

**PLAN DOCUMENT**  
**AND**  
**SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION**  
**for the**  
**ANESTHESIA PRACTICE CONSULTANTS, PC**  
**FLEXIBLE BENEFIT PLAN**

**January 2025**

## INTRODUCTION

**Anesthesia Practice Consultants, PC** (“Employer” and “Plan Sponsor”) established the **Anesthesia Practice Consultants, PC Flexible Benefit Plan** (“Plan”). The Plan is an “umbrella plan” which includes various health and welfare benefits for employees of Employer.

This document sets forth the terms of the Plan as of January 1, 2025. Employer intends that this document serves as the Plan Document and as the Summary Plan Description, along with the documents supplied by the claim administrators, insurers, benefit providers and Employer, for the health and welfare benefits under the Plan.

Certain health and welfare benefits under the Plan are provided on a self-funded basis. This means that these benefits will be paid by Plan Sponsor from its general assets rather than through a separate trust fund or an insurance company. Employer has selected one or more claim administrators for the self-funded benefits under the Plan. These claim administrators will provide a summary plan description and other information to employees enrolled in the Plan. The claim administrators are not the insurers of the Plan and any and all references in the documents to the claim administrators should be interpreted accordingly.

Other health and welfare benefits under the Plan are provided on a fully insured basis. Generally, the terms and conditions under which an employee may be eligible to receive these benefits are set forth in the terms of each applicable insurance policy. Because the fully insured benefits under the Plan are provided solely through insurance companies, Employer is not the insurer of these benefits. The insurance carrier is ultimately responsible for determining eligibility for, and the amount of, any benefits payable under its respective insurance policy.

Finally, Employer provides additional benefits which are technically not part of this Plan. However, these benefits are referred to in this document for informational purposes. Eligible employees will receive separate documentation describing these benefits.

The specific health and welfare benefits provided under the Plan and any additional benefits provided by Employer are listed in the “FLEXIBLE BENEFIT PLAN” section. This section also indicates whether the health and welfare benefits are self-funded or fully insured. In addition, the “OTHER BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLAN” section identifies the claim administrators and insurers for the benefits under the Plan.

The existence of the Plan does not grant employees any legal right to continue employment with Employer or affect the right of Employer to discharge employees. Questions about the Plan/Summary Plan Description should be directed to Human Resources.

**ANESTHESIA PRACTICE CONSULTANTS, PC**

Dated: JANUARY 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

  
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Signature

JACK H. DUNON - CEO  
Printed Name and Title

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<b>FLEXIBLE BENEFIT PLAN</b>
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The Plan includes the following benefits:

<b>HEALTH BENEFITS:</b>	<b><u>Self-Funded</u></b>	<b><u>Fully Insured</u></b>
Medical/Prescription Drug	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**WELFARE BENEFITS:**

Group Term Life/Accidental Death and Dismemberment ("AD&D")	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Short-Term Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Long-Term Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Voluntary Individual Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Voluntary Life (employee/spouse/child)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Employee Assistance Program ("EAP")	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**ADDITIONAL BENEFITS:** (These benefits are technically not part of the Plan but are mentioned in this Plan/SPD for informational purposes.)

Voluntary Critical Illness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Voluntary Hospital Indemnity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Voluntary Accident Insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Medical and Dependent Care Flexible Spending Accounts (under Employer's Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan)

Health Savings Accounts ("HSAs")  
(for employees enrolled in Employer's high deductible health plan)

Subsequent references throughout the document to "health benefits," "welfare benefits" and "additional benefits" mean the benefits described above.

Employees have received or will receive documentation describing each benefit in which they are enrolled. This Summary Plan Description is intended to supplement those materials. This document does not replace the provisions of the plan documents, summary plan descriptions, insurance applications, master plans, group insurance contracts and/or other documents for a benefit, including any applicable certificates and/or riders.

The other documentation for a benefit will contain the following information:

- With respect to the fully insured welfare benefits, the eligibility and participation conditions for any dependent coverage, if applicable.
- A summary of benefits.
- With respect to health benefits:
  - A description of any deductibles, coinsurance or copayment amounts.
  - A description of any limits on benefits.
  - Whether and under what circumstances preventive services are covered.
  - Whether and under what circumstances prescription drugs are covered.
  - Whether and under what circumstances coverage is provided for medical tests, devices and procedures.
  - Provisions governing the use of network providers (if any). If there is a network, the booklet(s) or certificate will contain a general description of the provider network and participants will be entitled to obtain a list of providers in the network.
  - Whether and under what circumstances coverage is provided for any out-of-network services.
  - Any conditions or limits on the selection of primary care physicians or providers of specific specialty medical care.
  - Any conditions or limits applicable to obtaining emergency medical care.
  - Any provisions requiring preauthorization or utilization as a condition to obtaining a benefit.
- A description of the circumstances which may result in disqualification, ineligibility or denial, loss, forfeiture, suspension, offset, reduction or recovery (e.g., by exercise of subrogation or reimbursement rights) of any benefits that the employee might otherwise reasonably expect the Plan to provide.

## **EMPLOYEE ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION**

### **General Rules**

Each full-time employee of Employer who is regularly scheduled to work at least 36 hours per week and each part-time employee of Employer who is regularly scheduled to work at

least 20 hours per week is eligible to receive benefits under the Plan. A newly-eligible employee is eligible to participate in all the benefits under the Plan on the employee's date of hire.

Despite these general rules, as required by the employer shared responsibility rules of Health Care Reform, additional employees (such as resource nurses or other part-time or variable hours employees regularly scheduled to work less than 20 hours per week) will also be eligible to participate in the medical/prescription drug benefits under the Plan in the following two circumstances:

- For newly-hired employees who are not eligible employees as described above, if the employee completes an initial measurement period beginning no later than the first day of the month after his or her date of hire during which the employee is credited with an average of at least 30 hours per week, the employee will be eligible to enroll in the medical/prescription drug benefits under the Plan for the stability period beginning immediately after the initial measurement period and any related administrative period ends.
- For ongoing employees who are not eligible employees as described above, for each plan year, there will be a standard measurement period before the beginning of the plan year. If the employee is credited with an average of at least 30 hours per week during the standard measurement period, the employee will be eligible to enroll in the medical/ prescription drug benefits under the Plan for that plan year.

For each measurement period, Employer will notify otherwise ineligible employees if they satisfy the at least 30 hours per week average and are eligible for coverage for the subsequent, related stability period or plan year.

### **Ineligible Employees**

Notwithstanding the above, individuals who Employer classifies as independent contractors and leased employees are not eligible for the Plan. If a leased employee is hired by Employer, the employee is eligible to participate in the benefits under the Plan on the employee's date of hire.

### **Transfers**

If an otherwise ineligible employee transfers to an eligible position, the employee is eligible to participate in the benefits under the Plan on the employee's date of transfer.

### **Breaks-in-Service**

If an eligible employee has a break-in-service (for example, due to termination of employment) during which the employee is not credited with any hours of service, the employee will generally be treated as a new hire and benefits will be offered immediately upon resumption of service. If the break is less than 13 weeks, such an employee will be



treated as a continuing employee upon resumption of service for purposes of any applicable measurement periods.

## **DEPENDENT ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION**

This section sets forth the rules for a participating employee's spouse and dependent children who are eligible for the **medical/prescription drug, dental and vision** benefits under the Plan.

### **Spouse**

"Spouse" means a person who is legally married to an employee. The term "spouse" does not include a spouse who is legally separated (e.g., an order of separate maintenance has been entered with the court) or divorced from the employee. Moving out and filing for divorce is not legal separation for this purpose.

### **Dependent Children**

An eligible dependent child includes the following:

- The employee's natural child, legally adopted child or child placed with the employee for adoption.
- The employee's step child.
- A child over whom the employee has a permanent or limited legal guardianship.
- A child for whom the employee is required to provide medical care under a qualified medical child support order ("QMCSO"). (See the "Qualified Medical Child Support Orders ("QMCSO")" section below for required health coverage in connection with such an order.)

An eligible child may participate in the medical/prescription drug, dental and vision benefits under the Plan until the end of the month in which the child turns age 26. However, if a child becomes totally disabled before age 26, benefits may continue beyond the limiting age provided the child is unmarried and is incapable of financial self-support. For this purpose, the child's disability must be permanent, rather than temporary. Proof of total disability must be submitted to the plan administrator within 120 days after coverage would otherwise terminate. Additional proof may be periodically required by the plan administrator.

A special definition of dependent child applies for purposes of the **HSA**. While the above definition of dependent child applies for purposes of Employer's high deductible health plan, the Internal Revenue Code does not allow this definition to be used for tax-free distribution purposes from an HSA. Rather, tax-free distributions from an employee's HSA are only permitted for uninsured health expenses of the employee, the employee's spouse and the employee's dependent children who qualify as the employee's qualifying

child or qualifying relative (generally, the employee's tax dependent). As a result, if the employee enrolls an older child in the high deductible health plan who is not also the employee's tax dependent, the child's out-of-pocket expenses cannot be reimbursed on a tax-free basis from the HSA.

## **ENROLLMENT RULES**

When employees initially become eligible to participate in the Plan, they may make the following benefit elections:

### **Health Benefits**

Employees may elect to participate in the health benefits provided by Employer by applying for coverage and agreeing to pay the required premium contributions, if applicable. If the employee enrolls in Employer's high deductible health plan, the employee may also be eligible to make contributions to an HSA. See the "HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT ("HSA")" section for details.

Employees who are Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists ("CRNAs") or Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants ("CAAs") who are classified as 1.0 FTE are also eligible to enroll in medical/prescription drug benefits through a PPO/HSA Minimum Value Plan option (the "MVP") under the Plan. If CRNAs or CAAs elect to enroll in the MVP, the CRNA or CAA may receive additional compensation from Employer. Employees who waive medical/prescription drug benefits under the Plan may also receive additional compensation from Employer. Employer will provide employees with more information about the additional compensation that the employee may receive for making these enrollment elections.

