

# **YOUR BENEFIT PLAN**

**Bryan County Board of Education**

**All Actively at Work Employees  
working at least 20 hours per week**

**Disability Income Insurance: Short Term Benefits**

**Certificate Date: January 1, 2019**

Bryan County Board of Education  
8810 Highway 280  
Black Creek, GA 31308

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.

Bryan County Board of Education

# MetLife

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 are insured for the benefits described in this certificate, subject to the provisions of this certificate. This certificate is issued to You under the Group Policy and it includes the terms and provisions of the Group Policy that describe Your insurance. **PLEASE READ THIS CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY.**

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

**Policyholder:** Bryan County Board of Education  
**Group Policy Number:** 216003-1-G  
**Type of Insurance:** Disability Income Insurance: Short Term Benefits  
**MetLife Toll Free Number(s):**  
**For Claim Information** FOR DISABILITY INCOME CLAIMS: 1-800-300-4296

### **THIS CERTIFICATE ONLY DESCRIBES DISABILITY 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.**

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

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

**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.**

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

To obtain information or make a complaint:

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

1-800-300-4296

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

1-800-252-3439

You may write the Texas Department of Insurance:

P.O. Box 149104  
Austin, TX 78714-9104  
Fax: (512) 490-1007  
Web: [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

Email: [ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov)

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

### **ATTACH THIS NOTICE TO YOUR CERTIFICATE:**

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

## AVISO IMPORTANTE

Para obtener información o para presentar una queja:

Usted puede llamar al número de teléfono gratuito de MetLife's para obtener información o para presentar una queja al:

1-800-300-4296

Usted puede comunicarse con el Departamento de Seguros de Texas para obtener información sobre compañías, coberturas, derechos, o quejas al:

1-800-252-3439

Usted puede escribir al Departamento de Seguros de Texas a:

P.O. Box 149104  
Austin, TX 78714-9104  
Fax: (512) 490-1007  
Sitio Web: [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

Email: [ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov)

### **DISPUTAS POR PRIMAS DE SEGUROS O**

**RECLAMACIONES:** Si tiene una disputa relacionada con su prima de seguro o con una reclamación, usted debe comunicarse con MetLife primero. Si la disputa no es resuelta, usted puede comunicarse con el Departamento de Seguros de Texas.

### **ADJUNTE ESTE AVISO A SU CERTIFICADO:**

Este aviso es solamente para propósitos informativos y no se convierte en parte o en condición del documento adjunto.

## **NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ALL STATES**

### **WORKERS' COMPENSATION**

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

### **MANDATORY DISABILITY INCOME BENEFIT LAWS**

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

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

## **NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF ARKANSAS**

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

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

Arkansas Insurance Department  
Consumer Services Division  
1200 West Third Street  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201  
(501) 371-2640 or (800) 852-5494

## **NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF CALIFORNIA**

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, OR TO MAKE A COMPLAINT, CONTACT THE POLICYHOLDER OR 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 CONNECTICUT**

### **MANDATORY REHABILITATION**

This certificate contains a mandatory rehabilitation provision, which may require you to participate in vocational training or physical therapy when appropriate.

## **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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://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](http://www.in.gov/idoi)

## **NOTICE FOR MASSACHUSETTS RESIDENTS**

### **CONTINUATION OF DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE**

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

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

Continuation of Your Disability Income Insurance under the CONTINUATION 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.

## **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 UTAH

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

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

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

The basic protections provided by the Association are:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF THE STATE OF VERMONT

Vermont law provides that the following apply to Your certificate:

**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.

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 in this certificate it shall be read to include the children of Your Domestic Partner.

## **NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF VIRGINIA**

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR INSURANCE**

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

MetLife  
200 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10166  
Attn: Corporate Consumer Relations Department

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

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

The Office of the Managed Care Ombudsman  
Bureau of Insurance  
P.O. Box 1157  
Richmond, VA 23218  
1-877-310-6560 - toll-free  
1-804-371-9944 - fax  
[www.scc.virginia.gov](http://www.scc.virginia.gov) - web address  
[ombudsman@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:ombudsman@scc.virginia.gov) - email

## **NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF WEST VIRGINIA**

### **FREE LOOK PERIOD:**

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

## NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF WISCONSIN

### **KEEP THIS NOTICE WITH YOUR INSURANCE PAPERS**

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

MetLife  
Attn: Corporate Consumer Relations Department  
200 Park Avenue  
New York, 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 will only be insured for the benefits:

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

### BENEFIT

### BENEFIT AMOUNT AND HIGHLIGHTS

#### Disability Income Insurance For You: Short Term Benefits

Weekly Benefit.....	60% of the first \$2,500 of Your Predisability Earnings, subject to the INCOME WHICH WILL REDUCE YOUR DISABILITY BENEFIT section
Maximum Weekly Benefit.....	\$1,500
Minimum Weekly Benefit.....	\$20, subject to the Overpayments and Rehabilitation Incentive subsections of this certificate
Elimination Period.....	<p><b>For Injury</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 days of Disability</li> </ul> <p><b>For Sickness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 days of Disability</li> </ul>
Maximum Benefit Period.....	9 weeks
Rehabilitation Incentives.....	Yes
<b>Additional Benefits:</b>	
Organ Donor Benefit.....	Yes

## DEFINITIONS

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

**Actively at Work or Active Work** means that You are performing all of the usual and customary duties of Your job. 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## **DEFINITIONS (continued)**

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

**Physician** means:

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

**The term does not include:**

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

**Policyholder's Retirement Plan** means a plan which:

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

**The term does not include:**

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

## DEFINITIONS (continued)

**Predisability Earnings** means gross salary or wages You were earning from the Policyholder as of the January 1 preceding Your last day of Active Work before Your Disability began. We calculate this amount on a weekly basis.

**The term includes:**

- contributions You were making through a salary reduction agreement with the Policyholder to any of the following:
  - an Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 401(k), 403(b) or 457 deferred compensation arrangement;
  - an executive non-qualified deferred compensation arrangement; and
  - Your fringe benefits under an IRC Section 125 plan.

**The term does not include:**

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

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

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

Proof must be provided at the claimant's expense.

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

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

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

## **DEFINITIONS (continued)**

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

**Spouse** means Your lawful spouse.

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

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

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

## ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU

### ELIGIBLE CLASS(ES)

**All Actively at Work employees of the Policyholder working at least 20 hours per week, excluding temporary or seasonal employees.**

### 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.

You will be eligible for insurance described in this certificate on the later of:

1. January 1, 2019; and
2. the first day of the calendar month following the date You complete the Waiting Period of 1 month.

**Waiting Period** means the period of continuous membership in an eligible class that You must wait before You become eligible for insurance. This period begins on the date You enter an eligible class and ends on the date You complete the period(s) specified.

### ENROLLMENT PROCESS

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

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

- Disability Income Insurance: Short Term Benefits;

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

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

#### Enrollment When First Eligible

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

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

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

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

## ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU (continued)

### 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. The insurance enrolled for or changes to Your insurance made during an annual enrollment period will take effect as follows:

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

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

### Enrollment Due to a Qualifying Event

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

**Qualifying Event** includes:

- marriage;
- the birth, adoption or placement for adoption of a dependent child;
- divorce, legal separation or annulment; or
- the death of a dependent.

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 as follows:

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

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

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

## **ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU (continued)**

### **DATE YOUR INSURANCE ENDS**

Your insurance will end on the earliest of:

1. the date the Group Policy ends; or
2. the date insurance ends for Your class; or
3. the end of the period for which the last premium has been paid for You; or
4. the date You cease to be in an eligible class. You will cease to be in an eligible class on the date You cease Active Work in an eligible class, if You are not Disabled on that date; or
5. the date Your employment ends; or
6. the date You retire in accordance with the date Your employment ends.

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

### **Reinstatement of Disability Income Insurance**

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

1. If Your insurance ends because:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **SPECIAL RULES FOR GROUPS PREVIOUSLY INSURED UNDER A PLAN OF DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE**

To prevent a loss of insurance because of a change in insurance carriers, the following rules will apply if this Disability Income Insurance:

- replaces a plan of group disability income insurance provided to You by the Policyholder; or
- replaces a Prior Plan of group disability income insurance provided to You by a former employer; when the replacement results from the Policyholder's acquisition of, merger with or other combination with that employer.

**Prior Plan** means the plan of group disability income insurance provided to You by the Policyholder through another carrier on the day before the Replacement Date.

**Replacement Date** means the effective date of the Disability Income Insurance under the Group Policy.

### **Rules for When Insurance Takes Effect if You were Insured Under the Prior Plan on the Day Before the Replacement Date:**

- **If You are Actively at Work on the day before the Replacement Date**, You will become insured for Disability Income Insurance under this certificate on the Replacement Date.
- **If You are not Actively at Work on such date because you are Disabled, and the Prior Plan that You were covered under on the day before the Replacement Date was an insured plan**, You will become insured for Disability Income Insurance under this certificate on the Replacement Date. However, if the Prior Plan that You were covered under on the day before the Replacement Date was a self-funded plan, You will become insured for Disability Income Insurance under this certificate on the date You return to Active Work.

