pet's death results from an accident, injury or illness that is a pre-existing condition;
- 2) A **veterinarian** is not able to verify the death or sign the death claim form;
- 3) Your pet was euthanized at your request and not as suggested by a veterinarian;
- 4) The death is the result from an **illness** for any **pet** age six (6) years or older; or
- 5) Your pet was euthanized because of a behavioral disorder.

g) VACATION CANCELLATION

We will reimburse you for any travel and accommodation costs you cannot recover, if you have to cancel or cut short a vacation during the policy period because your pet is injured or shows the first clinical sign(s) of an illness while you are away or up to seven (7) days before you leave, and as a result requires immediate lifesaving veterinary treatment.

This coverage is limited to a \$1,000 annual

sublimit. Conditions Applying to Vacation

Cancellation We will not reimburse you for:

- 1) Any costs relating to a vacation you booked less than twenty-eight (28) days before you were due to leave;
- 2) Any costs resulting from an injury or illness that is excluded from coverage; or
- 3) Any cost of cancellation insurance.

This coverage is limited to a \$1,000 annual sublimit.

IV. CO-PAY AND DEDUCTIBLES

For any covered loss that is treated during the **policy period**, **you** are responsible for an amount of **co-pay** and **we** will subtract the **deductible** as stated on **your declarations page** from the covered amount. The **co-pay** percentage will be deducted from the total of all costs for a covered loss. Once the **co-pay** has been applied, the **deductible** will be applied to the remaining amount. When treatment dates of a covered loss fall into two or

more policy periods, you will be responsible for a deductible for each policy period.

In addition to the application of the **co-pay** and **deductible**, there are total limits on our insurance per **policy period** as set forth on the **declarations page** as **maximum annual policy coverage** limit. (See also Section VI.)

V. GENERAL EXCLUSIONS

This **policy** does not cover:

- a. Costs you incur for your pet for any matter not set forth in Section III.
- b. Costs and payments beyond the Limits of Insurance as described in Section VI.a.
- c. Any cost for treating an **illness** or **injury** incurred outside of the **policy period** while the **policy** is not in force.
- d. The portion of the cost of treating an **illness** or **injury** that is greater than the **reasonable cost(s)** for treating such **illness** or **injury**.
- e. The cost of any treatment or diagnostic testing for pre-existing conditions as follows:
 - i. Any injury caused by normal activity that happened or any illness that first showed clinical sign(s) before the original inception date of this policy; any illness that first showed clinical sign(s) during the waiting period beginning on the original inception date of this policy, or any injury caused by normal activity that occurred during the waiting period beginning on the original inception date of this policy.
 - ii. Any injury caused by normal activity or illness that is the same as, or has the same diagnosis or clinical sign(s) as any injury caused by normal activity, illness or clinical sign(s) your pet had prior to the original inception date of this policy; any illness that is the same as, or has the same diagnosis or clinical sign(s) as any illness your pet had during the waiting period beginning on the original inception date of this policy; or any injury caused by normal activity that is the same as, or has the same diagnosis or clinical sign(s) as any injury caused by normal activity that occurred to your pet during the waiting period beginning on the original inception date of this policy.
 - iii. Any injury caused by normal activity or illness that is caused by, relates to or results from any injury caused by normal activity, illness or clinical sign(s) your pet had prior to the original inception date of this policy; any illness that is caused by, relates to or results from any illness or clinical sign(s) your pet had during the waiting period beginning on the original inception date of this policy; or any injury caused by normal activity that is caused by, relates to or results from any injury caused by normal activity that occurred to your pet during the waiting period beginning on the original inception date of this policy. This exclusion applies no matter where the injury caused by normal activity, illness or clinical sign(s) are noticed or occur on your pet's body. Pre-existing conditions do not include coverable ongoing medical conditions that showed clinical signs after the original inception date and waiting period.
- iv. Any curable medical condition, that is observed, recorded or identified up to three hundred sixty-five (365) days prior to the original inception date of the policy or during the waiting period of the policy, will be subject to a curable exclusionary period of three hundred sixty-five (365) days from the original inception date of the policy. Any such curable medical condition that does not reoccur within the first curable exclusionary period will be coverable provided an annual exam is conducted by a veterinarian dated after the curable exclusionary period and before the first reoccurrence of such curable medical condition. If the curable medical condition does reoccur within the curable exclusionary period after the original inception date then a second curable exclusionary period will apply after the first three hundred sixty-five (365) days. At the end of the second curable exclusionary period any such curable medical condition that did not reoccur during the second curable exclusionary period will be coverable provided an annual exam is conducted by a veterinarian dated after the second curable exclusionary period and before the second reoccurrence of such curable medical condition.
 - If the same **curable medical condition** reoccurs during the second **curable exclusionary period** it will be excluded from coverage for the life of **your pet.**
- f. **Behavioral disorders** where **clinical sign(s)** were apparent prior to the **original inception date** of the **policy** or that became apparent during the **waiting period** beginning on the **original inception date** of this **policy**.
- g. Congenital Anomaly(ies) or Disorders(s) where clinical sign(s) were apparent prior to the original inception date of the policy or that became apparent during the waiting period beginning on the original inception date of this policy.