### **Welfare Benefits**

Employees will be automatically enrolled in the group term life/AD&D, short-term disability, and long-term disability benefits. For physicians, CRNAs, CAAs, Nurse Practitioners ("NPs"), and Physician Assistants ("PAs") who purchase long-term disability benefits, the premiums will be paid on an after-tax basis the long-term disability benefits, if and when paid, will be tax-free. The short-term disability benefits, if and when paid, are subject to applicable federal and state taxes.

Employees may also elect to purchase voluntary life benefits at initial enrollment.

### **Flexible Spending Accounts**

Employees may elect to contribute to the medical and/or dependent care flexible spending accounts under Employer's Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan upon initially becoming a participant.

After the employee makes his or her elections upon initial enrollment (such as within 30 days of hire), the pre-tax elections may not be changed until the first day of the next plan year unless the employee experiences:

- A change in status or other qualifying event (see the summary plan description for Employer's Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan for details), or
- A situation in which the employee has special enrollment rights, as explained below.

## **ANNUAL AND SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIODS**

### **Annual Enrollment**

Before the beginning of each plan year, employees will be notified by Employer of the dates for the open enrollment period, and otherwise ineligible employees will be notified if they are eligible for medical/prescription drug benefits for the plan year. During the open enrollment period, employees will have the opportunity to make benefit election changes. Benefit elections will remain in effect until the end of the plan year unless the employee requests an election change due to a change in status or other qualifying event (see the summary plan description for Employer's Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan for details) or the employee has a special enrollment rights circumstance as explained below.

### **Special Enrollment**

If an individual experiences a loss of health coverage, if an employee has a new dependent, or an individual loses or gains eligibility with respect to Medicaid or a State Children's Health Insurance Program ("CHIP"), an eligible employee and/or a dependent may have special enrollment rights to participate in medical/prescription drug coverage under the group health plan immediately without being required to wait until the next annual open enrollment period.

- A loss of other coverage may occur when COBRA has been exhausted, an individual becomes ineligible for coverage (for example, due to a change in status), employer contributions for the coverage have been terminated, the other coverage is an HMO and the individual no longer lives or works in the HMO service area, coverage is lost because the other plan no longer offers any benefits to a class of similarly-situated individuals (such as part-time employees), or a benefit package option is terminated unless the individual is provided a current right to enroll in alternative coverage. But a loss of other coverage for this purpose does not include a termination for:
  - Nonpayment of required contributions.
  - Filing of a fraudulent application or claim.
  - Voluntary termination of the other coverage (but see below).

- The addition of a new dependent may occur due to marriage, birth, adoption or placement for adoption.
- If an individual's Medicaid or CHIP coverage is terminated as a result of a loss of eligibility or if the individual becomes eligible for a premium assistance subsidy under Medicaid or a CHIP, the individual has special enrollment rights.

Enrollment must generally be requested in a special enrollment rights situation within 30 days after the loss of other coverage or the addition of the new dependent, whichever is applicable. However, in the case of loss or gain of Medicaid or CHIP eligibility, a health plan must allow immediate enrollment if the individual submits a request within 60 days after the loss or gain of eligibility.

While not required by law, Employer also allows mid-year enrollment in the event health coverage is voluntarily terminated mid-year through another employer plan (e.g., spouse's employer's group health coverage is dropped during that plan's annual open enrollment period).

Please note that the time deadlines described above may be temporarily extended during the COVID-19 outbreak period as further described in federal regulations. See Employer for details.

## SOURCES OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND COST OF COVERAGE

Employer may contribute to the cost of each benefit. In addition, employees may be required to contribute to the cost of one or more of the benefits, as periodically determined by Employer. The employee's required contribution may vary depending on the employee's job classification. Employer will notify employees of the required contribution, if applicable. Benefits are funded in the following manner:

### **Self-Funded**

Benefits may be funded on a self-funded basis. Employer will pay the self-funded benefits from its general assets. Any required participant contributions (if applicable) may be paid on a pre-tax basis under Employer's Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan. Participant contributions toward the cost of a particular benefit will be used in their entirety before using Employer contributions to pay for the cost of such benefit. Employer may establish a separate bank account for the payment of self-funded benefits. If a separate bank account is established, it will be for bookkeeping purposes only.

### **Fully Insured**

Employer may purchase insurance to provide benefits on a fully insured basis or, in the case of benefits funded on a self-funded basis, to protect Employer from large individual and aggregate losses. Any required participant contributions (if applicable) may be paid on a pre-tax basis under Employer's Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan or on a post-tax

basis. If participating employees become entitled to a refund in connection with any fully insured benefit under the Plan (for example, due to a medical loss ratio rebate), the refund will be used for the exclusive benefit of participants within three months after Employer receives the refund.

## **TERMINATION OF COVERAGE**

To remain eligible for benefits under the Plan, the employee must be actively working for Employer on a regular full-time or part-time basis or as described under the “Return to Partial Work Following Disability” subsection below. However, benefits under the Plan can be continued as follows:

### **FMLA Leave**

If you are a participating employee who goes on a family or medical leave, as defined by the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (“FMLA”), all of your Plan benefits, including medical/prescription drug, dental, vision, life/AD&D, short term disability, long term disability and voluntary life insurance, may continue during the leave. You must pay the same premium amount for the benefits during the leave as actively working employees. Payment can be made before the leave begins, on a pay-as-you-go basis during the leave or on a catch-up basis after the leave ends.

If you are receiving additional compensation because you opted out of medical coverage, the additional compensation for the period of the leave will be paid to you during your leave of absence. If you are enrolled in Employer’s high deductible health plan during the leave, the additional compensation for the period of the leave will be paid to you during your leave of absence.

If you do not return to work before the FMLA period ends (generally 12 weeks, except 26 weeks in the case of an employee caring for a qualifying military service member injured in the line of duty), your benefits will end and you will be offered COBRA to continue your health coverage. If, after more than 12 weeks, you return to work from an FMLA medical leave, you will be eligible for health benefits under the Plan even if you cannot resume working on a regular full-time or part-time basis (see the “Return to Partial Work Following Disability” subsection below). Conversion privileges may be available to extend some or all of your other non-health fully insured benefits.

### **Non-FMLA Medical Leave**

These rules apply to employees who are not eligible for an FMLA leave extension (as described above). If you are a participating employee who goes on a non-FMLA Employer-approved medical leave of absence, all of your Plan benefits including medical/prescription drug, dental, vision, life/AD&D, short term disability, long term disability and voluntary life insurance, may continue during the leave up to a maximum period of 12 weeks. You must pay the same premium amount for the benefits during the leave as actively working employees. Payment can be made before the leave begins, on a pay-as-you-go basis during the leave or on a catch-up basis after the leave ends.

If you are receiving additional compensation because you opted out of medical coverage, the additional compensation for the period of the leave will be paid to you during your leave of absence. If you are enrolled in Employer's high deductible health plan during the leave, the additional compensation for the period of the leave will be paid to you during your leave of absence.

If you do not return to active work before the 12 week maximum period ends, your benefits will end and you will be offered COBRA to continue your health coverage. If, after more than 12 weeks, you return to work from a non-FMLA medical leave, you will be eligible for health benefits under the Plan even if you cannot resume working on a regular full-time or part-time basis (see the "Return to Partial Work Following Disability" subsection below). Conversion privileges may be available to extend some or all of your other non-health fully insured benefits.

### **Non-FMLA Personal Leave**

If you are a participating employee who goes on a non-FMLA Employer-approved personal leave of absence (in other words, not a medical leave), all of your Plan benefits, including medical/prescription drug, dental, vision, life/AD&D, short term disability, long term disability and voluntary life insurance, may continue during the leave for a maximum period of 12 weeks (subject to any rules established by the applicable claim administrator or insurer). You must pay up to the full premium amount for the coverage during the leave, as communicated to you by Employer. Employer will also inform you of the permissible payment terms.

If you are receiving additional compensation because you opted out of medical coverage, the additional compensation will not be provided to you during the leave. If you are enrolled in Employer's high deductible health plan during the leave, the additional compensation will not be provided to you during the leave.

If you do not return to active work before the 12 week maximum leave period ends, your benefits will end and you will be offered COBRA to continue your health coverage. Conversion privileges may be available to extend some or all of your other non-health fully insured benefits.

### **Return to Partial Work Following Disability**

If you are a participating employee who is returning from an FMLA medical leave or a non-FMLA medical leave on a less than regularly scheduled full-time or part-time basis, you are eligible to continue benefits under the Plan for up to 12 months from your date of initial illness/injury. The required contributions will be based on your employment status (e.g. regularly scheduled full-time or part-time) in effect at the time your disability leave begins.

Except for the situations described above, all benefits of an employee and the employee's dependents terminate on the last day of the month in which the employee's active regular full-time or part-time employment ends (including a reduction in hours to less than full-time/part-time status).

Benefits under the Plan will also terminate on:

- The date an individual ceases to be eligible for coverage.
- The first day any required participant contributions are not timely paid.
- The effective date of the individual's voluntary withdrawal from the Plan due to a change in status or during an open enrollment period.
- The date the Plan is discontinued as a whole or a particular benefit is discontinued.
- The date on which the participant's coverage is terminated for cause by the plan administrator. (Termination for cause means the participant is found to have misrepresented information in the application for participation or on a claim for benefits.)

In certain circumstances, after coverage ends as described above, the employee and/or his or her eligible dependents may be eligible for COBRA continuation coverage and/or a conversion policy, as explained in the following sections.

## **CONTINUATION OF HEALTH COVERAGE UNDER COBRA AND USERRA**

The federal law known as COBRA allows eligible individuals to temporarily extend health coverage under the Plan in certain circumstances where health coverage would otherwise end. The federal law known as USERRA gives employees who cease to be eligible for health coverage due to service in the U.S. military additional rights regarding continuation of health coverage. This section provides information regarding extensions of coverage under these laws.