We will credit any time You accumulated toward the Elimination Period under the Prior Plan to the satisfaction of the Elimination Period required to be met under this certificate.

Any benefits paid for such Disability will be equal to those that would have been payable to You under the Prior Plan less any amount for which the prior carrier is liable.

Benefit payments for such Disability will end on the earliest of:

- the date that payments end under the subsection DATE BENEFIT PAYMENTS END in this certificate; or
- the date that payments would have ended under the provisions of the Prior Plan of Insurance.
- **If You are not Actively at Work on such date for any other reason**, You will become insured for Disability Income Insurance under this certificate on the date you return to Active Work, provided however, if You are on a Policyholder approved leave of absence on the Replacement Date, You will become insured for Disability Income Insurance on the Replacement Date. However, Your insurance under this certificate will end on the date Your approved leave of absence ends if You do not return to Active Work on such date.

### **Rules for When Insurance Takes Effect if You were Not Insured Under the Prior Plan on the Day Before the Replacement Date:**

- You will be eligible for Disability Income Insurance under this certificate when you meet the eligibility requirements for such insurance as described in ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU; and
- We will credit any time You accumulated under the Prior Plan toward the eligibility waiting period under the Prior Plan to the satisfaction of the eligibility waiting period required to be met under this certificate.

## **SPECIAL RULES FOR GROUPS PREVIOUSLY INSURED UNDER A PLAN OF DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE (continued)**

### **Rules for Pre-existing Conditions**

In determining whether a Disability is due to a Pre-existing Condition, We will credit You for any time You were insured under the Prior Plan. If Your Disability is due to a Pre-existing Condition as described in this certificate, but would not have been due to a pre-existing condition under the Prior Plan, We will pay a benefit equal to the lesser of:

- the benefit amount under this certificate; or
- the disability income insurance benefit that would have been payable to You under the Prior Plan.

If Your Disability would have been due to a pre-existing condition under the Prior Plan, it will be treated as having been caused by a Pre-existing Condition under this certificate.

### **Rules for Temporary Recovery from a Disability under the Prior Plan**

We will waive the Elimination Period that would otherwise apply to a Disability under this certificate if You:

- received benefits for a disability that began under the Prior Plan ("Prior Plan's disability");
- returned to work as an active Full-Time employee prior to the Replacement Date;
- become Disabled, as defined in this certificate, after the Replacement Date and within 90 days of Your return to work due to a sickness or accidental injury that is the same as or related to the Prior Plan's disability;
- are no longer entitled to benefit payments for the Prior Plan's disability since You are no longer insured under such Plan; and
- would have been entitled to benefit payments with no further elimination period under the Prior Plan, had it remained in force.



## **CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT**

### **FOR FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE**

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

### **AT THE POLICYHOLDER'S OPTION**

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

Disability Income Insurance will continue for the following periods:

1. for the period You cease Active Work in an eligible class due to injury or sickness, up to 3 months;
2. for the period You cease Active Work in an eligible class due to layoff, up to 3 months;
3. for the period You cease Active Work in an eligible class due to any other Policyholder approved leave of absence, up to 3 months.

For purposes of this provision, leave of absence does not include a furlough. Furlough means an employer-mandated leave of absence.

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.

## **EVIDENCE OF INSURABILITY**

We require evidence of insurability satisfactory to Us as follows:

if You make a late request for Disability Income Insurance: Short Term Benefits. A late request is one made after You were first eligible to enroll for Disability Income Insurance: Short Term Benefits and You did not enroll for such insurance during such period. However, if such request was made due to a Qualifying Event, it will not be considered to be a late request.

If You do not give Us evidence of insurability or the evidence of insurability is not accepted by Us as satisfactory, You will not be covered for Disability Income Insurance: Short Term Benefits.

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

## **DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: SHORT TERM BENEFITS**

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

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

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

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

### **BENEFIT PAYMENT**

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

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

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

### **RECOVERY FROM A DISABILITY**

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

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

#### **If You Return to Active Work Before Completing Your Elimination Period**

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

#### **If You Return to Active Work After Completing Your Elimination Period**

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

If You return to Active Work for a period of 30 days or less, and then become Disabled again due to the same or related Sickness or accidental injury, We will not require You to complete a new Elimination Period. For the purpose of determining Your benefits, We will consider such Disability to be a part of the original Disability and will use the same Predisability Earnings and apply the same terms, provisions and conditions that were used for the original Disability.

