Premier Dental Plan

Summary Plan Description

January 1, 2025

This document is the Summary Plan Description ("SPD") for this benefit. This SPD is required by federal law called the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"). This SPD reflects the terms of the benefit in effect as of January 1, 2025. Ecolab has the right to amend or terminate all or part of the Plan at any time.

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ECOLAB HEALTH AND WELFARE BENEFITS PLAN: MEDICAL, PRESCRIPTION DRUG, DENTAL, VISION, EAP AND FLEXIBLE BENEFIT OPTIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025

Plan Name and Description

The name of the Plan is the Ecolab Health and Welfare Benefits Plan ("Plan"). The Plan provides health and other welfare benefits to Eligible Employees of Ecolab Inc. and subsidiaries of Ecolab Inc. that have adopted the Plan ("Participating Employers" or "Employers") and their Eligible Dependents.

This Administrative Information Summary Plan Description ("Administrative Information SPD") describes the medical, prescription drug, dental, vision and EAP options under the Plan.

This Administrative Information SPD and the attached Vendor Benefit Description together make up the ERISA-required Summary Plan Description. The list of options covered under this Administrative Information SPD and the title of the Vendor Benefit Description for each option is below in the *Benefit Options Chart.* The SPD is part of the Plan Document.

Benefit Options Chart

Benefit Type	Insured or Self-Insured	Insurer/ Claims Administrator Name and Contact Information	Vendor Benefit Description
Medical	Self-Insured	Cigna PO Box 182223 Chattanooga, TN 37422-7223 1-800-900-3791 www.mycigna.com	Health Savings Account Medical Plan Option (for Employees Residing in US Other than Alaska, Wyoming and Hawaii) Benefit Description
Medical	Self-Insured	Cigna PO Box 182223 Chattanooga, TN 37422-7223 1-800-900-3791 www.mycigna.com	Traditional Medical Plan Option (for Employees Residing in US Other Than Alaska, Wyoming and Hawaii) Benefit Description
Medical	Insured	HMSA PO Box 1958 Honolulu, HI 96805-1958 1-800-810-2583 www.hmsa.com	Hawaii Medical Plan Option Benefit Description

Benefit Type	Insured or Self-Insured	Insurer/ Claims Administrator Name and Contact Information	Vendor Benefit Description
Medical	Self-Insured	Cigna PO Box 182223 Chattanooga, TN 37422-7223 1-800-900-3791 www.mycigna.com	Health Savings Account Medical Plan Option (for Employees Residing in Alaska and Wyoming) Benefit Description
Medical	Self-Insured	Cigna PO Box 182223 Chattanooga, TN 37422-7223 1-800-900-3791 www.mycigna.com	Traditional Medical Plan Option (for Employees Residing in Alaska and Wyoming) Benefit Description
Medical, Prescription Drug, Dental and Vision and EAP	Insured	Cigna Global PO Box 15050 Wilmington DE 19850-5050 1-800-441-2668 www.cignaenvoy.com	International Benefits Plan Option Benefit Description
Prescription Drug	Self-Insured	CVS/caremark PO Box 52136 Phoenix, AZ 85072-2136 1-866-490-0021 www.caremark.com (See Benefit Description for addresses for out-of-network claim reimbursement, appeals and mail order prescriptions.)	Health Savings Account Prescription Drug Plan Option Benefit Description
Prescription Drug	Self-Insured	CVS/caremark PO Box 52136 Phoenix, AZ 85072-2136 1-866-490-0021 www.caremark.com (See Benefit Description for addresses for out-of-network claim reimbursement, appeals and mail order prescriptions.)	Traditional Prescription Drug Plan Option Benefit Description
Dental	Insured	MetLife Dental Claims PO Box 981282 El Paso, TX 79998-1282 1-800-942-0854 www.mybenefits.metlife.com	Premier Dental Plan Option Benefit Description

Benefit Type	Insured or Self-Insured	Insurer/ Claims Administrator Name and Contact Information	Vendor Benefit Description
Dental	Insured	MetLife Dental Claims PO Box 981282 El Paso, TX 79998-1282 1-800-942-0854 www.mybenefits.metlife.com	Standard Dental Plan Option Benefit Description
Vision	Insured	EyeMed Fidelity Security Life Insurance Company 3130 Broadway Kansas City, MO 64111-2406 1-833-918-1259 member.eyemedvisioncare.com/ecolab/en	Vision Plan Option Group Vision Insurance Certificate / Benefit Description
EAP	Insured	Cigna Behavioral Health 11095 Viking Drive Suite 350 Eden Prairie, MN 55344 Member Services at: 1-800-900-3791 www.mycigna.com	Employee Assistance Plan (EAP) Option Benefit Description
Flexible Benefit	Self-Insured	ThrivePass 1-866-855-2844 mybenefits.us.ecolab.com	Flexible Benefit Plan Option Benefit Description

Eligible Employees

You are eligible to participate in the Plan if you are an Eligible Employee. If you and your family member are both employed by Ecolab or another Participating Employer ("Employer"), you cannot be enrolled as both an employee and a dependent (you and your family member will both be enrolled as employees, provided you are Eligible Employees). To enroll for coverage under an Insurance Policy, you must also satisfy the eligibility requirements for coverage as set forth in the Policy.

Eligible Employee. You are an Eligible Employee if you are:

1. employed by the Employer;
2. in a budgeted position;
3. regularly scheduled to work at least 20 hours per week; and
4. not excluded from the definition of Eligible Employee.

Not Eligible Employee (Excluded). You are not an Eligible Employee (excluded from the definition of Eligible Employee) if you are:

1. classified by the Employer as a temporary employee, a leased employee, or independent contractor;
2. covered by a collective bargaining agreement or contract that does not provide for your participation; or

3. employed by an Ecolab subsidiary that has not adopted the Plan.

Foreign Service for Eligible Employees. If you are a U.S. citizen or resident alien who is transferred to a full-time position with Ecolab or an Ecolab subsidiary in a foreign country (outside of the United States) on a temporary basis for 6 months or more, you will be eligible for coverage under the Ecolab Expatriate option.

Union Employees. If you are covered by a collective bargaining agreement, you are eligible for coverage only if your union agreement provides for your Plan participation.

Reclassification as an Eligible Employee. If you are reclassified as an Eligible Employee by a court, an administrative body or the Employer on a retroactive basis, you will be eligible for coverage only during periods that follow the reclassification. No Plan coverage will be retroactive.

Eligible Dependents

Eligible Dependents are: (1) your Spouse or your Domestic Partner; and (2) your Dependent Child(ren).

You must enroll your Eligible Dependents within the period required by the Plan. Refer to the "Enrollment Periods and Coverage Effective Dates" section below. You must be enrolled in an option to enroll your Eligible Dependents in that option.

Proof of Dependent Status. You must provide documents supporting Eligible Dependent status when you first enroll your Spouse or Domestic Partner or your Dependent Child, such as a birth certificate, marriage certificate or domestic partner affidavit.

If you fail to provide the required documentation by the deadline imposed by the Plan Administrator, your dependent will not be enrolled and cannot enroll until the next Open Enrollment Period (unless you experience a qualifying election change event before then).

You may periodically be required to provide proof of Eligible Dependent status after initial enrollment as well.

Spouse. Spouse means your spouse through marriage recognized as valid under U.S. federal law.

Domestic Partner. To be a Domestic Partner, your partner must be:

1. of the same gender as you and the two of you must be in a civil union, in a registered domestic partnership or a similar arrangement that is legally recognized under the laws of a state in the United States or under the laws of a jurisdiction outside of the United States; or

2. of the same or opposite gender as you and the two of you must:

    a. be at least 18 years old and legally competent to enter into a contract;

    b. not be married to or the domestic partner of anyone else;

    c. be jointly responsible for each other's well-being and financial obligations;

    d. not be related to you by blood to a degree that would prohibit your marriage in your state of residence;

    e. have an ongoing and committed spouse-like relationship and intend to do so indefinitely;

    f. live together in the same principal residence and intend to do so indefinitely; and

g. be jointly responsible for the direction and financial management of your household and take joint financial responsibility for each other's financial obligations.

You must submit your certificate of civil union or registered domestic partnership, or a domestic partner affidavit signed by you and your Domestic Partner. Domestic Partner benefits are only available for an option if provided in the Vendor Benefit Description. Federal tax rules generally require your contribution for coverage for a Domestic Partner and his or her children to be paid on an after-tax basis and the value of employer-paid coverage for the Domestic Partner and his or her children to be imputed to you as income.

Dependent Child. Dependent Child means a child who:

1. has one of the following relationships to you or to your Spouse or Domestic Partner:
    a. biological child;
    b. legally adopted child;
    c. child placed for legal adoption;
    d. foster child; or
    e. legal ward (child for whom you or your Spouse or Domestic Partner are legal guardian); and
2. is either:
    a. under the Limiting Age; or
    b. is eligible for Extended Disabled Dependent Coverage.

Limiting Age. The Limiting Age is age 26, regardless of marital, support, or student status.

Extended Disabled Dependent Coverage. To be eligible for Extended Disabled Dependent Coverage, a child must: (1) provide proof of eligibility for Extended Disabled Dependent Coverage when requested; and (2) not be self-supporting due to physical, mental or intellectual disability.

Enrollment Periods and Coverage Effective Dates

You must enroll in the manner directed by Human Resources.

Initial Enrollment. If you are a new Eligible Employee (a new hire or newly eligible for coverage), you must make your benefit elections within 31 days of your hire date or date of initial eligibility, and must be an Eligible Employee on the date of your enrollment. Your coverage will be retroactive to your hire date.

Annual Open Enrollment. All Eligible Employees can make new elections or changes for the next Plan Year during the Open Enrollment Period that occurs in the fall. Open enrollment elections are effective on January 1 following the Open Enrollment Period.

Mid-Year Special Enrollment. Mid-year special enrollment is provided for medical and prescription drug options pursuant to HIPAA for birth or adoption of a child, marriage, loss of other health plan coverage, losing a child's health insurance coverage through the state or becoming eligible for a premium subsidy from the state to obtain coverage for a child under this Plan. Additional details are provided in the medical Vendor Benefit Description.

Mid-Year Election Changes. Mid-year election changes can only be made if you have experienced a qualifying Mid-Year Election Change Event (see the list below) and make new elections within 31 days of the event. You must make the election in the manner directed by the Plan Administrator. You are required to provide documents supporting your qualifying Mid-Year Election Change Event when you submit your election change form (for example, birth certificate, marriage certificate, divorce decree).

The Plan Administrator will determine whether you have experienced a qualifying Mid-Year Election Change Event and whether the change you are requesting is consistent with that event in accordance with IRS regulations.

An election change will generally be effective on the date of the Mid-Year Election Change Event. Adjusted premium contributions will begin the first pay period after the effective date of your election change. Premium payments will be made for any period of retroactive coverage. Refunds or retroactive adjustments will be made to your premium contributions.

Mid-Year Election Change Events

The following are qualifying Mid-Year Election Change Events for purposes of the Plan:

1. Change in Status Events. The following are change in status events. An election change will be consistent with a change in status only if the change in status: affects eligibility for coverage under an employer plan, or some other plan such as for medical coverage, or coverage under this Plan; and the election change is on account of, and corresponds with, the change in status.

    a. Gain or loss of a Spouse or Domestic Partner;

    b. A change in the number of your Dependent Children, such as through birth or adoption;

    c. A change in your employment or the employment of your Spouse, Domestic Partner or Dependent Child, including:

        i. starting or losing a job;

        ii. a reduction or increase in the hours of employment (including going on and returning from unpaid leave),

        iii. gain or loss of eligibility for benefits under another employer's plan.

    d. Your child satisfying or ceasing to satisfy eligibility requirements for coverage, such as reaching the limiting age.

2. Change in Cost or Coverage Events. The change in cost or coverage events, and the election changes that are permitted as a result, are:

    a. An insignificant cost change in your contribution for Plan coverage will result in an automatic adjustment to your pre-tax contribution.

    b. A significant increase in the cost of a coverage option will permit you to switch to a similar coverage option or, if one is not available, to cancel coverage.

    c. A significant decrease in the cost of a coverage option will permit you to elect that coverage option, even if you are not currently a participant.

    d. The loss of a coverage option will permit you to change to a similar coverage option if any or, if one is not available, to cancel coverage.

e. The reduction of coverage within a coverage option will permit you to switch to a similar coverage option.

f. The addition or significant improvement of a coverage option will permit you to switch to the new or improved coverage option.

3. Election Lock Events. An election change made under another employer's plan, such as the plan of your Spouse's employer, will permit a corresponding change under this Plan if the other plan permits its participants to make an election change in accordance with the IRS cafeteria plan regulations or the other employer's plan and this Plan have different plan years.

4. QMCSO Events. You may change your election for Plan coverage in a manner that is consistent with a judgment, decree or order (including a Qualified Medical Child Support Order) resulting from a divorce, legal separation, annulment or change in legal custody ("Order") that requires health coverage to be provided for your child by you or another individual, such as your ex-Spouse. You may only elect to cancel coverage for your child under this Plan if the Order requires another individual to provide health coverage for your child and that coverage is actually provided.

> The Plan is not obligated to comply with any order requiring you to add your ex-spouse to coverage. The Plan does not cover ex-spouses other than under COBRA continuation coverage. You must notify the Plan of a divorce for your ex-spouse to be eligible for COBRA. See the *COBRA Continuation Coverage* section of this SPD for details. You may be in violation of a court order if you drop your Spouse from coverage prior to divorce or fail to notify the Plan of the divorce and elect COBRA Continuation Coverage for your ex-spouse. You should consult with your divorce attorney.

5. Gain or Loss of Other Health Coverage Events. You may change your election for Plan coverage in a manner that is consistent with the gain or loss by you or your Spouse, Domestic Partner or Dependent Child of entitlement to Medicare or Medicaid. If you or your Spouse, Domestic Partner or Dependent Child loses group health plan coverage under a state children's health insurance program under Title XXI of the Social Security Act (“SCHIPS”), a tribal plan, a state health benefits risk pool, or a foreign governmental plan, you may enroll the individual(s) losing the coverage in corresponding Plan coverage.

6. Mid-Year Special Enrollment Events. If you exercise HIPAA special enrollment rights for medical Plan coverage because you gained an Eligible Dependent through marriage, birth, adoption or placement for adoption or lost other health coverage, pre-tax contributions for premiums for the coverage will be changed automatically.

7. FMLA Events. You may change your elections for Plan coverage when going on or returning from FMLA leave in a manner that is consistent with FMLA requirements and Plan rules.

8. Other Approved Leaves of Absence. Refer to the section entitled “Impact of Leaves of Absence on Benefits.”

Coverage and Benefits Information in Benefits Description

The terms and conditions of coverage and benefits for an option are in the Benefit Description, including:

1. additional eligibility requirements for coverage (if any);

2. commencement and termination of coverage;

3. type and amount of benefits provided;

4. deductibles, co-insurance, co-payments, and benefit maximums;

5. restrictions, limitations and conditions of coverage and benefits;

6. procedure for filing a benefit claim, including the period within which claims must be filed, and the appeal procedure for a denied benefit claim; and

7. the Plan's reimbursement and subrogation rights (for a self-insured option, the *Subrogation and Reimbursement* section of this SPD below will apply to the extent that it is not inconsistent with the subrogation and reimbursement language in the Benefit Description).

Benefit Payments

Benefits do not vest under this Plan. Benefit payments are limited to the amount due under the Plan and late benefit payments will not include interest or penalties.

If a benefit overpayment is made, you are required to promptly repay it. If you do not, the overpayment may be offset from future benefit payments.

Impact of Leaves of Absence on Benefits

Your participation in the Plan during leave of absence depends on whether it is paid or unpaid and the type of leave (for example, FMLA).

Type of Leave	Going on Approved Leave	Returning from Approved Leave (before or at expiration of Approved Leave)
Paid/Partially Paid Leave	Your participation in Plan benefit options (at the active employee premium rates) will continue while you receive pay (health & safe time, vacation time, parental leave or short-term disability). Premiums will be deducted, in whole or in part, from the pay you receive during your leave. If your pay does not cover them in full, they will be deducted in the order determined by the Plan Administrator (e.g., medical premiums will be deducted first, then dental premiums, etc.) and any premiums that are not deducted will be deducted from future pay. If you experience a qualifying Mid-Year Election Change Event, refer to the Mid-Year Election Change Events section of this SPD.	Your Plan benefit options, and pre-tax premium contribution elections remain in place. You will not be able to make a benefit election change on your return from leave unless you experience a qualifying Mid-Year Election Change Event. Refer to the Mid-Year Election Change Events section of this SPD.
Unpaid Leave, FMLA	Your participation in Plan benefit options will continue at the active employee premium rates. Your premium contributions will be put in arrears and deducted from future pay. You may elect to discontinue your benefits options within 31 days from the start of your FMLA leave. Your coverage under the pre-tax benefit options will end as specified in the various	Your Plan benefit options and pre-tax contribution elections that were in place during your leave will continue, but you can change your elections within 31 days from the date of your return. You will be required to reimburse the Employer for unpaid premium contributions during your FMLA leave.

	SPDs for those benefits, and expenses that you incur during your period of non-participation will not be eligible for reimbursement. If you continue coverage during your leave, but do not return to work at the end of your leave, you may be eligible to continue coverage through COBRA. Refer to the COBRA Continuation Coverage section of this SPD for details.	
Unpaid/Partially Paid Leave, Military	If your military leave is unpaid or partially paid, your Plan benefit options continue at the active employee premium rates through the end of the month following the month in which your military leave begins. If your military leave is partially paid, your premiums will be deducted, in whole or in part, from the pay you receive during your leave. If your pay does not cover them in full, they will be deducted in the order determined by the Plan Administrator (e.g., medical premiums, then dental premiums, etc.) and any premiums that are not deducted will be deducted from future pay. You may elect to continue your Plan benefit options under COBRA beyond the end of the month following the month in which your leave began to the extent required by USERRA. If you elect to continue your Plan benefits options, you will pay the active employee premium rates for the first 12 months of COBRA.	If you did not continue your coverage during the entire period of your leave, coverage (and pre-tax premiums for the coverage) will be offered upon your re-employment in accordance with Plan rules and to the extent required by USERRA. You will be required to reimburse the Employer for unpaid premium contributions during your Military leave.
Unpaid Leave, Special	Your participation in Plan benefit options will continue at the active employee premium rates. Your premium contributions will be put in arrears and deducted from future pay. You may elect to discontinue your benefit options within 31 days from the start of your special leave. Your coverage under the pre-tax benefit options will end as specified in the various SPDs for those benefits, and expenses that you incur during your period of non-participation will not be eligible for reimbursement. If you continue coverage during your leave, but do not return to work at the end of your leave, you may be eligible to continue coverage through COBRA. Refer to the COBRA Continuation Coverage section of this SPD for details.	Your Plan benefit options and pre-tax contribution elections that were in place during your leave will continue, but you can change your elections within 31 days from the date of your return. You will be required to reimburse the Employer for unpaid premium contributions during your Special leave.
Long-Term Disability Leave	When you transition to Long-Term Disability leave, your participation in Plan benefit options will continue at the active	Your Plan benefit options will continue, and the pre-tax premium contributions will resume the first of the month following your return to work

	employee premium rates. Your premium contributions will be paid on an after-tax basis to Ecolab's direct bill vendor. You may elect to discontinue your benefit options within 31 days from the start of your Long-Term Disability leave. Your coverage under the benefit options will end as specified in the various SPDs for those benefits, and expenses that you incur during your period of non-participation will not be eligible for reimbursement. If you continue coverage during your leave, but do not return to work at the end of your leave, you may be eligible to continue coverage through COBRA. Refer to the COBRA Continuation Coverage section of this SPD for details.	date. You can change your benefit elections within 31 days from the date of your return.

Benefit Claims and Appeals

Benefit claims must be filed with the Insurer or Claims Administrator in the period and in the manner provided in the Benefit Description.

The Insurer or Claims Administrator is the named fiduciary for benefit claims and appeals and has complete discretionary power and authority to make benefit determinations. A benefit is not payable unless the Insurer or Claims Administrator says that it is.

You are required to complete the claims and appeal procedure outlined in the Benefit Description before you can bring a claim in a court. After you have completed the claims and appeal procedure, you have a limited time to bring a claim in court. See the "Limitation of Legal Action" section below for more information.

Participation Claims and Appeals

If you believe that you have been improperly denied eligibility to participate in the Plan, enroll dependents, make election changes or correct premium contributions, you may file a Participation Claim with the Plan Administrator. Direct your Participation Claim to the attention of the Human Resources Benefits Department.

Definitions.

1. "Participation Claim" is a claim that relates to anything other than a claim for the payment of benefits that is made by a Claimant in accordance with the Plan's procedures for filing a Participation Claim. Participation Claim includes claims of eligibility to participate in the Plan, enroll dependents, make coverage changes, and to correct Employee contributions. A Participation Claim does not include an eligibility claim arising out of a request for a Plan benefit (such a claim is subject to the benefit claim and appeal procedures in the Vendor Benefit Description).

2. "Claimant" means an individual who, individually or through a Representative, has made a Participation Claim.

3. A “Representative” is an individual who can act on behalf of the Claimant. A parent or guardian will generally be considered the Representative of a child. In all other situations, the Claimant must notify the Plan in writing of a Representative.

Claim Submission.

1. A Participation Claim must be submitted to the Plan Administrator in writing and include the reason why the Claimant believes that the Participation Claim is valid. Completion and submission of enrollment, coverage change or other forms required by the Plan Administrator satisfies these requirements.

2. A Participation Claim must be made in the manner required by the Plan Administrator and within the period applicable to the type of Claim at issue:

    a. An Employee’s request to enroll himself or herself or a Spouse, Dependent, Domestic Partner or Domestic Partner's Child in Plan coverage must be made within the enrollment or coverage change period required by the Plan (for example, during open enrollment, within 31 days of an Employee’s hire or becoming eligible for coverage, within 31 days of the acquisition of a new Dependent or the date of loss of coverage for special enrollment or within 31 days of an event that permits a coverage change).

    b. A request to correct the amount of an Employee coverage contribution must be made within 60 days of the date of the improper contribution. A contribution is made on the date that it is deducted from the Employee’s pay.

Initial Review.

1. The Plan Administrator will provide its initial review determination to the Claimant within 90 days of receiving the Participation Claim. This period can be extended by up to 90 days in special circumstances, provided notice is given to the Claimant.

2. If a Participation Claim is denied in whole or part, the Plan will provide a written notice to the Claimant that includes:

    a. the reason(s) for the denial;

    b. a description of any additional material or information necessary for the Claimant to perfect the Participation Claim and an explanation as to why the information or material is necessary; and

    c. an explanation of the Plan’s appeal review procedure for the Participation Claim, including the applicable time limits.

Appeal Review.

1. The Claimant must appeal an initial Participation Claim denial within 30 days of his or her receipt of the denial. The appeal must be in writing and include the reason why the Claimant believes that the Participation Claim is valid.

2. The Claimant may submit written comments, documents, records, and other information to the Plan Administrator and the information will be considered on review regardless of whether it was submitted or considered in the initial review.

3. The Plan will provide to the Claimant reasonable access to documents, records, and other information which are, in the judgment of the Plan Administrator, relevant to the Participation Claim.

4. The Plan Administrator will provide its appeal review determination to the Claimant within 60 days of receiving the appeal of the denial of the Participation Claim. This period can be extended by up to 60 days in special circumstances, provided notice is given to the Claimant.

5. If the Participation Claim is denied on appeal review, the Plan will provide written notice to the Claimant that includes the reason(s) for the continued denial.

Qualified Medical Child Support Orders

The Plan Administrator will determine whether an order requiring the Plan to provide group health coverage to a child is a Qualified Medical Child Support Order. You can obtain a copy of the QMCSO procedures on request and free of charge from the Plan Administrator. If you are not enrolled, you will be required to enroll in order to enroll your child pursuant to a QMCSO. You must pay the premium required for your coverage and your child's coverage.

The Plan is not obligated to comply with any order requiring you to add your ex-spouse to coverage. The Plan does not cover ex-spouses other than under COBRA continuation coverage. You must notify the Plan of a divorce for your ex-spouse to be eligible for COBRA. See the COBRA Continuation Coverage section of this SPD for details. You may be in violation of a court order if you drop your Spouse from coverage prior to divorce or fail to notify the Plan of the divorce allowing your ex-spouse to elect COBRA Continuation Coverage. You should consult with your divorce attorney.

Post Retirement Benefits

The Ecolab Post Retirement Benefits Plan and certain other Ecolab plans currently provide eligible retirees with medical, dental and vision benefits, in addition to a small death benefit. For eligibility information, refer to the Ecolab Post Retirement Benefit Plan Summary Plan Description (SPD).

Under the terms of the plans applicable to Nalco Company retirees, you will lose eligibility for retiree medical and dental benefits if (i) you directly or indirectly in any manner or under any circumstances or conditions, engage in, as a partner, principal, agent, employee, stockholder, officer, director, trustee, consultant, or in any other capacity whatsoever, except as a nominal owner of stock of a public corporation, any business that in any way competes with the Company within any geographic area in which you had direct or indirect responsibility during the last two (2) years of your employment; or (ii) you, at any time, solicit any employee of the Company, or any person who served as an employee of the Company during the six (6) months immediately before your termination from employment, for employment or service or retain, hire or encourage any other person to solicit employees of the Company. You will forfeit eligibility under the retiree plans effective as of the last day of the month in which the Plan sponsor reasonably determines you are in competition with the Company, and you will not become eligible to participate in the retiree plans again.

COBRA Continuation Coverage

If you or your dependent loses coverage due to a COBRA qualifying event (reduction of hours, termination of employment, death, divorce or loss of dependent status), COBRA continuation coverage may be elected to temporarily continue your coverage as provided in this section. You must notify Ecolab Human Resources in writing within 60 days of a death, divorce or loss of Eligible Dependent status. If you do not notify Ecolab within 60 days, COBRA continuation coverage rights will be lost.

Any covered Eligible Employee or Eligible Dependent who loses Plan coverage as a result of a "qualifying event" will be eligible to elect to temporarily continue Plan coverage under a federal law called COBRA as described below.

For employees, the qualifying events are: (1) termination of employment for any reason other than gross misconduct; and (2) a reduction in hours.

For dependents, the qualifying events are: (1) the employee's termination of employment for any reason other than gross misconduct; (2) the employee's loss of eligibility for coverage due to a reduction in work hours; (3) the employee's death; (4) the employee's divorce, legal separation or termination of domestic partnership; or (5) loss of Eligible Dependent status under the Plan.

"You" or "your" refers to an Eligible Employee who is eligible for (and when required, has elected) COBRA continuation coverage. Your "dependent" means your Eligible Dependent who is eligible for (and when required, has elected) COBRA continuation coverage.

"Employer" means Ecolab Inc. or a Participating Employer.

Maximum COBRA Coverage Period

If your qualifying event was termination of employment or reduction of hours, your coverage and the coverage of your dependents can generally be continued for up to 18 months from the date of the employment termination or hours reduction. The coverage period can be extended to up to 29 months if you or your dependent is determined to be disabled for Social Security purposes at any time during the first 60 days of coverage continuation and you satisfy the notice requirement stated in "Disability Determination" below.