### **COBRA Continuation Coverage**

COBRA continuation coverage allows the employee and/or his or her dependents (including a child for whom the employee is required to provide health insurance coverage pursuant to a QMCSO) an opportunity to temporarily extend health insurance coverage under the Plan at group rates in certain instances where coverage would otherwise end. The employee may also have continuation coverage rights with respect to his or her medical flexible spending account under Employer's Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan. (See the summary plan description of that plan for details.)

The plan administrator may delegate some or all of its responsibilities with respect to COBRA to a third-party COBRA administrator. The employee and spouse (if any) will be informed if a COBRA administrator is appointed and which responsibilities the COBRA administrator has assumed, including whether notices required to be provided to the plan administrator should be sent to the COBRA administrator. (See the "OTHER BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLAN" section for the name and contact information of the COBRA administrator.)

**Eligibility**

The employee and/or his or her dependents who are eligible to purchase continuation coverage are “qualified beneficiaries.” If a child is born to or adopted by or placed for adoption with the employee during a period of COBRA continuation coverage, the newborn or newly-adopted child will also be a qualified beneficiary. However, the newborn or newly-adopted child’s maximum continuation period will be measured from the date of the initial qualifying event and not from the subsequent date of birth or adoption or placement for adoption.

The events which may entitle a qualified beneficiary to continuation coverage are “qualifying events.” The qualifying events occur when health coverage is lost, even if Employer pays the cost of continuation coverage for a certain period of time. The qualifying events, the qualified beneficiaries, and the maximum continuation period are described in the following chart:



<u>Qualifying Event</u>	<u>Qualified Beneficiary</u>	<u>Continuation Period (Months)</u>
Reduced hours <sup>1</sup> or termination of employment <sup>2</sup>	Employee and Dependents	18
Employee's death	Dependents	36
Employee's entitlement to Medicare	Dependents not entitled to Medicare	36
Dependent child becomes ineligible for coverage	Ineligible Dependent	36
Employee's divorce/legal separation <sup>3</sup>	Dependents	36
Commencement of Bankruptcy proceeding under Title 11 of the United States Code with respect to Employer	Retiree and Dependents	For a qualified beneficiary who is the retiree - until the qualified beneficiary's death.  For qualified beneficiaries who are the spouse, surviving spouse, or dependent children of the retiree upon the occurrence of the qualifying event - the earlier of the date of the qualified beneficiary's death or 36 months after the retiree's death.

### **Extension of Continuation Coverage**

If the employee and/or his or her dependents become entitled to continuation coverage as a result of the employee's termination of employment or reduction in hours, the 18-month continuation period may be extended for the employee and/or his or her dependents in the three circumstances described below ("extension events").

<sup>1</sup> A reduction in hours due to a family or medical leave, as defined by the FMLA, will not cause an employee's participation to terminate, to the extent required by the FMLA. Thus, a reduction in hours pursuant to an FMLA leave will not constitute a qualifying event. However, if the employee does not return to work at the end of the FMLA leave, a qualifying event will occur as of the last day of the FMLA leave.

<sup>2</sup> Continuation coverage is not available if employment is terminated for gross misconduct.

<sup>3</sup> Elimination of the employee's spouse's or dependent child's health insurance coverage under the Plan in anticipation of a divorce or legal separation (at open enrollment, for example), is not a qualifying event, but it also does not cause the subsequent divorce or legal separation to fail to be a qualifying event. However, COBRA continuation coverage is not required to be made available between the date coverage under the Plan is eliminated in anticipation of the divorce or legal separation and the date of the divorce or legal separation.

## **Second Qualifying Event**

If a second qualifying event that is a divorce, legal separation, the employee's death, or a dependent child's loss of eligibility for health coverage under the Plan occurs during the initial 18-month period (or 29 months, if there is a disability extension), the employee's dependents may be eligible to elect continuation coverage for a period of 36 months, beginning on the date of the employee's termination of employment or reduction in hours. ***Notice of this second qualifying event must be provided to the plan administrator within 60 days of the date of the second qualifying event.***

## **Employee's Entitlement to Medicare**

If the employee becomes entitled to Medicare benefits during the initial 18-month period, his or her dependents may be eligible to elect continuation coverage for a period of 36 months, if, ignoring the original qualifying event, the employee's entitlement to Medicare would have been a qualifying event under the Plan. The 36-month continuation period begins on the date of the employee's termination of employment or reduction in hours. ***Notice of the employee's entitlement to Medicare in this situation must be provided to the plan administrator within 60 days of the date on which the employee became entitled to Medicare.***

A special rule applies if the employee became entitled to Medicare before his or her termination of employment or reduction in hours. In that situation, the maximum continuation period for the employee's dependents may be extended, and may end on the later of: 36 months after the date of the employee's Medicare entitlement or 18 months (or 29 months, if there is a disability extension) after the date of the employee's termination of employment or reduction in hours. ***Notice of the employee's entitlement to Medicare in this situation must be provided to the plan administrator within 60 days of the employee's termination of employment or reduction in hours.***

## **Social Security Disability Determination**

If it is determined that the employee or one of his or her dependents is entitled to Social Security disability benefits either before the employee's termination of employment or reduction in hours or within 60 days after the employee's termination of employment or reduction in hours, the disabled individual and the qualified beneficiaries who are his or her family members will be entitled to an additional 11 months of continuation coverage (29 months total). ***Notice of the Social Security disability determination must be provided to the plan administrator within 60 days of the date of the disability determination (or within 60 days of the employee's termination of employment or reduction in hours, if later) and before the end of the 18-month continuation period.***

If there is a final determination that the disabled qualified beneficiary is no longer disabled, the disabled qualified beneficiary ***must notify the plan administrator of that determination within 30 days of the date of the final determination.*** In this event, continuation coverage for the additional 11-month period will terminate as of the first day of the month beginning more than 30 days after the date of the final determination or on the date continuation coverage would otherwise terminate, if earlier (see the “Termination” subsection below).

### **Plan Administrator’s Notice Obligations**

The plan administrator will provide the employee and his or her spouse (if any) with certain information regarding their rights under COBRA in the following situations:

#### **Notice of Eligibility to Elect COBRA**

The plan administrator will generally notify qualified beneficiaries of their eligibility for continuation coverage within 44 days of a qualifying event.

However, a special rule applies where the qualified beneficiary is required to provide the plan administrator with notice of a qualifying event in order to trigger the qualified beneficiary’s eligibility for continuation coverage (see the “Qualified Beneficiary’s Notice Obligations” subsection below). In that situation, the plan administrator will notify the qualified beneficiary of his or her eligibility for continuation coverage within 14 days of receiving notice of the qualifying event, but only if the notice of the qualifying event was timely submitted in accordance with the requirements described in the “Notice Procedures” subsection.

#### **Notice of Unavailability of Continuation Coverage**

The plan administrator will provide a notice of the unavailability of continuation coverage in the following situations:

- Where the plan administrator determines that continuation coverage is not available after receiving notice of a potential initial qualifying event that is a divorce, legal separation or a dependent child’s loss of eligibility for health coverage under the Plan.
- Where the plan administrator determines that an extension of the continuation coverage period is not available after receiving notice of a potential extension event.

The determination that continuation coverage or an extension of continuation coverage is not available could be made because the plan administrator determines that no qualifying event or extension event

occurred, or because the notice of the qualifying event or extension event was defective. A notice will be defective if it is not provided within the applicable time limit or is not provided in accordance with the requirements of the “Notice Procedures” subsection.

The plan administrator will provide the notice of unavailability of continuation coverage within 14 days of the date the plan administrator receives the notice of the potential qualifying event or extension event, or if later, the deadline for submission of additional information requested by the plan administrator to supplement a defective notice. The notice of the unavailability of continuation coverage will be sent to the individual who submitted the notice of the qualifying event or extension event, and to all individuals for whom continuation coverage or an extension of continuation coverage was being requested.

### **Qualified Beneficiary’s Notice Obligations**

In some situations, the employee and/or his or her dependents have the obligation to provide notice of a qualifying event or extension event to the plan administrator in order to trigger eligibility for continuation coverage or an extension of continuation coverage. The employee and/or his or her dependents have this obligation in the following situations:

#### **Notice of Certain Initial Qualifying Events**

The employee, one of the employee’s dependents, or an individual acting on behalf of the employee and/or the employee’s dependents must inform the plan administrator of a qualifying event that is a divorce or legal separation, or of a child losing dependent status under the Plan within 60 days after the later of:

- The date of the qualifying event; or
- The date the qualified beneficiary loses health insurance coverage under the Plan on account of that qualifying event.

#### **Notice of an Extension Event**

In order to qualify for an extension of the continuation coverage period due to an extension event described in the “Extension of Continuation Coverage” subsection, the employee, one of the employee’s dependents, or an individual acting on behalf of the employee and/or the employee’s dependent must notify the plan administrator of the extension event within the time limits that apply to that extension event as described in the “Extension of Continuation Coverage” subsection.

***These notices must be provided in accordance with the requirements of the “Notice Procedures” subsection.*** If notice is not provided within the applicable

time limit or is not provided in accordance with the notice procedures, continuation coverage or an extension of the continuation period will not be available as a result of the qualifying event or extension event.

### **Notice Procedures**

This subsection describes the procedures a qualified beneficiary must follow to notify the plan administrator of qualifying events and extension events.