h. **Orthopedic conditions** that occur during the first one hundred eighty (180) days after the **original inception date** are excluded and are **pre-existing conditions** for the life of the **policy**.

However, coverage will be afforded for **orthopedic conditions** of the knees if **your pet** is examined by a **veterinarian** between the **original inception date** and one hundred eighty (180) days of the **policy** and the medical record specifically notes **your pet** does not have any **pre-existing conditions** relating to the knees.

This does not apply to **Orthopedic conditions** resulting from an accident.

- i. Costs arising out of or related to any treatment for oral health, including but not limited to dental disease(s) or illnesses, malocclusions and deciduous teeth, where clinical sign(s) () were observed prior to the original inception date of the policy or during the waiting period beginning on the original inception date of this policy.
- j. Food, including food prescribed by a veterinarian, to treat or prevent illness or injury.
- k. Any costs and payments for a **pet** less than six (6) weeks old.
- I. Any **illness** contracted outside the U.S. or Canada that the **pet** would not have normally contracted in the U.S. or Canada.
- m. Costs arising out of or related to:
 - i. Breeding;
 - ii. Pregnancy;
 - iii. Whelping or nursing; or
 - iv. Treatment of offspring.

We will reimburse you for the reasonable costs of medically necessary treatment of complications arising from breeding, pregnancy, whelping or nursing if the date of breeding falls after the waiting period of the original inception date of this policy.

- n. For the purpose of this policy, **degenerative disorders**, including but not limited to, cruciate ligament disease and IVDD will not be covered as **accidents**. Though the **clinical sign(s)** may become apparent acutely, they are **degenerative disorders**, not **accidents**.
- o. Medical waste fees, taxes, and dispensing fees.
- p. Bathing **your pet** unless the treating **veterinarian** indicates that bathing was **medically necessary** and that only a **veterinarian** or a member of veterinary staff could bathe **your pet**.
- q. Routine and preventive care, including but not limited to:
 - i. Vaccinations (and vaccine titers and nosodes);
 - ii. Preventive medications (including those for heartworm and flea and tick prevention);
 - iii. Routine examinations; or
 - iv. Preventive dental care or preventive dental prophylaxis/cleaning(s) where there is no evidence of dental disease(s) or illness(es).
 - v. Treatment(s) and therapies for weight-loss.
 - vi. Routine/preventive anal gland expression
- r. The cost of boarding **your pet** at a veterinary facility.
- s. The cost of any form of housing, including cages rented or bought.
- t. The cost of renting or purchasing:
 - i. A swimming pool;
 - ii. A hydrotherapy pool;
 - iii. Any other pool or hydrotherapy equipment;
 - iv. Any physical therapy devices for in home use (including but not limited to hydrotherapy, laser, underwater treadmill, and/or electric stimulation); or
 - v. Beds, orthopedic beds, bedding.
- u. Any of the following methods of **treatment** not administered by a **veterinarian**:
 - i. Complementary Therapy; or
 - ii. Physical Therapy.
- v. **Experimental treatments** or any **treatments** or procedures that do not meet the accepted standards of veterinary medicine.
- w. Cloned pets or cloning procedures, whether or not deemed experimental or for research.
- x. Organ transplants not deemed **medically necessary** or not first approved by **us**.