The continuation coverage period for your dependent can be extended to up to 36 months if, within the initial 18-month period (or 29-month extended period), coverage under the Plan would otherwise terminate because you die, your dependent ceases to meet the eligibility requirements of the Plan, you and your Spouse become legally separated or divorced, or you and your Domestic Partner end your domestic partnership. This is called a "second qualifying event."

If you enrolled in Medicare benefits before you lost coverage because of a reduction in hours or termination of employment, coverage for your dependents can be extended until up to 18 months after the reduction or termination or up to 36 months after the date of Medicare enrollment, whichever is later.

If the qualifying event was your death, legal separation, divorce, termination of domestic partnership or your dependent's ceasing to meet the eligibility requirements of the Plan, the continuation period would be up to 36 months from the date of the event.

The maximum COBRA coverage periods described above will not be extended even though coverage under the Plan is continued unintentionally, resulting in a delay in termination of coverage, or the Employer reduces or subsidizes, in whole or in part, the premium an individual is required to pay for COBRA coverage. The continuation coverage periods described above are maximum periods that will be reduced as described below.

You Must Provide Notice to the Plan Administrator of Certain Events

There are four instances in which you are required to notify the Plan Administrator or COBRA Administrator of an event. They are below. If you fail to provide the required notice within the period noted below, the right to elect to continue coverage will be lost. The notice must be in writing, must contain the information described below, and must be mailed by first class mail, postage prepaid.

1. *Divorce, Legal Separation, Termination of Domestic Partnership or Loss of Dependent Child Status.* You or your dependent must notify the COBRA Administrator of your divorce, legal separation, termination of domestic partnership or your child's ceasing to qualify as a dependent under the Plan within 60 days of the date of the qualifying event. If the COBRA Administrator is not given the required notice within 60 days, the right to continue coverage will be lost. The notice must contain the following information:

    a. The name, address and Social Security Number of the employee;

b. The name, address and Social Security Number of each dependent covered by the Plan;

c. A description of the qualifying event;

d. The date of the qualifying event; and

e. A list of the health plan options under which the affected individuals are covered.

2. *Disability Determination.* If you or any of your dependents were eligible for COBRA coverage as a result of your termination of employment or reduction in hours and elected COBRA coverage, and you or any dependent was determined to be disabled by the Social Security Administration at any time within the first 60 days of COBRA continuation coverage (whether or not the disabled person elected COBRA coverage), you and your dependents who elected COBRA coverage will be eligible for an additional 11 months of COBRA continuation coverage if you notify the COBRA Administrator of such determination within 60 days after the Social Security Administration determination and prior to the expiration of 18 months following the qualifying event. If the COBRA Administrator is not given the required notice within 60 days after the Social Security Administration determination and within the 18 month continuation period, the right to the disability extension will be lost. The notice must contain the following information:

a. The name, address and Social Security Number of the employee;

b. The name, address and Social Security Number of each dependent covered by the Plan; and

c. A copy of the Social Security Administration notice of determination.

3. *End of Disability.* If the Social Security Administration determines that the person has ceased to be disabled, you or your dependent must notify the COBRA Administrator within 30 days. The notice must contain the following information:

1. The name, address and Social Security Number of the employee;

2. The name, address and Social Security Number of each dependent covered by the Plan;

3. A copy of the Social Security Administration notice of determination; and

4. A list of the group health plan options under which the affected individuals are covered.

4. *Second Qualifying Event.* If during an 18-month or 29-month period of continuation coverage your dependent would otherwise lose coverage because of a second qualifying event which is the employee's divorce, legal separation, or termination of domestic partnership or the child's ceasing to qualify as a dependent under the Plan, you or your dependent must notify the COBRA Administrator within 60 days of the date of the second qualifying event. If the COBRA Administrator is not given the required notice within 60 days, the right to extend continuation coverage to a maximum of 36 months will be lost. The notice must contain the following information:

a. The name, address and Social Security Number of the employee;

b. The name, address and Social Security Number of each dependent covered by the Plan;

c. A description of the second qualifying event;

d. The date of the second qualifying event; and

e. A list of the group health plan options under which the affected individuals are covered.

Type of COBRA Coverage Available

An individual electing COBRA continuation coverage may elect to continue the Plan coverage in effect immediately before the qualifying event. If, however, the coverage provided to similarly situated employees is eliminated and the Employer continues to maintain other medical coverage, the individual will have the right to elect that coverage.

While the individual can only elect to continue health care coverage he or she had at the time of the qualifying event, as long as he or she continues the coverage, he or she will have the same coverage options that he or she would have had if the qualifying event had not occurred. For example, he or she may be able to change to a different option offered by the Employer during an open enrollment period or add coverage for newly acquired Eligible Dependents. (Dependents who are added during coverage continuation (after the qualifying event) will not have any independent continuation rights, except for children born to, placed for adoption with or adopted by the employee during the employee's continuation coverage period.)

Who May Elect COBRA Coverage

If you are eligible for COBRA coverage, you can make the election for yourself and for any one or more of your dependents who are eligible for COBRA coverage. If you do not make the election, your Spouse or Domestic Partner can make the election for himself or herself and any covered Dependent Child. Finally, if neither you nor your Spouse or Domestic Partner make the election for a covered Dependent Child, the dependent may make the election for himself or herself. (A child who is born to, or placed for adoption with, the employee while the employee is continuing coverage under COBRA and who becomes covered by the Plan will have independent COBRA election rights as if he or she were covered at the time of the qualifying event.)

Impact of COBRA on other Federal Law Rights

In considering whether to elect continuation coverage, you should take into account that a failure to continue group health plan coverage will affect your future rights under federal law. First, you can lose the right to avoid having pre-existing condition exclusions applied to you by other group health plans if you have more than a 63-day gap in health coverage, and election of continuation coverage may help you not have such a gap. Second, you will lose the guaranteed right to purchase individual health insurance policies that do not impose such pre-existing condition exclusions if you do not get continuation coverage for the maximum time available to you. Finally, you should take into account that you have special enrollment rights under federal law. You have the right to request special enrollment in another group health plan for which you are otherwise eligible (such as a plan sponsored by your spouse's employer) within 30 days after your group health coverage ends because of a qualifying event. You will also have the same special enrollment right at the end of the continuation coverage period if you get continuation coverage for the maximum time available to you.

COBRA Election Period

After a qualifying event or receiving notice of a qualifying event (if notice is required), the COBRA Administrator will send a notice regarding COBRA election rights to individuals eligible for COBRA. The individuals will have 60 days from the date of such notice (or from the date coverage would otherwise terminate because of the qualifying event, if the coverage would stop after the notice is sent) in which to file a written election to continue your coverage. If the individual does not file the required election form within this 60-day period, he or she will lose the right to continue coverage under the Plan. The election form must be submitted to the address specified in the election form.

The Trade Act of 2004 created a tax credit for certain individuals who become eligible for trade adjustment assistance ("eligible individuals"). Under the tax provisions, eligible individuals can either take a tax credit or get advance payment of 65% of premiums paid for qualified health insurance, including continuation coverage. An eligible individual who did not elect COBRA coverage will have a second 60-day COBRA election period beginning on the first day of the month in which he or she is determined to be

an eligible individual, but only if the election is made within six months after the original termination of employment. Any COBRA coverage elected during the second election period will begin with the first day of the second election period, rather than on the date coverage terminated.

COBRA Premium

You (or your dependent) must pay the full premium (both the employee and employer contribution), plus a 2% administration fee, for any coverage you continue. (The charge will be higher for coverage extended on account of disability.) The premium will be the same premium that would be paid for a person in your situation with respect to whom no qualifying event had occurred (but will include any portion the Employer normally pays for active employees). The first premium payment, covering the period between the date coverage would otherwise stop and the date of the payment, must be made within 45 days after the date you file the election to continue coverage. Subsequent premiums are due monthly on the day of the month coverage would have stopped if COBRA continuation had not been elected, and coverage will end if your or your dependent fails to pay the premium for any month within 30 days after the due date.

Under its current practice, if you die while actively employed by Ecolab or its subsidiary, Ecolab will subsidize the first 6 months of COBRA premiums for your dependents enrolled in medical coverage at the time of your death. Each dependent can elect to continue coverage at the full COBRA premium cost for the remaining 30 months of the continuation period.

No COBRA Coverage Pending Election or Payment

You will not have COBRA coverage until you have elected the coverage and made the required premium payment. Once you make the election and pay the premium, coverage will be reinstated retroactively to the date you lost your coverage.

Termination of Coverage

The continuation coverage will terminate when the first of the following events occurs.

1. The 18-, 29- or 36-month maximum continuation period ends.

2. You fail or your dependent fails to pay the initial premium within 45 days after your election, in which case you will be treated as not having elected to continue your coverage.

3. You fail or your dependent fails to pay any other premium within 30 days after it is due, in which case your coverage will end as of the end of the last period for which you made a timely premium payment.

4. After electing continuation coverage, you become or your dependent enrolls in Medicare benefits or becomes covered by any other group health plan that does not limit or exclude coverage because of a preexisting condition. Coverage already in place at the time of the continuation coverage election will not cause termination of continuation coverage.

5. The Employer ceases to provide group health benefits to any of its employees.

6. For coverage that is continued beyond 18 months because of disability, the disabled person ceases to be disabled, in which case the coverage will terminate as of the first day of the month that begins at least 30 days after date of the Social Security Administration’s determination that the person is no longer disabled.

7. The continuation coverage is terminated for cause (for example, you commit fraud against the Plan).

If You Have Questions

Questions concerning your Plan or your COBRA continuation coverage rights should be addressed to the Plan Administrator (see contact information below) or the COBRA Administrator. For more information about your rights under ERISA, including COBRA, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and other laws affecting group health plans, contact the nearest Regional or District Office of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) in your area or visit the EBSA website at www.dol.gov/ebsa. (Addresses and phone numbers of Regional and District EBSA Offices are available through EBSA's website.)

Keep the Plan and COBRA Administrator Informed of Address Changes

To protect your family's COBRA continuation rights, you should keep the Plan and COBRA Administrator informed of any changes in the addresses of family members.

Keep Copies of Any Notices You Send to the Plan or COBRA Administrator

You should also keep a copy, for your records, of any notices you send to the Plan and COBRA Administrator.

Plan Administrator Contact Information

Ecolab Inc.
Attn: Benefits Department – EGH3
1 Ecolab Place
St. Paul, MN 55102
If you have questions, call: (800) 964-0265

COBRA Administrator Contact Information:

ThrivePass
PO Box 220
Minneapolis, MN 55440-0220
(866) 855-2844

USERRA Continuation Coverage

If you leave your job with a Participating Employer to go on a qualifying military leave of absence as defined by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 ("USERRA"), you may elect to continue your coverage as provided in this section.

You will have the right to elect to continue Plan coverage for yourself and your Eligible Dependents during a period of Uniformed Service for up to 24 months, or the date on which you fail to return to work following your period of Uniformed Service, whichever is earlier. USERRA Continuation Coverage will begin on the first day of your leave of absence due to Uniformed Service.

Definitions

1. "Uniformed Service" includes service by an Employee in the Armed Forces, Reserves, federally activated National Guard and volunteers in the National Disaster Medical System.

2. "Service" means the performance of duty on a voluntary or involuntary basis in the Uniformed Services, including active and inactive duty training or service, examination to determine fitness for duty, certain funeral honors duties, and certain service by intermittent disaster-response personnel of the National Disaster Medical System.

3. "USERRA Continuation Coverage" means continuation of Plan coverage pursuant to USERRA.

Election of USERRA Continuation Coverage

You will be required to elect USERRA coverage. COBRA election procedures as set forth in COBRA Continuation Coverage Rights section will apply, except that an election for USERRA Continuation Coverage is not required if advance notice of leave is excused under USERRA. If you elect COBRA, you will be considered to have elected USERRA continuation coverage as well.

Cost of USERRA Continuation Coverage

The COBRA rate will apply. You will only be required to pay the active employee rate, however, for a USERRA leave of less than 31 days if you notify the Plan that your Uniformed Service is scheduled to last less than 31 days.

Termination of USERRA Continuation Coverage

USERRA Continuation Coverage will end when the earliest of the following occurs:

1. The 24-month USERRA Continuation Coverage period ends;

2. You fail to report back to work or apply for reemployment within the period required under USERRA after completing Service;

3. The Employer ceases to offer any group health plan to any of its employees; or

4. You fail to pay the required premium contribution within 30 days of the due date.

Coordination of COBRA Coverage and USERRA Coverage

The maximum USERRA Continuation Coverage period is 24 months. The maximum COBRA continuation coverage period may be 18 months, 29 months or 36 months depending on the qualifying event. The USERRA Continuation Coverage period and the COBRA continuation coverage period will run concurrently.

Covered dependents do have independent election rights under COBRA but not under USERRA. You must elect continuation coverage for yourself in order for your Spouse or Domestic Partner or Dependent Child to be eligible for any USERRA Continuation Coverage period that extends beyond the COBRA continuation coverage period.

Reinstatement of Coverage on Return from Service

To the extent required by USERRA, Plan coverage will be reinstated after you return to work even if you do not elect USERRA Continuation Coverage or your USERRA Continuation Coverage terminates for failure to pay a premium. No waiting period will be imposed.

Other Notices

Conditions of Participation

Participation in the Plan by an Eligible Employee is voluntary. Participation in the Plan does not give any Employee the right to continued employment.

As a condition of participation, each Eligible Employee and Eligible Dependent agrees to:

1. be bound by all of the terms and conditions of the Plan and, for an insured option, the Insurance Policy;

2. make the contributions required; and

3. furnish such information and execute such instruments and forms as the Plan Administrator and Insurer or Claims Administrator may request.

Committing Fraud or Intentional Misrepresentation Against the Plan

If you commit fraud or intentional misrepresentation of a material fact against the Plan (which may include enrolling someone in coverage who you know or should know does not qualify as your Eligible Dependent, continuing enrollment of someone in coverage who you know or should know has lost eligibility or filing a false claim) the Plan (or your Participating Employer) may take action, which may include the following:

1. Termination of Plan Coverage. Your coverage may be terminated. Coverage for the person you enrolled may be terminated. If you have committed fraud or made an intentional misrepresentation of a material fact, coverage may be terminated retroactively.

2. Repayment of Plan Benefits. You may be responsible for all benefits paid for a person who was not eligible for coverage or as a result of a false claim.

3. Discipline. You may be subject to discipline, including termination of your employment.

4. Notification of Law Enforcement. Law enforcement may be notified that you have committed intentional misrepresentation or fraud against the Plan.

Limitation of Legal Action

For insured options, the limitation of actions provision contained in the Policy will apply.

For self-insured options (and insured options if the Policy does not contain a limitation of action provision), the following will apply:

No action with respect to eligibility to participate or for any benefit under this Plan may be brought more than six months following the final decision in the final appeal review brought pursuant to the claim and appeal procedure set forth in the Vendor Benefit Description, or for eligibility claims, the participation and claims procedure described in this SPD. In no event can any action with respect to eligibility to participate or with respect to any benefit under this Plan be brought more than three years after the date the event giving rise to the claim occurred.

No Guarantee of Tax Consequences

Although Ecolab intends to provide certain Plan benefits on a tax-free basis, Ecolab does not guarantee that the benefits are tax-free or the tax consequences to you. You are responsible to pay any local, state or federal taxes that you owe as a result of your Plan participation or receipt of Plan benefits.

Availability of the Plan's HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices

You can obtain a copy of the Plan's HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices, which describes your privacy rights under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, from the Plan Administrator or from the Insurer for an insured option.

The separate HIPAA Plan amendment is part of the Plan document.

Health Care Providers

You are responsible for choosing your own health care provider. You must decide if any provider treating you (including an in-network provider) is right for you. You must decide with your health care provider which care you will receive. Your health care provider, whether in- or out-of-network, is responsible for the care provided to you.

The Plan pays for certain health care expenses. It does not provide health care. Determinations that health care services or supplies are not Covered Expenses (including that they are not medically necessary) are for payment purposes only.

The Insurer or Claims Administrator pays network providers through various types of contractual arrangements, which may include financial incentives to promote the delivery of care in a cost- effective manner (for example, bonuses based on quality, member satisfaction and cost-effectiveness). The financial incentives are not intended to affect your access to health care. If you have questions about whether your network provider's contract includes any financial incentives, you should discuss them with your provider and the Insurer or Claims Administrator.

Wellness Program Incentives

The Insurer, Claims Administrator or Plan may offer incentives to encourage you to participate in wellness programs or disease management programs. The decision whether to participate is yours alone and will not impact your eligibility to participate in the Plan or your employment at Ecolab.

Subrogation and Reimbursement

Insured vs. Self-insured. Subrogation and reimbursement under a fully insured Option will be as provided in the Policy. This section applies to self-insured medical options to the extent not inconsistent with the Vendor Benefit Description. If it is inconsistent with the Vendor Benefit Description, the Vendor Benefit Description controls.

Subrogation and Reimbursement Rights. Subrogation is the substitution of one person or entity in the place of another with reference to a lawful claim, demand or right. Immediately upon paying or providing any benefit, the Plan shall be subrogated to and shall succeed to all rights of recovery, under any legal theory of any type for the reasonable value of any services and benefits the Plan provided to Eligible Employees or Eligible Dependents ("Covered Persons"), from any or all the following listed below. In addition to any subrogation rights and in consideration of the coverage provided by this Summary Plan Description, the Plan shall also have an independent right to be reimbursed by Covered Persons for the reasonable value of any services and benefits the Plan provides to Covered Persons, from any or all of the following listed below.

1. Third parties, including any person alleged to have caused a Covered Person to suffer injuries or damages.

2. Any person or entity who is or may be obligated to provide benefits or payments to a Covered Person, including benefits or payments for underinsured or uninsured motorist protection, no-fault or traditional auto insurance, medical payment coverage (auto, homeowners or otherwise), workers' compensation coverage, other insurance carriers or third-party administrators.

3. Any person or entity who is liable for payment to a Covered Person on any equitable or legal liability theory.

These third parties and persons or entities are collectively referred to as "Third Parties".

Responsibilities of Covered Persons. Covered Persons agree as follows:

1. The Covered Person will cooperate with the Plan in a timely manner in protecting the Plan's legal and equitable rights to subrogation and reimbursement, including, but not limited to:

    a. providing any relevant information requested by the Plan;

    b. signing and/or delivering such documents as the Plan or its agents reasonably request to secure the subrogation and reimbursement claim;

    c. responding to requests for information about any accident or injuries;

    d. appearing at depositions and in court; and

    e. obtaining the consent of the Plan or its agents before releasing any party from liability or payment of medical expenses.

2. Failure to cooperate in this manner shall be deemed a breach of contract, and may result in the termination of health benefits and/or the institution of legal action against a Covered Person.

3. The Plan has the sole authority and discretion to resolve all disputes regarding the interpretation of the language stated herein.

4. No court costs or attorneys' fees may be deducted from the Plan's recovery without the Plan's express written consent; any so-called "Fund Doctrine" or "Common Fund Doctrine" or "Attorney's Fund Doctrine" shall not defeat this right, and the Plan is not required to participate in or pay court costs or attorneys' fees to the attorney hired by a Covered Person to pursue his or her damage/personal injury claim.

5. Regardless of whether a Covered Person has been fully compensated or made whole, the Plan may collect from Covered Persons the proceeds of any full or partial recovery that a Covered Person or his or her legal representative obtain, whether in the form of a settlement (either before or after any determination of liability) or judgment. The proceeds available for collection shall include, but not be limited to, any and all amounts earmarked as non-economic damage settlement or judgment.

6. Benefits paid by the Plan may also be considered to be benefits advanced.

7. Covered Persons agree that if they receive any payment from any potentially responsible party as a result of an Injury or Sickness, whether by settlement (either before or after any determination of liability), or judgment, the Covered Person will serve as a constructive trustee over the funds and failure to hold such funds in trust will be deemed as a breach of the Covered Person's duties hereunder.

8. Covered Persons or an authorized agent, such as the Covered Person's attorney, must hold any funds received from any potentially responsible party that are due and owed to the Plan, as stated herein, separately and alone, and failure to hold funds as such will be deemed as a breach of contract, and may result in the termination of health benefits or the institution of legal action against the Covered Person.

9. The Plan shall be entitled to recover reasonable attorney fees from Covered Persons incurred in collecting from the Covered Person any funds held by the Covered Person that he or she recovered from any Third Party.

10. The Plan may set off from any future benefits otherwise allowed by the Plan the value of benefits paid or advanced under this section to the extent not recovered by the Plan.

11. Covered Persons will neither accept any settlement that does not fully compensate or reimburse the Plan without the Plan's written approval, nor will the Covered Person do anything to prejudice the Plan's rights under this section.

12. Covered Persons will assign to the Plan all rights of recovery against Third Parties, to the extent of the reasonable value of services and benefits the Plan provided, plus reasonable costs of collection.

13. The Plan's rights will be considered as the first priority claim against Third Parties, including tortfeasors for whom Covered Persons are seeking recovery, to be paid before any other of the Covered Person's claims are paid.

14. The Plan' rights will not be reduced due to the Covered Person's own negligence.

15. The Plan may, at its option, take necessary and appropriate action to preserve its rights under these subrogation provisions, including filing suit in the Covered Person's name, which does not obligate the Plan in any way to pay the Covered Person part of any recovery the Plan might obtain.

16. The Plan shall not be obligated in any way to pursue this right independently or on behalf of the Covered Person.

17. If the injury or condition giving rise to subrogation or reimbursement involves a minor child, this section applies to the parents or guardian of the minor child.

18. If the injury or condition giving rise to subrogation or reimbursement involves the wrongful death of a Plan beneficiary, this section applies to the personal representative of the deceased Plan beneficiary.

<u>Refund of Overpayments.</u>

1. If the Plan pays benefits for expenses incurred on account of a Covered Person, that Covered Person, or any other person or organization that was paid, must make a refund to us if either of the following apply:

   a. all or some of the expenses were not paid by the Covered Person or did not legally have to be paid by the Covered Person; or

   b. all or some of the payment we made exceeded the benefits under the Plan.

2. The refund equals the amount we paid in excess of the amount we should have paid under the Plan.

3. If the refund is due from another person or organization, the Covered Person agrees to help us get the refund when requested.

4. If the Covered Person, or any other person or organization that was paid, does not promptly refund the full amount, we may reduce the amount of any future benefits that are payable under the Plan. The reductions will equal the amount of the required refund. We may have other rights in addition to the right to reduce future benefits.

ERISA Plan Information

Plan Name and Type: Ecolab Health and Welfare Benefits Plan. The Plan provides health and other welfare benefits to Eligible Employees of Ecolab Inc. and other Participating Employers.

Participating Employers: Ecolab Inc. and subsidiaries of Ecolab Inc. that have adopted the Plan. If you have questions about whether your employer is a Participating Employer, contact the Plan Administrator.

Plan Number: The Plan number is 501.

Plan Year: The Plan Year is the 12-month period beginning each January 1 and ending the following December 31.

Plan Sponsor Taxpayer Identification Number: Ecolab's Taxpayer Identification Number is 41-0231510.

Plan Sponsor and Plan Administrator: Ecolab Inc. is the Plan Sponsor and Plan Administrator of the Plan.

Ecolab Inc.
Attn: Benefits Department - EGH3
1 Ecolab Place
St. Paul, MN 55102
(800) 964-0265

Plan Administrator Discretionary Authority: The Plan Administrator's determinations regarding coverage, claims and all other aspects of the Plan are binding. The Plan Administrator has complete discretionary power and authority with respect to all Plan matters, including eligibility and benefits, factual determinations and Plan interpretation. A benefit is not payable unless the Plan Administrator determines that it is. The Plan Administrator may delegate its authority to Plan service providers, such as the Insurer or Claims Administrator.

Right to Amend or Terminate Plan: Ecolab reserves the right to amend or terminate all or part of this Plan and will do so by written instrument signed by an authorized Ecolab officer. Plan terms cannot be modified by oral statements made by anyone. Misinformation or a mistake does not create a right to eligibility or benefits.

Insurer or Claims Administrator: The name, address and contact information for the Insurer or Claims Administrator for each option is listed in the *Benefits Options Chart* at the front of this SPD.

Premium Contributions and Plan Funding: Premiums for the Plan benefits you elect are paid through your contributions and contributions by your Participating Employer, if any. The Plan Administrator will inform you what Premium amount you will be required to pay for your coverage. To the extent permitted by federal law, your Premium contributions will automatically be paid on a pre-tax basis. Benefits for insured options are paid by the Insurer. Ecolab has no responsibility to pay any benefits under this Plan for insured options. Benefits for self-insured options are paid from Ecolab's general corporate assets.

Legal Process: Legal process may be served on the Plan Administrator at the following address:

Ecolab Inc.
Attn: General Counsel's Office
1 Ecolab Place
St. Paul, MN 55102

Collective Bargaining Agreements:

A copy of any collective bargaining agreement that provides for participation in this Plan is available for examination.

Provider Lists: Provider lists are furnished automatically, without charge, upon request.

Statement of ERISA Rights

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

Receive Information About Your Plan and Benefits

You have the right to:

- Examine, without charge, at the Plan Administrator's office and at other specified locations, all documents governing the Plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the Plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

- Obtain, upon written request to the Plan Administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the Plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and copies of the latest Form 5500 and updated Summary Plan Description. The Plan Administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.

- Receive a summary of the Plan's annual financial report, if applicable. The Plan Administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary annual report.

Continue Group Health Plan Coverage

You have the right to continue health care coverage for yourself, spouse or dependents if there is a loss of group health plan coverage under the Plan as a result of a qualifying event. You or your dependents may have to pay for such coverage. Review *COBRA Continuation Coverage and USERRA Continuation Coverage* on the rules governing your COBRA continuation coverage.

Prudent Actions by Plan Fiduciaries

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

Enforce Your Rights

If your claim for a benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge, and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules.

There are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of plan documents or the latest annual report from the Plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in a Federal court. The court may require the Plan Administrator to provide the materials and pay you

up to $110 a day until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the Plan Administrator's control. If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a state or Federal court. In addition, if you disagree with the Plan's decision or lack thereof concerning the qualified status of a medical child support order, you may file suit in Federal court.

If the Plan fiduciaries misuse the Plan's money or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a Federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

Assistance with Your Questions

If you have any questions about this Plan, you should contact the Plan Administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the Plan Administrator, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

YOUR BENEFIT PLAN

Ecolab Inc.

All Full-Time Employees and Retired Employees

(High Plan)

Dental Insurance for You and Your Dependents

Certificate Date: January 1, 2024

Ecolab Inc.
370 Wabasha St., North
St. Paul, MN 55102

TO OUR EMPLOYEES:

All of us appreciate the protection and security insurance provides.

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

Ecolab Inc.



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

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

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

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

Policyholder:	Ecolab Inc.
Group Policy Number:	1140000-2-G
Type of Insurance:	Dental Insurance
MetLife Toll Free Number(s): For Claim Information	FOR DENTAL CLAIMS: 1-800-942-0854

THIS CERTIFICATE ONLY DESCRIBES DENTAL INSURANCE.