***The plan administrator has a form which may be used to provide the required notice.*** The form may be obtained by contacting the plan administrator at the address or telephone number listed at the end of this Summary Plan Description. While use of the notice form will help ensure that the qualified beneficiary provides all of the required information, use of the notice form is not required. Written notification that contains all of the following information will also be accepted:

- The name of the employee or former employee.
- The name of the individual(s) for whom continuation coverage is being requested (i.e., the qualified beneficiary(ies)).
- The current address of the individual(s) for whom continuation coverage or an extension of continuation coverage is being requested.
- The date of the qualifying event or extension event.
- The nature of the qualifying event or extension event (for example, a divorce).
- If the notice relates to a divorce, a copy of the judgment of divorce.
- If the notice relates to a legal separation, a copy of the judgment of separate maintenance.
- If the notice relates to the employee's entitlement to Medicare, a copy of the document(s) establishing the entitlement.
- If the notice relates to a determination that a qualified beneficiary is entitled to Social Security disability benefits, a copy of the disability determination.
- If the notice relates to a determination that a qualified beneficiary is no longer entitled to Social Security disability benefits, a copy of the determination.

Notice that is not furnished by the applicable deadline, is not made in writing and/or does not contain all of the required information is deemed to be defective and may

be rejected. If a notice is rejected, continuation coverage or an extension of continuation coverage will not be available with respect to that potential qualifying event or extension event.

If the plan administrator receives notice of a qualifying event or extension event that is defective because it is not in writing or does not contain all of the required information, the plan administrator will request the missing information. If the defective notice was provided by the representative of a qualified beneficiary or a potential qualified beneficiary, the plan administrator will send the request to the representative and each individual who is a qualified beneficiary or a potential qualified beneficiary. If all of the requested information is not provided, in writing, within 30 days of the date the plan administrator requests the additional information, the notice may be rejected. If the notice is rejected, continuation coverage or an extension of continuation coverage will not be available with respect to that potential qualifying event or extension event.

The plan administrator may also request additional information or documentation that is deemed necessary to determine whether a qualifying event or extension event has occurred. If the plan administrator does not receive the requested information or documentation within 30 days of the date it is requested, continuation coverage or an extension of continuation coverage may not be available.

#### **Qualified Beneficiary's Election of Continuation Coverage**

If a qualified beneficiary chooses to purchase continuation coverage, the qualified beneficiary must notify the plan administrator within 60 days after the later of:

- The date the qualified beneficiary loses health coverage on account of the qualifying event; or
- The date on which the qualified beneficiary is sent notice of his or her eligibility for continuation coverage.

***Notification is made by timely returning the election form to the plan administrator at the address specified in the election notice.*** If the qualified beneficiary does not choose continuation coverage during the 60-day period, his or her participation in the Plan will end as provided in the "Termination" subsection.

#### **Coverage**

If a qualifying event occurs, the qualified beneficiaries must be offered the opportunity to elect to receive the group health insurance coverage that is provided to similarly-situated non-qualified beneficiaries. Generally, this means that if the qualified beneficiaries purchase continuation coverage, it will be identical to the health coverage provided to them immediately before the qualifying event. Each qualified beneficiary has the right to make an independent election to receive continuation coverage. Alternatively, the qualified beneficiary may initially elect to purchase one or more of the medical/prescription drug, dental and vision

coverages which are provided by Employer pursuant to any separate group health plans and/or which may be separately elected pursuant to Employer's Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan, if applicable. However, each coverage is initially available only if the qualified beneficiary was receiving coverage immediately before the qualifying event.

Qualified beneficiaries do not have to show that they are insurable in order to purchase continuation coverage. If coverage is subsequently modified for similarly-situated participants, the same modifications will apply to the qualified beneficiary and his or her dependents. Qualified beneficiaries who purchase continuation coverage will have the opportunity to elect different types of coverage during the annual enrollment period just as active employees.

### **Cost of Continuation Coverage**

Generally, the qualified beneficiary must pay the total cost of continuation coverage. This cost will be up to 102% of the cost of identical coverage for similarly situated participants. However, for disabled qualified beneficiaries and their dependents who elect an additional 11 months of continuation coverage, the cost will be 150% of the cost of the identical coverage for similarly situated participants for the additional 11-month period (and for any longer continuation period for which the disabled qualified beneficiary is eligible, as permitted by law).

The initial premium must be paid within 45 days after the qualified beneficiary elects continuation coverage. Subsequent premiums must be paid monthly, as of the first day of the month, with a 30-day grace period for timely payment. However, no subsequent premium will be due within the first 45 days after the qualified beneficiary initially elects continuation coverage.

### **Termination**

Generally, continuation coverage terminates at the end of the initial 18- or 36-month continuation period or at the end of any additional 11- or 18-month continuation period for which the qualified beneficiary is entitled to elect continuation coverage. However, continuation coverage may end sooner for any of the following reasons:

#### **Coverage Terminated**

Employer no longer offers a group health plan to any of its employees.

#### **Unpaid Premium**

The premium for continuation coverage is not timely paid, to the extent payment is required.

### **Other Coverage**

A qualified beneficiary becomes covered under another group health plan. Continuation coverage will end as of the date on which the qualified beneficiary first becomes, after the date of the election of continuation coverage, covered under another group health plan.

### **Medicare**

A qualified beneficiary becomes entitled to Medicare (Part A or Part B). Continuation coverage will end as of the date on which the qualified beneficiary first becomes, after the date of the election of continuation coverage, entitled to Medicare (Part A or Part B). See below for more details regarding the impact of Medicare on COBRA continuation coverage.

### **Cause**

A qualified beneficiary's coverage is terminated for cause on the same basis that the Plan terminates for cause the coverage of similarly-situated non-qualified beneficiaries (e.g., for fraud or misrepresentation in a claim for benefits). Continuation coverage will end as of the date on which the qualified beneficiary's coverage is terminated for cause.

The plan administrator will notify the qualified beneficiary if continuation coverage terminates before the end of the initial 18- or 36-month continuation period or before the end of any additional 11- or 18-month continuation period for which the qualified beneficiary has elected continuation coverage. The notification will be provided as soon as practicable following the plan administrator's determination that continuation coverage will terminate.

### **COBRA Continuation Coverage and Medicare**

In general, if an employee does not enroll in Medicare Part A or B when first eligible because he/she is still employed, after the Medicare initial enrollment period, the employee has an eight month special enrollment period to sign up for Medicare Part A or B, beginning on the earlier of:

- The month after his/her employment ends; or
- The month after group health plan coverage based on current employment ends.

If the employee does not enroll in Medicare and elects COBRA continuation coverage instead, the employee may have to pay a Part B late enrollment penalty and have a gap in coverage if the employee wants Part B later. If the employee elects COBRA continuation coverage and later enrolls in Medicare Part A or B before the COBRA continuation coverage ends, the Plan may terminate COBRA continuation coverage. However, if Medicare Part A or B is effective on or before the date of the COBRA election, COBRA coverage may not be discontinued on



account of Medicare entitlement, even if the employee enrolls in the other part of Medicare after the date of the election of COBRA coverage.

If the employee is enrolled in both COBRA continuation coverage and Medicare, Medicare will generally pay first (primary payer) and COBRA continuation coverage will pay second. Certain plans may pay as if secondary to Medicare, even if the employee is not enrolled in Medicare.

For more information visit <https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you>.

### **Other Coverage Options**

There may be other coverage options for you and your family. Now that key parts of Health Care Reform have taken effect, you have the opportunity to buy coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace (also known as the Exchange). In the Marketplace, you could be eligible for a new kind of tax credit that lowers your monthly premiums right away, and you can see what your premiums, deductibles and out-of-pocket costs will be before you make a decision to enroll. Being eligible for COBRA does not limit your eligibility for coverage or a tax credit through the Marketplace. For more information about health insurance options available through the Health Insurance Marketplace, visit [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov). Additionally, you may qualify for a special enrollment opportunity for another group health plan for which you are eligible (such as a spouse's plan) even if the plan generally does not accept late enrollees, if you request enrollment within 30 days.

### **Questions**

Employees and/or their dependents should contact the plan administrator at the address or telephone number listed at the end of this Summary Plan Description if they have questions regarding COBRA that are not answered in this Summary Plan Description. They may also visit the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration ("EBSA") website at [www.dol.gov/ebsa](http://www.dol.gov/ebsa) or call their toll-free number at 1-866-444-3272.

### **Keep Plan Administrator Informed of Address Changes**

To protect their rights under COBRA, it is important that the employee and the employee's dependents keep the plan administrator informed of any changes in address. They should also keep a copy, for their records, of any notices that are sent to the plan administrator.

Please note that the time deadlines described above for an individual to provide notice of certain qualifying events or extension events, to elect COBRA continuation coverage and to pay the required premiums may be temporarily extended during the COVID-19 outbreak period, as further described in federal regulations. See Employer for details.

## **Continuation of Health Coverage Upon Military Leave**

If an employee ceases to be eligible for health coverage under the Plan due to service in the U.S. military, the employee and his or her eligible dependents will be offered the opportunity to continue health coverage in accordance with the requirements of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, as amended ("USERRA"). The employee and his or her dependents may also be entitled to elect to continue health coverage under COBRA if the employee ceases to be eligible for health coverage due to his or her military service. Continuation coverage under USERRA runs concurrently with COBRA continuation coverage.

### **Length of USERRA Continuation Coverage**

An employee may elect to continue health coverage under the Plan for himself or herself and his or her eligible dependents for the period that is the lesser of:

- 24 months, beginning with the first day the employee is absent from work to perform military service; or
- The period beginning on the first day the employee is absent from work to perform military service and ending with the date the employee fails to return to employment or apply for reemployment as provided under USERRA.

### **Electing USERRA Continuation Coverage**

If an employee gives Employer advance notice of a period of military service that will be 30 days or less, the plan administrator will treat the employee's notice as an election to continue health coverage during his or her military service unless the employee specifically informs Employer, in writing, that he or she wants to cancel health coverage during his or her military leave. The employee will have to pay the required premiums for his or her health coverage, but the employee will not have to complete any additional forms or paperwork to continue health coverage during his or her military service.

