

YOUR BENEFIT PLAN

Montgomery County Government

All Full-Time County Employees

Disability Income Insurance: Long Term Benefits

Certificate Date: January 1, 2019

Certificate Number 1

Montgomery County Government
101 Monroe Street
Rockville, MD 20850

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.

Montgomery County Government

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: Montgomery County Government
Group Policy Number: 215924-2-G
Type of Insurance: Disability Income Insurance: Long 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.

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

Email: 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

Email: 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, 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 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 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 - web address
ombudsman@scc.virginia.gov - email

NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

Washington law provides that the following apply to Your certificate:

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

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 "step-child" appears in this certificate it shall be read to include the children of Your Domestic Partner.

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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Page
CERTIFICATE FACE PAGE	1
NOTICES	2
SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS	21
DEFINITIONS	23
ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU.....	27
Eligible Classes	27
Date You Are Eligible for Insurance	27
Enrollment Process	27
Date Your Insurance That Is Part Of The Flexible Benefits Plan Takes Effect.....	28
Date Your Insurance Ends	29
SPECIAL RULES FOR GROUPS PREVIOUSLY INSURED UNDER A PLAN OF DISABILITY INCOME	
INSURANCE	30
CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE WITH PREMIUM PAYMENT	32
For Family And Medical Leave	32
At Your Option: Portability	32
At The Policyholder's Option	33
EVIDENCE OF INSURABILITY	34
DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: LONG TERM BENEFITS.....	35
DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: INCOME WHICH WILL REDUCE YOUR DISABILITY BENEFIT	37
DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: INCOME WHICH WILL NOT REDUCE YOUR DISABILITY BENEFIT	39
DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: DATE BENEFIT PAYMENTS END	40
DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE	
ADDITIONAL LONG TERM BENEFIT: SINGLE SUM PAYMENT IN THE EVENT OF YOUR DEATH.....	41
ADDITIONAL LONG TERM BENEFIT: ALTERNATIVE BENEFIT PAYMENT OFFER, AT OUR OPTION	42
DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS.....	43
DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: LIMITED DISABILITY BENEFITS	44
DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: EXCLUSIONS.....	45

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

Section	Page
FILING A DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE CLAIM.....	46
GENERAL PROVISIONS.....	48
Assignment.....	48
Disability Income Benefit Payments: Who We Will Pay.....	48
Entire Contract.....	48
Contestability: Statements Made by You.....	48
Contestability: Statements Made by the Policyholder.....	49
Misstatement of Age.....	49
Conformity with Law.....	49
Physical Exams.....	49
Autopsy.....	49
Overpayments for Disability Income Insurance.....	49
Lien and Repayment.....	50

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: Long Term Benefits

Monthly Benefit.....	The lesser of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60.00% of the first \$4,167 of Your Predisability Earnings; or • 70.00% of the first \$3,571 of Your Predisability Earnings subject to the INCOME WHICH WILL REDUCE YOUR DISABILITY BENEFIT section; or • the Maximum Monthly Benefit
Maximum Monthly Benefit.....	\$2,500
Minimum Monthly Benefit.....	\$100 subject to the Overpayments and Rehabilitation Incentive subsections of this certificate.
Elimination Period.....	5 Months

Maximum Benefit Period*

the later of:

- Your Normal Retirement Age;

or

- The period show below:

Age on Date of Your Disability	Benefit Period
Less than 60	To age 65
60	60 months
61	48 months
62	42 months
63	36 months
64	30 months
65	24 months
66	21 months
67	18 months
68	15 months
69 and over	12 months

*The Maximum Benefit Period is subject to the LIMITED DISABILITY BENEFITS and DATE BENEFIT PAYMENTS END sections.

Rehabilitation Incentives..... Yes

SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (continued)

Additional Benefits:

Single Sum Payment in the Event of Your Death.....	Yes
Portability	Yes

DEFINITIONS

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

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

- the 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, absences, 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.

