

**National Conference on Public Employee  
Retirement Systems (NCPERS)**

***Public Employee Financial Protection Plan***

***\$16 Plan –***

***Minnesota and Idaho Retirement System***

**Member Term Life Coverage**

**Dependents Term Life Coverage**



**Prudential**

# Disclosure Notice

## FOR ARKANSAS RESIDENTS

Prudential's Customer Service Office:

The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
Prudential Group Life Claim Division  
P.O. Box 8517  
Philadelphia, PA 19176  
1-800-524-0542

If Prudential fails to provide you with reasonable and adequate service, you may contact:

Arkansas Insurance Department  
Consumer Services Division  
1200 West Third Street  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1904  
1-800-852-5494

## FOR FLORIDA RESIDENTS

The benefits of the policy providing your coverage are governed by the law of a state other than Florida.

## FOR INDIANA RESIDENTS

Questions regarding your policy or coverage should be directed to:

The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
(800) 524-0542

If you (a) need the assistance of the governmental agency that regulates insurance; or (b) have a complaint you have been unable to resolve with your insurer you may contact the Department of Insurance by mail, telephone or e-mail:

State of Indiana Department of Insurance  
Consumer Services Division  
311 West Washington Street, Suite 300  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Consumer Hotline: (800) 622-4461; (317) 232-2395

Complaints can be filed electronically at [www.in.gov/idoi](http://www.in.gov/idoi).

## **FOR MARYLAND RESIDENTS**

The Group Insurance Contract providing coverage under this Certificate was issued in a jurisdiction other than Maryland and may not provide all of the benefits required by Maryland law.

## **FOR TEXAS RESIDENTS**

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

## **FOR WISCONSIN RESIDENTS**

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

Problems with Your Insurance? – If you are having problems with your insurance company or agent, do not hesitate to contact the insurance company or agent to resolve your problem.

#### **Prudential's Customer Service Office:**

**The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
Prudential Group Life Claim Division  
P.O. Box 8517  
Philadelphia, PA 19176  
1-800-524-0542**

You can also contact the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance, a state agency which enforces Wisconsin's insurance laws, and file a complaint. You can contact the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance by contacting:

Office of the Commissioner of Insurance  
Complaints Department  
P.O. Box 7873  
Madison, WI 53707-7873  
1-800-236-8517  
608-266-0103

**THIS NOTICE IS FOR TEXAS RESIDENTS ONLY**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

To obtain information or make a complaint:

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

**1-800-252-3439**

You may write the Texas Department of Insurance:

P.O. Box 149104  
Austin, TX 78714-9104  
Fax: (512) 490-1007

Web: <http://www.tdi.texas.gov>

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

**PREMIUM OR CLAIM DISPUTES:**

Should you have a dispute concerning your premium or about a claim you should contact Prudential first. If the dispute is not resolved, you may contact the Texas Department of Insurance.

**ATTACH THIS NOTICE TO YOUR POLICY:**

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

**AVISO IMPORTANTE**

Para obtener información o para someter una queja:

Puede comunicarse con el Departamento de Seguros de Texas para obtener información acerca de compañías, coberturas, derechos o quejas al:

**1-800-252-3439**

Puede escribir al Departamento de Seguros de Texas:

P.O. Box 149104  
Austin, TX 78714-9104  
Fax: (512) 490-1007

Web: <http://www.tdi.texas.gov>

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

**DISPUTAS SOBRE PRIMAS O RECLAMOS:**

Si tiene una disputa concerniente a su prima o a un reclamo, debe comunicarse con Prudential primero. Si no se resuelve la disputa, puede entonces comunicarse con el departamento (TDI).

**UNA ESTE AVISO A SU POLIZA:**

Este aviso es sólo para propósito de información y no se convierte en parte o condición del documento adjunto.

# Disclosure Notice

**Note:**

- Any payment made under this option may be taxable. You are advised to seek the help of a professional tax advisor for assistance with any questions that you may have.
- If you elect this option, your eligibility for Medicaid or other government programs may be affected. You are advised to seek the help of a professional legal advisor for assistance with any questions that you may have.