If an employee gives Employer advance notice of a period of military service that will be 31 days or longer, the plan administrator will provide the employee with a notice of his or her right to elect to continue health coverage pursuant to USERRA and a form for the employee to elect USERRA continuation coverage for himself or herself and his or her eligible dependents. Unlike COBRA, the employee's dependents do not have a separate right to elect USERRA coverage. If the employee wants USERRA continuation coverage for any member of his or her family, the employee must elect it for himself or herself and all eligible dependents who are covered under the Plan when the employee's military service begins.

If an employee chooses USERRA continuation coverage, he or she must return the USERRA election form to the plan administrator within 60 days of the date it was provided to the employee. If the employee does not timely return the election form,

USERRA continuation coverage will not be available to the employee and his or her eligible dependents.

A special rule applies if the employee does not give Employer advance notice of his or her military service. In that case, the employee and his or her eligible dependents will not be provided with USERRA continuation coverage during any portion of the employee's military service, but the employee can elect to reinstate health coverage (and the coverage of his or her eligible dependents) retroactive to the first day the employee was absent from work for military service under the following circumstances:

- The employee is excused from providing advance notice of his or her military service as provided under USERRA regulations (e.g., it was impossible or unreasonable for the employee to provide advance notice or the advance notice was precluded by military necessity);
- The employee affirmatively elects to reinstate the coverage; and
- The employee pays all unpaid premiums for the retroactive coverage.

#### **Paying for USERRA Continuation Coverage**

For the first 30 days of military service, the employee's required contributions for health coverage will be the same as the required contributions for the identical coverage paid by similarly-situated active participants. If the employee's period of military service is more than 30 days, beginning on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of his or her military service the employee's required contributions will be 102% of the cost of identical coverage for similarly-situated active participants.

USERRA continuation coverage will be cancelled if the employee does not timely pay any required premiums for health coverage. If the employee's USERRA continuation coverage is cancelled for non-payment of premiums, it will not be reinstated.

The initial premium must be paid within 45 days after the date the employee elects USERRA continuation coverage. Subsequent premiums must be paid monthly, as of the first day of the month, with a 30-day grace period for timely payment. However, no subsequent premium will be due within the first 45 days after the employee initially elects USERRA continuation coverage.

Coverage will be suspended if payment is not made by the first day of the month, but will be reinstated retroactively to the first of the month as long as payment for that month is made before the end of the grace period. Payment more than 30 days late will result in automatic termination of the employee's USERRA continuation coverage.

If the employee complies with USERRA upon returning to active employment after military service, the employee may re-enroll himself or herself and his or her eligible dependents in health coverage immediately upon returning to active employment, even if the employee and his or her eligible dependents did not elect USERRA continuation coverage during the employee's military service. Reinstatement will occur without any waiting periods or pre-existing condition exclusions, except for illnesses or injuries connected to the military service.

## **CONVERSION PRIVILEGES**

When the employee or one of his or her dependents is no longer eligible under the Plan (either as an active participant, the eligible dependent of an active participant, or as a qualified beneficiary receiving continuation coverage), the employee and/or the employee's dependents may be eligible to obtain an individual conversion policy for one or more fully insured benefits. The availability of this conversion and the rules concerning eligibility are set forth in the policy with each insurance carrier. See Employer for details. A conversion option is not available for the self-funded benefits.

## **SPECIAL RULES REGARDING THE HEALTH BENEFITS**

There are several special rules which apply to the health benefits under the Plan but do not apply to the welfare benefits. This section summarizes these special rules.

### **Qualified Medical Child Support Orders ("QMCSO")**

Despite any contrary provision in any group health benefit under the Plan, an eligible dependent child may include a child for whom an employee is required to provide coverage pursuant to a QMCSO. Participants can obtain, without charge, a copy of the Plan's QMCSO procedures from the plan administrator.

### **Health Care Reform**

The medical/prescription drug benefits under the Plan comply and will continue to comply with the patient protections of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("PPACA"), the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act ("HCERA"), and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 ("CAA"). Collectively, the PPACA, HCERA and the CAA are known as Health Care Reform. The required changes include the following:

- Dependent children must be eligible to participate in the medical/prescription drug benefits under the Plan until at least the child's 26<sup>th</sup> birthday. However, Employer has extended coverage until the end of the month in which the child turns age 26.

**NOTE:** The dental and vision benefits under the Plan are "excepted benefits" not subject to Health Care Reform. However, Employer voluntarily amended the definition of dependent child for purposes of the

dental and vision benefits to align with the new definition under the medical/prescription drug benefits.

- Any lifetime limits on the dollar value of essential health benefits under the Plan no longer apply. Individuals whose coverage ended by reason of reaching a lifetime limit under the Plan were eligible to enroll in the Plan.
- Any annual limits on the dollar value of essential health benefits under the Plan no longer apply.
- Coverage may not be retroactively rescinded except as permitted by law, for example, in cases of fraud, intentional misrepresentation or failure to timely pay required premiums for coverage. Thirty days advance notice is required before coverage may be retroactively terminated.
- Any pre-existing condition limitations or exclusions no longer apply.
- Where a participant is required to have a primary care physician (PCP), the participant may designate any participating PCP, including a pediatrician, as the PCP.
- The Plan may not require preauthorization or referral when a participant seeks coverage for obstetric or gynecological care from a participating OB-GYN.
- The Plan will comply with the applicable nondiscrimination requirements of Section 1557 of Health Care Reform.
- The Plan is not grandfathered under the PPACA and HCERA and as a result, the following additional patient protections apply:
  - The Plan must provide certain preventive care items and services without required participant cost-sharing.
  - Maximum out-of-pocket limits are restricted.
  - Certain routine patient costs associated with clinical trials are covered.
  - Participants must be afforded additional rights with respect to internal appeals under the Plan and must be provided with the opportunity to undergo an external review procedure.
- The following patient protections apply with respect to emergency services:
  - The Plan must cover emergency services without requiring you to get approval for emergency services in advance (prior authorization).

- The Plan must cover emergency services by out-of-network providers.
- The Plan must base what you owe the provider or facility (your cost-sharing) on the amount that you would pay an in-network provider or facility, and show that amount in the explanation of benefits.
- The Plan must count any amount you pay for emergency services toward your in-network deductible and out-of-pocket limit.
- The out-of-network provider or facility is not permitted to “balance bill” you for emergency services (see the “No Surprises Act” subsection for more information).

“Emergency services” generally means: (1) an appropriate medical screening that is within the capability of the emergency department of a hospital or of an independent freestanding emergency department, as applicable, including ancillary services routinely available to the emergency department to evaluate an “emergency medical condition;” and (2) further medical examination and treatment that is within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the hospital or independent freestanding emergency department, as applicable, to stabilize you (regardless of the department of the hospital in which such further examination or treatment is furnished).

An “emergency medical condition” generally means a medical condition, including a mental health condition or substance use disorder, manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that a prudent layperson, who possess an average knowledge of health and medicine, could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to: (1) place the health of the individual (or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child) in serious jeopardy; (2) result in serious impairment to bodily functions; or (3) result in serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

- If you receive non-emergency services at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgery center and you are treated by an out-of-network provider, the following patient protections apply (unless you waive these protections):
  - Your cost-sharing requirement for items or services provided by the out-of-network provider may not be greater than the cost-sharing requirement that would apply if the items or services were provided by an in-network provider. Additionally, the Plan generally must base the cost-sharing amount on the lesser of: (1) the amount billed by the out-of-network provider; and (2) the median of the Plan’s (or the claim administrator’s) contracted rates with in-network providers for the items or services in the same geographic region.

- The Plan must count any amount you pay for the items or services provided by the out-of-network provider toward your in-network deductible and out-of-pocket limit.
- The out-of-network provider is not permitted to “balance bill” you for these items or services (see the “No Surprises Act” subsection for more information).

**NOTE:** Providers of ancillary services are not permitted to ask you to waive these patient protections. Ancillary services currently include the following items or services: (1) emergency medicine, anesthesiology, pathology, radiology, or neonatology (whether provided by a physician or non-physician practitioner); (2) assistant surgeons, hospitalists, or intensivists; (3) diagnostic services (including radiology and laboratory services); and (4) provided by an out-of-network provider when there is no in-network provider available to furnish the items or services.

- If you receive air ambulance services (either by airplane or helicopter) from an out-of-network air ambulance provider, the following patient protections apply:
  - Your cost-sharing requirement for items or services provided by the out-of-network air ambulance provider may not be greater than the cost-sharing requirement that would apply if the items or services were provided by an in-network air ambulance provider. Additionally, the Plan generally must base the cost-sharing amount on the lesser of: (1) the amount billed by the out-of-network air ambulance provider; and (2) the median of the Plan’s (or the claim administrator’s) contracted rates with in-network air ambulance providers for the items or services in the same geographic region.
  - The Plan must count any amount you pay for the services provided by the out-of-network air ambulance provider toward your in-network deductible and out-of-pocket limit.
  - The out-of-network air ambulance provider is not permitted to “balance bill” you for its services.
- If you are a “continuing care patient,” you will receive a notice from the Plan that you may elect “transitional care” if an in-network provider or facility that is providing you care leaves the Plan’s network for reasons other than the provider’s or facility’s failure to meet applicable quality standards, or for fraud. If you timely notify the Plan (through the claim administrator) of your need for “transitional care,” charges from the provider or facility that moved out-of-network will continue to be paid on an in-network basis, and will be subject to the same terms and conditions that apply in-network for a period of 90 days or, if shorter, the date that you

are no longer a “continuing care patient.” This 90-day period begins on the date that you receive the notice from the Plan regarding the transitional care.

You are a “continuing care patient” if you: (1) are undergoing a course of treatment for a “serious and complex” condition; (2) are undergoing a course of institutional care or inpatient care; (3) are scheduled to undergo non-elective surgery, including receipt of postoperative care with respect to the non-elective surgery; (4) are pregnant and undergoing a course of treatment for the pregnancy; or (5) were determined to be “terminally ill” and are receiving treatment for the terminal illness.