- y. Costs and payments arising out of or related to:
 - i. Obedience or training classes, including puppy classes;
 - ii. Training, correctional devices, or preventive products;
 - iii. The treatment of coprophagia or other eating disorders; or
 - iv. Training for behavioral disorders.
- z. Grooming, nail clipping, or grooming supplies.
- aa. Treatments or preventive **treatments** for parasites or **illnesses** related to parasites (internal or external) unless there is no preventive medication for the parasite including but not limited to:
 - i. Heartworms;
 - ii. Fleas;
 - iii. Ticks;
 - iv. Roundworms;
 - v. Tapeworms; or
 - vi. Hookworms.
- bb. Elective or specialty procedures, including but not limited to:
 - i. Docking of tails;
 - ii. Removal of dewclaws;
 - iii. Removal of eyelashes;
 - iv. Cropping of ears;
 - v. Spaying or neutering;
 - vi. Cosmetic dentistry;
 - vii. Elective gastropexy; or
- cc. Time and travel expenses to a veterinarian's premises or hospital.
- dd. Costs for illness or injury arising out of or related to:
 - Racing;
 - ii. Coursing;
 - iii. Commercial guarding;
 - iv. Organized fighting; or
 - v. Any other occupational, professional or business uses of your pet.
- ee. Costs and payments arising out of or related to any intentional **injury** or abuse (including, but not limited to, persistent neglect of **your pet**, by **you** or a member of **your** household.)
- ff. Any costs and payments that arise out of or related to an **accident injury** or **illness** for which **you** were advised by a **veterinarian** to take action and **you** failed to follow the **veterinarian's** recommendations.
- gg. House calls, unless **treatment** is required for a life-saving emergency.
- hh. The costs of having **your pet** euthanized (unless recommended by the treating **veterinarian**), examined or tested post-mortem, cremated or otherwise disposed of. The destruction of a **pet** deemed dangerous is not covered.
- ii. Any costs or payments arising out of or related to:
 - Invasion:
 - ii. War;
 - iii. Revolt;
 - iv. Rebellion;
 - v. Revolution, military or usurped power;
 - vi. Governmental seizure;
 - vii. Quarantine: or
 - viii. Other action related to public safety or health.
- ij. The treatment, death or humane destruction arising out of or related to Avian Influenza.
- kk. Any costs or payments if other General Conditions set forth in Section VII, or conditions applicable to **you** and set forth in Section VIII, have not been met.
- II. Any **treatment** against a **veterinarian's** advice and the subsequent complications as a result, including in circumstances where it is requested by **you** and provided by a **veterinarian**.
- mm. Any amount if you failed to satisfy, or comply with, the conditions set forth in the GENERAL

CONDITIONS, CARE FOR YOUR PET (VII.6) section of this policy, including, but not limited to, a first exam for your pet. Any medical condition(s), clinical sign(s), behavioral disorder(s) or illness(es) observed or recorded during the first exam, and all costs associated therewith, are automatically excluded from coverage. Additionally, any conditions that are related to, caused by, or resulting from medical condition(s), clinical sign(s), behavioral disorder(s) or illness(es) observed or recorded at the first exam are also excluded from coverage.

- nn. Costs and payments arising out of or related to **physical therapy** and/or **complementary therapy** to treat weight loss.
- oo. Costs and payments related to shipping, processing and/or handling.
- pp. More than the first submitted anesthetic removal of an ingested foreign body in one (1) policy period.
- qq. The following are considered **pre-existing** and excluded:
 - i. If your pet has had Clinical Signs, prior to the policy original inception date or during the waiting period, of an Orthopedic Bilateral Condition on one side of the body, she/he runs a higher risk of the same condition on the other side of the body and future occurrences of the same condition will not be covered. For example, but not limited to, if a dog has been diagnosed with a cruciate tear in his left leg before the end of the Waiting Period, a subsequent cruciate tear in his right leg shall be considered pre-existing and not covered by this policy;
 - ii. Any pet diagnosed, treated or showing **Clinical Signs** of intervertebral disk disease (IVDD) prior to the end of the **Waiting Period** or during the **first exam** runs a higher risk of further episodes of IVDD and will not be covered for any in **policy** term incidences of an IVDD **clinical sign(s)** or **medical condition(s)**.
- rr. Treatments for injuries or illnesses arising from any Pre-existing behavioral problems or persistent occurrences. For example, a dog that has persistently eaten rocks or foreign objects prior to the Pet's Original Inception Date shall not be covered for Treatment during the policy period(s) for similar episodes. A dog who has shown any signs of aggression prior to the pet's original inception date shall not be covered for aggression or dog fights.