**Option to Accelerate Payment of Death Benefits:** Your Group Life plan includes an option to give you flexibility in how your group life insurance benefits will be paid. If you become terminally ill, this option may allow you to have part of your life insurance benefits, which would otherwise be paid at your death, to be paid in advance to you while you are alive.

**Eligibility:** To be eligible to elect this option, you must furnish proof satisfactory to Prudential that your life expectancy is 6 months or less, including certification by a qualified doctor. Election of this option is also subject to the Conditions below.

**Amount of Benefit:** The amount to be paid under this option is 50% of the amount of your life insurance benefits. You may elect to have the money in one sum or 6 equal monthly payments.

**Effect of Option:** If you elect this option, the amount of your life insurance benefits payable to your beneficiary on your death will be reduced by the advanced payment. Also, if you are contributing for your life insurance benefits, the amount of your contribution will be adjusted based on the amount of insurance remaining in force.

**Conditions:** You cannot elect this option if your life insurance benefits are assigned. This option is available to you on a voluntary basis only; you are not eligible for it if (1) you are required to use it to meet the claims of creditors, whether in bankruptcy or otherwise or (2) you are required by a government agency to use it in order to apply for, get or keep a government benefit or entitlement. You can elect this option only once.

**Premium for Accelerated Death Benefits:** There is no additional charge for this benefit.

**Administrative Expense Charge:** There is no administrative expense charge to you; the administrative expense charge is paid by the group contract holder.

**THE PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA**

## Certificate of Coverage

**Prudential** certifies that insurance is provided according to the Group Contract(s) for each Insured Member. Your Booklet's Schedule of Benefits shows the Contract Holder and the Group Contract Number(s).

**Insured Member:** You are eligible to become insured under the Group Contract if you are in the Covered Classes of the Booklet's Schedule of Benefits and meet the requirements in the Booklet's Who is Eligible section. The When You Become Insured section of the Booklet states how and when you may become insured for each Coverage. Your insurance will end when the rules in the When Your Insurance Ends section so provide. Your Booklet and this Certificate of Coverage together form your Group Insurance Certificate.

**Beneficiary for Member Death Benefits:** See the Booklet's Beneficiary Rules.

**Coverages and Amounts:** The available Coverages and the amounts of insurance are described in the Booklet.

If you are insured, your Booklet and this Certificate of Coverage form your Group Insurance Certificate. Together they replace any older booklets and certificates issued to you for the Coverages in the Booklet's Schedule of Benefits. All Benefits are subject in every way to the entire Group Contract which includes the Group Insurance Certificate.

The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
751 Broad Street  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

# Foreword

*We are pleased to present you with this Booklet. It describes the Program of benefits we have arranged for you and what you have to do to be covered for these benefits.*

*We believe this Program provides worthwhile protection for you and your family.*

*Please read this Booklet carefully. If you have any questions about the Program, we will be happy to answer them.*

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** *This Booklet is an important document and should be kept in a safe place. This Booklet and the Certificate of Coverage made a part of this Booklet together form your Group Insurance Certificate.*

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN STATES:** *There are state-specific requirements that may change the provisions under the Coverage(s) described in this Group Insurance Certificate. If you live in a state that has such requirements, those requirements will apply to your Coverage(s) and are made a part of your Group Insurance Certificate. Prudential has a website that describes these state-specific requirements. You may access the website at [www.prudential.com/etonline](http://www.prudential.com/etonline). When you access the website, you will be asked to enter your state of residence and your Access Code. **Your Access Code is 92860.***

*If you are unable to access this website, want to receive a printed copy of these requirements or have any questions, call Prudential at 1-866-439-9026.*

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# Schedule of Benefits

**Covered Classes:** All Members of the Minnesota and Idaho Retirement System who elect the \$16.00 plan.

**Program Date:** March 1, 2012. This Booklet describes the benefits under the Group Program as of the Program Date.

- This Booklet and the Certificate of Coverage together form your Group Insurance Certificate. The Coverages in this Booklet are insured under a Group Contract issued by Prudential. All benefits are subject in every way to the entire Group Contract which includes the Group Insurance Certificate. It alone forms the agreement under which payment of insurance is made.