- If you receive items or services from an out-of-network provider or at an out-of-network facility on the belief that the provider or facility was in-network after consulting the Plan’s (or claim administrator’s) provider directory (which includes a telephone or electronic, web-based, or internet-based response protocol), the following patient protections apply:
  - The Plan is required to limit your cost-sharing to an amount that is no greater than the cost-sharing that would apply under the Plan if the items or services were provided by an in-network provider or at an in-network facility.
  - The Plan must count any amount you pay for the items or services provided by the out-of-network provider or at an out-of-network facility toward your in-network deductible and out-of-pocket limit.

For more information concerning Health Care Reform or any of these required changes, please contact the plan administrator.

## **No Surprises Act**

### **Your Rights and Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills**

When you get emergency care or are treated by an out-of-network provider at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, you are protected from balance billing. In these cases, you shouldn’t be charged more than the Plan’s copayments, coinsurance, and/or deductible.

### **What is “Balance Billing” (Sometimes Called “Surprise Billing”)?**

When you see a doctor or other health care provider, you may owe certain out-of-pocket costs, like a copayment, coinsurance, or deductible. You may have additional costs or have to pay the entire bill if you see a provider or visit a health care facility that isn’t in the Plan’s network.

“Out-of-network” means providers and facilities that haven’t signed a contract with the Plan (through the Plan’s claim administrator) to provide services. Out-of-network providers may be allowed to bill you for the difference between what the



Plan pays and the full amount charged for a service. This is called “**balance billing**.” This amount is likely more than in-network costs for the same service and might not count toward the Plan’s deductible or annual out-of-pocket limit.

“Surprise billing” is an unexpected balance bill. This can happen when you can’t control who is involved in your care—like when you have an emergency or when you schedule a visit at an in-network facility but are unexpectedly treated by an out-of-network provider. Surprise medical bills could cost thousands of dollars depending on the procedure or service.

### **You are Protected from Balance Billing for the Following Services:**

#### **Emergency Services**

If you have an emergency medical condition and get emergency services from an out-of-network provider or facility, the most they can bill you is the Plan’s in-network cost-sharing amount (such as copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles). You **can’t** be balance billed for these emergency services. This includes services you may get after you’re in stable condition, unless you give written consent and give up your protections not to be balance billed for these post-stabilization services.

#### **Certain Services at an In-Network Hospital or Ambulatory Surgical Center**

When you get services from an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, certain providers there may be out-of-network. In these cases, the most those providers can bill you is the Plan’s in-network cost-sharing amount. This applies to emergency medicine, anesthesia, pathology, radiology, laboratory, neonatology, assistant surgeon, hospitalist, or intensivist services. These providers **can’t** balance bill you and may **not** ask you to give up your protections not to be balanced billed.

If you get other services at these in-network facilities, out-of-network providers **can’t** balance bill you, unless you give written consent and give up your protections.

**You’re never required to give up your protections from balance billing. You also aren’t required to get out-of-network care. You can choose a provider or facility in the Plan’s network.**

### **When Balance Billing Isn’t Allowed**

When balance billing isn’t allowed, you also have these protections:

- You’re only responsible for paying your share of the cost (like the copayments, coinsurance, and deductible that you would pay if the

provider or facility was in-network). The Plan will pay any additional costs to out-of-network providers and facilities directly.

- Generally, the Plan must:
  - Cover emergency services without requiring you to get approval for services in advance (also known as “**prior authorization**”).
  - Cover emergency services by out-of-network providers.
  - Base what you owe the provider or facility (cost-sharing) on what it would pay an in-network provider or facility and show that amount in your explanation of benefits.
  - Count any amount you pay for emergency services or out-of-network services toward your in-network deductible and out-of-pocket limit.

**If you think you’ve been wrongly billed**, contact the Department of Health and Human Services at <https://www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers> or 1-800-985-3059. The Department of Health and Human Services will route your complaint to the Department of Labor’s Employee Benefits Security Administration.

Visit [dol.gov/agencies/ebsa](https://dol.gov/agencies/ebsa) for more information about your rights under federal law.

### **Newborns’ and Mothers’ Health Protection Act**

The Newborns’ and Mothers’ Health Protection Act of 1996, a federal law, provides certain rights to newborns and mothers. Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under federal law, restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, federal law generally does not prohibit the mother’s or the newborn’s attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable). In any case, plans may not, under federal law, require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours).

### **Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act**

The Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998, a federal law, provides certain rights to participants. Group health plan expenses for a mastectomy include charges for the reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy has been performed, surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance, and prostheses and treatment of physical complications relating to all stages of the mastectomy, including

lymphedemas. Coverage will be provided in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient.

### **Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act**

Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, a federal law known as HIPAA, certain privacy and security rules apply to the Plan. Specifically, group health plans and health insurance issuers must make sure that medical information identifying a participant is kept private, must maintain and follow privacy policies and procedures and must notify participants of the privacy policies and procedures. In addition, group health plans and health insurance issuers must conduct a written risk analysis and maintain and follow policies and procedures to ensure the security of protected health information maintained or transmitted in electronic form. Further, group health plans and health insurance issuers must comply with the changes made to the HIPAA privacy and security rules under the federal law known as HITECH, including, but not limited to, the new breach notification requirements. (See the “HIPAA PRIVACY AND SECURITY RULES” section for further details.)

### **Family and Medical Leave Act**

The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (“FMLA”) applies to the Plan during any calendar year when Employer employs 50 or more employees (including part-time employees) each working day during 20 or more calendar weeks in the current or preceding calendar year. Further, the FMLA provisions apply only to eligible employees (i.e., participating employees who have been employed by Employer for at least 12 months and who have worked at least 1,250 hours in the 12-month period immediately preceding the taking of the FMLA leave).

A participant on an FMLA leave may continue health coverage, and all other coverages under the Plan as permitted by Employer, during the leave on the same basis and at the same participant contribution rate as if the employee had continued in active employment continuously for the duration of the leave. The maximum period of an FMLA leave is generally 12 weeks per 12-month period (as that 12-month period is defined by Employer). However, if the employee takes a leave under the FMLA to care for a qualifying military service member injured in the line of active duty, the maximum period of FMLA is 26 weeks per 12-month period. If health coverage ends at the end of an FMLA leave, COBRA continuation coverage is available.

## **HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT (“HSA”)**

An employee who enrolls in Employer’s high deductible health plan (“HDHP”) may be eligible to make contributions to an HSA. This section describes the rules concerning HSAs.

### **What is an HSA?**

An HSA is a tax-favored IRA-type account established for an eligible individual. Contributions to an HSA are fully vested when made, and investment earnings are not

taxable when earned. Distributions from the HSA are tax-free if they are used to pay qualified health care expenses. Unused benefits can be carried forward and used in future years.

### **Who is Eligible to Participate in an HSA?**

Employees are eligible to establish and make contributions to an HSA upon satisfying two requirements:

- The employee participates in Employer's HDHP (as that term is defined in the Internal Revenue Code) with an annual minimum deductible determined by law; and
- The employee does **not** participate in any health plan that is **not** an HDHP. The employee will **fail** to satisfy this requirement if:
  - The employee participates in a "traditional" health plan (for example, through Employer or a spouse's employer); or
  - The employee participates in a medical flexible spending account (for example, through Employer or a spouse's employer) that permits reimbursement of all types of medical claims. Employer offers a "limited purpose" medical flexible spending account for employees enrolled in an HSA in order to facilitate HSA eligibility.

### **Who Administers the Employee's HSA?**

An HSA must be held by a trustee or custodian (such as a bank). Employer has selected Optum Bank to serve as trustee/custodian for the HSA. However, this arrangement will not prohibit the employee from subsequently transferring his or her HSA balance to another qualified trustee or custodian. If the employee elects to contribute to an HSA, Employer will forward the contributions to the trustee or custodian. The money in the HSA will be invested by the trustee or custodian. The trustee or custodian will provide the employee with more information regarding how the HSA balance will be invested and any election opportunities the employee has with respect to the investments.

### **What are the Rules for Making HSA Contributions?**

IRS rules govern who is eligible to make HSA contributions and the amount that can be contributed each calendar year.

Employees may begin to contribute to an HSA on the first day of the month on or after the date the employee becomes enrolled in Employer's HDHP and is eligible to make HSA contributions.

Employees can make tax-deductible contributions directly to an HSA, or employees may be permitted to elect to make pre-tax contributions to an HSA through Employer's Section 125 plan, if applicable.

### **Will Employer Make Contributions to Employees' HSAs?**

In addition to the employee's HSA contributions, Employer may make an Employer contribution to the employee's HSA. The amount provided by Employer will be based on a formula determined by Employer which is permissible under the Internal Revenue Code and communicated to employees during the open enrollment period.

### **Is There a Limit on HSA Contributions?**

The IRS limits the HSA contributions the employee may make each calendar year. The maximum amount depends on whether the employee is enrolled in single/employee-only or family coverage. (For purposes of the maximum, both the employee contributions and the Employer contributions on the employee's behalf (if applicable) for the calendar year are considered.) The maximums may be adjusted each year for changes in the cost-of-living. You will be informed of the maximums during the enrolment process.

If the employee will be at least age 55 by December 31, the maximum annual HSA contribution limit for that calendar year will be increased under a special catch-up rule. The additional catch-up contribution amount is currently \$1,000, regardless of whether the employee is enrolled in single/employee-only or family coverage. This amount may be adjusted in future years for changes in the cost-of-living.

### **When Do Employees Lose Eligibility to Make HSA Contributions?**

If the employee terminates employment, loses or drops coverage under Employer's HDHP, or otherwise becomes ineligible to make HSA contributions (for example, by becoming covered by a medical flexible spending account that reimburses all types of medical claims), the employee will no longer be eligible to contribute to the HSA as of the last day of the month during which the employee terminates employment or otherwise becomes ineligible.