Consumer Price Index means the CPI-W, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers published by the U.S. Department of Labor. If the CPI-W is discontinued or replaced, We reserve the right to substitute any other comparable index.

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

Contributory Insurance includes: Disability Income Insurance: Long 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, during the Elimination Period and the next 12 months of Sickness or accidental injury:
 - unable to earn more than 80% of Your Predisability Earnings at Your Own Occupation for any employer in the National Economy; and
 - unable to perform each of the material duties of Your Own Occupation for any employee in the National Economy; and
- You are, after such period:
 - unable to earn more than 80% of your Predisability Earnings at any gainful occupation for any employer in the National Economy; and
 - unable to perform the duties of any gainful occupation for any employer in the National Economy for which You are reasonably qualified taking into account Your training, education and experience.

DEFINITIONS (continued)

For purposes of determining whether a Disability is the direct result of an accidental injury, the Disability must have commenced within 90 days of the accidental injury and resulted from such injury independent of other causes. If such Disability commences after this period, it will be considered to have resulted from Sickness.

If You are Disabled and have received a Monthly Benefit for 12 months, We will adjust Your Predisability Earnings only for the purposes of determining whether You continue to be Disabled and for calculating the Return to Work Incentive, if any. We will make the initial adjustment as follows:

We will add to Your Predisability Earnings an amount equal to the product of:

- Your Predisability Earnings times the lesser of:
 - 10%; or
 - the annual rate of increase in the Consumer Price Index for the prior calendar year.

Annually thereafter, We will add an amount to Your adjusted Predisability Earnings calculated by the method set forth above but substituting Your adjusted Predisability Earnings from the prior year for Your Predisability Earnings. **This adjustment is not a cost of living benefit.**

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.

Full-Time means Active Work of at least 40 hours per week on the Policyholder's regular work schedule for the eligible class of employees to which You belong.

National Economy means the economy in the continental United States.

Normal Retirement Age means that as defined by the federal Social Security Administration on the date Your Disability starts.

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.

DEFINITIONS (continued)

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.

Predisability Earnings means gross salary or wages You were earning from the Policyholder as of Your last day of Active Work before Your Disability began. We calculate this amount on a monthly 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), 408(k) or 457 deferred compensation arrangement;
 - an executive non-qualified deferred compensation arrangement; and
 - Your fringe benefits under an IRC Section 125 plan.
- shift differential pay.

The term does not include:

- bonuses;
- commissions;
- overtime pay;
- any renewal commissions, overwriting renewal commissions or service fees;
- the Policyholder's contributions on Your behalf to any deferred compensation arrangement or pension plan; or
- any other compensation from the Policyholder.

If You are paid hourly, Your monthly rate of earnings is based on Your hourly pay rate multiplied by the number of hours You are regularly scheduled to work per month, but not more than 173 hours. If You do not have regular work hours, Your monthly rate of earnings is based on the average number of hours You worked per month during the preceding 12 calendar months (or during Your period of employment if less than 12 months), but not more than 173 hours.

DEFINITIONS (continued)

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

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

Proof must be provided at the claimant's expense.

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

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

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

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

Spouse means Your lawful spouse.

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

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

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

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU

ELIGIBLE CLASS(ES)

All Full-Time County employees of the Policyholder, excluding temporary or seasonal employees, and who are:

- enrolled as a member in the Policyholder's retirement plan (Montgomery County Employee's Retirement System); or
- former employees who:
 - were employed by the State of Maryland; and
 - regularly scheduled to work a minimum of 40 hours each week; and
 - transferred to County employment under 1996 Chapter 476, Acts of 1996, whether or not You are enrolled as a member in the Policyholder's retirement plan (Montgomery County Employee's Retirement System); and
 - working in the United States or Canada; and
 - on the U.S. payroll.

County means the Montgomery County Government, including any agency who participates in the Policyholder's benefit 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.