FOR CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS: REVIEW THIS CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY. IF YOU ARE 65 OR OLDER ON YOUR EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS CERTIFICATE, YOU MAY RETURN IT TO US WITHIN 30 DAYS FROM THE DATE YOU RECEIVE IT AND WE WILL REFUND ANY PREMIUM YOU PAID. IN THIS CASE, THIS CERTIFICATE WILL BE CONSIDERED TO NEVER HAVE BEEN ISSUED.

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

For Idaho Residents: TEN DAY RIGHT TO EXAMINE CERTIFICATE: You may return the certificate to Us within 10 days from the date You receive it. If You return it within the 10 day period, the certificate will be considered never to have been issued. We will refund any premium paid after We receive Your notice of cancellation.

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 New Mexico Residents: This type of plan is NOT considered "minimum essential coverage" under the Affordable Care Act and therefore does NOT satisfy the individual mandate that You have health insurance coverage. If You do not have other health insurance coverage, You may be subject to a federal tax penalty.

For New Hampshire Residents: 30 Day Right to Examine Certificate.

Please read this Certificate. You may return the Certificate to Us within 30 days from the date You receive it. If you return it within the 30 day period, the Certificate will be considered never to have been issued and We will refund any premium paid for insurance under this Certificate.

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.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF TEXAS

Have a complaint or need help?

If you have a problem with a claim or your premium, call your insurance company or HMO first. If you can't work out the issue, the Texas Department of Insurance may be able to help.

Even if you file a complaint with the Texas Department of Insurance, you should also file a complaint or appeal through your insurance company or HMO. If you don't, you may lose your right to appeal.

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company

To get information or file a complaint with your insurance company or HMO:

Call: Corporate Consumer Relations Department at 1-800-438-6388

Toll-free: 1-800-438-6388

Email: Johnstown_Complaint_Referrals@metlife.com

Mail: Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
700 Quaker Lane
2nd Floor
Warwick, RI 02886

The Texas Department of Insurance

To get help with an insurance question or file a complaint with the state:

Call with a question: 1-800-252-3439

File a complaint: www.tdi.texas.gov

Email: ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov

Mail: MC 111-1A, P.O. Box 149091, Austin, TX 78714-9091

¿Tiene una queja o necesita ayuda?

Si tiene un problema con una reclamación o con su prima de seguro, llame primero a su compañía de seguros o HMO. Si no puede resolver el problema, es posible que el Departamento de Seguros de Texas (Texas Department of Insurance, por su nombre en inglés) pueda ayudar.

Aun si usted presenta una queja ante el Departamento de Seguros de Texas, también debe presentar una queja a través del proceso de quejas o de apelaciones de su compañía de seguros o HMO. Si no lo hace, podría perder su derecho para apelar.

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company

Para obtener información o para presentar una queja ante su compañía de seguros o HMO:

Llame a: Departamento de Relaciones Corporativas del Consumidor al 1-800-438-6388

Teléfono gratuito: 1-800-438-6388

Correo electrónico: Johnstown_Complaint_Referrals@metlife.com

Dirección postal: Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
700 Quaker Lane
2nd Floor
Warwick, RI 02886

El Departamento de Seguros de Texas

Para obtener ayuda con una pregunta relacionada con los seguros o para presentar una queja ante el estado:

Llame con sus preguntas al: 1-800-252-3439

Presente una queja en: www.tdi.texas.gov

Correo electrónico: ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov

Dirección postal: MC 111-1A, P.O. Box 149091, Austin, TX 78714-9091

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALASKA, CONNECTICUT, LOUISIANA, NEW HAMPSHIRE, NEW MEXICO, TEXAS, UTAH AND WASHINGTON

The Definition Of Child Is Modified For The Coverages Listed Below:

For Alaska Residents (Dental Insurance):

The term also includes newborns.

For Connecticut Residents (Dental Insurance):

The age limit for children will not be less than 26, regardless of the child's marital status, student status or full-time employment status. Your natural child, adopted child or stepchild under age 26 will not need to be supported by You to qualify as a Child under this insurance.

A Child's insurance will not end due to age until the end of the Year in which that Child attains age 26.

For Louisiana Residents (Dental Insurance):

The term also includes Your grandchildren residing with You. The age limit for children and grandchildren will not be less than 21, regardless of the child's or grandchild's student status or full-time employment status. In addition, the age limit for students will not be less than 24. Your natural child, adopted child, stepchild or grandchild under age 21 will not need to be supported by You to qualify as a Child under this insurance.

For New Hampshire Residents (Dental Insurance):

The age limit for children will not be less than 26, regardless of the child's marital status, student status, or full-time employment status. Your natural child, adopted child or stepchild under age 26 will not need to be supported by You to qualify as a Child under this insurance.

For New Mexico Residents (Dental Insurance):

The age limit for children will not be less than 26, regardless of the child's student status or full-time employment status. Your natural child, adopted child or stepchild will not be denied dental insurance coverage under this certificate because:

- that child was born out of wedlock;
- that child is not claimed as Your dependent on Your federal income tax return; or
- that child does not reside with You.

For Texas Residents (Dental Insurance):

The term also includes Your grandchildren. The age limit for children and grandchildren will not be less than 25, regardless of the child's or grandchild's student status, full-time employment status or military service status. Your natural child, adopted child or stepchild under age 25 will not need to be supported by You to qualify as a Child under this insurance. A child will be considered Your adopted child during the period You are party to a suit in which You are seeking the adoption of the child. In addition, grandchildren must be able to be claimed by You as a dependent for Federal Income Tax purposes at the time You applied for Insurance.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALASKA, CONNECTICUT, LOUISIANA, NEW HAMPSHIRE, NEW MEXICO, TEXAS, UTAH AND WASHINGTON (continued)

For Utah Residents (Dental Insurance):

The age limit for children will not be less than 26, regardless of the child's student status or full-time employment status. Your natural child, adopted child or stepchild under age 26 will not need to be supported by You to qualify as a Child under this insurance. The term includes an unmarried child who is incapable of self-sustaining employment because of a mental or physical handicap as defined by applicable law and who has been continuously covered under a Dental plan since reaching age 26, with no break in coverage of more than 63 days, and who otherwise qualifies as a Child except for the age limit. Proof of such handicap must be sent to Us within 31 days after:

- the date the Child attains the limiting age in order to continue coverage; or
- You enroll a Child to be covered under this provision;

and at reasonable intervals after such date, but no more often than annually after the two-year period immediately following the date the Child qualifies for coverage under this provision.

For Washington Residents (Dental Insurance):

The age limit for children will not be less than 26, regardless of the child's marital status, student status, or full-time employment status. Your natural child, adopted child or stepchild under age 26 will not need to be supported by You to qualify as a Child under this insurance.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALL STATES WHO ARE INSURED FOR DENTAL INSURANCE

Notice Regarding Your Rights and Responsibilities

Rights:

- We will treat communications, financial records and records pertaining to Your care in accordance with all applicable laws relating to privacy.
- Decisions with respect to dental treatment are the responsibility of You and the Dentist. We neither require nor prohibit any specified treatment. However, only certain specified services are covered for benefits. Please see the Dental Insurance sections of this certificate for more details.
- You may request a pre-treatment estimate of benefits for the dental services to be provided. However, actual benefits will be determined after treatment has been performed.
- You may request a written response from MetLife to any written concern or complaint.
- You have the right to receive an explanation of benefits which describes the benefit determinations for Your dental insurance.

Responsibilities:

- You are responsible for the prompt payment of any charges for services performed by the Dentist. If the dentist agrees to accept part of the payment directly from MetLife, You are responsible for prompt payment of the remaining part of the dentist's charge.
- You should consult with the Dentist about treatment options, proposed and potential procedures, anticipated outcomes, potential risks, anticipated benefits and alternatives. You should share with the Dentist the most current, complete and accurate information about Your medical and dental history and current conditions and medications.
- You should follow the treatment plans and health care recommendations agreed upon by You and the Dentist.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALASKA

Reasonable and Customary Charges

Reasonable and Customary Charges for Out-of-Network services will not be based less than an 80th percentile of the dental charges.

Reasonable Access to an In-Network Dentist

If You do not have an In-Network Dentist within 50 miles of Your legal residence, We will reimburse You for the cost of Covered Services and materials provided by an Out-of-Network Dentist at the same benefit level as an In-Network Dentist.

Exclusions

The exclusion of services which are primarily cosmetic will not apply to the treatment or correction of a congenital defect of a newborn child.

Coordination of Benefits or Non-Duplication of Benefits with a Secondary Plan:

If This Plan is Secondary, This Plan will determine benefits as if the services were obtained from This Plan's In-Network provider under the following circumstances:

- the Primary Plan does not provide benefits through a provider network;
- both the Primary Plan and This Plan provide benefits through provider networks but the covered person obtains services through a provider in the Primary plan's network who is not in This Plan's network; or
- both the Primary Plan and This Plan provide benefits through provider networks but the covered person obtains services from a provider that is not part of the provider network of the Primary Plan or This Plan because no provider in the Primary Plan's provider network or This Plan's network is able to meet the particular health need of the covered person.

Procedures For Dental Claims

Procedures for Presenting Claims for Dental Insurance Benefits

All claim forms needed to file for Dental Insurance benefits under the group insurance program can be obtained from the Employer who can also answer questions about the insurance benefits and to assist You or, if applicable, Your beneficiary in filing claims. Dental claim forms can also be downloaded from www.metlife.com/dental. The instructions on the claim form should be followed carefully. This will expedite the processing of the claim. Be sure all questions are answered fully.

Routine Questions on Dental Insurance Claims

If there is any question about a claim payment, an explanation may be requested from MetLife by dialing 1-800-942-0854.

Claim Submission

For claims for Dental Insurance benefits, the claimant must complete the appropriate claim form and submit the required proof as described in the FILING A CLAIM section of the certificate.

Claim forms must be submitted in accordance with the instructions on the claim form.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALASKA (continued)

Procedures For Dental Claims (Continued)

Initial Determination

After You submit a claim for Dental Insurance benefits to MetLife, MetLife will review Your claim and notify You of its decision to approve or deny Your claim.

For claims that require Utilization Review determinations, such notification will be provided in accordance with the provisions under "Prospective and Retrospective Utilization Review Determinations" below.

For claims that do not require Utilization Review determination, such notification will be provided to You within a 30 day period from the date You submitted Your claim; except for situations requiring an extension of time of up to 15 days because of matters beyond the control of MetLife. If MetLife needs such an extension, MetLife will notify You prior to the expiration of the initial 30 day period, state the reason why the extension is needed, and state when it will make its determination. If an extension is needed because You did not provide sufficient information or filed an incomplete claim, the time from the date of MetLife's notice requesting further information and an extension until MetLife receives the requested information does not count toward the time period MetLife is allowed to notify You as to its claim decision. You will have 45 days to provide the requested information from the date You receive the notice requesting further information from MetLife.

If MetLife denies Your claim in whole or in part, the notification of the claims decision will state the reason why Your claim was denied and reference the specific Plan provision(s) on which the denial is based. If the claim is denied because MetLife did not receive sufficient information, the claims decision will describe the additional information needed and explain why such information is needed. Further, if an internal rule, protocol, guideline or other criterion was relied upon in making the denial, the claims decision will state the rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria or indicate that such rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria was relied upon and that You may request a copy free of charge.

Within 30 days after We receive Proof of Your claim, We will approve and pay the claim or We will deny the claim. If We deny the claim, We will provide You with the basis of Our denial or the specific additional information that We need to adjudicate Your claim. If We request additional information, We will approve and pay the claim or We will deny the claim within 15 days after We receive the additional information. If the claim is approved and not paid within the time period provided, the claim will accrue at an interest rate of 15 percent per year until the claim is paid.

Appealing the Initial Determination

If MetLife denies Your claim, You may take two appeals of the initial determination. Upon Your Written request, MetLife will provide You free of charge with copies of documents, records and other information relevant to Your claim. You must submit Your appeal to MetLife at the address indicated on the claim form within 180 days of receiving MetLife's decision. Appeals must be in Writing and must include at least the following information:

- Name of employee
- Name of the Plan
- Reference to the initial decision
- Whether the appeal is the first or second appeal of the initial determination
- An explanation why You are appealing the initial determination

As part of each appeal, You may submit any Written comments, documents, records, or other information relating to Your claim.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALASKA (continued)

Procedures For Dental Claims (Continued)

After MetLife receives Your Written request appealing the initial determination or determination on the first appeal, MetLife will conduct a full and fair review of Your claim. Deference will not be given to initial denials, and MetLife's review will look at the claim anew. The review on appeal will take into account all comments, documents, records, and other information that You submit relating to Your claim without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial determination. The person who will review Your appeal will not be the same person as the person who made the initial decision to deny Your claim. In addition, the person who is reviewing the appeal will not be a subordinate of the person who made the initial decision to deny Your claim. If the initial denial is based in whole or in part on a medical judgment, MetLife will consult with a health care professional with appropriate training and experience in the field of dentistry involved in the judgment. This health care professional will not have consulted on the initial determination, and will not be a subordinate of any person who was consulted on the initial determination.

MetLife will notify You in Writing of its final decision within 30 days after MetLife's receipt of Your Written request for review, except that under special circumstances MetLife may have up to an additional 30 days to provide Written notification of the final decision. If such an extension is required, MetLife will notify You prior to the expiration of the initial 30 day period, state the reason(s) why such an extension is needed, and state when it will make its determination.

If MetLife denies the claim on appeal, MetLife will send You a final Written decision that states the reason(s) why the claim You appealed is being denied and references any specific Plan provision(s) on which the denial is based. If an internal rule, protocol, guideline or other criterion was relied upon in denying the claim on appeal, the final Written decision will state the rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria or indicate that such rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria was relied upon and that You may request a copy free of charge. Upon Written request, MetLife will provide You free of charge with copies of documents, records and other information relevant to Your claim**.**

Prospective and Retrospective Utilization Review Determinations

Utilization Review-MetLife Consultant Review Manual

The MetLife Dental Consultant Claim Review Manual was established and the criteria therein are updated with input of licensed practicing dentists. The Dental Consultant Claim Review Manual and the guidelines, practices and procedures contained therein are reviewed on an annual basis.

Licensure and Compensation Requirements

No MetLife dental consultant will be paid bonuses or incentive compensation for making Adverse Determinations. No financial incentives may be based on the number of approvals or denials made by a consultant. All prospective initial Adverse Determinations shall be made and documented by a licensed practitioner.

Initial Determinations-Prospective Review (Pretreatment Estimate)

All initial Prospective Reviews (Pretreatment Estimates) of non-emergency course of treatments for a patient will be made within five (5) working days after the receipt of all information necessary to make the determination. The consultant shall call the treating provider immediately to notify them of the decision. If the consultant does not have sufficient information to make the determination, within five (5) working days the treating provider must be notified.

Prospective Adverse Review-Notification Requirements

We shall make all initial Prospective Reviews (Pretreatment Estimates) of non-emergency course of treatments for a patient within five (5) working days after receipt of the information necessary to make the determination.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALASKA (continued)

Notification of a prospective Adverse Determination made by a consultant shall be mailed or otherwise communicated to You, Your Authorized Representative and treating provider of record within five (5) working days of receipt of all information necessary to complete a review of non-urgent and/or non-emergent services, or at any time prior to the expected date of service if the proposed date is farther away than five (5) working days. This notification may be preceded by an oral communication given to You, Your Authorized Representative or provider.

The notification of a prospective Adverse Determination shall contain:

- The principal reason for the prospective Adverse Determination, including specific criteria and standards used to make the determination.
- The factual basis for the adverse decision in clear, understandable language.
- The procedures to initiate an appeal of the prospective Adverse Determination.
- The Written details of Our internal Grievance process and procedures.
- The telephone number and address of the MetLife unit to contact regarding the appeal, and
- The Director's address, telephone number, and facsimile number
- The notification will be provided in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner.

Retrospective Adverse Review-Guideline Requirements

All recommendations based on a determination that a previously completed dental service ordered by a practitioner was not Dentally Necessary, or that an alternative treatment existed, will be made according to the guidelines contained in the MetLife Dental Consultant Review Manual and must be signed by an appropriately qualified and licensed practitioner. These guidelines shall be used to aid the application of the consultant's professional judgment, experience and knowledge in reaching an appropriate recommendation.

If a course of treatment has been preauthorized or approved for a patient, We will not revise or modify the specific criteria or standards used for the Utilization Review to make an adverse decision regarding the services delivered to that patient.

Retrospective Adverse Review-Notification Requirements

Notice of a retrospective Adverse Determination shall be mailed or otherwise communicated to You, Your Authorized Representative and Your provider within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of a request for payment with all necessary documentation.

Notice of a retrospective Adverse Determination will:

- Provide Written documentation that the retrospective Adverse Determination was based on a lack of Dental Necessity or the existence of an alternative treatment.
- Contain the factual basis for the adverse decision in clear, understandable language.
- Include the reference the specific criteria and standards upon which the decision was based.
- The telephone number and business address of the MetLife unit to contact regarding the appeal, and allow a reasonable period of time in which to appeal.
- Contain a statement that You, Your Authorized Representative or health care provider has the right to file a complaint with the Director within 180 days of receipt of Our Grievance decision.
- State the Director's address, telephone number, and facsimile number.
- Contain Written details of Our internal Grievance process.
- The notification will be provided in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALASKA (continued)

Adverse Determinations-Urgent Care Claims (Expedited Dental Review)

All requests for prospective Urgent Care Claims which result in an Adverse Determination will be conducted in within 24 hours of receipt of all necessary information to complete the review:

- A MetLife dental consultant will call You, Your Authorized Representative or treating provider of the Adverse Determination and;
- mail to You, Your Authorized Representative and treating provider the Adverse Determinations in Writing with an explanation of the reasons for the decision and documents on which the decision was based within 24 hours. This notification must include:
- The principal reason for the prospective Adverse Determination, including specific criteria and standards used to make the determination.

The factual basis for the adverse decision in clear, understandable language.

- The procedures to initiate an appeal of the prospective Adverse Determination.
- The telephone number and address of the unit to contact regarding the appeal, and
- A statement that You**,** Your Authorized Representative or health provider has the right to file a complaint with the Director within 180 days of receipt of Our Grievance decision.
- The notification will be provided in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner.

Grievance Review of Adverse Determinations

A Grievance may be requested for both Prospective Adverse Determinations and Retrospective Adverse Determinations. You, Your Authorized Representative or the provider may request a formal appeal of a Prospective Adverse Determination within 180 days of the date the requested service was denied.

For non-emergency cases, if We do not have sufficient information to complete our process, within five (5) working days, We shall:

- Notify You, Your Authorized Representative or health care provider that We cannot proceed with our review until additional information is received.
- We will assist You, Your Authorized Representative, or health care provider in gathering the information without delay.

Expedited Dental Review

Expedited dental review only applies to Prospective Adverse Determinations. The treating provider must certify in Writing and provide supporting documentation that the time required to process the requested dental service through informal reconsideration and formal appeal is likely to cause significant negative change in the dental condition of the covered person. All requests for expedited dental review will be forwarded to the MetLife Dental Consultant Review area. A dental consultant shall ensure that the dental services have not yet been performed and review any supporting documentation. The consultant will then contact the treating provider regarding the request, and return an expedited decision within 24 hours.

Dental consultants shall call Your treating provider should the supporting documentation be incomplete. The consultant should inform Your treating provider as to what is necessary to give the claim a full and complete review. Once the information is complete, the consultant shall orally inform Your treating provider of the decision within 24 hours.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALASKA (continued)

Grievance Procedure

A Written description of the Grievance procedure, by which You, Your Authorized Representative or provider of record may seek review of Adverse Determinations, shall be made available:

- On the reverse side of the Explanation of Benefits (EOB) document.
- Upon request from You, Your Authorized Representative or Your health provider.

New Reviewer Requirement

No consultant who has participated in prior reviews of a decision being appealed may make a recommendation that a first level appeal be denied.

Notification of Decision of Grievance

Notice of the decision regarding a Grievance shall be mailed to You, Your Authorized Representative and provider within 30 working days after the date the Grievance was filed.

In addition, the notice shall contain the following:

- The principal reason for the Adverse Determination, including specific criteria and standards used to make the determination.
- The factual basis for the adverse decision in clear, understandable language.
- The procedures to initiate an appeal of the Adverse Determination.
- The telephone number and address of the person to contact regarding the appeal, and
- A statement that You, Your Authorized Representative or health provider on Your behalf has the right to file a complaint with the Director within 180 days of receipt of Our Grievance decision.
- The Director's address, telephone number, and facsimile number
- The notification will be provided in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner.

Notification of Right to External Review

Availability of External Review

If We deny Your request for the payment of dental course of treatment, You, Your Authorized Representative or provider have the option to request an External Review of any recommendation of an appeal within 180 days after the date of receipt of a Grievance decision.

You may have the right to have Our decision reviewed by health care professionals who have no association with Us if Our decision involved making a judgment as to the Dental Necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care, or effectiveness of the dental service or treatment You requested by submitting a request for External Review to:

The Director of the Alaska Division of Insurance
Alaska Division of Insurance
550 West 7th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501-3567,
or by electronic mail to insurance@alaska.gov,
or by facsimile transmission by calling (907) 269-7910.

External Appeal-Effect

If the Independent Review Organization decides We should pay the claim, We will pay the claim.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALASKA (continued)

Overpayments

Recovery of Overpayments

We have the right to recover any amount that is determined to be an overpayment, within 180 days from the date of service, whether for services received by You or Your Dependents.

An overpayment occurs if it is determined that:

- the total amount paid by Us on a claim for Dental Insurance benefits 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.

How We Recover Overpayments

We may recover the overpayment, within 180 days from the date of service, from You by:

- stopping or reducing any future benefits payable for Dental Insurance;

- 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 within 180 days from the date of service, from one or more of the following:

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

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALASKA

Domestic Partner means each of two people, one of whom is an employee of the Policyholder, who:

- have registered as each other's domestic partner, civil union partner or reciprocal beneficiary with a government agency where such registration is available; or
- are of the same or opposite sex and have a mutually dependent relationship so that each has an insurable interest in the life of the other. Each person must be:
    1. 18 years of age or older;
    2. unmarried;
    3. the sole domestic partner of the other person and have been so for the immediately preceding 6 months;
    4. sharing a primary residence with the other person and have been so for the immediately preceding 6 months; and
    5. not related to the other in a manner that would bar their marriage in the jurisdiction in which they reside.

A Domestic Partner declaration attesting to the existence of an insurable interest in one another's lives must be completed and Signed by the employee.

Wherever the term "**Spouse**" appears in this certificate it shall, unless otherwise specified, be read to include Your Domestic Partner.

Wherever the term step-child appears, it is replaced by step-child or child of Your Domestic Partner.

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.

Policyholders have the right to file a complaint with the Arkansas Insurance Department (AID). You may call AID to request a complaint form at (800) 852-5494 or (501) 371-2640 or write the Department at:

Arkansas Insurance Department
Consumer Services Division
1 Commerce Way, Suite 102
Little Rock, Arkansas 72202

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF CALIFORNIA

IMPORTANT NOTICE

TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, OR TO MAKE A COMPLAINT, CONTACT THE POLICYHOLDER OR METLIFE AT:

METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
ATTN: CONSUMER RELATIONS DEPARTMENT
500 SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD
JOHNSTOWN, PA 15904

1-800-438-6388

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 DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE DEPARTMENT AT:

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
CONSUMER SERVICES
300 SOUTH SPRING STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013

WEBSITE: http://www.insurance.ca.gov/

1-800-927-4357 (within California)
1-213-897-8921 (outside California)

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

California law provides that for dental insurance, domestic partners of California's residents must be treated the same as spouses. If the certificate does not already have a definition of domestic partner, then the following definition applies:

> **"Domestic Partner** means each of two people, one of whom is an employee of the Policyholder, a resident of California and who have registered as domestic partners or members of a civil union with the California government or another government recognized by California as having similar requirements."

If the certificate already has a definition of domestic partner, that definition will apply to California residents, as long as it recognizes as a domestic partner any person registered as the employee's domestic partner with the California government or another government recognized by California as having similar requirements.

Wherever the term **"Spouse"** appears in this certificate it shall, unless otherwise specified, be read to include Your Domestic Partner.

Wherever the term step-child appears, it is replaced by step-child or child of Your Domestic Partner.

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 (for calls placed within Idaho) or 208-334-4250 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

1-800-438-6388

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/idoi

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 for 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 DENTAL INSURANCE

1. If Your Dental 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 Dental 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 Dental Insurance under the CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE 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.

CONTINUATION OF DENTAL INSURANCE FOR YOUR FORMER SPOUSE

If the judgment of divorce dissolving Your marriage provides for continuation of insurance for Your former Spouse when You remarry, Dental Insurance for Your former Spouse that would otherwise end may be continued.

To continue Dental insurance under this provision:

1. You must make a written request to the employer to continue such insurance;
2. You must make any required premium to the employer for the cost of such insurance.

The request form will be furnished by the Employer.

Such insurance may be continued from the date Your marriage is dissolved until the earliest of the following:

- the date Your former Spouse remarries;
- the date of expiration of the period of time specified in the divorce judgment during which You are required to provide Dental Insurance for Your former Spouse;
- the date coverage is provided under any other group health plan;
- the date Your former Spouse becomes entitled to Medicare;
- the date Dental Insurance under the policy ends for all active employees, or for the class of active employees to which You belonged before Your employment terminated;
- the date of expiration of the last period for which the required premium payment was made; or
- the date such insurance would otherwise terminate under the policy.

If Your former Spouse is eligible to continue Dental Insurance under this provision and any other provision of this Policy, all such continuation periods will be deemed to run concurrently with each other and shall not be deemed to run consecutively.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF MISSISSIPPI

DENTAL INSURANCE: PROCEDURES FOR DENTAL CLAIMS

Procedures for Presenting Claims for Dental Insurance Benefits

All claim forms needed to file for Dental Insurance benefits under the group insurance program can be obtained from the Employer who can also answer questions about the insurance benefits and to assist You or, if applicable, Your beneficiary in filing claims. Dental claim forms can also be downloaded from www.metlife.com/dental. The instructions on the claim form should be followed carefully. This will expedite the processing of the claim. Be sure all questions are answered fully.

Routine Questions on Dental Insurance Claims

If there is any question about a claim payment, an explanation may be requested from MetLife by dialing 1-800-942-0854.

Claim Submission

For claims for Dental Insurance benefits, the claimant must complete the appropriate claim form and submit the required proof as described in the FILING A CLAIM section of the certificate.

Claim forms must be submitted in accordance with the instructions on the claim form.

Initial Determination

After You submit a claim for Dental Insurance benefits to MetLife, MetLife will review Your claim and notify You of its decision to approve or deny Your claim.