VI. LIMITS OF INSURANCE

- a. Regardless of the number of claims made during the policy period, the total limit of insurance for each
 policy period for all covered costs and payments shall not exceed the amount shown on the declarations
 page under maximum annual policy coverage.
- b. All coverage under this **policy** shall cease when **your policy** terminates.

VII. GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. ELIGIBILITY

This **policy** is issued in consideration of:

- a. The **declarations page** containing **your policy** elections and other information, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof; and
- b. Your payment of premium in the amounts and at the times as stated on the declarations page.

2. YOUR DUTIES AFTER LOSS

If your pet suffers a loss that may be covered by this policy, you must:

- a. Visit a veterinary clinic within forty-eight (48) hours after first noticing **clinical sign(s)** relating to an **illness** or **injury**.
- b. Complete and send to **us** a claim form describing the loss as soon as practicable but no later than ninety (90) days after the date of **treatment**. This form must list the following information:
 - i. Your name;
 - ii. The description of your pet;
 - iii. Your policy number; and
 - iv. Description of claimed illness or injury.

You may also submit claims electronically through our online claims submission process.

- c. Provide us with copies of invoices from the treating veterinary facility showing:
 - i. The treatments administered;
 - ii. The fees charged; and
 - iii. Proof of payment (i.e. receipt and/or invoice showing zero balance due).
- d. Otherwise cooperate with **us** in the investigation of any claim which includes providing a complete medical history for **your pet**. Failure to comply with these conditions may result in a claim not being covered.
- e. In the event **we** request additional documentation or medical records in relation to a submitted claim, all requested documentation must be received by **us** within 9 months (270 days) of the date the claim is submitted. If not received within that timeframe, the claim will be denied and closed. **You** will not have the opportunity to re-open the claim after the timeframe has passed.

3. PAYMENT OF LOSS

Once you have provided the written notice and other specified information to us, we will determine whether the loss is covered by this policy. We will compute any applicable co-pay and deductible(s). We will then make our reimbursement to you within thirty (30) days from our receipt of all required information. A statement showing the basis for our reimbursement will be available through your online account or upon request. This will include the effect of the co-pay and deductible calculations, deducted exclusion(s) and any maximum annual policy coverage, if applicable.

Reimbursement of one claim does not guarantee we will reimburse additional claims. If we reimburse you for a claim contrary to this policy's terms and conditions, that reimbursement does not waive our rights to apply the policy's terms and conditions to any reimbursement or future claim. We cannot pre-authorize or guarantee coverage of a claim by telephone. For pre-authorization of a treatment, you must complete a pre-authorization form, available by request or through your online account.

4. AGE OF YOUR PET

a. If you do not know the exact date of birth of your pet, we will use the average of the estimates of your pet's age as referenced in your pet's medical records from the veterinary clinics and shelters.

If **you** are renewing a **policy** for a dog age eight (8) years or older or a cat age ten (10) years or older, **you** must follow **your veterinarian's** advice with regards to senior wellness testing.

5. CONDITION OF YOUR PET

In order to assess a claim, **we** require complete medical records from any **veterinarian** who has treated **your pet**.

6. CARE FOR YOUR PET

- a. In consideration of the premium charged, it is hereby agreed that, as a condition of this **policy**, **you** must take care of **your pet** and arrange and pay for **your pet** to have the following:
 - A first exam;
 - ii. Any **treatment** recommended for **your pet** by a **veterinarian** to prevent **illness** or **injury** including, but not limited, to an annual physical examination, dental examination, or preventative veterinary medication;
 - iii. Adequate and prudent care of your pet including, but not limited to, protecting **your pet** from any exacerbation and/or persistence of any **injury** or **illness** after the initial occurrence or **accident**. This also includes providing **your pet** with proper maintenance and preventative care as recommended by a **veterinarian**.
- b. If your pet has not had a first exam within 12 (twelve) months prior to or 30 days after the original inception date, you must arrange to have a first exam of your pet at your own expense as early as possible. Failure to have a first exam may reduce coverage provided by your policy for your pet, (see V. GENERAL EXCLUSIONS, mm.)
- c. To be afforded coverage for the diseases listed below, you must keep your pet vaccinated at your expense, as recommended by your veterinarian. We will not reimburse you for any claims that result from or are related to any illness that is listed below that a veterinarian recommended vaccine would have prevented.