However, if the employee continues to participate in Employer's HDHP (for example, by electing COBRA), the employee may still be eligible to make tax-deductible contributions directly to the HSA.

### **How Can the Employee Access His or Her HSA Funds?**

Once an HSA is established, it may be accessed by following the procedures established by the trustee or custodian. The employee will be issued a debit card for this purpose. Alternatively, the employee will also typically be allowed to submit a written reimbursement request form to the trustee or custodian.

Amounts in the employee's HSA can be distributed to cover the deductible requirements under the HDHP. The employee can also use HSA money to pay for eligible health care expenses not covered by the HDHP. Amounts distributed for health care expenses are tax-free. The employee can also request a distribution for other purposes. For expenses other than eligible health care expenses, the amount distributed is taxable income and is also subject to a 20% penalty tax. But in certain circumstances the 20% penalty tax may be waived (such as for individuals who are disabled or at least age 65).

### **What if the Employee Changes Jobs?**

HSAs are permanent and portable. Employees can take their HSA with them to their next job. The dollars in the HSA account can continue to grow through investment or the employee can use the monies for eligible health care expenses. However, in order to actively continue to contribute to an HSA, the employee must be covered under a qualified HDHP either through his or her new employer or through an individual policy.

### **What Happens to the HSA after the Employee Turns Age 65?**

After the employee reaches age 65, the HSA can be used to pay eligible health care expenses and certain insurance premiums like Medicare Parts B and D. Monies cannot be used to purchase a Medigap policy. Distributions for eligible health care expenses are tax-free. Distributions for other expenses are taxable.

## **EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (“EAP”)**

The EAP is designed to assist you and your spouse and dependents in addressing and resolving personal problems. Despite the rules listed in the “EMPLOYEE ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION” section, all employees are eligible for the EAP, regardless of the number of hours they are regularly scheduled to work. The EAP provides you and your spouse and dependents with referral services and a limited number of outpatient counseling sessions. You will receive an additional description of the benefits provided by the EAP provider. (See the “OTHER BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLAN” section for the name of the EAP provider.)

## **CLAIM AND APPEAL PROCEDURES**

You will be provided with separate summary plan descriptions for the self-funded medical/prescription drug, dental, and flexible spending account benefits which include an explanation of the Plan’s claim and appeal procedures for these benefits. Similarly, each insurance carrier is responsible for prescribing the claim and appeal procedures to be followed with regard to the fully insured benefits provided pursuant to that carrier’s policy. The insurance certificates or booklets from the insurers contain a summary of the claim and appeal procedures for the fully insured benefits.

If you think that the Plan has violated the patient protections under the No Surprises Act (see the “No Surprises Act” subsection), you may be entitled to external review of your claim that you believe should have been protected by the No Surprises Act.

Please note that the time deadlines to submit claims and appeal denied claims may be temporarily extended during the COVID-19 outbreak period, as further described in federal regulations. See Employer for details.

### **Certain Health Appeals Based on Disabled Status**

If a claim for health benefits with respect to an adult dependent child is denied because it is determined that the child does not satisfy all of the requirements to be considered physically or mentally incapacitated for purposes of the Plan, the claimant will have certain appeal rights as required by U.S. Department of Labor Regulations issued pursuant to ERISA. The rules are generally consistent with the appeal rights which apply to denied health benefit claims. However, in addition, the notice of adverse benefit determination must include certain additional information such as an explanation of the Plan's basis for disagreeing with the views presented by the claimant or a health care professional treating the claimant or a vocational professional who evaluated the claimant, the views of any medical or vocational experts the Plan hired, or a Social Security disability determination regarding the claimant. Further, before upholding an adverse benefit determination on appeal, the Plan must provide the claimant with any new information or rationale and an opportunity to respond. In the event of an appeal of a denied health benefit claim due to the adult dependent child's failure to satisfy all of the requirements to be considered physically or mentally incapacitated for purposes of the Plan, these additional rights shall be extended and the claimant will be provided with further information.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

Plan Sponsor is the plan administrator. The plan administrator is the designated named fiduciary and is charged with the administration of the Plan and has certain discretionary authority with respect to the administration of the Plan.

With respect to the self-funded benefits, Plan Sponsor, as the plan administrator, has the ultimate discretion and authority to determine all questions of eligibility for participation and eligibility for payment of benefits, to determine the amount and manner of the payment of benefits and to otherwise construe and interpret the terms of the Plan. However, the plan administrator may delegate claims administration for some or all of the self-funded benefits to a third party administrator. Such a third party administrator may be a named fiduciary for benefit appeals pursuant to the applicable benefit.

The fully insured benefits are provided pursuant to an insurance policy and the insurer has the ultimate discretion and authority to determine all questions of eligibility for participation and eligibility for payment of benefits, to determine the amount and manner of the payment of benefits and to otherwise construe and interpret the terms of the policy. The insurers are the exclusive source of payment for the fully insured benefits.

### **AMENDMENT OR TERMINATION**

Although Plan Sponsor intends to maintain the Plan indefinitely, Plan Sponsor has the authority to amend or terminate the Plan or any benefit at any time. However, no amendment or termination can retroactively diminish a participant's right to obtain Plan benefits. Participants will be informed of any material amendment affecting their benefits or changing the operation of the Plan.

## **HIPAA PRIVACY AND SECURITY RULES**

This section applies to the health benefits under the Plan and is required by the privacy and security rules of HIPAA.

### **Permitted and Required Uses and Disclosure of Protected Health Information (“PHI”)**

Subject to obtaining written certification (see below), the Plan may disclose PHI to Plan Sponsor, provided Plan Sponsor does not use or disclose such PHI except for the following purposes:

- Performing Plan Administrative Functions which Plan Sponsor performs for the Plan.
- Obtaining premium bids from insurance companies or other health plans for providing coverage under or on behalf of the Plan; or
- Modifying, amending or terminating the Plan.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the Plan to the contrary, in no event will Plan Sponsor be permitted to use or disclose PHI in a manner that is inconsistent with 45 CFR §164.504(f).

### **Conditions of Disclosure**

Plan Sponsor agrees that with respect to any PHI, it will:

- Not use or further disclose the PHI other than as permitted or required by the Plan or as required by law.
- Ensure that any agents, including subcontractors, to whom it provides PHI received from the Plan, agree to the same restrictions and conditions that apply to Plan Sponsor with respect to PHI.
- Not use or disclose the PHI for employment-related actions and decisions or in connection with any other benefit or employee benefit plan of Plan Sponsor.
- Report to the Plan any use or disclosure of the information that is inconsistent with the uses or disclosures provided for which it becomes aware.
- Make available to a participant who requests access, the participant’s PHI in accordance with 45 CFR §164.524.



- Make available to a participant the right to request an amendment to the participant's PHI and incorporate any amendments to the participant's PHI in accordance with 45 CFR §164.526.
- Make available to a participant who requests an accounting of disclosures of the participant's PHI, the information required to provide an accounting of disclosures in accordance with 45 CFR §164.528.
- Make its internal practices, books, and records, relating to the use and disclosures of PHI received from the Plan, available to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for purposes of determining compliance by the Plan with the HIPAA privacy rules.
- If feasible, return or destroy all PHI received from the Plan that Plan Sponsor still maintains in any form, and retain no copies of such information when no longer needed for the purpose for which the disclosure was made, except that, if such return or destruction is not feasible, limit further uses and disclosures to those purposes that make the return or destruction of the information infeasible.
- Ensure that the adequate separation between Plan and Plan Sponsor, required in 45 CFR §164.504(f)(2)(iii), is satisfied and that terms set forth below are followed.
- Plan Sponsor further agrees that if it creates, receives, maintains or transmits any electronic PHI (other than enrollment/disenrollment information and Summary Health Information, which are not subject to these restrictions) on behalf of the Plan, Plan Sponsor will implement administrative, physical and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of the electronic PHI and Plan Sponsor will ensure that any agents (including Business Associates and subcontractors) to whom it provides such electronic PHI agree to implement reasonable and appropriate security measures to protect the information. Plan Sponsor will report to the Plan any security incident of which it becomes aware.

#### **Certification of Plan Sponsor**

The Plan will disclose PHI to Plan Sponsor only upon the receipt of a certification by Plan Sponsor that the Plan has been amended to incorporate the provisions of 45 CFR §164.504(f)(2)(ii), and that Plan Sponsor agrees to the conditions of disclosure set forth above.

#### **Permitted Uses and Disclosures of Summary Health Information**

The Plan may disclose Summary Health Information to Plan Sponsor, provided such Summary Health Information is only used by Plan Sponsor for the purpose of:

- Obtaining premium bids from health plan providers for providing health coverage under the Plan; or
- Modifying, amending or terminating the Plan.

#### **Adequate Separation Between Plan and Plan Sponsor**

- The employees, or classes of employees, listed in Plan Sponsor's HIPAA privacy policies and procedures will be given access to PHI.
- The access to and use of PHI by the individuals described above will be restricted to the Plan Administrative Functions that Plan Sponsor performs for the Plan.
- In the event any of the individuals described above do not comply with the provisions of the Plan relating to use and disclosure of PHI, the plan administrator will impose reasonable sanctions as necessary, in its discretion, to ensure that no further non-compliance occurs. Such sanctions will be imposed progressively (for example, an oral warning, a written warning, time off without pay and termination), if appropriate, and will be imposed so that they are commensurate with the severity of the violation.
- To comply with the HIPAA security rules, Plan Sponsor will ensure that the provisions of this section are supported by reasonable and appropriate security measures to the extent that the authorized employees or classes of employees have access to electronic PHI.

#### **Disclosure of Certain Enrollment Information to Plan Sponsor**

Pursuant to 45 CFR §164.504(f)(1)(iii), the Plan may disclose to Plan Sponsor information on whether an individual is participating in the Plan or is enrolled in or has disenrolled from any health insurance issuer or health maintenance organization offered by the Plan.