If Your claim is a Clean Claim and it is approved by MetLife, benefits will be paid within 25 days after MetLife receives due written proof in electronic form of a covered loss, or within 35 days after receipt of due written proof in paper form of a covered loss. Due written proof includes, but is not limited to, information essential for Us to administer coordination of benefits. If You provide Us with Written direction that all or a portion of any benefits provided under this certificate be paid to the Dentist, then We shall pay directly the Dentist providing the Covered Services. That payment shall be considered payment in full to the Dentist, who may not bill or collect from You any amount above that payment, other than the deductible, coinsurance, copayment or other charges for equipment or services requested by You that are not covered for benefits. Any dispute arising under these provisions regarding assignment of benefits and billing may be resolved by the Commissioner of Insurance.

"Clean Claim" means a claim that:

- does not require further information, adjustment or alteration by You or the provider of the services in order for MetLife to process and pay it;
- does not have any defects;
- does not have any impropriety, including any lack of supporting documentation; and
- does not involve a particular circumstance required special treatment that substantially prevents timely payments from being made on the claim.

A Clean Claim does not include a claim submitted by a provider more than 30 days after the date of service, or if the provider does not submit the claim on Your behalf, a claim submitted more than 30 days after the date the provider bills You. Errors, such as system errors, attributable to the insurer, do not change the clean claim status.

If MetLife is unable to pay a claim for Dental Insurance benefits because MetLife needs additional information or documentation, or there is a particular circumstance requiring special treatment, within 25 days after the date MetLife receives the claim if it is submitted in electronic form, or within 35 days after the date MetLife receives the claim if it is submitted in paper form, MetLife will send You notice of what supporting documentation or information MetLife needs. Any claim or portion of a claim for Dental Insurance benefits that is resubmitted with all of the supporting documentation requested in Our notice and becomes payable will be paid to You within 20 days after MetLife receives it.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF MISSISSIPPI (continued)

Clean Claim (Continued)

If MetLife does not deny payment of such benefits to You by the end of the 25 day period for clean claims submitted in electronic form, or 35 day period for clean claims submitted in paper form, and such benefits remain due and payable to You, interest will accrue on the amount of such benefits at the rate of 3 percent per month until such benefits are finally settled. If MetLife does not pay benefits to You when due and payable, You may bring action to recover such benefits, any interest which has accrued with respect to such benefits and any other damages which may be allowed by law. MetLife will pay benefits when MetLife receives satisfactory Written proof of Your claim.

Proof must be given to MetLife not later than 90 days after the end of the Dental Expense Period in which the Covered Dental Expenses were incurred. If proof is not given on time, the delay will not cause a claim to be denied or reduced as long as the proof is given as soon as possible.

Appealing the Initial Determination

If MetLife denies Your claim, You may take two appeals of the initial determination. Upon Your written request, MetLife will provide You free of charge with copies of documents, records and other information relevant to Your claim. You must submit Your appeal to MetLife at the address indicated on the claim form within 180 days of receiving MetLife's decision. Appeals must be in writing and must include at least the following information:

- Name of Employee
- Name of the Plan
- Reference to the initial decision
- Whether the appeal is the first or second appeal of the initial determination
- An explanation why You are appealing the initial determination.

As part of each appeal, You may submit any written comments, documents, records, or other information relating to Your claim.

After MetLife receives Your written request appealing the initial determination or determination on the first appeal, MetLife will conduct a full and fair review of Your claim. Deference will not be given to initial denials, and MetLife's review will look at the claim anew. The review on appeal will take into account all comments, documents, records, and other information that You submit relating to Your claim without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial determination. The person who will review Your appeal will not be the same person as the person who made the initial decision to deny Your claim. In addition, the person who is reviewing the appeal will not be a subordinate of the person who made the initial decision to deny Your claim. If the initial denial is based in whole or in part on a medical judgment, MetLife will consult with a health care professional with appropriate training and experience in the field of dentistry involved in the judgment. This health care professional will not have consulted on the initial determination, and will not be a subordinate of any person who was consulted on the initial determination.

MetLife will notify You in writing of its final decision within 30 days after MetLife's receipt of Your written request for review, except that under special circumstances MetLife may have up to an additional 30 days to provide written notification of the final decision. If such an extension is required, MetLife will notify You prior to the expiration of the initial 30 day period, state the reason(s) why such an extension is needed, and state when it will make its determination.

If MetLife denies the claim on appeal, MetLife will send You a final written decision that states the reason(s) why the claim You appealed is being denied and references any specific Plan provision(s) on which the denial is based. If an internal rule, protocol, guideline or other criterion was relied upon in denying the claim on appeal, the final written decision will state the rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria or indicate that such rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria was relied upon and that You may request a copy free of charge. Upon written request, MetLife will provide You free of charge with copies of documents, records and other information relevant to Your claim.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF MONTANA

Dental Insurance

In accordance with regulatory guidance, disregard any reference in this certificate to networks, including the terms In-Network and Out-of-Network.

Certain Dentists have entered into an agreement with Us to limit their charge for a Covered Service to a maximum allowed charge. You may be able to reduce Your out-of-pocket costs by using such a Dentist. To find a Dentist who has entered into an agreement with Us, please visit www.metlife.com/dental or dial 1-800-942-0854.

We will pay benefits for charges incurred by a Covered Person for a Covered Service in accordance with the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS, subject to the conditions set forth in this certificate.

If a Dentist performs a Covered Service, You may be responsible for paying:

- the Deductible;
- any other part of the charge for which We do not pay benefits; and
- any additional amount charged by the Dentist if they have not entered into an agreement with Us to limit their charges for a Covered Service.

NOTICE FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE RESIDENTS

All dental benefits, as defined by New Hampshire law when insured, are identified as being under the jurisdiction of the New Hampshire Insurance Commissioner.

NOTICE FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE RESIDENTS

The following service will be a Covered Service for New Hampshire residents whether or not general anesthesia or intravenous sedation is already specified elsewhere as covered:

General anesthesia or intravenous sedation in connection with oral surgery, extractions or other Covered Services, when:

- the covered person is a Child under the age of 13 who is determined by a licensed Dentist in conjunction with a licensed Physician to have a dental condition of significant complexity which requires the Child to receive general anesthesia for the treatment of such condition; or
- the covered person has exceptional medical circumstances or a developmental disability as determined by a licensed Physician which place the person at serious risk; or
- We determine such anesthesia is necessary in accordance with generally accepted dental standards.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF NEW MEXICO

Consumer Complaint Notice

If You are a resident of New Mexico, Your coverage will be administered in accordance with the minimum applicable standards of New Mexico law. If You have concerns regarding a claim, premium, or other matters relating to this coverage, You may file a complaint with the New Mexico Office of Superintendent of Insurance (OSI) using the complaint form available on the OSI website and found at: https://www.osi.state.nm.us/ConsumerAssistance/index.aspx.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF PENNSYLVANIA

Dental Insurance for a Dependent Child may be continued past the age limit if that Child is a full-time student and insurance ends due to the Child being ordered to active duty (other than active duty for training) for 30 or more consecutive days as a member of the Pennsylvania National Guard or a Reserve Component of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Insurance will continue if such Child:

- re-enrolls as a full-time student at an accredited school, college or university that is licensed in the jurisdiction where it is located;
- re-enrolls for the first term or semester, beginning 60 or more days from the child's release from active duty;
- continues to qualify as a Child, except for the age limit; and
- submits the required Proof of the child's active duty in the National Guard or a Reserve Component of the United States Armed Forces.

Subject to the Date Insurance For Your Dependents Ends subsection of the section entitled ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS, this continuation will continue until the earliest of the date:

- the insurance has been continued for a period of time equal to the duration of the child's service on active duty; or
- the child is no longer a full-time student.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF TEXAS

THE INSURANCE POLICY UNDER WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED IS NOT A POLICY OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE. YOU SHOULD CONSULT YOUR EMPLOYER TO DETERMINE WHETHER YOUR EMPLOYER IS A SUBSCRIBER TO THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION SYSTEM.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF TEXAS

The exclusion of services which are primarily cosmetic will not apply to the treatment or correction of a congenital defect of a newborn child.

DENTAL INSURANCE: PROCEDURES FOR DENTAL CLAIMS

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF TEXAS

If You reside in Texas, note the following Procedures for Dental Claims will be followed:

Procedures for Presenting Claims for Dental Insurance Benefits

All claim forms needed to file for Dental Insurance benefits under the group insurance program can be obtained from the Employer who can also answer questions about the insurance benefits and to assist You or, if applicable, Your beneficiary in filing claims. Dental claim forms can also be downloaded from www.metlife.com/dental. The instructions on the claim form should be followed carefully. This will expedite the processing of the claim. Be sure all questions are answered fully.

Routine Questions on Dental Insurance Claims

If there is any question about a claim payment, an explanation may be requested from MetLife by dialing 1-800-942-0854.

Claim Submission

For claims for Dental Insurance benefits, the claimant must complete the appropriate claim form and submit the required proof as described in the FILING A CLAIM section of the certificate.

Claim forms must be submitted in accordance with the instructions on the claim form.

Initial Determination

After You submit a claim for Dental Insurance benefits to MetLife, MetLife will notify You acknowledging receipt of Your claim, commence with any investigation, and request any additional information within 15 days of receipt of Your claim.

MetLife will notify You in writing of the acceptance or rejection of Your claim within 15 business days of receipt of all information needed to process Your claim.

If MetLife cannot accept or reject Your claim within 15 business days after receipt of all information, MetLife will notify You within 15 business days stating the reason why we require an extension. If an extension is requested, We will notify You of our decision to approve or deny Your claim within 45 days. Upon notification of approval, Your claim will be paid within 5 business days.

If MetLife denies Your claim in whole or in part, the notification of the claims decision will state the reason why Your claim was denied and reference the specific Plan provision(s) on which the denial is based. If the claim is denied because MetLife did not receive sufficient information, the claims decision will describe the additional information needed and explain why such information is needed. Further, if an internal rule, protocol, guideline or other criterion was relied upon in making the denial, the claims decision will state the rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria or indicate that such rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria was relied upon and that You may request a copy free of charge.

Appealing the Initial Determination

If MetLife denies Your claim, You may take two appeals of the initial determination. Upon Your written request, MetLife will provide You free of charge with copies of documents, records and other information relevant to Your claim. You must submit Your appeal to MetLife at the address indicated on the claim form within 180 days of receiving MetLife's decision. Appeals must be in writing and must include at least the following information:

- Name of Employee;
- Name of the Plan;
- Reference to the initial decision;
- Whether the appeal is the first or second appeal of the initial determination;
- An explanation why You are appealing the initial determination.

As part of each appeal, You may submit any written comments, documents, records, or other information relating to Your claim.

After MetLife receives Your written request appealing the initial determination or determination on the first appeal, MetLife will conduct a full and fair review of Your claim. Deference will not be given to initial denials, and MetLife's review will look at the claim anew. The review on appeal will take into account all comments, documents, records, and other information that You submit relating to Your claim without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial determination. The person who will review Your appeal will not be the same person as the person who made the initial decision to deny Your claim. In addition, the person who is reviewing the appeal will not be a subordinate of the person who made the initial decision to deny Your claim. If the initial denial is based in whole or in part on a medical judgment, MetLife will consult with a health care professional with appropriate training and experience in the field of dentistry involved in the judgment. This health care professional will not have consulted on the initial determination, and will not be a subordinate of any person who was consulted on the initial determination.

MetLife will notify You in writing of its final decision within 30 days after MetLife's receipt of Your written request for review, except that under special circumstances MetLife may have up to an additional 30 days to provide written notification of the final decision. If such an extension is required, MetLife will notify You prior to the expiration of the initial 30 day period, state the reason(s) why such an extension is needed, and state when it will make its determination.

If MetLife denies the claim on appeal, MetLife will send You a final written decision that states the reason(s) why the claim You appealed is being denied and references any specific Plan provision(s) on which the denial is based. If an internal rule, protocol, guideline or other criterion was relied upon in denying the claim on appeal, the final written decision will state the rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria or indicate that such rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria was relied upon and that You may request a copy free of charge. Upon written request, MetLife will provide You free of charge with copies of documents, records and other information relevant to Your claim.

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. (For the purposes of this notice, the terms "insurance company" and "insurer" include health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and limited health plans.)

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
- Accident and Health Insurance
  - o $500,000 for health benefit plans
  - o $500,000 in disability income insurance benefits
  - o $500,000 in long-term care insurance benefits
  - o $500,000 in other types of health insurance benefits
- Annuities
  - o $250,000 in the present value of annuity benefits in aggregate, including any net cash surrender and net cash withdrawal 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 health benefit plans.

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. There are also various residency requirements and other limitations under Utah law.

Benefits provided by a long-term care rider to a life insurance or annuity contract shall be considered the same type of benefit as the base life insurance policy or annuity contract to which it relates.

To learn more about the above protections, please visit the Association's website at www.ulhiga.org or contact:

Utah Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Assoc.
466 South 500 East, Suite 100
Salt Lake City UT 84102
(801) 320-9955

Utah Insurance Department
4315 S. 2700 W., Suite 2300
Taylorsville, UT 84129
(801) 957-9200

NOTICE TO 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 any questions regarding an appeal or grievance concerning the dental services that You have been provided that have not been satisfactorily addressed by this Dental Insurance, You may contact the Virginia Office of the Managed Care Ombudsman for assistance.

The Office of the Managed Care Ombudsman
Bureau of Insurance
P.O. Box 1157
Richmond, VA 23218-1157
1-804-371-9691 - phone
1-877-310-6560 - toll-free
1-804-371-9944 - fax
www.scc.virginia.gov - web address
ombudsman@scc.virginia.gov - email

Or:

Office of Licensure and Certification
Division of Acute Care Services
Virginia Department of Health
9960 Mayland Drive
Suite 401
Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463
Phone number: 1-800-955-1819/ local: 804-367-2106
Fax: (804) 527-4503
MCHIP@vdh.virginia.gov

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

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF VIRGINIA (continued)

DENTAL INSURANCE: PROCEDURES FOR DENTAL CLAIMS

Claim Submission

For claims for Dental Insurance benefits, the claimant must complete the appropriate claim form and submit the required proof as described in the FILING A CLAIM section of the certificate.

Claim forms must be submitted in accordance with the instructions on the claim form.

Appealing the Initial Determination

If MetLife denies Your claim, You may take two appeals of the initial determination. Upon your written request, MetLife will provide You free of charge with copies of documents, records and other information relevant to your claim. You must submit Your appeal to MetLife at the address indicated on the claim form within 180 days of receiving MetLife's decision. Appeals must be in writing and must include at least the following information:

- Name of Employee;
- Name of the Plan;
- Reference to the initial decision;
- Whether the appeal is the first or second appeal of the initial determination;
- An explanation why You are appealing the initial determination.

As part of each appeal You may submit any written comments, documents, records or other information relating to Your claim.

After MetLife receives Your written request appealing the initial determination or determination on the first appeal, MetLife will conduct a full and fair review of Your claim. Deference will not be given to initial denials, and MetLife's review will look at the claim anew. The review on appeal will take into account all comments, documents, records, and other information that You submit relating to Your claim without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial determination. The person who will review Your appeal will not be the same person as the person who made the initial decision to deny Your claim. In addition, the person who is reviewing the appeal will not be a subordinate of the person who made the initial decision to deny Your claim. If the initial denial is based in whole or in part on a medical judgment, MetLife will consult with a health care professional with appropriate training and experience in the field of dentistry involved in the judgment. This health care professional will not have consulted on the initial determination, and will not be a subordinate of any person who was consulted on the initial determination.

MetLife will notify You in writing of its final determination within 30 days after MetLife's receipt of Your written request for review, except that under special circumstances MetLife may have up to an additional 30 days to provide written notification of the final decision. If such an extension is required, MetLife will notify You prior to the expiration of the 30 day period, state the reason(s) why an extension is needed, and state when it will make its determination.

If MetLife denies the claim on appeal, MetLife will send You a final written decision that states the reason(s) why the claim You appealed is being denied and references any specific Plan provision(s) on which the denial is based. If an internal rule, protocol, guideline or other criterion was relied upon in denying the claim on appeal, the final written decision will state the rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria or indicate that such rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria was relied upon and that You may request a copy free of charge. Upon written request, MetLife will provide You free of charge with copies of documents, records and other information relevant to Your claim.

Policies and Procedures for Emergency and Urgent Care

Urgent care and Emergency services: All member dentists of the MetLife Preferred Dentist Program (PDP) are required to have 24-hour emergency coverage or have alternate arrangements for emergency care for their patients. Since the MetLife Preferred Dentist Program is a freedom-of-choice PPO program, there is no primary care physician. No authorization of a service is necessary by a Primary Care Physician, nor is it necessary to obtain a pre-authorization of services. The patient is free to use the dentist of their choice.

An important distinction to be made for this section is the difference between Urgent Care in a dental situation versus that found in medical. Urgent care is defined more narrowly in dental to mean the alleviation of severe pain (as there are no life-threatening situations in dental). Additionally, the alleviation of pain in dental is a simple palliative treatment, which is not subject to claim review.

The benefit amount will be consistent with the terms contained in the insured's contract.

Urgent Care Submission:

A small number of claims for dental expense benefits may be urgent care claims. Urgent care claims for dental expense benefits are claims for reimbursement of dental expenses for services which a dentist familiar with the dental condition determines would subject the patient to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the care or treatment that is the subject of the claim. Of course any such claim may always be submitted in accordance with the normal claim procedures. However your dentist may also submit such a claim to MetLife by telephoning MetLife and informing MetLife that the claim is an Urgent Care Claim. Urgent Care Claims are processed according to the procedures set out above, however once a claim for urgent care is submitted MetLife will notify you of the determination on the claim as soon as possible, but no later than 72 hours after the claim is filed. If you or your covered dependent does not provide the claims administrator with enough information to decide the claim, MetLife will notify you within 24 hours after it receives the claim of the further information that is needed. You will have 48 hours to provide the information. If the needed information is provided, MetLife will then notify you of the claim decision within 48 hours after MetLife received the information. If the needed information is not provided, MetLife will notify you or your covered dependent of its decision within 120 hours after the claim was received.

If your urgent care claim is denied but you receive the care, you may appeal the denial using the normal claim procedures. If your urgent care claim is denied and you do not receive the care, you can request an expedited appeal of your claim denial by phone or in writing. MetLife will provide you any necessary information to assist you in your appeal. MetLife will then notify you of its decision within 72 hours of your request in writing. However, MetLife may notify you by phone within the same time frames above and then mail you a written notice.

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, New York 10166
1-800-438-6388

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.

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SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS

This schedule shows the benefits that are available under the Group Policy. You and Your Dependents are only covered for insurance:

- for which You become and remain eligible;
- which You elect, if subject to election; and
- which are in effect.
- In addition, You are eligible for Dependent Insurance only while You have Dependents who qualify.

BENEFIT	BENEFIT AMOUNT AND HIGHLIGHTS	
Dental Insurance On You and Your Dependents		
Covered Percentage for:	In-Network based on the Maximum Allowed Charge	Out-of-Network based on the Reasonable and Customary Charge
Type A Services	100%	100%
Type B Services	80%	80%
Type C Services	50%	50%
Orthodontic Covered Services	50%	50%
Deductibles for:		
Yearly Individual Deductible	$50 for the following Covered Services Combined: Type B; Type C	$50 for the following Covered Services Combined: Type B; Type C
Yearly Family Deductible	$150 for the following Covered Services Combined: Type B; Type C	$150 for the following Covered Services Combined: Type B; Type C
Maximum Benefit:		
Yearly Individual Maximum	$1,500 for the following Covered Services: Type A; Type B; Type C	$1,500 for the following Covered Services: Type A; Type B; Type C
Lifetime Individual Maximum Benefit Amount for Orthodontic Covered Services	$2,000	$2,000

The Yearly Individual Maximum Benefit for a person covered under this certificate will increase in the next Year by $250.00, if such person receives at least 1 routine oral exam and cleaning (including those necessary for periodontal treatment) in the prior Year. This increase is limited to two increases per lifetime and any increase will remain in effect for succeeding Years.

DEFINITIONS

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

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

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

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

Cast Restoration means an inlay, onlay, or crown.

Child means the following: (for residents of Alaska, Connecticut, Louisiana, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Texas, Utah and Washington, the Child Definition is modified as explained in the Notice pages of this certificate - please consult the Notice)

Your natural or adopted child; Your stepchild (including the child of a Domestic Partner); Your foster child; a child for whom You or Your Spouse are the legally appointed guardian; or a child who resides with and is fully supported by You; and who, in each case, is under age 26 and unmarried.

The definition of Child includes grandchildren who reside with and is supported by You.

The definition of Child includes children for whom You have initiated an application for adoption.

An adopted child includes a child placed in Your physical custody for purpose of adoption. If prior to completion of the legal adoption the child is removed from Your custody, the child's status as an adopted child will end.

If You provide Us notice, a Child also includes a child for whom You must provide Dental Insurance due to a Qualified Medical Child Support Order as defined in the United States Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 as amended.

The term includes an Employee's Child who is incapable of self-sustaining employment because of a mental or physical disability as defined by applicable law, and has been so disabled continuously since a date before the Child reached the limiting age and who otherwise qualifies as a Child except for the age limit.

For the purposes of determining who may become covered for insurance, the term does not include any person who:

- is on active duty in the military of any country or international authority; however, active duty for this purpose does not include weekend or summer training for the reserve forces of the United States, including the National Guard; or
- is insured under the Group Policy as an employee.

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

Contributory Insurance includes: Dental Insurance.

Covered Percentage means:

- for a Covered Service performed by an In-Network Dentist, the percentage of the Maximum Allowed Charge that We will pay for such services after any required Deductible is satisfied; and
- for a Covered Service performed by an Out-of-Network Dentist, the percentage of the Reasonable and Customary Charge that We will pay for such services after any required Deductible is satisfied.

Covered Service means a dental service used to treat Your or Your Dependent's dental condition which is:

- prescribed or performed by a Dentist while such person is insured for Dental Insurance;
- Dentally Necessary to treat the condition; and
- described in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS or DENTAL INSURANCE sections of this certificate.

Deductible means the amount You or Your Dependents must pay before We will pay for Covered Services.

Dental Hygienist means a person trained to:

- remove calcareous deposits and stains from the surfaces of teeth; and
- provide information on the prevention of oral disease.

Dentally Necessary means that a dental service or treatment is performed in accordance with generally accepted dental standards as determined by Us and is:

- necessary to treat decay, disease or injury of the teeth; or
- essential for the care of the teeth and supporting tissues of the teeth.

Dentist means:

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

For purposes of Dental Insurance, the term will include a Physician who performs a Covered Service.

Dentures means fixed partial dentures (bridgework), removable partial dentures and removable full dentures.

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

Domestic Partner means each of two people, one of whom is an employee of the Policyholder, who:

- have registered as each other's domestic partner, civil union partner or reciprocal beneficiary with a government agency where such registration is available; or
- are of the same or opposite sex and have a mutually dependent relationship so that each has an insurable interest in the life of the other. Each person must be:

    1. 18 years of age or older;
    2. unmarried;
    3. the sole domestic partner of the other person and have been so for the immediately preceding 6 months;
    4. sharing a primary residence with the other person and have been so sharing for the immediately preceding 6 months; and
    5. not related to the other in a manner that would bar their marriage in the jurisdiction in which they reside.

    A Domestic Partner declaration attesting to the existence of an insurable interest in one another's lives must be completed and Signed by the employee.

Full-Time means Active Work of at least 20 hours per week on the Policyholder's regular work schedule for the eligible class of employees to which You belong.

In-Network Dentist means a Dentist who participates in the Preferred Dentist Program and has a contractual agreement with Us to accept the Maximum Allowed Charge as payment in full for a dental service.

Maximum Allowed Charge means the lesser of:

- the amount charged by the Dentist; or
- the maximum amount which the In-Network Dentist has agreed with Us to accept as payment in full for the dental service.

Out-of-Network Dentist means a Dentist who does not participate in the Preferred Dentist Program.

Physician means:

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

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.

Reasonable and Customary Charge is the lowest of:

- the Dentist’s actual charge for the services or supplies (or, if the provider of the service or supplies is not a Dentist, such other provider’s actual charge for the services or supplies) (the 'Actual Charge'); or
- the usual charge by the Dentist or other provider of the services or supplies for the same or similar services or supplies (the 'Usual Charge'); or
- the usual charge of other Dentists or other providers in the same geographic area equal to the 80th percentile of charges as determined by MetLife based on charge information for the same or similar services or supplies maintained in MetLife’s Reasonable and Customary Charge records (the ‘Customary Charge’). Where MetLife determines that there is inadequate charge information maintained in MetLife’s Reasonable and Customary Charge records for the geographic area in question, the Customary Charge will be determined based on actuarially sound principles.

  An example of how the 80th percentile is calculated is to assume one hundred (100) charges for the same service are contained in MetLife’s Reasonable and Customary charge records. These one hundred (100) charges would be sorted from lowest to highest charged amount and numbered 1 through 100. The 80th percentile of charges is the charge that is equal to the charge numbered 80.

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. Wherever the term "Spouse" appears in the certificate it shall, unless otherwise specified, be read to include Your Domestic Partner.

For the purposes of determining who may become covered for insurance, the term does not include any person who:

- is on active duty in the military of any country or international authority. However, active duty for this purpose does not include weekend or summer training for the reserve forces of the United States, including the National Guard; or
- is insured under the Group Policy as an employee.

DEFINITIONS (continued)

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.

Year or **Yearly**, for Dental Insurance, means the 12 month period that begins January 1.

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

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU

ELIGIBLE CLASS(ES)

All Full-Time employees and retired employees of the Policyholder.

This certificate describes the high plan option under the Policyholder's plan of Dental Insurance. You may be eligible for a different option under another certificate of the Group Policy. You may not be enrolled for Dental Insurance under more than one certificate of the Group Policy.

With respect to retirees, You are eligible for insurance if You were Actively at Work and covered for insurance on the day immediately preceding the date of Your retirement and have retired in accord with the Policyholder's retirement plan. Please be aware that:

- references to Active Work and Actively at Work will not apply; and
- end of employment will mean the end of the person's status as a retiree, as stated in the Policyholder's retirement plan.

DATE YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR INSURANCE

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

If You are in an eligible class on January 1, 2024, You will be eligible for the insurance described in this certificate on that date.

If You enter an eligible class after January 1, 2024, You will be eligible for insurance on the date You enter that class.

ENROLLMENT PROCESS

If You are eligible for insurance, You may enroll for such insurance by completing the required form in Writing. If You enroll for Contributory Insurance, You must also give the Policyholder Written permission to deduct premiums from Your pay for such insurance. You will be notified by the Policyholder how much You will be required to contribute.

The Dental Insurance has a regular enrollment period established by the Policyholder. Subject to the rules of the Group Policy, You may enroll for Dental Insurance only when You are first eligible, during an annual enrollment period or if You have a Qualifying Event. You should contact the Policyholder for more information regarding the flexible benefits plan.

DATE YOUR INSURANCE TAKES EFFECT

Enrollment When First Eligible

If You complete the enrollment process within 31 days of becoming eligible for insurance, such insurance will take effect on the date You become eligible, provided You are Actively at Work on that date.