## **DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: SHORT TERM BENEFITS (continued)**

### **REHABILITATION INCENTIVES**

#### **Rehabilitation Program Incentive**

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

#### **Work Incentive**

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

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

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

In addition, the Minimum Weekly Benefit will not apply.

#### **Family Care Incentive**

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: SHORT TERM BENEFITS (continued)**

### **Moving Expense Incentive**

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

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

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

## **DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: INCOME WHICH WILL REDUCE YOUR DISABILITY BENEFIT**

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

1. any disability or retirement benefits which You receive because of Your disability or retirement under:
  - Railroad Retirement Act;
  - any state, public or federal employee retirement or disability plan, including State Teachers Retirement System (STRS); Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) or Federal Retirement System (FERS). You must apply for such benefits through the highest appeal level that is applicable to such benefits and available under the plan; or
  - any pension or disability plan of any other nation or political subdivision thereof.
2. any income received for disability or retirement under the Policyholder's Retirement Plan, to the extent that it can be attributed to the Policyholder's contributions;
3. any income received for disability under:
  - a group insurance policy to which the Policyholder has made a contribution, such as:
    - benefits for loss of time from work due to disability;
    - installment payments for permanent total disability;
  - a no-fault auto law for loss of income, excluding supplemental disability benefits;
  - a government compulsory benefit plan or program which provides payment for loss of time from Your job due to Your disability, whether such payment is made directly by the plan or program, or through a third party;
  - a self-funded plan, or other arrangement if the Policyholder contributes toward it or makes payroll deductions for it;
  - any sick pay, vacation pay or other salary continuation that the Policyholder pays to You;
  - workers' compensation or a similar law which provides periodic benefits;
  - occupational disease laws;
  - laws providing for maritime maintenance and cure;
  - unemployment insurance law or program;
  - any income that You receive from working while Disabled to the extent that such income reduces the amount of Your Weekly Benefit as described in REHABILITATION INCENTIVES. This includes but is not limited to salary, commissions, overtime pay, bonus or other extra pay arrangements from any source; and
  - recovery amounts that You receive for loss of income as a result of claims against a third party by judgment, settlement or otherwise including future earnings.

## **DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: INCOME WHICH WILL REDUCE YOUR DISABILITY BENEFIT (continued)**

### **REDUCING YOUR DISABILITY BENEFIT BY THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF YOUR GOVERNMENT COMPULSORY BENEFIT PLAN OR PROGRAM OR STRS, PERS OR FERS OR OTHER PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT OR DISABILITY BENEFIT PLAN OR PROGRAM**

If there is a reasonable basis for You to apply for benefits under a government compulsory plan or program or a federal, state or other public employee retirement or disability plan or program, including a STRS, PERS or FERS Retirement System, We expect You to apply for such benefits.

1. With respect to Government Compulsory Benefit Plans or Programs or STRS, PERS, FERS Benefit Plans or Programs, or to apply means to pursue such benefits through all applicable levels of appeal provided under such benefit plans or programs. You must, within 4 weeks following the date You become Disabled:
  - send Us Proof that You have applied for benefits under such plans or programs; and
  - sign a reimbursement agreement in which You agree to repay Us for any overpayments We may make to You under this insurance.

If You do not satisfy the above requirements, We will reduce Your Disability benefit by the amount of such government compulsory benefit plan or program benefit, or STRS, PERS or FERS benefit that We estimate You are eligible to receive, provided that We have the reasonable means to make such an estimate. We will start to do this with the first Disability benefit payment under this certificate coincident with the date You were eligible to receive such government compulsory benefit plan or program benefit, or STRS, PERS or FERS benefits under any such plan or programs.

2. With respect to STRS, PERS or FERS benefit a government compulsory benefit plan or program, or if You do receive approval or final denial of Your claim for such benefits, You must notify Us immediately. We will adjust the amount of Your Disability benefit. You must promptly repay Us for any overpayment.

### **SINGLE SUM PAYMENT**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## **DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: DATE BENEFIT PAYMENTS END**

Your Disability benefit payments will end on the earliest of:

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

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

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

## **DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE**

### **ADDITIONAL SHORT TERM BENEFIT: ORGAN DONOR**

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

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

### **BENEFIT AMOUNT**

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

## **DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS**

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

- received medical treatment, consultation, care, or services; or
- took prescription medication or had medications prescribed;

in the 3 months before Your insurance under this certificate takes effect.

We will not pay benefits for a Disability that results from a Pre-existing Condition, if You have been Actively at Work for less than 6 consecutive months after the date Your Disability insurance takes effect under this certificate.