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

1. January 1, 2019; and
2. the day after the date You complete the Waiting Period of 6 months.

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

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: Long Term Benefits;

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

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS: INSURANCE FOR YOU (continued)

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. does not require evidence of Your Insurability.

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.

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.

Increase in Insurance

An increase in insurance due to an increase in Your earnings will take effect on the date of the increase in Your earnings.

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.

Decrease in Insurance

A decrease in insurance due to a decrease in Your earnings will take effect on the date of change.

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. with respect to contributory insurance, the end of the period for which the last contribution toward premium was paid by 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.

The ending of Your insurance will not prejudice a loss which occurred or a Disability which began while Your insurance was in effect.

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 YOUR OPTION: PORTABILITY

For Disability Income Insurance

For purposes of this subsection the term "Portability Eligible Disability Income Insurance" refers to Disability Income Insurance: Long Term Benefits.

You may request in Writing during the Request Period specified below to continue Your Portability Eligible Disability Income Insurance under another group policy issued by MetLife if such insurance ends because You cease to be in an eligible class or Your employment ends.

If You make a request under this subsection, evidence of Your insurability will not be required. We will issue a new certificate of insurance which will explain Your new insurance benefits. Your insurance benefits under the new certificate may not be the same as those that ended under the Group Policy.

A request under this subsection may be made, if, on the date of Your request, the following requirements are met:

- the Group Policy is in effect;
- We have not received notice from the Policyholder of its intent to end the Group Policy;
- You reside in a jurisdiction that permits portability;
- You have been insured for at least 12 months prior to the date that Your employment ends;
- Your employment did not end as a result of Your retirement;
- You are not Disabled; and
- You have not become insured under any other disability insurance plan within 31 days after the date Your Portability Eligible Disability Income Insurance ends under the Group Policy.

Request Period

To continue Your Portability Eligible Disability Income Insurance under a different group policy, We must receive a completed request form from You within 31 days after the date such insurance ends under this certificate.

Your new certificate will take effect on the day after Your Portability Eligible Disability Income Insurance ends under this Certificate.

Premiums for the New Certificate

When You request to continue Portability Eligible Disability Income Insurance under this subsection, the first premium must be paid within 31 days after Your insurance ends under this certificate. All premiums must be paid directly to Us. When We issue the new certificate, We will also provide You with a schedule of premiums and payment instructions.

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 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 period You cease Active Work in an eligible class due to injury or sickness, up to 3 months.

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:

For Contributory Disability Income Insurance: Long Term Benefits.

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: Long Term Benefits.

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

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: LONG 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 Monthly 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, 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. We will pay the cost of any required physical exams and exams by independent medical examiners.

While You are Disabled, the Monthly Benefit 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 Monthly Benefit one month after the date benefits begin to accrue. We will make subsequent payments monthly thereafter so long as You remain Disabled. Any balance remaining unpaid at the end of the period of Disability will be paid as soon as reasonably possible. Payment will be based on the number of days You are Disabled during each month and will be pro-rated for any partial month of Disability.

We will pay Monthly 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 Monthly Benefits, You will not be required to pay premiums for the cost of any disability income insurance defined as Contributory Insurance.

RECOVERY FROM A DISABILITY

If You return to Active Work, We will consider You to have recovered from Your Disability.

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

If You Return to Active Work Before Completing Your Elimination Period

- **We will not require** You to complete a new Elimination Period if You return to Active Work, before completing Your Elimination Period, for a period of 50 days or less and then become Disabled again due to the same or related Sickness or accidental injury. We will count those days towards the completion of Your Elimination Period.
- **We will require** You to complete a new Elimination Period if:
 - You return to Active Work, before completing Your Elimination Period, for a period of 50 days or less and then become Disabled due to a different or unrelated Sickness or accidental injury; or
 - You return to Active Work for a period of more than 50 days, and then become Disabled.