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

If You Do Not Enroll When First Eligible

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

Enrollment During an Annual Enrollment Period

During any annual enrollment period as determined by the Policyholder, You may enroll for insurance for which You are eligible or choose a different option than the one for which You are currently enrolled. If You are not currently enrolled for Dental Insurance but You enroll during an enrollment period, the Dental Insurance takes effect one year after Your request. Otherwise the changes to Your insurance made during an enrollment period will take effect on the first day of the calendar year following the enrollment period, if You are Actively at Work on that date.

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

Enrollment Due to a Qualifying Event

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

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

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

Qualifying Event includes:

- marriage;
- the birth, adoption or placement for adoption of a dependent child;
- divorce, legal separation or annulment;
- the death of a dependent;
- Your dependent's ceasing to qualify as a dependent under this insurance or under other group coverage; or
- You previously did not enroll for Dental Insurance for You or Your dependent because You had other group coverage, but that coverage has ceased due to one or more of the following reasons:
    1. loss of eligibility for the other group coverage;
    2. termination of employer contributions for the other group coverage; or
    3. COBRA Continuation of the other group coverage was exhausted.

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 date You cease to be in an eligible class;
4. the end of the period for which the last premium has been paid for You; or
5. the date Your employment ends; Your employment will end if You cease to be Actively at Work in any eligible class, except as stated in the section entitled CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT.

In certain cases insurance may be continued as stated in the section entitled CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT.

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS

ELIGIBLE CLASS(ES) FOR DEPENDENT INSURANCE

All Full-Time employees and retired employees of the Policyholder.

This certificate describes the high plan option under the Policyholder's plan of Dental Insurance. You may be eligible for a different option under another certificate of the Group Policy. You may not be enrolled for Dental Insurance under more than one certificate of the Group Policy.

DATE YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR DEPENDENT INSURANCE

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

If You are in an eligible class on January 1, 2024, You will be eligible for Dependent insurance on the later of:

1. January 1, 2024; and
2. the date You obtain a Dependent.

If You enter an eligible class after January 1, 2024, You will be eligible for Dependent insurance on the later of:

1. the date You enter a class eligible for insurance; and
2. the date You obtain a Dependent.

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

ENROLLMENT PROCESS FOR DEPENDENT COVERAGE

If You are eligible for Dependent Insurance, You may enroll for such insurance by completing the required form in Writing for each Dependent to be insured. If You enroll for Contributory Insurance, You must also give the Policyholder Written permission to deduct premiums from Your pay for such insurance. You will be notified by the Policyholder how much You will be required to contribute.

In order to enroll for Dental Insurance for Your Dependents, You must either (a) already be enrolled for Dental Insurance for You or (b) enroll at the same time for Dental Insurance for You.

The Dental Insurance has a regular enrollment period established by the Policyholder. Subject to the rules of the Group Policy, You may enroll for Dependent Dental Insurance only when You are first eligible, during an annual enrollment period or if You have a Qualifying Event. You should contact the Policyholder for more information regarding the flexible benefits plan.

DATE DENTAL INSURANCE TAKES EFFECT FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS

Enrollment When First Eligible

If You complete the enrollment process within 31 days of becoming eligible for Dependent Insurance, such insurance will take effect on the date You become eligible, provided You are Actively at Work on that date.

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

If You Do Not Enroll When First Eligible

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

Enrollment During an Annual Enrollment Period

During any annual enrollment period as determined by the Policyholder, You may enroll for Dependent Insurance for which You are eligible or choose a different option than the one for which Your Dependents are currently enrolled. If You are not currently enrolled for Dependent Insurance but You enroll during an enrollment period, the Dependent Insurance takes effect one year after Your request. Otherwise the changes to Your Dependent Insurance made during an enrollment period will take effect on the first day of the calendar year following the enrollment period, if You are Actively at Work on that date.

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

Enrollment Due to a Qualifying Event

You may enroll for Dependent Insurance for which You are eligible or change the amount of Your Dependent Insurance between annual enrollment periods only if You have a Qualifying Event.

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

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

Qualifying Event includes:

- marriage;
- the birth, adoption or placement for adoption of a dependent child;
- divorce, legal separation or annulment;
- the death of a dependent;
- Your dependent's ceasing to qualify as a dependent under this insurance or under other group coverage; or
- You previously did not enroll for Dental Insurance for You or Your dependent because You had other group coverage, but that coverage has ceased due to one or more of the following reasons:
    1. loss of eligibility for the other group coverage;
    2. termination of employer contributions for the other group coverage;
    3. COBRA Continuation of the other group coverage was exhausted.

Once You have enrolled one Child for Dependent Insurance, each succeeding Child will automatically be insured for such insurance on the date the Child qualifies as a Dependent.

DATE YOUR INSURANCE FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS ENDS

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

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

In certain cases insurance may be continued as stated in the section entitled CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT.

CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT

FOR MENTALLY OR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Insurance for a Dependent Child may be continued past the age limit if the child is incapable of self-sustaining employment because of a mental or physical handicap as defined by applicable law. Proof of such handicap must be sent to Us within 31 days after the date the Child attains the age limit and at reasonable intervals after such date.

Subject to the DATE YOUR INSURANCE FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS ENDS subsection of the section entitled ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS, insurance will continue while such Child:

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

FOR FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

Certain leaves of absence may qualify 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 Policyholder for information regarding such legally mandated leave of absence laws.

COBRA CONTINUATION FOR DENTAL INSURANCE

If Dental Insurance for You or a Dependent ends, You or Your Dependent may qualify for continuation of such insurance under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, as amended (COBRA). Please refer to the COBRA section of Your summary plan description or contact the Policyholder for information regarding continuation of insurance under COBRA.

AT YOUR OPTION – CONTINUATION OF DENTAL INSURANCE FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS

If You die or Your marriage is dissolved, Dental Insurance for Your Dependents that would otherwise end may be continued. If You die, it may be continued by Your Spouse or by Your Dependent Children if there is no Spouse. If Your marriage is dissolved, it may be continued by Your former Spouse.

Such insurance may be continued from the date of Your death or the date Your marriage is dissolved until the earliest of the following:

- the date coverage is provided under any other group health plan;
- the date of expiration of the last period for which the required premium payment was made; or
- the date such insurance would otherwise terminate under the policy.

When You die or Your marriage is dissolved notice will be given of the right to continue Dental Insurance for Your Dependents. The person to whom notice is given will then have at least 60 days to elect to continue such insurance.

Your Dependent Child may also continue coverage under this plan if such Child's insurance would otherwise end because that child no longer qualifies as a Dependent under the terms of this plan. Such coverage may be continued until the earliest of the following:

- the date coverage is provided under any other group plan;
- 36 months after continuation by the Dependent was elected;
- the date of expiration of the last period for which the required premium payment was made; or
- the date such insurance would otherwise terminate under the policy.

CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT (continued)

Any person who elects to continue insurance must pay the full cost of that insurance (including both the shares that You and Your Employer now pay), plus any additional amounts permitted by law. But the total amount of premium for Dental Insurance for Your Dependents will not exceed 102% of the cost to the plan for such insurance for other similarly situated Dependents. Payments for continued insurance must be made to the Employer on the first day of each month, in advance. The employer must provide verification of the cost of coverage if requested.

If an event gives rise to a right to continue Dental Insurance for Your Dependents under more than one provision of this certificate, the right to elect to continue insurance under each such provision runs concurrently with, not consecutively to, one another.

AT YOUR OPTION: CONTINUATION OF DENTAL INSURANCE WHEN EMPLOYMENT ENDS OR THE NUMBER OF HOURS YOU WORK ARE REDUCED

Your Dental Insurance and Dental Insurance for Your Dependents may be continued if it ends because Your employment ends or the number of hours You work are reduced unless:

- this plan ends for all employees;
- this plan is changed to end Dental Insurance for the class of employees to which You belong;
- Dental Insurance ends because You failed to pay a required Contribution;

Your employment ends or Your hours are reduced due to Your gross misconduct; or

You are covered for dental benefits under another group dental plan, which does not have a preexisting conditions limitation that applies to You.

Within 10 days of the date Your employment ends or Your hours are reduced Your Employer must give You written notice of:

- Your right to continue Your Dental Insurance and Dental Insurance for Your Dependents;
- the steps You must follow to request a continuation and to pay premiums for such insurance;
- the amount of premium payment that is required; and the date by which premium payments will be due.

To continue Your Dental Insurance and Dental Insurance for Your Dependents, You must send a written request to continue such Insurance and You must pay the first premium within 60 days after You receive notice of Your right to continue such insurance from Your employer. If You fail to request a continuation and pay the first premium within this time limit, Your right to continue Your Dental Insurance and Dental Insurance for Your Dependents will end.

The premium that You must pay may include the amount, if any, that You contributed for such Insurance before it ended, plus any amount the Employer paid, plus an administrative charge which will not to exceed two percent of the premium.

Dental Insurance continued under this section will end on the earliest of the following to occur:

- the date this plan ends;
- the date this plan is changed to end Dental Insurance for the class of employees to which You belong;
- the end of 18 months from the date Your employment ended or Your hours were reduced;
- If You do not pay a required premium, the end of the period for which the last required payment was made;
- the date You become eligible for Dental coverage under any other group plan, if such plan does not have a preexisting conditions limitation that applies to You; or

CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT (continued)

AT THE POLICYHOLDER'S OPTION

The Policyholder has elected to continue insurance by paying premiums for employees who cease Active Work in an eligible class for any of the reasons specified below. If Your insurance is continued, insurance for Your Dependents may also be continued.

Insurance will continue for the following periods:

1. if You cease Active Work due to any other Policyholder approved leave of absence, for a period in accordance with the Policyholder's general practice for an employee in Your job class;
2. for the period You cease Active Work due to layoff, up to the end of the month in which the layoff began;
3. if You cease Active Work due to injury or sickness, for a period in accordance with the Policyholder's general practice for an employee in Your job class;
4. for the period You cease Active Work due to part-time work, up to the end of the month in which the change to part-time status occurred.

The Policyholder's general practice for employees in a job class determines which employees with the above types of absences are to be considered as still insured and for how long among persons in like situations.

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

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

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

DENTAL INSURANCE

If You or a Dependent incur a charge for a Covered Service, Proof of such service must be sent to Us. When We receive such Proof, We will review the claim and if We approve it, will pay the insurance in effect on the date that service was completed.

This Dental Insurance gives You access to Dentists through the MetLife Preferred Dentist Program. Dentists participating in the MetLife Preferred Dentist Program have agreed to limit their charge for a dental service to the Maximum Allowed Charge for such service. Under the MetLife Preferred Dentist Program, We pay benefits for Covered Services performed by either In-Network Dentists or Out-of-Network Dentists. However, You may be able to reduce Your out-of-pocket costs by using an In-Network Dentist because Out-of-Network Dentists have not entered into an agreement with Us to limit their charges. You are always free to receive services from any Dentist. You do not need any authorization from Us to choose a Dentist.

The MetLife Preferred Dentist Program does not provide dental services. Whether or not benefits are available for a particular service, does not mean You should or should not receive the service. You and Your Dentist have the right and are responsible at all times for choosing the course of treatment and services to be performed. After services have been performed, We will determine the extent to which benefits, if any, are payable.

When requesting a Covered Service from an In-Network Dentist, We recommend that You:

- identify Yourself as an insured in the Preferred Dentist Program; and
- confirm that the Dentist is currently an In-Network Dentist at the time that the Covered Service is performed.

The amount of the benefit will not be affected by whether or not You identify Yourself as a member in the Preferred Dentist Program.

You can obtain a customized listing of MetLife's In-Network Dentists either by calling 1-800-942-0854 or by visiting Our website at www.metlife.com/dental.

BENEFIT AMOUNTS

We will pay benefits in an amount equal to the Covered Percentage for charges incurred by You or a Dependent for a Covered Service as shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS, subject to the conditions set forth in this certificate.

In-Network

If a Covered Service is performed by an In-Network Dentist, We will base the benefit on the Covered Percentage of the Maximum Allowed Charge.

If an In-Network Dentist performs a Covered Service, You will be responsible for paying:

- the Deductible; and
- any other part of the Maximum Allowed Charge for which We do not pay benefits.

Out-of-Network

If a Covered Service is performed by an Out-of-Network Dentist, We will base the benefit on the Covered Percentage of the Reasonable and Customary Charge.

Out-of-Network Dentists may charge You more than the Reasonable and Customary Charge. If an Out-of-Network Dentist performs a Covered Service, You will be responsible for paying:

- the Deductible; and
- any other part of the Reasonable and Customary Charge for which We do not pay benefits; and
- any amount in excess of the Reasonable and Customary Charge charged by the Out-of-Network Dentist.

Maximum Benefit Amounts

The SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS sets forth Maximum Benefit Amounts We will pay for Covered Services received In-Network and Out-of-Network. We will never pay more than the greater of the In-Network Maximum Benefit Amount or the Out-of-Network Maximum Benefit Amount.

For example, if a Covered Service is received Out-of-Network and We pay $300 in benefits for such service, $300 will be applied toward both the In-Network and the Out-of-Network Maximum Benefit Amounts applicable to such service.

Deductibles

The Deductible amounts are shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

The Yearly Individual Deductible is the amount that You and each Dependent must pay for Covered Services to which such Deductible applies each Year before We will pay benefits for such Covered Services.

We apply amounts used to satisfy Yearly Individual Deductibles to the Yearly Family Deductible. Once the Yearly Family Deductible is satisfied, no further Yearly Individual Deductibles are required to be met.

The amount We apply toward satisfaction of a Deductible for a Covered Service is the amount We use to determine benefits for such service. The Deductible Amount will be applied based on when Dental Insurance claims for Covered Services are processed by Us. The Deductible Amount will be applied to Covered Services in the order that Dental Insurance claims for Covered Services are processed by Us regardless of when a Covered Service is “incurred”. When several Covered Services are incurred on the same date and Dental Insurance benefits are claimed as part of the same claim, the Deductible Amount is applied based on the Covered Percentage applicable to each Covered Service. The Deductible Amount will be applied in the order of highest Covered Percentage to lowest Covered Percentage.

Alternate Benefit

If We determine that a service, less costly than the Covered Service the Dentist performed, could have been performed to treat a dental condition, We will pay benefits based upon the less costly service if such service:

- would produce a professionally acceptable result under generally accepted dental standards; and
- would qualify as a Covered Service.

For example:

- when a partial denture and fixed bridgework are both professionally acceptable methods for replacing multiple missing teeth in an arch, We may base Our benefit determination upon the partial denture which is the less costly service.

If We pay benefits based upon a less costly service in accordance with this subsection, the Dentist may charge You or Your Dependent for the difference between the service that was performed and the less costly service. This is the case even if the service is performed by an In-Network Dentist.

Certain comprehensive dental services have multiple steps associated with them. These steps can be completed at one time or during multiple sessions. For benefit purposes under this certificate, these separate steps of one service are considered to be part of the more comprehensive service. Even if the dentist submits separate bills, the total benefit payable for all related charges will be limited by the maximum benefit payable for the more comprehensive service. For example, root canal therapy includes x-rays, opening of the pulp chamber, additional x-rays, and filling of the chamber. Although these services may be performed in multiple sessions, they all constitute root canal therapy. Therefore, We will only pay benefits for the root canal therapy.

Orthodontic Covered Services

Orthodontic treatment generally consists of initial placement of an appliance and periodic follow-up visits.

The benefit payable for the initial placement will not exceed 20% of the amount charged by the Dentist when the course of treatment begins.

The benefit payable for the periodic follow-up visits will also be based on the amount charged by the Dentist when the course of treatment begins. It will be payable on a quarterly basis during the course of the orthodontic treatment if:

- Dental Insurance is in effect for the person receiving the orthodontic treatment; and
- Proof is given to Us that the orthodontic treatment is continuing.

If You did not have coverage for orthodontic services at the time the initial placement was made, benefits will not be payable for orthodontic services under this Dental Insurance.

Pretreatment Estimate of Benefits

If a planned dental service is expected to cost more than $300, You have the option of requesting a pretreatment estimate of benefits. The Dentist should submit a claim detailing the services to be performed and the amount to be charged. After We receive this information, We will provide You with an estimate of the Dental Insurance benefits available for the service. The estimate is not a guarantee of the amount We will pay. Under the Alternate Benefit provision, benefits may be based on the cost of a service other than the service that You choose. You are required to submit Proof on or after the date the dental service is completed in order for Us to pay a benefit for such service.

The pretreatment estimate of benefits is only an estimate of benefits available for proposed dental services. You are not required to obtain a pretreatment estimate of benefits. As always, You or Your Dependent and the Dentist are responsible for choosing the services to be performed.

Benefits We Will Pay After Insurance Ends

We will pay benefits for a 31 day period after Your insurance ends for the completion of installation of a prosthetic device if:

- the Dentist prepared the abutment teeth or made impressions before Your insurance ends; and
- the device is installed within 31 days after the date the insurance ends.

We will pay benefits for a 31 day period after Your insurance ends for the completion of installation of a Cast Restoration if:

- the Dentist prepared the tooth for the Cast Restoration before Your insurance ends; and
- the Cast Restoration is installed within 31 days after the date the insurance ends.

We will pay benefits for a 31 day period after Your insurance ends for completion of root canal therapy if:

- the Dentist opened into the pulp chamber before Your insurance ends; and
- the treatment is finished within 31 days after the date the insurance ends.

DENTAL INSURANCE: DESCRIPTION OF COVERED SERVICES

Type A Covered Services

1. Oral exams and problem-focused exams, but no more than three exams (whether the exam is an oral exam or problem-focused exam) in a Year.
2. Screenings, including state or federally mandated screenings, to determine an individual's need to be seen by a dentist for diagnosis, but no more than three times in a Year.
3. Patient assessments (limited clinical inspection that is performed to identify possible signs of oral or systemic disease, malformation, or injury, and the potential need for referral for diagnosis and treatment), but no more than three times in a Year.
4. Full mouth or panoramic x-rays once every 60 months.
5. Bitewing x-rays 1 set in a Year.
6. Intraoral-periapical x-rays.
7. X-rays, except as mentioned elsewhere.
8. Pulp vitality tests and bacteriological studies for determination of bacteriologic agents.
9. Collection and preparation of genetic sample material for laboratory analysis and report, but no more than once per lifetime.
10. Diagnostic casts.
11. Cleaning of teeth also referred to as oral prophylaxis (including full mouth scaling in presence of generalized moderate or severe gingival inflammation after oral evaluation) twice in a Year.
12. Emergency palliative treatment to relieve tooth pain.
13. Topical fluoride treatment for a Child under age 14 once in a Year.
14. Sealants or sealant repairs for a Child under age 19, which are applied to non-restored, non-decayed first and second permanent molars, once per tooth every 60 months.
15. Preventive resin restorations, which are applied to non-restored first and second permanent molars, once in a Year.
16. Interim caries arresting medicament application applied to permanent bicuspids and 1st and 2nd molar teeth, once in a Year.
17. Caries susceptibility tests.

Type B Covered Services

1. Amalgam fillings.
2. Resin-based composite fillings.
3. Protective (sedative) fillings.
4. Consultations for interpretation of diagnostic image by a Dentist not associated with the capture of the image.
5. Other consultations.
6. Root canal treatment, including bone grafts and tissue regeneration procedures in conjunction with periradicular surgery.
7. Other endodontic procedures, such as apicoectomy, retrograde fillings, root amputation, and hemisection.
8. Periodontal scaling and root planing, but no more than once per quadrant in any 24 month period.
9. Full mouth debridements, but not more than once per lifetime.
10. Simple extractions. Extractions of primary teeth or adult teeth solely for orthodontic purposes will be treated as orthodontic services.
11. Periodontal maintenance, where periodontal treatment (including scaling, root planing, and periodontal surgery, such as gingivectomy, gingivoplasty and osseous surgery) has been performed. Periodontal maintenance is limited to four times in any Year.

12. Pulp capping (excluding final restoration).
13. Therapeutic pulpotomy (excluding final restoration).
14. Apexification/recalcification.
15. Pulpal regeneration, but not more than once per lifetime.
16. Local chemotherapeutic agents.
17. Injections of therapeutic drugs.
18. Relinings and rebasings of existing removable Dentures:
    - if at least 6 months have passed since the installation of the existing removable Denture; and
    - not more than once in any 36 month period.
19. Re-cementing of Cast Restorations or Dentures.
20. Adjustments of Dentures, if at least 6 months have passed since the installation of the Denture.
21. Addition of teeth to a partial removable Denture.
22. Other removable prosthetic services not described elsewhere.
23. Tissue conditioning.
24. Simple repairs of Cast Restorations or Dentures other than recementing.
25. Application of desensitizing medicaments where periodontal treatment (including scaling, root planing, and periodontal surgery, such as osseous surgery) has been performed.
26. Occlusal adjustments.
27. Endodontic isolation.

Type C Covered Services

1. Space maintainers for a Child under age 19.
2. Pulp therapy.
3. General anesthesia or intravenous sedation in connection with oral surgery, extractions or other Covered Services, when We determine such anesthesia or intravenous sedation is necessary in accordance with generally accepted dental standards.
4. Initial installation of full or partial Dentures (other than implant supported prosthetics).
5. Replacement of a non-serviceable fixed Denture if such Denture was installed more than 10 Years prior to replacement.
6. Replacement of a non-serviceable removable Denture if such Denture was installed more than 10 Years prior to replacement.
7. Replacement of an immediate, temporary, full Denture with a permanent, full Denture, if the immediate, temporary, full Denture cannot be made permanent and such replacement is done within 12 months of the installation of the immediate, temporary, full Denture.
8. Other fixed Denture prosthetic services not described elsewhere.
9. Precision attachments.
10. Initial installation of Cast Restorations (except implant supported Cast Restorations).
11. Replacement of Cast Restorations (except an implant supported Cast Restoration) but only if at least 10 Years have passed since the most recent time that:
    - a Cast Restoration was installed for the same tooth; or
    - a Cast Restoration for the same tooth was replaced.
12. Prefabricated crown, but no more than one replacement for the same tooth within 10 Years.
13. Core buildup, but no more than once per tooth in a period of 10 Years.
14. Posts and cores, but no more than once per tooth in a period of 10 Years.

15. Labial veneers, but no more than once per tooth in a period of 10 Years.
16. Oral surgery, except as mentioned elsewhere in this certificate.
17. Periodontal surgery, including gingivectomy, gingivoplasty and osseous surgery, but no more than one surgical procedure per quadrant in any 36 month period.
18. Surgical extractions. Extractions of primary teeth or adult teeth solely for orthodontic purposes will be treated as orthodontic services.
19. Implant services (including sinus augmentation and bone replacement and graft for ridge preservation), but no more than once for the same tooth position in a 10 Year period.
20. Repair of implants, but no more than once in a 12 month period.
21. Implant supported Cast Restorations, but no more than once for the same tooth position in a 10 Year period.
22. Implant supported fixed Dentures, but no more than once for the same tooth position in a 10 Year period.
23. Implant supported removable Dentures, but no more than once for the same tooth position in a 10 Year period.
24. Oral surgical and non-surgical treatment of Temporomandibular Joint Disorder (TMJ) and craniomandibular disorder. This includes cone beam imaging and TMJ non-invasive physical therapies. However, cone beam imaging for such treatment will not be covered more than once for the same tooth position in a 60 month period and TMJ non-invasive physical therapies will not be covered more than once in a 12 month period.
25. Cleaning and inspection of a removable appliance twice in a Year.
26. Appliances or treatment for bruxism (grinding teeth), including but not limited to occlusal guards and night guards, 1 in 24 months.
27. Repair/reline and adjustments of occlusal guards and night guards, 1 in 36 months.
28. Temporary or provisional restorations.
29. Temporary or provisional bridgework.
30. Post removal.

Orthodontic Covered Services

Orthodontia, for a Child under 26, if the orthodontic appliance is initially installed while Dental Insurance is in effect for such Child. Extractions of primary teeth or adult teeth solely for orthodontic purposes will be treated as orthodontic services.

If You did not have coverage for orthodontic services at the time the initial placement was made, benefits will not be payable for orthodontic services under this Dental insurance.

DENTAL INSURANCE: EXCLUSIONS

We will not pay Dental Insurance benefits for charges incurred for:

1. services which are not Dentally Necessary, or those which do not meet generally accepted standards of care for treating the particular dental condition;
2. services for which You would not be required to pay in the absence of Dental Insurance;
3. services or supplies received by You or Your Dependent before the Dental Insurance starts for that person;
4. services which are neither performed nor prescribed by a Dentist, except for those services of a licensed Dental Hygienist which are supervised and billed by a Dentist, and which are for:
   - scaling and polishing of teeth; or
   - fluoride treatments;
5. services which are primarily cosmetic unless such service is:
   - required for reconstructive surgery which is incidental to or follows surgery which results from trauma, an infection or other disease of the involved part; or
   - required for reconstructive surgery because of a congenital disease or anomaly of a Child which has resulted in a functional defect;

   For residents of Texas see notice page section.
6. services or appliances which restore or alter occlusion or vertical dimension;
7. restoration of tooth structure damaged by attrition, abrasion or erosion, unless caused by disease;
8. restorations or appliances used for the purpose of periodontal splinting;
9. counseling or instruction about oral hygiene, plaque control, nutrition and tobacco;
10. personal supplies or devices including, but not limited to: water piks, toothbrushes, or dental floss;
11. decoration or inscription of any tooth, device, appliance, crown or other dental work;
12. missed appointments;
13. services:
    - covered under any workers' compensation or occupational disease law;
    - covered under any employer liability law;
    - for which the Employer of the person receiving such services is required to pay; or
    - received at a facility maintained by the Policyholder, labor union, mutual benefit association, or VA hospital;
14. services covered under other coverage provided by the Policyholder;
15. biopsies of hard or soft oral tissue;
16. temporary or provisional appliances;
17. prescription drugs;
18. services for which the submitted documentation indicates a poor prognosis;
19. the following, when charged by the Dentist on a separate basis:
    - claim form completion;
    - infection control, such as gloves, masks, and sterilization of supplies; or
    - local anesthesia, non-intravenous conscious sedation or analgesia, such as nitrous oxide;
20. dental services arising out of accidental injury to the teeth and supporting structures, except for injuries to the teeth due to chewing or biting of food;
21. fixed and removable appliances for correction of harmful habits;
22. adjustment of a Denture made within 6 months after installation by the same Dentist who installed it;
23. duplicate prosthetic devices or appliances;
24. replacement of a lost or stolen appliance, Cast Restoration or Denture;

25. replacement of an orthodontic device;
26. intra and extraoral photographic images.

DENTAL INSURANCE: COORDINATION OF BENEFITS

When You or a Dependent incur charges for Covered Services, there may be other Plans, as defined below, that also provide benefits for those same charges. In that case, We may reduce what We pay based on what the other Plans pay. This Coordination of Benefits section explains how and when We do this.

DEFINITIONS

In this section, the terms set forth below have the following meanings:

Allowable Expense means a necessary dental expense for which both of the following are true:

- a covered person must pay it; and
- it is at least partly covered by one or more of the Plans that provide benefits to the covered person.

If a Plan provides fixed benefits for specified events or conditions (instead of benefits based on expenses incurred), such benefits are Allowable Expenses.