## MEMBER TERM LIFE COVERAGE

### BENEFIT AMOUNTS:

#### Amount For Each Benefit Class:

Benefit Classes	Amount of Insurance
All Members according to Member's attained age, as follows:	
Less than 25 .....	\$225,000
Age 25 or more but less than age 30 .....	170,000
Age 30 or more but less than age 40 .....	100,000
Age 40 or more but less than age 45 .....	65,000
Age 45 or more but less than age 50 .....	40,000
Age 50 or more but less than age 55 .....	30,000
Age 55 or more but less than age 60 .....	18,000
Age 60 or more but less than age 65 .....	12,000
Age 65 or more .....	7,500

**Effect of Option to Accelerate Payment of Death Benefits:** Your amount of insurance (as determined in the absence of this provision) will be reduced by the amount of any Terminal Illness Proceeds paid under the Option to Accelerate Payment of Death Benefits.

## DEPENDENTS TERM LIFE COVERAGE

The amount of insurance is the amount for your Benefit Class. Your Benefit Class is determined by the classification of your dependents as shown in this table.

Qualified Dependents Classification	Amount of Insurance
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Your Spouse or Domestic Partner according to  
your attained age, as follows:

Less than 25 .....	\$20,000
Age 25 or more but less than age 30 .....	20,000
Age 30 or more but less than age 40 .....	20,000
Age 40 or more but less than age 45 .....	18,000
Age 45 or more but less than age 50 .....	15,000
Age 50 or more but less than age 55 .....	10,000
Age 55 or more but less than age 60 .....	7,000
Age 60 or more but less than age 65 .....	5,000
Age 65 or more .....	4,000

Your children..... 4,000

## OTHER INFORMATION

**Contract Holder:** NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

**Group Contract No.:** G-92860A

**Cost of Insurance:** The insurance in this Booklet is Contributory Insurance. You will be informed of the amount of your contribution when you enroll. Any contribution due but unpaid at your death will be deducted from the death benefit.

**Prudential's Address:**

The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
80 Livingston Avenue  
Roseland, New Jersey 07068

## WHEN YOU HAVE A CLAIM

Each time a claim is made, it should be made without delay. Use a claim form, and follow the instructions on the form.

If you do not have a claim form, contact the Contract Holder.

# Who is Eligible to Become Insured

## FOR MEMBER INSURANCE

You are eligible to become insured for Member Insurance while:

- You are a Member of the Minnesota and Idaho Retirement System; and
- You are in a Covered Class.

Your class is determined by the Contract Holder. This will be done under its rules, on dates it sets. The Contract Holder must not discriminate among persons in like situations. You cannot belong to more than one class for insurance on each basis, Contributory or Non-contributory Insurance, under a Coverage. "Class" means Covered Class, Benefit Class or anything related to work, such as position or earnings, which affects the insurance available.

The rules for obtaining Member Insurance are in the When You Become Insured section.

## FOR DEPENDENTS INSURANCE

You are eligible to become insured for Dependents Insurance while:

- You are eligible for Member Insurance; and
- You have a Qualified Dependent.

### Qualified Dependents:

These are the persons for whom you may obtain Dependents Insurance:

- A person who is your Spouse or Domestic Partner prior to their enrollment for Dependents Insurance.

Your Spouse means your lawful Spouse.