Dogs:

i. Canine distemper;

- ii. Canine adenovirus 2 (canine viral hepatitis);
- iii. Canine parainfluenza;
- iv. Canine parvovirus;
- v. Leptospirosis; or
- vi. Rabies.

Cats:

- i. Feline viral rhinotracheitis;
- ii. Feline calicivirus:
- iii. Feline panleukopenia; or
- iv. Feline leukemia virus.
- d. You must take your pet to be examined and treated by a veterinarian within forty-eight (48) hours after first noticing clinical sign(s) relating to an illness or injury.
- e. In support of **your** care for **your pet**, **we** may, from time to time, offer wellness materials or programs to **you** and **your pet**.

7. CONCEALMENT, MISREPRESENTATION OR FRAUD

This **policy** and all policies held by **you** may be cancelled immediately in any case of fraud by **you** at any time as it relates to this **policy. Your policies** may also be cancelled if **you** at any time intentionally conceal, misrepresent or exaggerate a material fact concerning:

- a. this or any **policy**;
- b. your pet; or
- c. a claim under this or any **policy**.

8. COOPERATION, INFORMATION AND EXAMINATION

You agree that any veterinarian who has treated your pet has your permission to release any information we may ask for about your pet. You further agree that we have the right to have your pet examined by a veterinarian of our choosing at our own expense. In the event of any disagreement in the diagnosis of your pet's condition(s) or treatment(s) between your and our veterinarian, an independent veterinarian mutually agreed upon by both parties will be appointed. Written agreement signed by any two of these three will be binding subject to our mutual agreement. The costs incurred by the independent veterinarian are shared equally by both you and us.

9. TRANSFER OF YOUR RIGHTS AND DUTIES

You must be the owner of the **pet**. If ownership of the **pet** transfers to another individual, coverage may be continued without interruption, if approved in writing by **us** upon **our** receipt of proof of transfer of ownership and continued payment of premium.

10. CHANGING YOUR LEVEL OF COVERAGE

- a. You may apply to decrease your maximum annual policy coverage or increase your deductible and/or your co-pay at any time during the policy period. This request must be made to us in writing or with verbal confirmation. If we approve, the request will become effective on the day the request is received.
- b. You may apply to increase your maximum annual policy coverage or decrease your deductible and/or your co-pay.

In the event you have not submitted a claim with us and you choose to increase your Pet's Coverage after the Original Inception Date, the Waiting Period and the determination of Pre-Existing Conditions reset as of the date of the Coverage change. This means you will have a new waiting period that begins as of the date of the increase in coverage change. In addition, any injuries, illnesses or medical condition(s) that your pet has shown clinical sign(s) of or has been diagnosed with, will be considered pre-existing and no longer covered as of the date of the increase in coverage change. There is no reset for a decrease in Coverage. All requests to change coverage must be in writing or with verbal confirmation. If you have submitted a claim with us, your coverage is not eligible to be increased at any time.

VIII. OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. LEGAL ACTIONS

No one may bring a legal action against **us** until there has been full compliance with all the terms of this **policy**. No action at law or in equity shall be brought to recover on this **policy** prior to the expiration of sixty (60) days after written proof of loss has been furnished in accordance with the requirements of this **policy**. **You** will have three (3) years from the time written proof of loss is required to be furnished to take legal action against **us** with respect to recovery of a claim under this **policy**.

2. APPEALS

In the event of any disagreement regarding the outcome of a claim, you may appeal to have your claim undergo internal review. All requests to appeal your claim must be made in writing to us within ninety (90) days of the denial of your claim by us. Any submitted appeal should state clearly why you or your veterinarian disagrees with the initial determination, along with any supporting documentation.

Internal Review Process:

Your claim will be reviewed by one of **our** claims specialists in collaboration with a claims manager and **our veterinarian**, when applicable. A written notice of the outcome of the internal review will be sent to **you**. If the original claims decision is upheld based on the internal review, the written notice will cite the specific reasons for the decision, citing the relevant sections of this **policy**.