#### **Disclosure of PHI to Obtain Stop-Loss or Excess Loss Coverage**

Plan Sponsor authorizes and directs the Plan, through the plan administrator, to disclose PHI to stop-loss carriers, excess loss carriers or managing general underwriters (MGUs) for underwriting and other purposes in order to obtain and maintain stop-loss or excess loss coverage related to benefit claims under the Plan. Such disclosures will be made in accordance with the HIPAA privacy rules.

#### **Other Disclosures and Uses of PHI**

With respect to all other uses and disclosures of PHI, the Plan will comply with the HIPAA privacy rules.

#### **Definitions**

For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

- **“Business Associate”** means a person or entity who:
  - Performs or assists in performing a Plan function or activity involving the use and disclosure of PHI (including claims processing or administration, data analysis, underwriting, etc.); or
  - Provides legal, accounting, actuarial, consulting, data aggregation, management, accreditation, or financial services, where the performance of such services involves giving the service provider access to PHI.
- **“Plan Administrative Functions”** mean activities that would meet the definition of payment or health care operations, but do not include functions to modify, amend, or terminate the Plan or solicit bids from prospective issuers. Plan administrative functions include quality assurance, employee assistance, claims processing, auditing, monitoring, and management of carve-out-plans—such as dental. PHI for these purposes may not be used by or between the Plan or business associates of the Plan in a manner inconsistent with the HIPAA privacy rules, absent an authorization from the individual. Plan administrative functions specifically do not include any employment-related functions.
- **“Protected Health Information”** or **“PHI”** means information that is created or received by the Plan, or a business associate of the Plan and relates to the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of a participant; the provision of health care to a participant; or the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to a participant; and that identifies the participant or for which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify the participant (whether living or deceased). The following components of a participant’s information are considered to enable identification:
  - Names;
  - Street address, city, county, precinct, zip code;
  - Dates directly related to a participant’s receipt of health care treatment, including birth date, health facility admission and discharge date, and date of death;
  - Telephone numbers, fax numbers and electronic mail addresses;
  - Social Security numbers;
  - Medical record numbers;
  - Health plan beneficiary numbers;

- Account numbers;
  - Certificate/license numbers;
  - Vehicle identifiers and serial numbers, including license plate numbers;
  - Device identifiers and serial numbers;
  - Web Universal Resource Locators (URLs);
  - Biometric identifiers, including finger and voice prints;
  - Full face photographic images and any comparable images; and
  - Any other unique identifying number, characteristic or code.
- **“Summary Health Information”** means information that may be individually identifiable health information:
    - That summarizes the claims history, claims expenses or type of claims experienced by individuals for whom Employer has provided health benefits under a health plan; and
    - From which the information described at 42 CFR §164.514(b)(2)(i) has been deleted, except that the geographic information need only be aggregated to the level of a five-digit zip code.

#### **Fully Insured Health Plans Administered Under “Hands Off” Approach**

Pursuant to HIPAA, if a group health plan is fully insured and only enrollment/disenrollment information and Summary Health Information rather than Protected Health Information is disclosed to Plan Sponsor and Plan Sponsor only uses the Summary Health Information to obtain premium bids and/or to amend/terminate the Plan, then the responsibility to comply with the HIPAA privacy rules generally shifts from the Plan to the insurer. This is known as the “hands off” approach to administration. Any fully insured health benefits under the Plan which are administered under the hands off approach will not otherwise be subject to the HIPAA privacy and security rules set forth in this Article (i.e., simply because they are included in the Plan for Form 5500 filing purposes).

#### **Hybrid Entity**

To the extent the Plan provides any non-health benefits such as (but not limited to), disability benefits or group term life insurance benefits, those benefits will be considered “non-covered functions.” The Plan is a separate legal entity whose business activities include the functions covered by the HIPAA privacy and security rules and non-covered functions. As a result, the Plan is a hybrid entity, as that term is defined in HIPAA. The Plan’s covered functions are its health benefits (“health care component”). All other

benefits are non-covered functions. Therefore, the Plan hereby designates that it will only be a covered entity under the HIPAA privacy and security rules with respect to the health care component (the health benefits) of the Plan.

## **GOVERNING LAW**

The Plan is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”), as well as other various federal laws, including, but not limited to, the Newborns’ and Mothers’ Health Protection Act, the Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act, HIPAA, FMLA, COBRA, USERRA and Health Care Reform, as well as certain state insurance laws. (However, this document refers to HSAs and dependent care flexible spending accounts that are not subject to ERISA.)

To the extent not preempted by the federal law known as ERISA, the Plan will be interpreted under the laws of the state of Michigan. Further, state laws apply to the Plan’s fully insured health benefits. For example, some states mandate that certain benefits be provided under a group health insurance policy or may impose dependent eligibility requirements which are broader than federal law. Further, some states maintain laws which are similar to federal laws like COBRA and the HIPAA privacy rules but which require additional protections for participants.

## **FORM 5500**

The health and welfare benefits described in this Plan (except the benefits which are technically not part of this Plan and for which a Form 5500 is not required such as the medical flexible spending accounts (because there are currently less than 100 participants) and dependent care flexible spending accounts and HSA benefits) will be considered a single plan for purposes of satisfying any obligation to file an annual Form 5500.

## **PLAN PARTICIPANTS’ RIGHTS**

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in a booklet or certificate, participants in the Plan are entitled to certain rights and protections under ERISA with respect to the benefits under the Plan that are subject to ERISA.

### **Information About the Plan and its Benefits**

ERISA provides that all Plan participants are entitled to:

- Examine, without charge, at the plan administrator’s office, and at other specified locations, all documents governing the Plan, including any insurance contracts, and if 100 or more participants, a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the Plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

- Obtain, upon written request to the plan administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the Plan, including insurance contracts, any updated Summary Plan Description and, if 100 or more participants, a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series). The plan administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.
- Receive a summary of the Plan's annual financial report if there are 100 or more participants in the Plan and the Plan is not funded solely through Employer's general assets. The plan administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary annual report.
- Continue health care coverage for themselves, spouses or dependents if there is a loss of coverage under the Plan as a result of a qualifying event. Participants or their dependents may have to pay for such coverage. Participants should review the rules governing COBRA continuation coverage rights described elsewhere in this Summary Plan Description.

### **Plan Fiduciaries**

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

### **Enforcement of Rights**

If a participant's claim for a welfare benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, the participant has a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge, and to appeal any denial, all within certain time limits.

Under ERISA, there are steps participants can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if a participant requests materials from the plan administrator and does not receive them within 30 days, the participant may file suit in federal court. In such a case, the court may require the plan administrator to provide the materials and pay the participant up to \$110 a day until the participant receives the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the plan administrator. If the participant has a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, the participant may file suit in a state or federal court. In addition, if the participant disagrees with the Plan's decision or lack thereof concerning the qualified status of a medical child support order, the participant may file suit in federal court. If it should happen that Plan fiduciaries misuse the Plan's money, or if the participant is discriminated against for asserting his or her rights, the participant may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or the participant may file suit in federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If the participant is successful, the court may order the person the participant sued to pay these costs and fees. If the participant loses, the court may order the participant to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds the participant's claim is frivolous.

### **Assistance With Questions**

If the participant has any questions about the Plan, he or she should contact the plan administrator. If the participant has any questions about this statement ("PLAN PARTICIPANTS' RIGHTS") or about his or her rights under ERISA, or needs assistance in obtaining documents from the plan administrator, the participant should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in the telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. The participant may also obtain certain publications about his or her rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration at 1-866-444-3272 or viewing its website at [www.dol.gov/ebsa](http://www.dol.gov/ebsa).

<b>OTHER BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLAN</b>
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Name of Plan:	Anesthesia Practice Consultants, PC Flexible Benefit Plan
Name, Address, Telephone Number and Taxpayer Identification Number of Plan Sponsor:	Anesthesia Practice Consultants, PC 3333 Evergreen Drive, N.E., #100 Grand Rapids, MI 49525 (616) 364-4200  27-5332559
Plan Number:	501
Type of Plan:	Flexible Benefit Plan providing: medical/ prescription drug, dental, vision, group term life/AD&D, short-term disability, long-term disability and voluntary life benefits. Employer also provides, HSAs, and medical and dependent care flexible spending accounts which technically are not part of this Plan.
Type of Administration:	The Plan is administered by the plan administrator. With respect to each self-funded benefit, the plan administrator may retain the services of a third party administrator to provide administrative services. With respect to each fully insured benefit, the insurer provides administrative services.
Plan Administrator:	Plan Sponsor
Agent for Service of Legal Process:	Human Resources Manager Anesthesia Practice Consultants 3333 Evergreen Drive, N.E., #100 Grand Rapids, MI 49525  Service of legal process may also be made on the plan administrator.
COBRA Administrator:	iSolved Benefit Services P.O. Box 949 Coldwater, MI 49036-0889 (800) 300-3838



Claim Administrators/Insurers:

**For Self-Funded Medical/Prescription Drug Benefits:**

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan

**For Self-Funded Dental Benefits:**

Delta Dental

**For Fully Insured Vision Benefits:**

UNUM

**For Fully Insured Group Term Life/AD&D, Voluntary Life, Short-Term Disability, Long-Term Disability, Individual Disability, Critical Illness, Hospital Indemnity, and Accident Insurance Benefits:**

UNUM

**For Medical and Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account Claims Under the Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan:**

Flex Administrators, Inc.

**Employee Assistance Plan**

Ulliance

**For Health Savings Accounts:**

Optum Bank

See booklets for addresses and telephone numbers of claim administrators and insurers.

Plan Year for Fiscal Record Purposes: January 1 through December 31

However, the Plan may maintain a different 12-month period for other purposes. For example, insurance policies may renew based on a different 12-month cycle, participants may make annual benefit elections on a different 12-month cycle and the period of coverage for deductibles, annual out-of-pocket limits and other annual benefit provisions may operate on a different 12-month period.