Your Domestic Partner is a person of the same or opposite sex who:

- (1) Is a person whose domestic partnership with you has been validly registered by the government of the District of Columbia. In addition, government-sanctioned same-sex relationships (other than marriage) validly established under the laws of other jurisdictions that provide substantially all of the rights and benefits of marriage are recognized as domestic partnerships; or
- (2) Is a person of the same or opposite sex who satisfies all of the following:
  - (a) is age 18 or older; and
  - (b) is not related to you by blood or a degree of closeness that would prohibit marriage in the law of the jurisdiction in which you reside; and
  - (c) is mentally competent to consent to contract; and

- (d) is not married to another person under statutory or common law nor in a domestic partnership, registered domestic partnership or civil union with another person; and
- (e) is not otherwise a Qualified Dependent under the Program; and
- (f) is in a single dedicated, serious and committed relationship with you; and
- (g) has shared a single permanent residence with you for at least 12 consecutive months; and
- (h) is financially interdependent with you.

Where requested by Prudential, you and/or your Domestic Partner certify that all of the above requirements are satisfied. Such certification shall be in a format satisfactory to Prudential.

Either a Spouse or a Domestic Partner may be a Qualified Dependent under the Program at any one time, but not both at the same time.

- Your children from live birth to 26 years old.

Your children include your legally adopted children, children placed with you for adoption prior to legal adoption, and each of your stepchildren, Domestic Partner's children and foster children. A child placed with you for adoption prior to legal adoption is considered your Qualified Dependent from the date of placement for adoption, and is treated as though the child was your newborn child.

**Exceptions:**

- Your Spouse, Domestic Partner or child is not your Qualified Dependent while on active duty in the armed forces of any country.

The rules for obtaining Dependents Insurance are in the When You Become Insured section.

## When You Become Insured

### FOR MEMBER INSURANCE

Your Member Insurance under a Coverage will begin the first day of the month following the date of enrollment for the Coverage and on which:

- You have enrolled, if the Coverage is Contributory; and
- You are eligible for Member Insurance; and
- You are in a Covered Class for that insurance; and
- You have met any evidence requirement for Member Insurance; and
- Your insurance is not being delayed under the Delay of Effective Date section below; and
- That Coverage is part of the Group Contract.

For Contributory Insurance, you must enroll on a form approved by Prudential and agree to pay the required contributions. The Contract Holder will tell you whether contributions are required and the amount of any contribution when you enroll.

At any time, the benefits for which you are insured are those for your class, unless otherwise stated.

**When evidence is required:** In any of these situations, you must give evidence of insurability. This requirement will be met when Prudential decides the evidence is satisfactory.

- (1) You enroll after any of your insurance under the Group Contract ends because you did not pay a required contribution.
- (2) You wish to become insured for life insurance and have an individual life insurance contract which you obtained by converting your insurance under a Coverage of the Group Contract.
- (3) You have not met a previous evidence requirement to become insured under any Prudential group contract for Members of the Contract Holder.

### **FOR DEPENDENTS INSURANCE**

Your Dependents Insurance under a Coverage for a person will begin the first day of the month following the date of enrollment for the Coverage and on which:

- You have enrolled for the person for Dependents Insurance under the Coverage, if the Coverage is Contributory.
- The person is your Qualified Dependent.
- You are in a Covered Class for that insurance.
- To be insured for a Qualified Dependent under the Dependents Term Life Coverage, you must be insured under a Member Term Life Coverage of the Group Contract.
- Your insurance for that Qualified Dependent is not being delayed under the Delay of Effective Date section below.
- Dependents Insurance under that Coverage is part of the Group Contract.

For Contributory Insurance, you must enroll your Qualified Dependent on a form approved by Prudential and agree to pay the required contributions. The Contract Holder will tell you whether contributions are required and the amount of any contribution when you enroll your Qualified Dependent.

At any time, the Dependents Insurance benefits for which you are insured are those for your class, unless otherwise stated.

# Delay of Effective Date

## FOR MEMBER INSURANCE

Your Member Insurance under a Coverage will be delayed if you do not meet the Active Work Requirement on the day your insurance would otherwise begin. Instead, it will begin on the first day you meet the Active Work Requirement and the other requirements for the insurance. The same delay rule will apply to any increase in your insurance that is subject to this section. If you do not meet the Active Work Requirement on the day that an increase would take effect, it will take effect on the day you meet that requirement.