3. OUR RIGHT TO RECOVER PAYMENT

- a. If there is other valid coverage, not with **us**, providing coverage for the same loss and of which **we** have not been given written notice prior to the condition or commencement of loss, **we** may assert a right of contribution. **You** agree to assist **us** in **our** effort to obtain contribution.
- b. This policy will only respond to claim amounts remaining after all other valid insurance has been exhausted, if collectable or not, subject to the terms and conditions of this policy. If all valid insurance is excess insurance, our share is the proportion that our applicable limit bears to the total applicable limits of all insurers. But we do not pay more than this policy's Maximum Annual Policy Coverage. It is your responsibility to notify us if other insurance is in effect. Failure to do so will be deemed concealment or misrepresentation and may void coverage (see also Section VII.7).
- c. In the event we reimburse a claim contrary to the policy terms and conditions, this payment will not constitute a waiver of our rights to apply the terms and conditions retrospectively as they stand to any paid claims or to any future claims for that or any related condition. We reserve our right to recover from you any claim reimbursement paid in error.

4. ENTIRE POLICY

This **policy** contains all the agreements between **you** and **us**. The terms of this **policy** may not be changed or waived except by an endorsement issued by **us** and made a part of this **policy**.

5. CONFORMITY TO STATE STATUTES

When this **policy's** provisions are in conflict with the statutes of the state in which this **policy** is issued, the provisions are amended to conform to such statutes.

6. CANCELLATION AND NONRENEWAL

- a. You may cancel this policy at any time by calling us and stating the future date that you wish the cancellation to be effective. The cancellation will be effective on the last day of your billing cycle at the time of the cancellation request or 30 days thereafter, whichever is sooner. We will not backdate a cancellation unless you provide written proof that your pet has passed away or is no longer in your possession. If you notify us within the first thirty (30) days from the original inception date shown on the declarations page, and you have not submitted any claim against this policy, we will refund the entire premium. After thirty (30) days, we will return the pro rata premium based upon the date of termination of this policy.
- b. We may cancel this **policy** (or any renewal of this **policy**) if **you** fail to pay the premium when due. In such a case, a written notice will be sent to **you**, providing at least fifteen (15) days' notice of **our** intent to cancel. Otherwise, **we** may cancel this **policy** by providing **you** at least thirty (30) days' written notice.
- c. We may cancel the policy due to the following:
 - i. Your material failure to comply with policy terms and conditions.
 - ii. You fail to send us relevant information in respect to a claim;

- iii. Your use or threat of violence or aggressive behavior; or
- iv. Your use of foul or abusive behavior.
- d. We may elect not to renew this **policy** on the expiration date (for any of the reasons stated in Section VIII.6.c above). In addition, we may elect not to renew this **policy** on the expiration date due to a material change in the condition, factor, or loss experience material to insurability. We may do so by writing to **you**, with a written notice at least sixty (60) days prior to the expiration date.
- e. We will automatically renew your policy at expiration, unless you are otherwise notified of nonrenewal. We may change the premium, maximum annual policy coverage, co-pay amounts, deductible(s) and policy terms and conditions at renewal. You will be notified of changes in writing.
- **f.** In the event of cancellation of this **policy**, **we** will promptly return to **you** the unearned portion of any premium paid. Cancellation shall be without prejudice to any claim occurring prior to the effective date of cancellation, except if any condition above in item c. is present.

7. PROMOTIONAL OFFERS

Each named insured may periodically receive certain promotional offers. These offers include but are not limited to gift cards, coupons, gift certificates, items of merchandise, and similar promotional items. But in no event will promotional items exceed a value of thirty-five dollars (\$35.00).

8. LIBERALIZATION

If we adopt any revision which would broaden the coverage under this **policy** within sixty (60) days prior to or during the **policy period**, with no adjustment of premium, the broadened coverage will immediately apply to this **policy**.

9. CLAIMS IN EXCESS OF 50

If we pay more than fifty (50) claims in total to you for your pet, you may lose your promotional discount or credit received. We also reserve the right in these circumstances in which fifty (50) claims have been paid to offer alternative, lower coverage to you. The proper notice will be sent to advise of any change to policy terms and conditions.