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: LONG TERM BENEFITS (continued)

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

If You Return to Active Work After Completing Your Elimination Period

- **We will not require** You to complete a new Elimination Period if You return to Active Work, after completing Your Elimination Period, for a period of 180 days or less and then become Disabled again due to the same or related Sickness or accidental injury. 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.
- **We will require** You to complete a new Elimination Period if:
 - You return to Active Work, after completing Your Elimination Period, for a period of 180 days or less and then become Disabled due to a different or unrelated Sickness or accidental injury; or
 - You return to Active Work for a period of more than 180 days, and then become Disabled.

You will also be subject to a new Maximum Benefit Period.

For purposes of this provision, the term Active Work includes all of the continuous days which follow Your return to work for which You are not Disabled.

REHABILITATION INCENTIVES

Work Incentive

While You are Disabled, We encourage You to work. If You work while You are Disabled and receiving Monthly Benefits, Your Monthly Benefit will be adjusted as follows:

- Your Monthly 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 Monthly Benefit as adjusted above will not be reduced by the amount You earn from working, except to the extent that such adjusted Monthly 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 Monthly Benefit will not apply.

Limit on Work Incentive

After the first 12 months following Your Elimination Period, We will reduce Your Monthly Benefit by 50% of the amount You earn from working while Disabled.

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, Your Spouse or child(ren) receive or are eligible to receive because of Your disability or retirement under:
 - Federal Social Security Act;
 - 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 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.
4. any income that You receive from working while Disabled to the extent that such income reduces the amount of Your Monthly 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.
5. recovery amounts that You receive for loss of income , including future income, as a result of claims against a third party by judgment, settlement or otherwise ; reduced by a pro-rata amount of reasonable attorney's fees and court costs incurred by You while pursuing such recovery.

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

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

If there is a reasonable basis for You to apply for benefits under the Federal Social Security Act, We expect You to apply for such benefits.

To apply means to pursue such benefits until You receive approval from the Federal Social Security Administration, or a notice of denial of benefits from an administrative law judge. We will reduce the amount of Your Disability benefit by the amount of Federal Social Security benefits We estimate that You, Your Spouse or child(ren) are eligible to receive because of Your Disability or retirement. We will start to do this after You have received 24 months of Disability benefit payments, unless We have received:

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

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

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

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

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 increases that are paid under any of the above sources of Other Income or other types of increases made to the amount of benefits received under the Federal Social Security Act;
- reasonable attorney fees or court costs included in any award or settlement. If the attorney fees are incurred because of Your successful pursuit of Social Security disability benefits, such fees are limited to those approved by the Social Security Administration;
- group credit insurance;
- mortgage disability insurance benefits;
- early retirement benefits that have not been voluntarily taken by You or that reduce Your normal retirement benefits;
- 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 benefits end as specified in the section entitled LIMITED DISABILITY BENEFITS;
- the date You are no longer Disabled;
- the date You die except for benefits paid under section entitled ADDITIONAL LONG TERM BENEFIT: SINGLE SUM PAYMENT IN THE EVENT OF YOUR DEATH;
- 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 following 12 consecutive months of Disability for which You were entitled to receive Monthly benefit payments while You are living outside of the United States or Canada; or
- 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 LONG TERM BENEFIT: SINGLE SUM PAYMENT IN THE EVENT OF YOUR DEATH

If You die while You are Disabled and You were entitled to receive Monthly Benefits under this certificate, Proof of Your death must be sent to Us. When We receive such Proof, We will pay the benefit described in this section.

BENEFIT AMOUNT

The benefit amount will be equal to 3 times the lesser of:

- the Monthly Benefit You receive for the calendar month immediately preceding Your death;
- the Monthly Benefit You were entitled to receive for the month You die, if You die during the first month that Disability benefits are payable.

We will reduce the benefit amount by any overpayment We are entitled to recover.

BENEFIT PAYMENT

Benefit payments will be made as described in the GENERAL PROVISIONS subsection entitled Disability Income Benefit Payments: Who We Will Pay.