If a Plan provides benefits in the form of services, We treat the reasonable cash value of each service performed as both an Allowable Expense and a benefit paid by that Plan.

The term does not include:

- expenses for services performed because of a Job-Related Injury or Sickness;
- any amount of expenses in excess of the higher reasonable and customary fee for a service, if two or more Plans compute their benefit payments on the basis of reasonable and customary fees;
- any amount of expenses in excess of the higher negotiated fee for a service, if two or more Plans compute their benefit payments on the basis of negotiated fees; and
- any amount of benefits that a Primary Plan does not pay because the covered person fails to comply with the Primary Plan's managed care or utilization review provisions, these include provisions requiring:
    - second surgical opinions;
    - pre-certification of services;
    - use of providers in a Plan's network of providers; or
    - any other similar provisions.

We won't use this provision to refuse to pay benefits because an HMO member has elected to have dental services provided by a non-HMO provider and the HMO's contract does not require the HMO to pay for providing those services.

Claim Determination Period means a period that starts on any January 1 and ends on the next December 31. A Claim Determination Period for any covered person will not include periods of time during which that person is not covered under This Plan.

Custodial Parent means a Parent awarded custody, other than joint custody, by a court decree. In the absence of a court decree, it means the Parent with whom the child resides more than half of the Year without regard to any temporary visitation.

HMO means a Health Maintenance Organization or Dental Health Maintenance Organization.

Job-Related Injury or **Sickness** means any injury or sickness:

- for which You are entitled to benefits under a workers' compensation or similar law, or any arrangement that provides for similar compensation; or
- arising out of employment for wage or profit.

Parent means a person who covers a child as a dependent under a Plan.

Plan means any of the following, if it provides benefits or services for an Allowable Expense:

- a group insurance plan;
- an HMO;
- a blanket plan;
- uninsured arrangements of group or group type coverage;
- a group practice plan;
- a group service plan;
- a group prepayment plan;
- any other plan that covers people as a group;
- motor vehicle No Fault coverage if the coverage is required by law; and
- any other coverage required or provided by any law or any governmental program, except Medicaid.

The term does not include any of the following:

- individual or family insurance or subscriber contracts;
- individual or family coverage through closed panel Plans or other prepayment, group practice or individual practice Plans;
- hospital indemnity coverage;
- a school blanket plan that only provides accident-type coverage on a 24 hour basis, or a "to and from school basis," to students in a grammar school, high school or college;
- disability income protection coverage;
- accident only coverage;
- specified disease or specified accident coverage;
- nursing home or long term care coverage; or
- any government program or coverage if, by state or Federal law, its benefits are excess to those of any private insurance plan or other non-government plan.

The provisions of This Plan, which limit benefits based on benefits or services provided under plans which the Policyholder (or an affiliate) contributes to or sponsors will not be affected by these Coordination of Benefits provisions.

Each policy, contract or other arrangement for benefits is a separate Plan. If part of a Plan reserves the right to reduce what it pays based on benefits or services provided by other Plans, that part will be treated separately from any parts which do not.

This Plan means the dental benefits described in this certificate, except for any provisions in this certificate that limit insurance based on benefits for services provided under plans which the Policyholder (or an affiliate) contributes to or sponsors.

Primary Plan means a Plan that pays its benefits first under the “Rules to Decide Which Plan Is Primary” section. A Primary Plan pays benefits as if the Secondary Plans do not exist.

Secondary Plan means a Plan that is not a Primary Plan. A Secondary Plan may reduce its benefits by amounts payable by the Primary Plan. If there are more than two Plans that provide coverage, a Plan may be Primary to some plans, and Secondary to others.

RULES TO DECIDE WHICH PLAN IS PRIMARY

When more than one Plan covers the person for whom Allowable Expenses were incurred, We determine which plan is primary by applying the rules in this section.

When there is a basis for claim under This Plan and another Plan, This Plan is Secondary unless:

- the other Plan has rules coordinating its benefits with those of This Plan; and
- this Plan is primary under This Plan's rules.

The first rule below, which will allow Us to determine which Plan is Primary, is the rule that We will use.

Dependent or Non-Dependent: A Plan that covers a person other than as a dependent (for example, as an employee, member, subscriber, or retiree) is Primary and shall pay its benefits before a Plan that covers the person as a dependent; except that if the person is a Medicare beneficiary and, as a result of federal law or regulations, Medicare is:

- Secondary to the Plan covering the person as a dependent; and
- Primary to the Plan covering the person as other than a dependent (e.g., a retired employee);

then the order of benefits between the two Plans is reversed and the Plan that covers the person as a dependent is Primary.

Child Covered Under More Than One Plan – Court Decree: When This Plan and another Plan cover the same Child as the Dependent of two or more Parents, and the specific terms of a court decree state that one of the Parents must provide health coverage or pay for the Child's health care expenses, that Parent's Plan is Primary, if the Plan has actual knowledge of those terms. This rule applies to Claim Determination Periods that start after the Plan is given notice of the court decree.

Child Covered Under More Than One Plan – The Birthday Rule: When This Plan and another Plan cover the same Child as the Dependent of two or more Parents, the Primary Plan is the Plan of the Parent whose birthday falls earlier in the Year if:

- the Parents are married; or
- the Parents are not separated (whether or not they have ever married); or
- a court decree awards joint custody without specifying which Parent must provide health coverage.

If both Parents have the same birthday, the Plan that covered either of the Parents longer is the Primary Plan.

However, if the other Plan does not have this rule, but instead has a rule based on the gender of the parent, and if, as a result, the Plans do not agree on the order of benefits, the rule in the other Plan will determine the order of benefits.

Child Covered Under More than One Plan – Custodial Parent: When This Plan and another Plan cover the same Child as the Dependent of two or more Parents, if the Parents are not married, or are separated (whether or not they ever married), or are divorced, the Primary Plan is:

- the Plan of the Custodial Parent; then
- the Plan of the Spouse of the Custodial Parent; then
- the Plan of the non-custodial Parent; and then
- the Plan of the Spouse of the non-custodial Parent.

Active or Inactive Employee: A Plan that covers a person as an employee who is neither laid off nor retired is Primary to a Plan that covers the person as a laid-off or retired employee (or as that person's Dependent). If the other Plan does not have this rule and, if as a result, the Plans do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule is ignored.

Continuation Coverage: The Plan that covers a person as an active employee, member or subscriber (or as that employee's Dependent) is Primary to a Plan that covers that person under a right of continuation pursuant to federal law (e.g., COBRA) or state law. If the Plan that covers the person has not adopted this rule, and if, as a result, the Plans do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule shall not apply.

Longer/Shorter Time Covered: If none of the above rules determine which Plan is Primary, the Plan that has covered the person for the longer time shall be Primary to a Plan that has covered the person for a shorter time.

No Rules Apply: If none of the above rules determine which Plan is Primary, the Allowable Expenses shall be shared equally between all the Plans. In no event will This Plan pay more than it would if it were Primary.

EFFECT ON BENEFITS OF THIS PLAN

If This Plan is Secondary, when the total Allowable Expenses incurred by a covered person in any Claim Determination Period are less than the sum of:

- the benefits that would be payable under This Plan without applying this Coordination of Benefits provision; and
- the benefits that would be payable under all other Plans without applying Coordination of Benefits or similar provisions;

then We will reduce the benefits that would otherwise be payable under This Plan. The sum of these reduced benefits, plus all benefits payable for such Allowable Expenses under all other Plans, will not exceed the total of the Allowable Expenses. Benefits payable under all other Plans include all benefits that would be payable if the proper claims had been made on time.

RIGHT TO RECEIVE AND RELEASE NEEDED INFORMATION

We need certain information to apply the Coordination of Benefits rules. We have the right to decide which facts We need. We may get facts from or give them to any other organization or person. We do not need to tell, or get the consent of, any person or organization to do this. To obtain all benefits available, a covered person who incurs Allowable Expenses should file a claim under each Plan which covers the person. Each person claiming benefits under This Plan must give Us any facts We need to pay the claim.

FACILITY OF PAYMENT

A payment made under another Plan may include an amount which should have been paid under This Plan. If it does, We may pay that amount to the organization which made that payment. That amount will then be treated as though it were a benefit paid under This Plan. We will not have to pay that amount again. The term "payment made" includes benefits provided in the form of services, in which case We may pay the reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

RIGHT OF RECOVERY

If the amount We pay is more than We should have paid under this Coordination of Benefits provision, We may recover the excess from one or more of:

- the person We have paid or for whom We have paid;
- insurance companies; or
- other organizations.

The amount of the payment includes the reasonable cash value of any benefits provided in the form of services.

FILING A CLAIM

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

For Dental Insurance, all claim forms needed to file for benefits under the group insurance program can be obtained by calling MetLife at 1-800-942-0854. Dental claim forms can also be downloaded from www.metlife.com/dental. The instructions on the claim form should be followed carefully. This will expedite the processing of the claim.

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

CLAIMS FOR DENTAL INSURANCE BENEFITS

When a claimant files a claim for Dental Insurance benefits described in this certificate, both the notice of claim and the required Proof should be sent to Us within 90 days of the date of a loss.

Claim and Proof may be given to Us by following the steps set forth below:

Step 1
A claimant can request a claim form by calling Us at 1-800-942-0854.

Step 2
We will send a claim form to the claimant within 15 days of the request. The instructions on the claim form should be followed carefully. This will expedite the processing of the 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.

Step 4
The claimant must give Us Proof not later than 90 days after the date of the loss.

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 as soon as is reasonably possible.

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.

DENTAL INSURANCE: PROCEDURES FOR DENTAL CLAIMS

Procedures for Presenting Claims for Dental Insurance Benefits

All claim forms needed to file for Dental Insurance benefits under the group insurance program can be obtained from the Employer who can also answer questions about the insurance benefits and to assist You or, if applicable, Your beneficiary in filing claims. Dental claim forms can also be downloaded from www.metlife.com/dental. The instructions on the claim form should be followed carefully. This will expedite the processing of the claim. Be sure all questions are answered fully.

Routine Questions on Dental Insurance Claims

If there is any question about a claim payment, an explanation may be requested from MetLife by dialing 1-800-942-0854.

Claim Submission

For claims for Dental Insurance benefits, the claimant must complete the appropriate claim form and submit the required Proof as described in the FILING A CLAIM section of the certificate.

Claim forms must be submitted in accordance with the instructions on the claim form.

Initial Determination

After You submit a claim for Dental Insurance benefits to MetLife, MetLife will review Your claim and notify You of its decision to approve or deny Your claim.

Such notification will be provided to You within a 30 day period from the date You submitted Your claim; except for situations requiring an extension of time of up to 15 days because of matters beyond the control of MetLife. If MetLife needs such an extension, MetLife will notify You prior to the expiration of the initial 30 day period, state the reason why the extension is needed, and state when it will make its determination. If an extension is needed because You did not provide sufficient information or filed an incomplete claim, the time from the date of MetLife's notice requesting further information and an extension until MetLife receives the requested information does not count toward the time period MetLife is allowed to notify You as to its claim decision. You will have 45 days to provide the requested information from the date You receive the notice requesting further information from MetLife.

If MetLife denies the claim in whole or in part, the notification of the claims decision will state the reason why the claim was denied and reference the specific Plan provision(s) on which the denial is based. If the claim is denied because MetLife did not receive sufficient information, the claims decision will describe the additional information needed and explain why such information is needed. Further, if an internal rule, protocol, guideline or other criterion was relied upon in making the denial, the claims decision will state the rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria or indicate that such rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria was relied upon and that You may request a copy free of charge.

Appealing the Initial Determination

If MetLife denies Your claim, You may take two appeals of the initial determination. Upon Your written request, MetLife will provide You free of charge with copies of documents, records and other information relevant to Your claim. You must submit Your appeal to MetLife at the address indicated on the claim form within 180 days of receiving MetLife's decision. Appeals must be in writing and must include at least the following information:

- Name of Employee
- Name of the Plan
- Reference to the initial decision
- Whether the appeal is the first or second appeal of the initial determination
- An explanation why You are appealing the initial determination.

As part of each appeal, You may submit any written comments, documents, records, or other information relating to Your claim.

After MetLife receives Your written request appealing the initial determination or determination on the first appeal, MetLife will conduct a full and fair review of Your claim. Deference will not be given to initial denials, and MetLife's review will look at the claim anew. The review on appeal will take into account all comments, documents, records, and other information that You submit relating to Your claim without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial determination. The person who will review Your appeal will not be the same person as the person who made the initial decision to deny Your claim. In addition, the person who is reviewing the appeal will not be a subordinate of the person who made the initial decision to deny Your claim. If the initial denial is based in whole or in part on a medical judgment, MetLife will consult with a health care professional with appropriate training and experience in the field of dentistry involved in the judgment. This health care professional will not have consulted on the initial determination, and will not be a subordinate of any person who was consulted on the initial determination.

MetLife will notify You in writing of its final decision within 30 days after MetLife's receipt of Your written request for review, except that under special circumstances MetLife may have up to an additional 30 days to provide written notification of the final decision. If such an extension is required, MetLife will notify You prior to the expiration of the initial 30 day period, state the reason(s) why such an extension is needed, and state when it will make its determination.

If MetLife denies the claim on appeal, MetLife will send You a final written decision that states the reason(s) why the claim You appealed is being denied and references any specific Plan provision(s) on which the denial is based. If an internal rule, protocol, guideline or other criterion was relied upon in denying the claim on appeal, the final written decision will state the rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria or indicate that such rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria was relied upon and that You may request a copy free of charge. Upon written request, MetLife will provide You free of charge with copies of documents, records and other information relevant to Your claim.

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.

Upon receipt of a Covered Service, You may assign Dental Insurance benefits to the Dentist providing such service.

Dental Insurance: Who We Will Pay

If You assign payment of Dental Insurance benefits to Your or Your Dependent's Dentist, We will pay benefits directly to the Dentist. Otherwise, We will pay Dental Insurance benefits to You.

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.

The Policyholder has a copy of the entire contract. You may examine it at a reasonably accessible location.

Incontestability: Statements Made by You

Any statement made by You will be considered a representation and not a warranty.

Evidence of insurability will not be required nor will any statement made by You, which relates to insurability, be used:

1. to contest the validity of the insurance benefits; or
2. to reduce the insurance benefits.

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.

Overpayments

Recovery of Dental Insurance Overpayments

We have the right to recover any amount that We determine to be an overpayment, whether for services received by You or Your Dependents.

An overpayment occurs if We determine that:

- the total amount paid by Us on a claim for Dental Insurance 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.

How We Recover Overpayments

We may recover the overpayment from You by:

- stopping or reducing any future benefits payable for Dental Insurance;
- 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.

THE PRECEDING PAGE IS THE END OF THE CERTIFICATE.
THE FOLLOWING IS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

MetLife

Delaware American Life Insurance Company
MetLife Health Plans, Inc.
MetLife Legal Plans, Inc.
MetLife Legal Plans of Florida, Inc.
Metropolitan General Insurance Company
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
Metropolitan Tower Life Insurance Company
SafeGuard Health Plans, Inc.
SafeHealth Life Insurance Company

Our Privacy Notice

We know that you buy our products and services because you trust us. This notice explains how we protect your privacy and treat your personal information. It applies to current and former customers. "Personal information" as used here means anything we know about you personally.

SECTION 1: Plan Sponsors and Group Insurance Contract Holders

This privacy notice is for individuals who apply for or obtain our products and services under an employee benefit plan, group insurance or annuity contract, or as an executive benefit. In this notice, "you" refers to these individuals.

SECTION 2: Protecting Your Information

We take important steps to protect your personal information. We treat it as confidential. We tell our employees to take care in handling it. We limit access to those who need it to perform their jobs. Our outside service providers must also protect it, and use it only to meet our business needs. We also take steps to protect our systems from unauthorized access. We comply with all laws that apply to us.

SECTION 3: Collecting Your Information

We typically collect your name, address, age, and other relevant information. We may also collect information about any business you have with us, our affiliates, or other companies. Our affiliates include life insurers, a legal plans company and a securities broker-dealer. In the future, we may also have affiliates in other businesses.

SECTION 4: How We Get Your Information

We get your personal information mostly from you. We may also use outside sources to help ensure our records are correct and complete. These sources may include consumer reporting agencies, employers, other financial institutions, adult relatives, and others. These sources may give us reports or share what they know with others. We don't control the accuracy of information outside sources give us. If you want to make any changes to information we receive from others about you, you must contact those sources.

We may ask for medical information. The Authorization that you sign when you request insurance permits these sources to tell us about you. We may also, at our expense:

- Ask for a medical exam
- Ask for blood and urine tests
- Ask health care providers to give us health data, including information about alcohol or drug abuse

We may also ask a consumer reporting agency for a "consumer report" about you (or anyone else to be insured). Consumer reports may tell us about a lot of things, including information about:

- Reputation
- Driving record
- Finances
- Work and work history
- Hobbies and dangerous activities

The information may be kept by the consumer reporting agency and later given to others as permitted by law. The agency will give you a copy of the report it provides to us, if you ask the agency and can provide adequate identification. If you write to us and we have asked for a consumer report about you, we will tell you so and give you the name, address and phone number of the consumer reporting agency.

Another source of information is MIB, Inc. ("MIB"). It is a not-for-profit membership organization of insurance companies which operates an information exchange on behalf of its Members. We, or our reinsurers, may make a brief report to MIB. If you apply to another MIB Member company for life or health insurance coverage, or a claim for benefits is submitted, MIB, upon request, will supply such company with the information in its file. Upon receipt of a request from you MIB will arrange disclosure of any information it may have in your file. Please contact MIB at 866-692-6901. If you question the accuracy of information in MIB's

file, you may contact MIB and seek a correction in accordance with the procedures set forth in the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act. You may do so by writing to MIB, Inc., 50 Braintree Hill, Suite 400, Braintree, MA 02184-8734 or go to MIB website at www.mib.com.

SECTION 5: Using Your Information

We collect your personal information to help us decide if you're eligible for our products or services. We may also need it to verify identities to help deter fraud, money laundering, or other crimes. How we use this information depends on what products and services you have or want from us. It also depends on what laws apply to those products and services. For example, we may also use your information to:

- administer your products and services
- perform business research
- market new products to you
- comply with applicable laws
- process claims and other transactions
- confirm or correct your information
- help us run our business

SECTION 6: Sharing Your Information With Others

We may share your personal information with others with your consent, by agreement, or as permitted or required by law. We may share your personal information without your consent if permitted or required by law. For example, we may share your information with businesses hired to carry out services for us. We may also share it with our affiliated or unaffiliated business partners through joint marketing agreements. In those situations, we share your information to jointly offer you products and services or have others offer you products and services we endorse or sponsor. Before sharing your information with any affiliate or joint marketing partner for their own marketing purposes, however, we will first notify you and give you an opportunity to opt out.

Other reasons we may share your information include:

- doing what a court, law enforcement, or government agency requires us to do (for example, complying with search warrants or subpoenas)
- telling another company what we know about you if we are selling or merging any part of our business
- giving information to a governmental agency so it can decide if you are eligible for public benefits
- giving your information to someone with a legal interest in your assets (for example, a creditor with a lien on your account)
- giving your information to your health care provider
- having a peer review organization evaluate your information, if you have health coverage with us
- those listed in our "Using Your Information" section above

SECTION 7: HIPAA

We will not share your health information with any other company – even one of our affiliates – for their own marketing purposes. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA") protects your information if you request or purchase dental, vision, long-term care and/or medical insurance from us. HIPAA limits our ability to use and disclose the information that we obtain as a result of your request or purchase of insurance. Information about your rights under HIPAA will be provided to you with any dental, vision, long-term care or medical coverage issued to you.

You may obtain a copy of our HIPAA Privacy Notice by visiting our website at www.MetLife.com. For additional information about your rights under HIPAA; or to have a HIPAA Privacy Notice mailed to you, contact us at HIPAAprivacyAmericasUS@metlife.com, or call us at telephone number (212) 578-0299.

SECTION 8: Accessing and Correcting Your Information

You may ask us for a copy of the personal information we have about you. We will provide it as long as it is reasonably locatable and retrievable. You must make your request in writing listing the account or policy numbers with the information you want to access. For legal reasons, we may not show you privileged information relating to a claim or lawsuit, unless required by law.

If you tell us that what we know about you is incorrect, we will review it. If we agree, we will update our records. Otherwise, you may dispute our findings in writing, and we will include your statement whenever we give your disputed information to anyone outside MetLife.

SECTION 9: Questions

We want you to understand how we protect your privacy. If you have any questions or want more information about this notice, please contact us. A detailed notice shall be furnished to you upon request. When you write, include your name, address, and policy or account number.

Send privacy questions to:

MetLife Privacy Office
P. O. Box 489
Warwick, RI 02887-9954
privacy@metlife.com

We may revise this privacy notice. If we make any material changes, we will notify you as required by law. We provide this privacy notice to you on behalf of the MetLife companies listed at the top of the first page.

HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices for Protected Health Information

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED, AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION.

PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

Dear MetLife Customer:

This is your Health Information Privacy Notice from Metropolitan Life Insurance Company or a member of the MetLife, Inc. family of companies, which includes SafeGuard Health Plans, Inc., SafeHealth Life Insurance Company, and Delaware American Life Insurance Company (collectively, "**MetLife**"). **Please read it carefully.** You have received this notice because of your Dental, Vision, Long-Term Care, Cancer and Specified Disease Expense Insurance, or Health coverage with us (your "**Coverage**"). MetLife strongly believes in protecting the confidentiality and security of information we collect about you. This notice refers to MetLife by using the terms "us," "we," or "our."

This notice describes how we protect the personal health information we have about you which relates to your MetLife Coverage ("**Protected Health Information**" or "**PHI**"), and how we may use and disclose this information. PHI includes individually identifiable information which relates to your past, present or future health, treatment or payment for health care services. This notice also describes your rights with respect to the PHI and how you can exercise those rights.

We are required to provide this notice to you by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("**HIPAA**"). For additional information regarding our HIPAA Medical Information Privacy Policy or our general privacy policies, please see the privacy notices contained at our website,**www.metlife.com**. You may submit questions to us there or you may write to us directly at MetLife, Americas – U.S. HIPAA Privacy Office, P.O. Box 902, New York, NY 10159-0902.

NOTICE SUMMARY

The following is a brief summary of the topics covered in this HIPAA notice. Please refer to the full notice below for details.

As allowed by law, we may **use** and **disclose** PHI to:

- make, receive, or collect payments;
- conduct health care operations;
- administer benefits by sharing PHI with affiliates and Business Associates;
- assist plan sponsors in administering their plans; and
- inform persons who may be involved in or paying for another's health care.

In addition, we may use or disclose PHI:

- where required by law or for public health activities;
- to avert a serious threat to health or safety;
- for health-related benefits or services;
- for law enforcement or specific government functions;
- when requested as part of a regulatory or legal proceeding; and
- to provide information about deceased persons to coroners, medical examiners, or funeral directors.

You have the right to:

- receive a copy of this notice;
- inspect and copy your PHI, or receive a copy of your PHI;
- amend your PHI if you believe the information is incorrect;
- obtain a list of disclosures we made about you (except for treatment, payment, or health care operations);

- ask us to restrict the information we share for treatment, payment, or health care operations;
- request that we communicate with you in a confidential manner; and
- complain to us or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services if you believe your privacy rights have been violated.

We are required by law to:

- maintain the privacy of PHI;
- provide this notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to PHI;
- notify affected individuals following a breach of unsecured PHI; and
- follow the terms of this notice.

NOTICE DETAILS

We protect your PHI from inappropriate use or disclosure. Our employees, and those of companies that help us service your MetLife Coverage, are required to comply with our requirements that protect the confidentiality of PHI. They may look at your PHI only when there is an appropriate reason to do so, such as to administer our products or services.

Except in the case of Long-Term Care Coverage, we will **not use or disclose** PHI that is genetic information for underwriting purposes. For example, we will not use information from a genetic test (such as DNA or RNA analysis) of an individual or an individual's family members to determine eligibility, premiums or contribution amounts under your Coverage.

We will **not sell or disclose** your PHI to any other company for their use in marketing their products to you. However, as described below, we will use and disclose PHI about you for business purposes relating to your Coverage.

The main reasons we may **use** and **disclose** your PHI are to evaluate and process any requests for coverage and claims for benefits you may make or in connection with other health-related benefits or services that may be of interest to you. The following describe these and other uses and disclosures.

- **For Payment:** We may use and disclose PHI to pay benefits under your Coverage. For example, we may review PHI contained in claims to reimburse providers for services rendered. We may also disclose PHI to other insurance carriers to coordinate benefits with respect to a particular claim. Additionally, we may disclose PHI to a health plan or an administrator of an employee welfare benefit plan for various payment-related functions, such as eligibility determination, audit and review, or to assist you with your inquiries or disputes.

- For Health Care Operations: We may also use and disclose PHI for our insurance operations. These purposes include evaluating a request for our products or services, administering those products or services, and processing transactions requested by you.

- To Affiliates and Business Associates: We may disclose PHI to Affiliates and to business associates outside of the MetLife family of companies if they need to receive PHI to provide a service to us and will agree to abide by specific HIPAA rules relating to the protection of PHI. Examples of business associates are: billing companies, data processing companies, companies that provide general administrative services, health Information organizations e-prescribing gateways, or personal health record vendors that provide services to covered entities. PHI may be disclosed to reinsurers for underwriting, audit or claim review reasons. PHI may also be disclosed as part of a potential merger or acquisition involving our business in order that the parties to the transaction may make an informed business decision.

- To Plan Sponsors: We may disclose summary health information such as claims history or claims expenses to a plan sponsor to enable it to obtain premium bids from health plans, or to modify, amend or terminate a group health plan. We may also disclose PHI to a plan sponsor to help administer its plan if the plan sponsor agrees to restrict its use and disclosure of PHI in accordance with federal law.

- To Individuals Involved in Your Care: We may disclose your PHI to a family member or other individual who is involved in your health care or payment of your health care. For example, we may disclose PHI to a covered family member whom you have authorized to contact us regarding payment of a claim.

- Where Required by Law or for Public Health Activities: We disclose PHI when required by federal, state or local law. Examples of such mandatory disclosures include notifying state or local health authorities regarding particular communicable diseases, or providing PHI to a governmental agency or regulator with health care oversight responsibilities.

- To Avert a Serious Threat to Health or Safety: We may disclose PHI to avert a serious threat to someone's health or safety. We may also disclose PHI to federal, state or local agencies engaged in disaster relief, as well as to private disaster relief or disaster assistance agencies to allow such entities to carry out their responsibilities in specific disaster situations.

- For Health-Related Benefits or Services: We may use your PHI to provide you with information about benefits available to you under your current coverage or policy and, in limited situations, about health-related products or services that may be of

interest to you. However, we will not send marketing communications to you in exchange for financial remuneration from a third party without your authorization.

- **For Law Enforcement or Specific Government Functions:** We may disclose PHI in response to a request by a law enforcement official made through a court order, subpoena, warrant, summons or similar process. We may disclose PHI about you to federal officials for intelligence, counterintelligence, and other national security activities authorized by law.