10. UNPAID PREMIUMS

Upon the payment of a claim under this **policy**, any premium that is due and unpaid or covered by any note or written order may be deducted from the claim.

11. ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

It is agreed that, unless otherwise notified by you, all documents and communications regarding this policy and any notices may be delivered to you by electronic mail using the email address associated with your policyholder account, except documents required to be delivered by another method. It is further agreed that it is your responsibility to keep your contact details, including email, telephone and postal address, current and correct.

12. REASONABLE COST DISPUTE

In the event that **your** Veterinary Provider charges an amount for **Treatments** in excess of those typically charged in **your** geographic area for identical **Treatments** or Professional Services or **Treatments** that are not **Medically Necessary**, **we** reserve the right to dispute the amount of the **reasonable cost(s)** to be reimbursed.

AMENDATORY ENDORSEMENT TEXAS

- I. Section VII. General Conditions, Item 3. PAYMENT OF LOSS is deleted and replaced by the following:
 - a. Not later than the fifteenth (15th) day after the date we receive notice of a claim, we shall:
 - i. acknowledge receipt of the claim;
 - ii. commence any investigation of the claim; and
 - iii. request from **you** all items, statements and forms that **we** reasonably believe, at that time, will be required from **you**.
 - b. **We** may make additional requests for information if during the investigation of the claim the additional requests are necessary.
 - c. We shall notify you in writing of the acceptance or rejection of a claim not later than the fifteenth (15th) business day after the date we receive all items, statements and forms required by us to secure final proof of loss.
 - d. If **we** have a reasonable basis to believe that a loss resulted from arson, **we** shall notify the claimant in writing of the acceptance or rejection of the claim not later than the thirtieth (30th) day after the date **we** receive all items, statements, and forms required by **us**.
 - e. If **we** reject the claim, the notice must state the reasons for the rejection.
 - f. If **we** are unable to accept or reject the claim within the period specified by Subsection a. or b., **we**, within that same period, shall notify **you** of the reasons that **we** need additional time. **We** shall accept or reject the claim not later than the forty-fifth (45th) day after the date **we** notify **you** under this subsection.
 - g. Except as otherwise provided by this section, if we notify a claimant that we will pay a claim or part of a claim, we shall pay the claim not later than the fifth (5th) business day after the date notice is made.
 - h. If payment of the claim or part of the claim is conditioned on the performance of an act by **you**, **we** shall pay the claim not later than the fifth (5th) business day after the date the act is performed.
 - i. Except as otherwise provided, if we, after receiving all items, statements and forms reasonably requested and required, delay payment of the claim for a period exceeding the period specified by other applicable statutes or, if other statutes do not specify a period, for more than sixty (60) days, we shall pay damages and other items as provided by Section 542.060 of the Texas Insurance Code.
 - j. This section does not apply in a case in which it is found as a result of arbitration or litigation that a claim received by **us** is invalid and should not be paid by **us**.
 - k. A court may grant a request by a guaranty association for an extension of the periods on a showing of good cause and after reasonable notice to policyholders.
 - In the event of a weather-related catastrophe or major natural disaster, as defined by the commissioner, the claim-handling deadlines imposed are extended for an additional fifteen (15) days.
 - m. Reimbursement of one claim does not guarantee we will reimburse additional claims. If we reimburse you for a claim contrary to this policy's terms and conditions, that reimbursement does not waive our rights to apply the policy's terms and conditions to any reimbursement or future claim.

- n. We cannot pre-authorize or guarantee coverage of a claim by telephone. For preauthorization of a treatment, you must complete a Preauthorization Form, available by request or through your online account.
- **II. Section VII. General Conditions**, Item **7. CONCEALMENT**, **MISREPRESENTATION OR FRAUD** is deleted and replaced by the following:

This policy and all policies held by you will be cancelled in any case of fraud by you at any time as it relates to this policy. Your policies may also be voided if you at any time intentionally conceal, misrepresent or exaggerate a material fact concerning:

- a. this or any policy;
- b. your pet; or
- c. a claim under this or any policy, if it is shown that the concealment, misrepresentation or exaggeration:
 - i. was fraudulently made;
 - ii. misrepresented a fact material to the question of the insurer's liability under the policy; and
 - iii. misled the insurer and caused the insurer to waive or lose a valid defense to the policy.
- **III. Section VIII. Other Terms and Conditions**, Item **1. LEGAL ACTIONS** is deleted and replaced by the following:

No one may bring a legal action against us until there has been full compliance with all the terms of this **policy**. No action at law or in equity shall be brought to recover on this **policy** prior to the expiration of ninety (90) days after notice of a claim has been furnished, to any convenient agent of **ours**, in accordance with the requirements of this **policy**. **You** will have two (2) years and one (1) day from the date **your** cause of action against us first accrues to take legal action against **us** with respect to recovery of a claim under this **policy**.

IV. Section VIII. Other Terms and Conditions, Item 2. APPEALS is amended to include the following:

Appraisal

If the benefit amount cannot be agreed subsequent to an Internal Review, **you** and/or **we** have the right to select a competent and impartial primary veterinarian (appraiser). The two (2) appraisers will select a primary **veterinarian** as umpire. If they cannot agree, they may request that selection be made by a judge of a court having jurisdiction. The appraisers will state separately the amount of the benefit. If they fail to agree, they will submit their differences to the umpire. Written agreement signed by any two of these three will be nonbinding subject to **our** mutual agreement. Each party will:

- a. Pay its chosen appraiser.
- b. Bear the other expenses of the appraisal and umpire equally. The appraisal shall be completed within sixty (60) days of the selection of the participants.
- V. Section VIII. Other Terms and Conditions, Item 6. CANCELLATION AND NONRENEWAL, part b., c., d and e. are amended as follows:
 - b. **We** may cancel **your policy** by mailing or emailing to **you** written notice of cancellation, stating the reason for cancellation, at least 10 days before the effective date of cancellation.
 - c. If this policy has been in effect for 60 days or less, we may cancel for any reason except that, under the provisions of the Texas Insurance Code, we may not cancel this policy solely because the policyholder is an elected official.
 - (2) If this policy has been in effect for more than 60 days, or if it is a renewal or continuation of a policy issued by **us**, **we** may cancel only for one or more of the following reasons:

IT IS HEREBY AGREED THE POLICY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

- (a) Fraud in obtaining coverage;
- (b) Failure to pay premiums when due;
- (c) An increase in hazard within the control of you which would produce an increase in rate;
- (d) Loss of our reinsurance covering all or part of the risk covered by the policy; or
- (e) If **we** have been placed in supervision, conservatorship or receivership and the cancellation is approved or directed by the supervisor, conservator or receiver.
- (f) Your use or threat of violence or aggressive behavior; or
- (g) Your use of foul or abusive behavior.
- d. The following condition is added and supersedes any provision to the contrary:
 - We may elect not to renew this policy except that, under the provisions of the Texas
 Insurance Code, we may not refuse to renew this policy solely because the policyholder is an
 elected official.
 - 2. If we elect not to renew your policy, we may do so by mailing or emailing to you a, written notice of nonrenewal, stating the reason for nonrenewal, at least 60 days before the expiration date. If notice is mailed or emailed less than 60 days before the expiration date, your policy will remain in effect until the 61st day after the date on which the notice is mailed or delivered. Earned premium for any period of coverage that extends beyond the expiration date will be computed pro rata based on the previous year's premium.
- e. We will automatically renew your policy at expiration, unless you are otherwise notified of nonrenewal. We may change the premium, maximum annual policy coverage, co-pay amounts, deductible(s) and policy terms and conditions at renewal. You will be notified of changes in writing. Your policy will not automatically renew if any changes eliminate or reduce coverage.
- VI. Section VIII. Other Terms and Conditions, Item 7. PROMOTIONAL OFFERS is deleted and replaced by the following:
 - Each named insured may receive from time to time certain promotional offers. These offers include promotional advertising items, educational items or traditional courtesies commonly extended to consumers. But in no event will promotional items exceed a value of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).
- VII. Section VIII. Other Terms and Conditions. Item 8. LIBERALIZATION is deleted.
- VIII. Section VIII. Other Terms and Conditions, Item 10. UNPAID PREMIUMS is deleted. IX. Section VIII. Other Terms and Conditions, Item 11. ELECTRONIC DELIVERY is deleted.