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE

ADDITIONAL LONG TERM BENEFIT: ALTERNATIVE BENEFIT PAYMENT OFFER, AT OUR OPTION

If We approve Your claim for benefits under this certificate in accordance with the Long Term Benefit provisions of this certificate, We may offer to pay You a Disability benefit in the form of a lump sum benefit payment as an alternative to the Monthly Benefit payments described in the DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: LONG TERM BENEFITS provision of this certificate. If We determine on the basis of objective criteria applied to the particular facts and circumstances of Your claim that a lump sum payment is an appropriate option for Us to offer to You, We will make an offer of a lump sum payment to You. If You accept Our offer in Writing, Signed by You, and We make such lump sum benefit payment to You, no further Disability benefit payments will be made to You under this certificate. If You do not accept Our offer of a lump sum benefit payment, We will continue to administer Your claim in accordance with the terms and conditions of this certificate.

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 prescribed medication or had medications prescribed;

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

A Pre-existing Condition does not include a condition admitted in the application unless such condition is excluded by a signed waiver rider.

We will not pay benefits, or any increase in benefit amount due to an elected increase in the amount of Your insurance, for a Disability that results from a Pre-existing Condition, if the Disability commences prior to the earliest of:

- the date You have not received medical treatment, consultation or services for the Pre-existing Condition for a period of 12 consecutive months after the date insurance under this certificate takes effect; or
- If You were not required to give evidence of insurability when You enrolled for the insurance under this certificate, the date 12 months from the date such insurance takes effect; or
- If You were required to give evidence of insurability when You enrolled for the insurance under this certificate, the date 12 months from the date such insurance takes effect.

DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE: LIMITED DISABILITY BENEFITS

For Disability Due to Mental or Nervous Disorders or Diseases

If You are Disabled due to a Mental or Nervous Disorder or Disease that results from any cause, we will limit Your Disability benefits to one period of Disability during Your lifetime equal to the lesser of:

- the date You receive 24 months of Disability benefit payments; or
- the Maximum Benefit Period.

Subject to the Administration of Limited Disability Benefits for Disability Due to Mental and Nervous Disorders or Diseases provision set forth below;

This limitation will not apply to a Disability resulting from:

- Neurocognitive Disorders;
- Schizophrenia.

If You are confined in a Hospital or Mental Health Facility at the end of the period shown above for which benefits are to be paid, We will continue Your Monthly Benefits until the end of Your Hospital or Mental Health Facility confinement.

For purposes of this provision, Mental Health Facility means a facility licensed in the jurisdiction in which it is located to provide care and treatment for a Mental or Nervous Disorder or Disease. Such facility must provide care on a 24 hour a day basis under the supervision of a staff of Physicians, and must provide a broad range of nursing care on a 24 hour a day basis by or under the direction of a registered professional nurse.

ADMINISTRATION OF LIMITED DISABILITY BENEFITS FOR DISABILITY DUE TO MENTAL AND NERVOUS DISORDERS OR DISEASES.

If no exception above applies, and You are Disabled as a result of more than one injury or Sickness for which Disability benefits are payable under this certificate, each of which are subject to the provisions of the Limited Disability Benefits section, the benefit limitation periods will run concurrently for all such conditions.

DEFINED TERMS USED IN LIMITED DISABILITY BENEFITS

Mental or Nervous Disorder or Disease means a medical condition which meets the diagnostic criteria set forth in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic And Statistical Manual Of Mental Disorders (“DSM”) as of the date of Your Disability.

Neurocognitive Disorder means a condition that meets the diagnostic criteria for neurocognitive disorders set forth in the most recent edition of the DSM as of the date of Your Disability, and the cognitive deficits that relate to the Disability are not attributable to another Mental or Nervous Disorder or Disease. Neurocognitive disorders include, but are not limited to, conditions such as Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia, and Traumatic Brain Injury.