## **DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: EXCLUSIONS**

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

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

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

1. cosmetic surgery or treatment primarily to change appearance;
2. sex-change surgery;
3. reversal of sterilization;
4. liposuction;
5. visual correction surgery; and
6. in vitro fertilization; embryo transfer procedure; or artificial insemination.

However, pregnancies and complications from any of these procedures will be treated as a Sickness.

## **FILING A DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE CLAIM**

The Policyholder should have a supply of claim forms. Obtain a claim form from the Policyholder and fill it out carefully. Return the completed claim form with the required Proof to the Policyholder.

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

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

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

### **Step 1**

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

### **Step 2**

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

### **Step 3**

When the claimant receives the claim form the claimant should fill it out as instructed and return it with the required Proof described in the claim form. If the claimant does not receive a claim form within 15 days after giving Us notice of claim, Proof may be sent using any form sufficient to provide Us with the required Proof.

### **Step 4**

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

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

## **Items to be Submitted for a Disability Income Insurance Claim**

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

- documentation which must include, but is not limited to, the following information:
  - the date Your Disability started;
  - the cause of Your Disability;
  - the prognosis of Your Disability;
  - the continuity of Your Disability; and
- Your application for:
  - Other Benefit Sources;
  - Federal Social Security disability benefits; and
  - Workers compensation benefits or benefits under a similar law.

## FILING A DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE CLAIM (continued)

- Written authorization for Us to obtain and release medical, employment and financial information and any other items We may reasonably require to document Your Disability or to determine Your receipt of or eligibility for Other Benefit Sources;
- any and all medical information, including but not limited to:
  - x-ray films; and
  - photocopies of medical records, including:
    - histories,
    - physical, mental or diagnostic examinations; and
    - treatment notes; and
- the names and addresses of all:
  - physicians and medical practitioners who have provided You with diagnosis, treatment or consultation;
  - hospitals or other medical facilities which have provided You with diagnosis, treatment or consultation;
  - pharmacies which have filled Your prescriptions within the past three years; and
- additional proof elements as required and described within the additional plan provisions for which you are filing a claim for benefits.

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

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Assignment**

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

### **Disability Income Benefit Payments: Who We Will Pay**

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

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

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

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

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

Any periodic payments owed to Your estate may be paid in a single sum.

### **Entire Contract**

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

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

### **Incontestability: Statements Made by You**

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

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

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

### **Misstatement of Age**

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

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS (continued)**

### **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.

### **Physical Exams**

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

### **Autopsy**

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

### **Overpayments for Disability Income Insurance**

#### **Recovery of Overpayments**

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

An overpayment occurs if We determine that:

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

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

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



## **GENERAL PROVISIONS (continued)**

### **How We Recover Overpayments**

We may recover the overpayment from You by:

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

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

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

### **Lien and Repayment**

If You become Disabled and You receive Disability benefits under this certificate and You receive payment from a third party for loss of income with respect to the same loss of income for which You received benefits under this certificate (for example, a judgment, settlement, payment from Federal Social Security or payment pursuant to Workers' Compensation laws), You shall reimburse Us from the proceeds of such payment up to an amount equal to the benefits paid to You under this certificate for such Disability. Our right to receive reimbursement from any such proceeds shall be a claim or lien against such proceeds and Our right shall provide Us with a first priority claim or lien over any such proceeds up to the full amount of the benefits paid to You under this certificate for such Disability. You agree to take all action necessary to enable Us to exercise Our rights under this provision, including, without limitation:

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

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

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

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

### **Return To Work Program**

#### **Goal of Rehabilitation**

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

#### **Incentives For Returning To Work**

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

#### **Return-to-Work Services**

As a covered employee you are automatically eligible to participate in our Return-to-Work Program. The program aims to identify the necessary training and therapy that can help you return to work. In many cases, this means helping you return to your former occupation, although rehabilitation can also lead to a new occupation which is better suited to your condition and makes the most of your abilities.

There is no additional cost to you for the services we provide, and they are tailored to meet your individual needs. These services include, but are not limited to, the following:

#### **1. Vocational Analyses**

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

#### **2. Labor Market Surveys**

Studies to find jobs available in your National Economy that would utilize your abilities and skills. Also identify your earning potential for a specific occupation.

#### **3. Retraining Programs**

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

#### **4. Job Modifications/Accommodations**

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

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

#### **5. Job Seeking Skills and Job Placement Assistance**

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

#### **Return-to-Work Program Staff**

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

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

### **Rehabilitation Vendor Specialists**

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

1. attending physician's evaluation and recommendations;
2. your individual vocational needs; and
3. vendor's credentials, specialty, reputation and experience.

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