- **When Requested as Part of a Regulatory or Legal Proceeding:** If you or your estate are involved in a lawsuit or a dispute, we may disclose PHI about you in response to a court or administrative order. We may also disclose PHI about you in response to a subpoena, discovery request, or other lawful process, but only if efforts have been made to tell you about the request or to obtain an order protecting the PHI requested. We may disclose PHI to any governmental agency or regulator with whom you have filed a complaint or as part of a regulatory agency examination.

- **PHI about Deceased Individuals :** We may release PHI to a coroner or medical examiner to assist in identifying a deceased individual or to determine the cause of death. In addition, we may disclose a deceased's person's PHI to a family member or individual involved in the care or payment for care of the deceased person unless doing so is inconsistent with any prior expressed preference of the deceased person which is known to us.

- **Other Uses of PHI:** Other uses and disclosures of PHI not covered by this notice and permitted by the laws that apply to us will be made only with your written authorization or that of your legal representative. If we are authorized to use or disclose PHI about you, you or your legally authorized representative may revoke that authorization in writing at any time, except to the extent that we have taken action relying on the authorization or if the authorization was obtained as a condition of obtaining your Coverage. You should understand that we will not be able to take back any disclosures we have already made with authorization.

Your Rights Regarding Protected Health Information That We Maintain About You

The following are your various rights as a consumer under HIPAA concerning your PHI. Should you have questions about or wish to exercise a specific right, please contact us in writing at the applicable Contact Address listed on the last page.

- **Right to Inspect and Copy Your PHI:** In most cases, you have the right to inspect and obtain a copy of the PHI that we maintain about you. If we maintain the requested PHI electronically, you may ask us to provide you with the PHI in electronic format, if readily producible; or, if not, in a readable electronic form and format agreed to by you and us. To receive a copy of your PHI, you may be charged a fee for the costs of copying, mailing, electronic media, or other supplies associated with your request. You may also direct us to send the PHI you have requested to another person designated by you, so long as your request is in writing and clearly identifies the designated individual. However, certain types of PHI will not be made available for inspection and copying. This includes psychotherapy notes or PHI collected by us in connection with, or in reasonable anticipation of, any claim or legal proceeding. In very limited circumstances, we may deny your request to inspect and obtain a copy of your PHI. If we do, you may request that the denial be reviewed. The review will be conducted by an individual chosen by us who was not involved in the original decision to deny your request. We will comply with the outcome of that review.

- **Right to Amend Your PHI:** If you believe that your PHI is incorrect or that an important part of it is missing, you have the right to ask us to amend your PHI while it is kept by or for us. You must specify the reason for your request. We may deny your request if it is not in writing or does not include a reason that supports the request. In addition, we may deny your request if you ask us to amend PHI that:

  - is accurate and complete;
  - was not created by us, unless the person or entity that created the PHI is no longer available to make the amendment;
  - is not part of the PHI kept by or for us; or
  - is not part of the PHI which you would be permitted to inspect and copy.

- **Right to a List of Disclosures:** You have the right to request a list of the disclosures we have made of your PHI. This list will not include disclosures made for treatment, payment, health care operations, purposes of national security, to law enforcement, to corrections personnel, pursuant to your authorization, or directly to you. To request this list, you must submit your request in writing. Your request must state the time period for which you want to receive a list of disclosures. You may only request an accounting of disclosures for a period of time less than six years prior to the date of your request. Your request should indicate in what form you want the list (for example, paper or electronic). The first list you request within a 12-month period will be free. We may charge you for responding to any additional requests. We will notify you of the cost involved, and you may choose to withdraw or modify your request at that time before you incur any cost.

- **Right to Request Restrictions:** You have the Right to request a restriction or limitation on PHI we

Use or disclose about you for treatment, payment, or health care operations, or that we disclose to someone who may be involved in your care or payment for your care, like a family member or friend. While we will consider your request, **we are not required to agree to it.** If we do agree to it, we will comply with your request. To request a restriction, you must make your request in writing. In your request, you must tell us (1) what information you want to limit; (2) whether you want to limit our use, disclosure or both; and (3) to whom you want the limits to apply (for example, disclosures to your spouse or parent). We will not agree to restrictions on PHI uses or disclosures that are legally required, or which are necessary to administer our business.

- **Right to Request Confidential Communications :** You have the right to request that we communicate with you about PHI in a certain way or at a certain location if you tell us that communication in another manner may endanger you. For example, you can ask that we only contact you at work or by mail. To request confidential communications, you must make your request in writing and specify how or where you wish to be contacted. We will accommodate all reasonable requests.

- **Contact Addresses:** If you have any questions about a specific individual right or you want to exercise one of your individual rights, please submit your request in writing to the address below which applies to your Coverage:

MetLife or SafeGuard Dental & Vision
P.O. Box 14587
Lexington, KY 40512-4587

MetLife LTC Privacy Coordinator
1300 Hall Boulevard, 3rd Floor
Bloomfield, CT 06002

Delaware American Life Insurance Company
MetLife Worldwide Benefits
P.O. Box 1449
Wilmington, DE 19899-1449

Cancer and Specified Disease Expense Insurance
c/o Bay Bridge Administrators, LLC
P.O. Box 161690
Austin, TX 78716

- **Right to File a Complaint:** If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with us or with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. To file a complaint with us, please contact MetLife, Americas – U.S. HIPAA Privacy Office, P.O. Box 902, New York, NY 10159-0902. All complaints must be submitted in writing. You will not be penalized for filing a complaint. If you have questions as to how to file a complaint, please contact us at telephone number (212) 578-0299 or at HIPAAprivacyAmericasUS@metlife.com.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Changes to This Notice: We reserve the right to change the terms of this notice at any time. We reserve the right to make the revised or changed notice effective for PHI we already have about you, as well as any PHI we receive in the future. The effective date of this notice and any revised or changed notice may be found on the last page, on the bottom right-hand corner of the notice. You will receive a copy of any revised notice from MetLife by mail or by e-mail, if e-mail delivery is offered by MetLife and you agree to such delivery.

Further Information: You may have additional rights under other applicable laws. For additional information regarding our HIPAA Medical Information Privacy Policy or our general privacy policies, please e-mail us at HIPAAprivacyAmericasUS@metlife.com or call us at telephone number (212) 578-0299, or write us at:

MetLife, Americas
U.S. HIPAA Privacy Office
P.O. Box 902
New York, NY 10159-0902

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Effective Date: 09202023

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THIS SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION IS EXPRESSLY MADE PART OF THE ECOLAB INC. DENTAL INSURANCE PLAN AND IS LEGALLY ENFORCEABLE AS PART OF THE PLAN WITH RESPECT TO ITS TERMS AND CONDITIONS. IN THE EVENT THERE IS NO OTHER PLAN DOCUMENT, THIS DOCUMENT SHALL SERVE AS A SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION AND SHALL ALSO CONSTITUTE THE PLAN.

ERISA INFORMATION

NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER AND PLAN ADMINISTRATOR

Ecolab Inc.
370 Wabasha St., North
St. Paul, MN 55102
651-293-4172

EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 41-0231510

PLAN NUMBER	COVERAGE	PLAN NAME
511	Dental Insurance	Ecolab Post Retirement Benefits Plan

TYPE OF ADMINISTRATION

The above listed benefits are insured by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company ("MetLife").

AGENT FOR SERVICE OF LEGAL PROCESS

For disputes arising under the Plan, service of legal process may be made upon the Plan Administrator at the above address. For disputes arising under those portions of the Plan insured by MetLife, service of legal process may be made upon MetLife at one of its local offices, or upon the supervisory official of the Insurance Department in the state in which you reside.

ELIGIBILITY FOR INSURANCE; DESCRIPTION OR SUMMARY OF BENEFITS

Your MetLife certificate describes the eligibility requirements for insurance provided by MetLife under the Plan. It also includes a detailed description of the insurance provided by MetLife under the Plan.

PLAN TERMINATION OR CHANGES

The group policy sets forth those situations in which the Employer and/or MetLife have the rights to end the policy.

The Employer reserves the right to change or terminate the Plan at any time. Therefore, there is no guarantee that you will be eligible for the insurance described herein for the duration of your employment. Any such action will be taken only after careful consideration.

Your consent or the consent of your beneficiary is not required to terminate, modify, amend, or change the Plan.

In the event Your insurance ends in accordance with the DATE YOUR INSURANCE ENDS and DATE YOUR INSURANCE FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS ENDS subsections of Your certificate, you may still be eligible to receive benefits. The circumstances under which benefits are available are described in Your MetLife certificate.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO PREMIUM

If you enroll for Dental Insurance coverage, you are required to make contributions to premiums.

Premium rates are set by MetLife.

PLAN YEAR

The Plan's fiscal records are kept on a Plan year basis beginning each January 1st and ending on the following December 31st.

QUALIFIED MEDICAL CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS

You and your beneficiaries can obtain, without charge, from the Plan Administrator a copy of any procedures governing Qualified Medical Child Support Orders (QMCSO).

CLAIMS INFORMATION

Dental Benefits Claims

Procedures for Presenting Claims for Dental Benefits

All claim forms needed to file for benefits under the group insurance program can be obtained from the Employer who can also answer questions about the insurance benefits and to assist you or, if applicable, your beneficiary in filing claims. Dental claim forms can also be downloaded from www.metlife.com/dental.

Routine Questions

If there is any question about a claim payment, an explanation may be requested from MetLife by dialing 1-800-942-0854.

Claim Submission

For claims for dental benefits, the claimant must complete the appropriate claim form and submit the required proof as described in the FILING A CLAIM section of the certificate.

Claim forms must be submitted in accordance with the instructions on the claim form.

Initial Determination

After you submit a claim for dental benefits to MetLife, MetLife will review your claim and notify you of its decision to approve or deny your claim.

Such notification will be provided to you within a 30 day period from the date you submitted your claim; except for situations requiring an extension of time of up to 15 days because of matters beyond the control of the Plan. If MetLife needs such an extension, MetLife will notify you prior to the expiration of the initial 30 day period, state the reason why the extension is needed, and state when it will make its determination. If an extension is needed because you did not provide sufficient information or filed an incomplete claim, the time from the date of MetLife's notice requesting further information and an extension until MetLife receives the requested information does not count toward the time period MetLife is allowed to notify you as to its claim decision. You will have 45 days to provide the requested information from the date you receive the notice requesting further information from MetLife.

If MetLife denies your claim in whole or in part, the notification of the claims decision will state the reason why your claim was denied and reference the specific Plan provision(s) on which the denial is based. If the claim is denied because MetLife did not receive sufficient information, the claims decision will describe the additional information needed and explain why such information is needed. Further, if an internal rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria was relied upon in making the denial, the claims decision will state the rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria or indicate that such rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria was relied upon and that you may request a copy free of charge.

Appealing the Initial Determination

If MetLife denies your claim, you may make two appeals of the initial determination. Upon your written request, MetLife will provide you free of charge with copies of documents, records and other information relevant to your claim. You must submit your appeal to MetLife at the address indicated on the claim form within 180 days of receiving MetLife's decision. Appeals must be in writing and must include at least the following information:

- Name of Employee
- Name of the Plan
- Reference to the initial decision
- Whether the appeal is the first or second appeal of the initial determination
- An explanation why you are appealing the initial determination

As part of each appeal, you may submit any written comments, documents, records, or other information relating to your claim.

After MetLife receives your written request appealing the initial determination or determination on the first appeal, MetLife will conduct a full and fair review of your claim. Deference will not be given to initial denials, and MetLife's review will look at the claim anew. The review on appeal will take into account all comments, documents, records, and other information that you submit relating to your claim without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial determination. The person who will review your appeal will not be the same person as the person who made the initial decision to deny your claim. In addition, the person who is reviewing the appeal will not be a subordinate of the person who made the initial decision to deny your claim. If the initial denial is based in whole or in part on a medical judgment, MetLife will consult with a health care professional with appropriate training and experience in the field of dentistry involved in the judgment. This health care professional will not have consulted on the initial determination, and will not be a subordinate of any person who was consulted on the initial determination.

MetLife will notify you in writing of its final decision within 30 days after MetLife's receipt of your written request for review, except that under special circumstances MetLife may have up to an additional 30 days to provide written notification of the final decision. If such an extension is required, MetLife will notify you prior to the expiration of the initial 30 day period, state the reason(s) why such an extension is needed, and state when it will make its determination.

If MetLife denies the claim on appeal, MetLife will send you a final written decision that states the reason(s) why the claim you appealed is being denied and references any specific Plan provision(s) on which the denial is based. If an internal rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria was relied upon in denying the claim on appeal, the final written decision will state the rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria or indicate that such rule, protocol, guideline or other criteria was relied upon and that you may request a copy free of charge. Upon written request, MetLife will provide you free of charge with copies of documents, records and other information relevant to your claim.

When the claim has been processed, you will be notified of the benefits paid. If any benefits have been denied, you will receive a written explanation.

Urgent Care Claim Submission

A small number of claims for dental benefits may be urgent care claims. Urgent care claims for dental benefits are claims for reimbursement of dental expenses for services which a dentist familiar with the dental condition determines would subject the patient to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the care or treatment that is the subject of the claim. Of course any such claim may always be submitted in accordance with the normal claim procedures. However your dentist may also submit such a claim to MetLife by telephoning MetLife and informing MetLife that the claim is an Urgent Care Claim. Urgent Care Claims are processed according to the procedures set out above, however once a claim for urgent care is submitted, MetLife will notify you of the determination on the claim as soon as possible, but no later than 72 hours after the claim was filed. If you or your covered dependent does not provide the claims administrator with enough information to decide the claim, MetLife will notify you within 24 hours after it receives the claim of the further information that is needed. You will have 48 hours to provide the information. If the needed information is provided, MetLife will then notify you of the claim decision within 48 hours after MetLife received the information. If the needed information is not provided, MetLife will notify you or your covered dependent of its decision within 120 hours after the claim was received.

If your urgent care claim is denied but you receive the care, you may appeal the denial using the normal claim procedures. If your urgent care claim is denied and you do not receive the care, you can request an expedited appeal of your claim denial by phone or in writing. MetLife will provide you any necessary information to assist you in your appeal. MetLife will then notify you of its decision within 72 hours of your request in writing. However, MetLife may notify you by phone within the time frames above and then mail you a written notice.

Discretionary Authority of Plan Administrator and Other Plan Fiduciaries

In carrying out their respective responsibilities under the Plan, the Plan administrator and other Plan fiduciaries shall have discretionary authority to interpret the terms of the Plan and to determine eligibility for and entitlement to Plan benefits in accordance with the terms of the Plan. Any interpretation or determination made pursuant to such discretionary authority shall be given full force and effect, unless it can be shown that the interpretation or determination was arbitrary and capricious.

NOTICE OF YOUR RIGHT AND YOUR DEPENDENTS' RIGHT TO COBRA CONTINUATION COVERAGE

COBRA is a federal law that requires most group health plans to give their employees and their dependents the opportunity to continue coverage when coverage is terminated due to certain specific events. If your employment terminates for any reason other than your gross misconduct, or if your hours worked are reduced so that your coverage terminates, you and your covered dependents may be able to continue coverage under This Plan for a period of up to 18 months. If it is determined under the terms of the Social Security Act that you or your covered dependent is disabled within the first 60 days of COBRA coverage, you and your covered dependents may be able to continue your dental coverage under This Plan for an additional 11 months after the expiration of the 18 month period. In addition, if you should die, become divorced or legally separated, or become eligible for Medicare, your covered dependents may be able to continue coverage under This Plan for up to 36 months. Also, your covered children may be able to continue coverage under This Plan for up to 36 months after they no longer qualify as covered dependents under the terms of This Plan. Group health plans for employers with fewer than 20 employees, church plans, and plans established and maintained by the federal government are not subject to COBRA continuation requirements.

During the continuation period, a child of yours that is (1) born; (2) adopted by you; or (3) placed with you for adoption, will be treated as if the child were a covered dependent at the time coverage was lost due to an event described above.

This continuation will terminate on the earliest of:

a. the end of the 18, 29 or 36 month continuation period, as the case may be;

b. the date of expiration of the last period for which the required payment was made;

c. the date, after you or your covered dependent elects to continue coverage, that you or your covered dependent first becomes covered under another group health plan as long as the new plan does not contain any exclusion or limitation with respect to your or your covered dependent's preexisting condition;

d. the date your employer ceases to provide any group health plan for its employees.

Notice will be given when you or your covered dependent becomes entitled to continue coverage under This Plan. You or your covered dependent will then have 60 days to elect to continue coverage. If you or your covered dependent do not notify your Employer within the 60-day election period, you will lose the option to elect continuation coverage.

Each person who is eligible for COBRA coverage is entitled to make a separate election of COBRA coverage. Thus, a covered spouse (as defined by federal law) or dependent child (or parent on their behalf) is entitled to elect COBRA coverage even if the covered Employee does not make that election. However, covered Employees may elect COBRA coverage on behalf of their covered dependents. Any person who elects to continue coverage under This Plan must pay the full cost of that coverage (including both the share you now pay and the share your Employer now pays), plus any additional amounts permitted by law. Your payments for continued coverage must be made on the first day of each month in advance.

If you do not elect COBRA coverage, your dental coverage will end. However, if you initially waive COBRA continuation coverage before the end of the 60-day election period, you may change your election by sending the completed election form to the Plan Administrator and postmarking it no later than the last day of the 60-day election period.

If You Elect COBRA

If you choose COBRA coverage and pay the required premiums, you are entitled to coverage which, as of the time coverage is being provided, is identical to the coverage provided by the Employer to similarly situated active Employees, spouses or dependent children. This means that if the coverage for similarly situated Employees, spouses or dependent children changes, coverage will change for those who elected COBRA coverage.

Duration Of COBRA Coverage

The law requires that you be given the opportunity to maintain COBRA coverage for 36 months from the date coverage ends as a result of the qualifying event unless you lost coverage because of the covered Employee's termination of employment or reduction in hours. In that case, the required COBRA coverage period is 18 months from the date you lose coverage as a result of the termination of employment or reduction in hours. However, the 18-month coverage period may be extended under the following circumstances:

Disability. If any person entitled to COBRA coverage (the covered Employee, covered spouse or covered dependent child) is determined by the Social Security Administration to have been disabled at any time during the first 60 days of COBRA coverage period and the disability lasts at least until the end of the 18 month period of continuation coverage, then all such persons entitled to elect COBRA coverage may be able to continue coverage for up to 29 months, rather than 18 months.

In order to be eligible for the additional 11 months of COBRA coverage, the covered Employee, covered spouse or covered dependent child must notify the Employer's COBRA Administrator within 60 days of the **latest** of: (1) the Social Security Administration's determination of disability; (2) the date of the qualifying

event; (3) the date on which the covered Employee's coverage initially was or will be lost; or (4) the date a person entitled to COBRA coverage is informed of this obligation by being provided the initial COBRA notice for the applicable group health plan. Written notice to the COBRA Administrator must be received before the end of the initial 18-month coverage period. A copy of the Social Security Administration's determination must be provided to the COBRA Administrator. **If these procedures are not followed, there will be no disability extension of COBRA.**

During the additional 11 months of coverage, your cost for that coverage will be approximately 50% higher than it was during the preceding 18 months.

The additional 11 months of coverage provided on account of a disability will end as of the earlier of:

- The first day of the month beginning more than 30 days after a final determination by the Social Security Administration that the disability no longer exists; or

- The last day of the 29th month of total coverage.

A person entitled to COBRA coverage must notify the COBRA Administrator within 30 days if the Social Security Administration determines that the disabled person is no longer disabled. This Plan reserves the right to retroactively cancel COBRA coverage, and will require reimbursement of all benefits paid for claims incurred after coverage terminates.

Subsequent Qualifying Events. If, during the 18-month period of COBRA coverage (or within the 29-month maximum coverage period in the case of a disability extension), the covered Employee and the spouse divorce, the covered Employee dies, the covered Employee becomes entitled to Medicare, or a dependent ceases to be an eligible dependent under the terms of This Plan, then the covered spouse and/or covered dependent child(ren) (as applicable) may be able to extend COBRA coverage for up to 36 months from the date of the termination of employment or reduction in hours.

A person entitled to COBRA coverage must notify the Employer's COBRA Administrator of the subsequent event no later than 60 days after its occurrence. If such notification is not given, the covered spouse and/or covered dependent child will not be entitled to the additional COBRA coverage.

Premiums For COBRA Coverage

A person entitled to COBRA coverage is entirely responsible for paying the premiums for COBRA coverage. The required payment for each continuation coverage period for each option will be described in the notice that is sent when an individual experiences a qualifying event.

Initial Premium Payment

If continuation of coverage is elected, payment for continuation coverage must be made no later than 45 days after the date of such election. (This is the date the election notice is post-marked, if mailed.) If the first payment for continuation coverage is not made in full by the 45th day after the date of election, continuation coverage under This Plan will end. A person entitled to COBRA coverage is responsible for making sure that the amount of the first payment is correct.

After the first payment for continuation coverage, the amount due for each coverage period for each qualified beneficiary will be provided when coverage is elected.

STATEMENT OF ERISA RIGHTS

The following statement is required by federal law and regulation.

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

Receive Information About Your Plan and Benefits

Examine, without charge, at the Plan Administrator's office and at other specified locations, all Plan documents governing the Plan, including insurance contracts and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the Plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefit Security Administration.

Obtain, upon written request to the Plan Administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the Plan, including insurance contracts and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated summary plan description. The administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.

Receive a summary of the Plan's annual financial report. The Plan Administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary annual report.

Continue Group Dental Plan Insurance

Continue dental insurance for yourself, spouse or dependents if there is a loss of coverage under the Plan as a result of a qualifying event. You or your dependents may have to pay for such coverage. Review this summary plan description and the documents governing the Plan on the rules governing your COBRA continuation coverage rights.

Prudent Actions by Plan Fiduciaries

In addition to creating rights for Plan participants, ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the employee benefit Plan. The people who operate your Plan, called "fiduciaries" of the Plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other Plan participants and beneficiaries.

No one, including your employer or any other person, may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a welfare benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

Enforce Your Rights

If your claim for a welfare benefit is denied or ignored in whole or in part, you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge, and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules.

Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of Plan documents or the latest annual report from the Plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in a Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the Plan Administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to $110.00 a day until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the administrator. If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a state or Federal court.

In addition, if you disagree with the Plan's decision or lack thereof concerning the qualified status of a medical child support order, you may file suit in Federal court.

If it should happen that Plan fiduciaries misuse the Plan's money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a Federal court.

The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful, the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees.

If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees; for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

Assistance with Your Questions

If you have any questions about your Plan, you should contact the Plan Administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the Plan Administrator, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

FUTURE OF THE PLAN

It is hoped that This Plan will be continued indefinitely, but Ecolab Inc. reserves the right to change or terminate the Plan in the future. Any such action would be taken only after careful consideration.

The Board of Directors of Ecolab Inc. shall be empowered to amend or terminate the Plan or any benefit under the Plan at any time.

Uniformed Services Employment And Reemployment Rights Act

This section describes the right that you may have to continue coverage for yourself and your covered dependents under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA).

Continuation of Group Dental Insurance:

If you take a leave from employment for "service in the uniformed services," as that term is defined in USERRA, and as a consequence your dental insurance coverage under your employer's group dental insurance policy ends, you may elect to continue dental insurance for yourself and your covered dependents, for a limited period of time, as described below.

The law requires that your employer notify you of your rights, benefits and obligations under USERRA including instructions on how to elect to continue insurance, the amount and procedure for payment of premium. If permitted by USERRA, your employer may require that you elect to continue coverage within a period of time specified by your employer.

You may be responsible for payment of the required premium to continue insurance. If your leave from employment for service in the uniformed services lasts less than 31 days, your required premium will be no more than the amount you were required to pay for dental insurance before the leave began; for a leave lasting 31 or more days, you may be required to pay up to 102% of the total dental insurance premium, including any amount that your employer was paying before the leave began.

You and your covered dependents' insurance that is continued pursuant to USERRA will end on the earliest of the following:

- the end of 24 consecutive months from the date your leave from employment for service in the uniformed services begins; or
- the day after the date on which you fail to apply for, or return to employment, in accordance with USERRA.

You and your covered dependent may become entitled to continuation of coverage under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act ("COBRA") while you have dental insurance coverage under your employer's group dental insurance policy pursuant to USERRA. Contact your employer for more information.

The following addenda apply to residents of New Hampshire.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

These notices are being provided to you pursuant to New Hampshire law.

Patient's Bill of Rights

I. The patient shall be treated with consideration, respect, and full recognition of the patient's dignity and individuality, including privacy in treatment and personal care and including being informed of the name, licensure status, and staff position of all those with whom the patient has contact, pursuant to RSA 151:3-b.

II. The patient shall be fully informed of a patient's rights and responsibilities and of all procedures governing patient conduct and responsibilities. This information must be provided orally and in writing before or at admission, except for emergency admissions. Receipt of the information must be acknowledged by the patient in writing. When a patient lacks the capacity to make informed judgments the signing must be by the person legally responsible for the patient.

III. The patient shall be fully informed in writing in language that the patient can understand, before or at the time of admission and as necessary during the patient's stay, of the facility's basic per diem rate and of those services included and not included in the basic per diem rate. Also, because the patient has the right to receive information from the facility and to discuss the benefits, risks, and costs of appropriate treatment alternatives, except for emergency admissions, every uninsured patient and prospective patient shall be fully informed in writing, upon his or her request, of the expected list price for services. A statement of services that are not normally covered by Medicare or Medicaid shall also be included in this disclosure.

IV. The patient shall be fully informed by a health care provider of his or her medical condition, health care needs, and diagnostic test results, including the manner by which such results will be provided and the expected time interval between testing and receiving results, unless medically inadvisable and so documented in the medical record, and shall be given the opportunity to participate in the planning of his or her total care and medical treatment, to refuse treatment, and to be involved in experimental research upon the patient's written consent only. For the purposes of this paragraph "health care provider" means any person, corporation, facility, or institution either licensed by this state or otherwise lawfully providing health care services, including, but not limited to, a physician, hospital or other health care facility, dentist, nurse, optometrist, podiatrist, physical therapist, or psychologist, and any officer, employee, or agent of such provider acting in the course and scope of employment or agency related to or supportive of health care services.

V. The patient shall be transferred or discharged after appropriate discharge planning only for medical reasons, for the patient's welfare or that of other patients, if the facility ceases to operate, or for nonpayment for the patient's stay, except as prohibited by Title XVIII or XIX of the Social Security Act. No patient shall be involuntarily discharged from a facility because the patient becomes eligible for Medicaid as a source of payment.

VI. The patient shall be encouraged and assisted throughout the patient's stay to exercise the patient's rights as a patient and citizen. The patient may voice grievances and recommend changes in policies and services to facility staff or outside representatives free from restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination, or reprisal.

VII. The patient shall be permitted to manage the patient's personal financial affairs. If the patient authorizes the facility in writing to assist in this management and the facility so consents, the assistance shall be carried out in accordance with the patient's rights under this subdivision and in conformance with state law and rules.