Schizophrenia means a chronic psychiatric disorder diagnosed in accordance with the diagnostic criteria for Schizophrenia set forth in the most recent edition of the DSM as of the date of Your Disability.

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;
2. intentionally self-inflicted injury;
3. attempted suicide; or
4. Your commission of or attempt to commit or taking part in a felony.

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.
- Written authorization for Us to obtain and release medical, employment and financial information and any other items We may reasonably require to document Your Disability or to determine Your receipt of or eligibility for Other Benefit Sources;

FILING A DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE CLAIM (continued)

- 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, attached to the Group Policy; and
3. any amendments and/or endorsements to the Group Policy.

A change in the policy will not be valid:

1. until approved by an executive officer of MetLife; and
2. unless the approval is endorsed on the policy or attached to the policy.

Contestability: Statements Made by You

In the absence of fraud, 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.

GENERAL PROVISIONS (continued)

Contestability: Statements Made by the Policyholder

In the absence of fraud, any statement made by the Policyholder will be considered a representation and not a warranty. We will not use such statement to avoid insurance, reduce benefits or defend a claim, except for non-payment of premium, unless:

1. it is contained in a Written application signed by the Policyholder; and
2. a copy of the application is given to the Policyholder.

We will not contest insurance after it has been in force for 2 years from its effective date, except for non-payment of premium.

Misstatement of Age

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

Conformity with Law

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

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. We will pay the cost of such 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. Such reimbursement will be reduced by a pro rata share of the court costs and legal fees that You incur for services rendered in connection with Your claim, and that are applicable to the portion of such settlement or judgment against a third party, or payment from Social Security or pursuant to Workers Compensation laws. 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.

Social Security Assistance Program

If your claim for Disability benefits under this plan is approved, MetLife provides you with assistance in applying for Social Security disability benefits. Before outlining the details of this assistance, you should understand why applying for Social Security disability benefits is important.

Why You Should Apply For Social Security Disability Benefits

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

1. Avoids Reduced Retirement Benefits

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

2. Medicare Protection

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

3. Trial Work Period

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

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

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

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

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

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

SPECIAL SERVICES

How MetLife Assists You in the Social Security Approval Process

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

1. Assistance Throughout the Application Process

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

2. Guidance Through Appeal Process by Social Security Specialists

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

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

3. Social Security Attorneys

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

SPECIAL SERVICES

Early Intervention Program

The MetLife Early Intervention Program is offered to all covered employees, and your participation is voluntary*. The program helps identify early those employees who might benefit from vocational analyses and rehabilitation services before they are eligible for Long Term Disability benefits. Early rehabilitation efforts are more likely to reduce the length of your Long Term Disability and help you return to work sooner than expected.

If you cannot work, or can only work part-time due to a disability, your employer will notify MetLife. Our Clinical Specialists may be able to assist you by:

1. Reviewing and evaluating your disabling condition, even before a claim for Long Term Disability benefits is submitted (with your consent);
2. Designing individualized return to work plans that focus on your abilities, with the goal of return to work;
3. Identifying local community resources;
4. Coordinating services with other benefit providers, including: medical carrier, short term disability carrier,* workers' compensation carrier, and state disability plans;
5. Monitoring return to work plans in progress and modifying them as recommended by the attending physician (with your consent).
6. Providing analyses of job demands and functions to determine what modifications may be made to maximize your employment opportunities. This program also includes modifications to help you perform your job or a similar job as required of your employer under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). It also includes an on-site ergonomic evaluation of work conditions to assist you in returning to work. If MetLife agrees that job modifications are likely to help you remain at work or return to work we may also agree (with your consent) to reimburse your employer for the cost of such modifications up to an amount agreed to between MetLife and your employer.

Our assistance is offered at no cost to either you or your employer.

* If you also have MetLife Short Term Disability coverage or Salary Continuance Plan Management, these services are provided automatically. Notification by your employer is not necessary.