VIII. The patient shall be free from emotional, psychological, sexual and physical abuse and from exploitation, neglect, corporal punishment and involuntary seclusion.

IX. The patient shall be free from chemical and physical restraints except when they are authorized in writing by a physician for a specific and limited time necessary to protect the patient or others from injury. In an emergency, restraints may be authorized by the designated professional staff member in order to protect the patient or others from injury. The staff member must promptly report such action to the physician and document same in the medical records.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE (continued)

X. The patient shall be ensured confidential treatment of all information contained in the patient's personal and clinical record, including that stored in an automatic data bank, and the patient's written consent shall be required for the release of information to anyone not otherwise authorized by law to receive it. Medical information contained in the medical records at any facility licensed under this chapter shall be deemed to be the property of the patient. The patient shall be entitled to a copy of such records upon request. The charge for the copying of a patient's medical records shall not exceed $15 for the first 30 pages or $.50 per page, whichever is greater; provided, that copies of filmed records such as radiograms, x-rays, and sonograms shall be copied at a reasonable cost.

XI. The patient shall not be required to perform services for the facility. Where appropriate for therapeutic or diversional purposes and agreed to by the patient, such services may be included in a plan of care and treatment.

XII. The patient shall be free to communicate with, associate with, and meet privately with anyone, including family and resident groups, unless to do so would infringe upon the rights of other patients. The patient may send and receive unopened personal mail. The patient has the right to have regular access to the unmonitored use of a telephone.

XIII. The patient shall be free to participate in activities of any social, religious, and community groups, unless to do so would infringe upon the rights of other patients.

XIV. The patient shall be free to retain and use personal clothing and possessions as space permits, provided it does not infringe on the rights of other patients.

XV. The patient shall be entitled to privacy for visits and, if married, to share a room with his or her spouse if both are patients in the same facility and where both patients consent, unless it is medically contraindicated and so documented by a physician. The patient has the right to reside and receive services in the facility with reasonable accommodation of individual needs and preferences, including choice of room and roommate, except when the health and safety of the individual or other patients would be endangered.

XVI. The patient shall not be denied appropriate care on the basis of age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, color, marital status, familial status, disability, religion, national origin, source of income, source of payment, or profession.

XVII. The patient shall be entitled to be treated by the patient's physician of choice, subject to reasonable rules and regulations of the facility regarding the facility's credentialing process.

XVIII. The patient shall be entitled to have the patient's parents, if a minor, or spouse, or next of kin, unmarried partner or a personal representative chosen by the patient, if an adult, visit the facility, without restriction, if the patient is considered terminally ill by the physician responsible for the patient's care.

XIX. The patient shall be entitled to receive representatives of approved organizations as provided in RSA 151:28.

XX. The patient shall not be denied admission to the facility based on Medicaid as a source of payment when there is an available space in the facility.

XXI. Subject to the terms and conditions of the patient's insurance plan, the patient shall have access to any provider in his or her insurance plan network and referral to a provider or facility within such network shall not be unreasonably withheld pursuant to RSA 420-J:8, XIV.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

This notice is being provided to you pursuant to New Hampshire law.

CONTINUATION OF DENTAL INSURANCE ON YOU

If You are a resident of New Hampshire, Your Dental Insurance may be continued if it would otherwise end for any reason except solely due to Your employment ending on account of gross misconduct.

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company ("MetLife") will give You written notice of:

- Your right to continue Your Dental Insurance;
- the amount of premium payment that is required to continue Your Dental Insurance;
- the manner in which You must request to continue Your Dental Insurance and pay premiums; and
- the date by which premium payments will be due.

The written notice will be mailed to Your last known address, as provided by the Policyholder.

The premium that You must pay for Your continued Dental Insurance may include:
- any amount that You contributed for Your Dental Insurance before it ended;
- any amount the Policyholder paid; and
- an administrative charge which will not to exceed two percent of the rest of the premium.

You will have 45 days after the date of the notice to elect to continue Your Dental Insurance. If You elect to continue Your Dental Insurance, You must provide a copy of this written notice to the Policyholder when the election is made.

To continue Your Dental Insurance, You must, within 45 days after the date of the notice:
- send a written request to MetLife to continue Your Dental Insurance; and
- pay the first premium.

If Dental Insurance ends because the Group Policy ends, the maximum continuation period will be 39 weeks.

If Dental Insurance ends for any other reason, the maximum continuation period will be the longest of:

- 36 months if Your employment ends because You retire, and within 12 months of retirement You have a substantial loss of coverage because the Policyholder files for bankruptcy protection under Title 11 of the United States Code;

- 29 months if You become entitled to disability benefits under Social Security within 60 days of the date You cease to be a member of an eligible class; or

- 18 months in all other cases.

Your continued Dental Insurance will end on the earliest of the following to occur:

- the end of the maximum continuation period;

- the date this Dental Insurance is changed to end Dental Insurance for the class of employees to which You belong;

- if You are eligible for Medicare, the date of the first Medicare open enrollment period following the date You become ineligible for continued coverage under the Policyholder's plan;

- the date You become eligible for coverage under any other group dental coverage; or

- if You do not pay the required premium to continue Your Dental Insurance. If You do not pay the required premium, You will be given a 31 day grace period before Your Dental Insurance terminates. You will be provided with a notice within 15 days of the date of termination that Your Dental Insurance will be cancelled if the required premium is not paid.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE (continued)

CONTINUATION OF DENTAL INSURANCE ON YOUR DEPENDENTS

If You are a resident of New Hampshire, Your Dental Insurance on Your Dependents may be continued if it would otherwise end for any reason except solely due to Your employment ending on account of gross misconduct.

MetLife will give written notice of the right to elect continuation coverage to Your former Spouse if You have died or Your marriage has ended, or to You in all other circumstances.

Notices

If Dental Insurance on Your Dependents ends because Your marriage ends in divorce or legal separation, You must notify the Policyholder, in writing, within 30 days of the date of the divorce decree or separation agreement that the divorce or separation has occurred.

MetLife will give Your former Spouse if You have died or Your marriage has ended, written notice of:

- Your right to continue Your Dental Insurance on Your Dependents;
- the amount of premium payment that is required to continue Your Dental Insurance on Your Dependents;
- the manner in which You or Your former Spouse must request to continue Your Dental Insurance on Your Dependents and pay premiums; and
- the date by which premium payments will be due.

Premium Contributions

The contribution that You or Your former Spouse must pay for continued Dental Insurance on Your Dependents may include:

- any amount that You contributed for Your Dental Insurance before it ended; and
- any amount the Policyholder paid.

To continue Dental Insurance if Your marriage has ended, You or Your former Spouse must, within 45 days after the date of the notice:

- send a written request to MetLife to continue Dental Insurance on Your Dependents; and
- pay the first premium.

You must notify MetLife and the Policyholder of the mailing address of your former Spouse. MetLife will provide Your former Spouse with a separate notice of the right to continue insurance.

Your right to continue Dental Insurance on Your Dependents will be deemed waived if MetLife has made reasonable efforts in good faith to contact You or Your former Spouse, if applicable; such notice complies with applicable New Hampshire law; and such person:

- fails to provide any required notification; or
- fails to request to continue Dental Insurance on Your Dependents and pay the first premium within the time limits stated in this section.

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE (continued)

CONTINUATION OF DENTAL INSURANCE ON YOUR DEPENDENTS (continued)

Divorce Decree or Legal Separation Decree

Unless your divorce decree or legal separation decree provides otherwise, Your former Spouse shall remain as a covered person under Your insurance under this Policy if your marriage ends in divorce or legal separation.

You must notify MetLife within 30 days of the date of the final decree of divorce or legal separation of the right to continue coverage as an eligible person.

Your former Spouse's coverage under Your insurance under this subsection shall end on the first of the following:

(1) The 3-year anniversary of the final decree of divorce or legal separation, unless the decree specifies an earlier ending;

(2) The date of remarriage of Your former Spouse;

(3) The date of Your remarriage;

(4) Your death; or

(5) Such earlier time as provided by the final decree of divorce or legal separation.

If Your former Spouse's coverage under your insurance ends due to (2) Your former spouse's remarriage, there shall be no further continuation. However, if Your former Spouse's coverage under your insurance ends due to (1), (3), (4), or (5), Your former Spouse will be able to continue coverage under their own insurance under this policy in accordance with the subsection below entitled Maximum Continuation Period

Maximum Continuation Period

If Dental Insurance on Your Dependents ends because the Group Policy ends, the maximum continuation period will be 39 weeks.

If Dental Insurance on Your Dependents ends for any other reason, the maximum continuation period will be the longest of the following that applies:

- for a former spouse whose coverage was continued under the above section "Divorce Decree or Legal Separation Decree", an additional 36 months beyond the date such continued coverage ends, unless that coverage ended due to remarriage of the former Spouse; however, for a Spouse who is 55 or older on the date of the final decree of divorce or legal separation, coverage will continue until the earlier of the date on which the former Spouse is eligible for Medicare or coverage under another employer's group policy;

- 36 months if Dental Insurance on Your Dependents ends because You die, except that with respect to a Spouse who is age 55 or older when You die, the maximum continuation period will end when Your surviving Spouse becomes eligible for Medicare or eligible for participation in another employer's group dental coverage;

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE (continued)

CONTINUATION OF DENTAL INSURANCE ON YOUR DEPENDENTS (continued)

Maximum Continuation Period (Continued)

- 36 months with respect to a Dependent Child if Dental Insurance ends because the Child ceases to be a Dependent Child;

- 36 months if Your employment ends because You retire, and within 12 months of retirement You or Your Dependents have a substantial loss of coverage because the Policyholder files for bankruptcy protection under Title 11 of the United States Code;

- 29 months if the Covered Person becomes entitled to disability benefits under Social Security within 60 days of the date the Covered Person's coverage under the Group Policy would otherwise end; or

- 18 months in all other cases.

Cessation of Dental Insurance on Your Dependents

A Dependent's continued Dental Insurance will end on the earliest of the following to occur:

- the end of the maximum continuation period;

- the date this Dental Insurance is changed to end Dental Insurance for Dependents for the class of employees to which You belong;

- if the Dependent is eligible for Medicare, the date of the first Medicare open enrollment period following the date the Dependent becomes ineligible for continued coverage under the Policyholder's plan;

- the date the Dependent becomes eligible for coverage under any other group dental coverage; or

- if You do not pay a required premium to continue Dental Insurance on Your Dependents. If You do not pay the required premium, You will be given a 31 day grace period before Dental Insurance on Your Dependents terminates. You will be provided with a notice within 15 days of the date of termination that Dental Insurance on Your Dependents will be cancelled if the required premium is not paid.

The State of New Hampshire
Insurance Department
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 14; Concord, NH 03301
Tel.: (603) 271-2261 Fax: (603) 271-1406 TDD Access Relay NH: 1-800-735-2964

CONSUMER GUIDE TO EXTERNAL APPEAL

What is an External Appeal?

New Hampshire law gives individuals who are covered by fully-insured, health or dental insurance plans the right to have a nationally-accredited, independent, medical review organization (IRO), which is not affiliated with his/her insurance company, review and assess whether the company's denial of a specific claim or requested service or treatment is justified. This type of review is available when a recommended service or treatment is denied on the basis that it does not meet the insurer's requirements for medical necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, and level of care or effectiveness. This review is often called Independent External Appeal, **External Appeal**, External Health Review or simply External Review.

What are the eligibility requirements for External Appeal?

To be eligible for External Appeal the following conditions must be met:

- The patient must have a fully-insured health or dental insurance plan.
- The service that is the subject of the appeal request must be either a) a covered benefit under the terms of the insurance policy or b) a treatment that may be a covered benefit.
- Unless the patient meets the requirements for Expedited External Review (see below), the patient must have completed the Internal Appeal process provided by the insurer and have received a final, written decision from the insurer relative to its review.
  - Exception #1: The patient does not need to meet this requirement, if the insurer agrees in writing to allow the patient to skip its Internal Appeal process.
  - Exception #2: If the patient requested an internal appeal from the insurer, but has not received a decision from the insurer within the required time frame, the patient may apply for External Appeal without having received the insurer's final, written decision.
- The patient must submit the request for External Appeal to the Department within 180 days from the date appearing on the insurance company's letter, denying the requested treatment or service at the final level of the company's Internal Appeals process.
- The patient's request for External Appeal may not be submitted for the purpose of pursuing a claim or allegation of healthcare provider malpractice, professional negligence, or other professional fault.

What types of health insurance are excluded from External Appeal?

In general, External Appeal is available for most health insurance coverage. Service denials relating to the following types of insurance coverage or health benefit programs are not reviewable under New Hampshire's External Appeal law:

- Medicaid (except for coverage provided under the NH Premium Assistance Program)
- The New Hampshire Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
- Medicare
- All other government-sponsored health insurance or health services programs.
- Health benefit plans that are self-funded by employers
  - Note: Some self-funded plans provide external appeal rights which are administered by the employer.

Can someone else represent me in my External Appeal?

Yes. A patient may designate an individual, including the treating health care provider, as his/her representative. To designate a representative, the patient must complete Section II of the External Review Application Form entitled "Appointment of Authorized Representative."

Submitting the External Appeal:

To request an External Appeal, the patient or the designated representative must complete and submit the External Review Application Form, available on the Department's website (www.nh.gov/insurance), and all supporting documentation to the New Hampshire Insurance Department. There is no cost to the patient for an External Appeal.

Please submit the following documentation:

- The completed External Review Application Form - signed and dated on page 6.
- ** The Department cannot process this application without the required signature(s) **
- A photocopy of the front and back of the patient's insurance card or other evidence that the patient is insured by the insurance company named in the appeal.
- A copy of the insurance company's letter, denying the requested treatment or service at the final level of the company's internal appeals process.
- Any medical records, statements from the treating health care provider(s) or other information that you would like the review organization to consider in its review.
- If requesting an Expedited External Appeal, the Provider's Certification Form.

If you have questions about the application process or the documentation listed above, please call the Insurance Department at 1-800-852-3416.

Mailing Address:

New Hampshire Insurance Department
Attn: External Review Unit
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 14
Concord, NH 03301

Expedited External Review Applications

- May be faxed to (603) 271-1406, or
- Sent by overnight carrier to the Department's mailing address.

What is the Standard External Appeal Process and Time Frame for receiving a Decision?
It may take up to 60 days for the Independent Review Organization (IRO) to issue a decision in a Standard External Appeal.

- Within 7 business days after receiving your application form, the Insurance Department (the Department) will complete a preliminary review of your application to determine whether your request is complete and whether the case is eligible for external review.
    - If the request is not complete, the Department will inform the applicant what information or documents are needed in order to process the application. The applicant will have 10 calendar days to supply the required information or documents.
- If the request for external appeal is accepted, the Department will select and assign an IRO to conduct the external review and will provide a written notice of the acceptance and assignment to the applicant and the insurer.
- Within 10 calendar days after assigning your case to an IRO, the insurer must provide the applicant and the IRO a copy of all information in its possession relevant to the appeal.
- If desired, the applicant may submit additional information to the IRO by the 20th calendar day after the date the case was assigned to the selected IRO. During this period, the applicant may also present oral testimony via telephone conference to the IRO. However, oral testimony will be permitted only in cases where the Insurance Commissioner determines that it would not be feasible or appropriate to present only written information.
    - To request a "teleconference," complete Section VII of the application form entitled "Request for a Telephone Conference" or contact the Department no later than 10 days after receiving notice of the acceptance of the appeal.
- By the 40th calendar day after the date the case was assigned to the selected Independent Review Organization, the IRO shall a) review all of the information and documents received, b) render a decision upholding or reversing the determination of the insurer, and c) notify in writing the applicant and the insurer of the IRO's review decision.

<u>What is an Expedited External Appeal?</u>
Whereas a Standard External Appeal may take 60 days, Expedited External Appeal is available for those persons who would be significantly harmed by having to wait. An applicant may request expedited review by checking the appropriate box on the External Review Application Form and by providing a Provider's Certification Form, in which the treating provider attests that in his/her medical opinion adherence to the time frame for standard review would seriously jeopardize the patient's life or health or would jeopardize the patient's ability to regain maximum function. Expedited reviews must be completed in 72 hours.

If the applicant is pursuing an internal appeal with the insurer and anticipates requesting an Expedited External Appeal, please call the Department at 800-852-3416 to speak with a consumer services officer, so that accommodations may be made to receive and process the expedited request as quickly as possible.

Please note a patient has the right to request an Expedited External Appeal simultaneously with the insurer's Expedited Internal Appeal.

What happens when the Independent Review Organization makes its decision?

- If the appeal was an Expedited External Appeal, in most cases the applicant and insurer will be notified of the IRO's decision immediately by telephone or fax. Written notification will follow.
- If the appeal was a Standard External Appeal, the applicant and insurer will be notified in writing.
- The IRO's decision is binding on the insurer and is enforceable by the Insurance Department. The decision is also binding on the patient except that it does not prevent the patient from pursuing other remedies through the courts under federal or state law.

Have a question or need assistance?

Staff at the Insurance Department is available to help.
Call 800-852-3416 to speak with a consumer services officer.

The State of New Hampshire
Insurance Department
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 14; Concord, NH 03301
Tel.: (603) 271-2261 Fax: (603) 271-1406 TDD Access Relay NH: 1-800-735-2964

INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL REVIEW
Appealing a Denied Medical or Dental Claim

New Hampshire law gives individuals who are covered by fully-insured, health or dental insurance plans the right to have a nationally-accredited, independent, medical review organization (IRO), which is not affiliated with his/her health insurance company, review and assess whether the company's denial of a specific claim or requested service or treatment is justified. These reviews are available when a recommended service or treatment is denied on the basis that it does not meet the insurer's requirements for medical necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care or effectiveness. This review is called Independent External Appeal, External Health Review or simply **External Review**.

There is no cost to the patient for an external review.

To be eligible for **Standard External Review**, the patient must (1) have a fully-insured health or dental insurance plan, (2) have completed the insurer's internal appeal process, and (3) have received a final denial of services from the insurer. A standard external review must be submitted to the Insurance Department within 180 days of the insurance company's final denial and may take up to 60 days for the IRO to make its decision.

To be eligible for **Expedited External Review**, the patient must (1) have a fully-insured health or dental insurance plan, and (2) the treating provider must certify that delaying treatment will seriously jeopardize the life or health of the patient or will jeopardize the patient's ability to regain maximum function. IROs must complete expedited reviews within 72 hours. An expedited external review may be requested and processed at the same time the patient pursues an expedited internal appeal directly with the insurance company.

For more information about external reviews, see the Insurance Department's Consumer Guide to External Review, available at www.nh.gov/insurance, or call 800-852-3416 to speak with a Consumer Services Officer.

Have a question or need assistance?

Staff at the Insurance Department is available to help.
Call 800-852-3416 to speak with a consumer services officer.

SUBMITTING A REQUEST FOR EXTERNAL REVIEW

To request an external review, please provide the following documents to the New Hampshire Insurance Department at the address below:

- The enclosed, completed application form - signed and dated on page 6.
- ** The Department cannot process this application without the required signature(s) **
- A photocopy of the front and back of the patient's insurance card or other evidence that the patient is insured by the health or dental insurance company named in the appeal.
- A copy of the Health Insurance Company's letter, denying the requested treatment or service
- at the final level of the company's internal appeals process.
- Any medical records, statements from the treating health care provider(s) or other information that you would like the Independent Review Organization to consider in its
- review.
- If requesting an Expedited External Review, the treating Provider's Certification Form.

If you have questions about the application process or the documentation listed above, please call the Insurance Department at 1-800-852-3416.

Mailing Address:

New Hampshire Insurance Department Attn: External Review Unit
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 14
Concord, NH 03301

Expedited External Review applications may be faxed to (603) 271-1406 or sent by overnight carrier to the address above. If you wish to email the application package, please call the Insurance Department at 1-800-852-3416.

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EXTERNAL REVIEW APPLICATION FORM

Request for Independent External Appeal of a Denied Medical or Dental Claim

Section I – Applicant Information

Patient's Name:_____ Patient's Date of Birth: _____

Applicant's Name:_____Applicant's Email: _____

Applicant's Mailing Address: _____

City: _____State:_____Zip Code: _____

Applicant's Phone Number(s): Daytime: (_____)_____ Evening: (_____)_____

Section II – Appointment of Authorized Representative

**** Complete this section, only if someone else is representing the patient in this appeal ****

You may represent yourself or you may ask another person, including your treating health care provider, to act as your personal representative. You may revoke this authorization at any time.

I hereby authorize_____to pursue my appeal on my behalf.

_____ _____

Signature of Enrollee (or legal representative – Please specify relationship or title) Date

Representative's Mailing Address: _____

City:_____State:_____Zip Code: _____

Representative's Phone Number(s): Daytime: (_____)_____ Evening: (_____)_____

Section III - Insurance Plan Information

Member's Name: _____ Relationship to Patient: _____

Member's Insurance ID #: _____ Claim/Reference #: _____

Health Insurance Company's Name: _____

Insurance Company's Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Insurance Company's Phone Number: (_____) _____

Name of Insurance Company representative handling appeal: _____

Is the member's insurance plan provided by an employer? Yes ____ No ____

- Name of employer: _____
- Employer's Phone Number: (_____) _____
- Is the employer's insurance plan self-funded? Yes* ____ No ____

*** If you are not certain, please check with your employer. Most self-funded plans are not eligible for external review. However, some self-funded plans may provide external review, but may have different procedures.**

New Hampshire Premium Assistance Program

Is the patient's health insurance provided through the Medicaid Premium Assistance Program, which is administered by the NH Department of Health and Human Services?

Yes_____No _____

If yes, please provide the Medicaid ID number & complete the following records release:

Medicaid ID Number: _____

I,_____, hereby authorize the New Hampshire Insurance Department to release my external review file to the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), if I request a Medicaid Fair Hearing following my independent external review. I understand that DHHS will use this information to make a Fair Hearing determination and that the information will be held confidential.

Section IV – Information about the Patient's Health Care Providers

Name of Primary Care Provider (PCP): _____

PCP's Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

PCP's Phone Number: (_____) _____

Name of Treating Health Care Provider: _____

Provider's clinical specialty: _____

Treating Provider's Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Treating Provider's Phone Number: (_____) _____

Section V – Health Care Decision in Dispute

Describe the health insurer company's decision in your own words. Include any information you have about the health care services, supplies or drugs being denied, including dates of service or treatment and names of health care providers. Explain why you disagree.

Please attach the following:

- Additional pages, if necessary;
- Pertinent medical records;
- If possible, a statement from the treating health care provider indicating why the disputed service, supply, or drug is medically necessary.

_____

_____

_____

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_____

_____

Continued on next page

Section VI – Expedited Review

**** Complete this section, only if you would like to request expedited review ****

The patient may request that the external review be handled on an expedited basis. To request expedited review, the treating health care provider must complete the attached Provider Certification Form, certifying that a delay would seriously jeopardize the life or health of the patient or would jeopardize the patient's ability to regain maximum function.

Do you request an expedited review? Yes ____ No ____

Applications for Expedited External Review may be faxed to (603) 271-1406 or sent by overnight carrier to the address on the top of this form. To email the appeal, please call the Insurance Department at 1-800-852-3416 for additional instructions.

Section VII – Request for a Telephone Conference

**** Complete this section, only if you would like to request a telephone conference ****

If the patient, the authorized representative or the treating health care provider would like to discuss this case with the Independent Review Organization and the insurer in a telephone conference, select "Yes" below and explain why you think it is important to be allowed to speak about the case. If you do not request a telephone conference, the reviewer will base its decision on the written information only. The request for a telephone conference will be granted only if there is a good reason why the written information would not be sufficient.

**** Telephone conferences often cannot be completed within the timeframe for expedited reviews ****

Do you request a telephone conference? Yes ____ No ____

My reason for requesting a phone conference is:

_____

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VIII – Authorization and Release of Medical Records

I, _____, hereby request an external review and authorize the patient's insurance company and the patient's health care providers to release all relevant medical or treatment records to the Independent Review Organization (IRO) and the New Hampshire Insurance Department. I understand that the IRO and the Department will use this information to make a determination to either reverse or uphold the insurer's denial. I also understand that the information will be kept confidential. I further understand that neither the Commissioner nor the IRO may authorize services in excess of those covered by the patient's health care plan. This release is valid for one year.

Sign Here

_____ _____

Signature of Enrollee (or legal representative – Please specify relationship or title) Date

Before submitting this application, please verify that you have …

☐ Completed all relevant sections of the External Review Application Form
- If appointing an authorized representative, the patient must complete Section II.
- If requesting an Expedited External Review, Section VI must be completed and the Provider Certification Form must be submitted.
- If requesting a telephone conference, Section VII must be completed.

☐ Signed and dated the External Review Application Form in Section VIII.

☐ Attached the following documents:
- A photocopy of the front and back of the patient's insurance card or other evidence that the patient is insured by the health or dental insurance company named in the appeal.
- A copy of the Health Insurance Company's letter, denying the requested treatment or service at the final level of the company's internal appeals process.
- Any medical records, statements from the treating health care provider(s) or other information that you would like the Independent Review Organization to consider in its review.
- If requesting an Expedited External Review, the treating Provider's Certification Form.

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PROVIDER'S CERTIFICATION FORM

For Expedited Consideration of a Patient's External Review

NOTE TO THE TREATING HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

The New Hampshire Insurance Department administers the external review process for all fully-insured health and dental plans in New Hampshire. A patient may submit an application for External Review, when his/her health or dental insurer has denied a health care service or treatment, including a prescription, on the basis that the requested treatment or service does not meet the insurer's requirements for medical necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care or effectiveness.

The time frame for receiving a decision from an Independent Review Organization (IRO) for a Standard External Review is up to 60 days. Expedited External Review is available, ***only if*** the patient's treating health care provider certifies that, in his/her professional judgment, adherence to the time frame for standard review ***would seriously jeopardize the life or health of the covered person or would jeopardize the covered person's ability to regain maximum function.*** The time frame for receiving a decision from an IRO for an Expedited External Review is within 72 hours. An Expedited External Review may be requested and processed at the same time the patient pursues an Expedited Internal Appeal directly with the insurance company.

**** Expedited External Review is not available, when services have already been rendered ****

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of Treating Health Care Provider: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: (_____)_____ Fax Number: (_____)_____

Email Address: _____

Licensure and Area of Clinical Specialty: _____

Name of Patient: _____

PROVIDER CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that I am a treating health care provider for _____ (hereafter referred to as "the patient"); that adherence to the time frame for conducting a standard review of the patient's external review would, in my professional judgment, seriously jeopardize the life or health of the patient or would jeopardize the patient's ability to regain maximum function; and that for this reason, the patient's appeal of the denial by the patient's health insurer of requested medical services should be processed on an expedited basis.

I am aware that the Independent Review Organization (IRO) may need to contact me during non-business hours for medical information and that a decision will be made by the IRO within 72 hours of receiving this Expedited External Review request, regardless of whether or not I provide medical information to the IRO.

During non-business hours I may be reached at: (_____) _____.

I certify that the above information is true and correct. I understand that I may be subject to professional disciplinary action for making false statements.

_____
Treating Health Care Provider's Name (Please Print)

_____ _____
Signature Date