## FOR DEPENDENTS TERM LIFE COVERAGE

A Qualified Dependent may be confined for medical care or treatment, at home or elsewhere. If a Qualified Dependent is so confined on the day that your Dependents Insurance under a Coverage for that Qualified Dependent, or any increase in that insurance that is subject to this section, would take effect, it will not then take effect. The insurance or increase will take effect upon the Qualified Dependent's final medical release from all such confinement. The other requirements for the insurance or increase must also be met.

Newborn Child Exception: This section does not apply to a child of yours if the child is born to you and either:

- (1) is your first Qualified Dependent; or
- (2) becomes a Qualified Dependent while you are insured for Dependents Insurance under that Coverage for any other Qualified Dependent.

Also, this section does not apply to any age increase in the amount of insurance for a child under the Dependents Term Life Coverage.

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# Member Term Life Coverage

## FOR YOU ONLY

### A. DEATH BENEFIT WHILE A COVERED PERSON.

If you die while a Covered Person, the amount of your Member Term Life Insurance under this Coverage is payable when Prudential receives written proof of death.

### B. DEATH BENEFIT DURING CONVERSION PERIOD.

A death benefit is payable under this Section B if you die:

- (1) within 31 days after you cease to be a Covered Person; and
- (2) while entitled (under Section D) to convert your Member Term Life Insurance under this Coverage to an individual contract.

The amount of the benefit is equal to the amount of Member Term Life Insurance under this Coverage you were entitled to convert. It is payable even if you did not apply for conversion. It is payable when Prudential receives written proof of death.

### C. EXTENDED DEATH BENEFIT AND WAIVER OF PREMIUMS DURING TOTAL DISABILITY.

If you meet the conditions below, your death benefit protection will be extended while you are Totally Disabled, and from the date Prudential receives proof as described below, premiums for your Member Term Life Insurance under this Coverage will be waived while your death benefit protection is extended. The "Extended Death Benefit" is the benefit described in this Section C.

The conditions referred to above are:

- (1) You become Totally Disabled while you are a Covered Person.
- (2) You are less than age 60 when your Total Disability starts.

Total Disability: You are "Totally Disabled" when:

- (1) You are not working at any job for wage or profit; and
- (2) Due to Sickness, Injury or both, you are not able to perform for wage or profit, the material and substantial duties of any job for which you are reasonably fitted by your education, training or experience.

The extension ends one year after your Total Disability started, unless, within that year, you give Prudential written proof that:

- (1) You have met the above conditions; and
- (2) You are still Totally Disabled; and

- (3) Your Total Disability has continued for at least 9 months.

Prudential will then further extend your death benefit protection for successive one year periods. The first of these periods will start on the date Prudential receives this proof. After that first period, you must give written proof when and as required by Prudential once each year that your Total Disability continues.

If you die while your death benefit protection is being extended, the Extended Death Benefit is payable when Prudential receives written proof that:

- (1) Your Total Disability continued until your death; and
- (2) All of the above conditions have been met.

If you die within one year after your Total Disability started and before you give Prudential proof of Total Disability, written notice of your death must be given to Prudential within one year after your death.

Your extension protection ends if and when:

- (1) Your Total Disability ends; or
- (2) You fail to furnish any required proof that your Total Disability continues; or
- (3) You fail to submit to a medical exam by Doctors named by Prudential when and as often as Prudential requires. After two full years of this protection, Prudential will not require an exam more than once a year.

If your extension protection ends after you have given the first proof of continued Total Disability, you have the same rights and benefits under Sections B and D as if you ceased to be a member of the Covered Classes for the insurance. But this does not apply if you become a Covered Person within 31 days after this protection ends.

**Amount of Extended Death Benefit:** This amount is determined as if you had remained a Covered Person until death. But it is reduced by any amount payable under Sections A or B above or any Prudential group life insurance that replaces this Coverage for a class of Members.

**Effect of Conversion:** An individual contract issued under Section D will be in place of all rights under this Section C. But if you have met all the requirements of this Section C, you can obtain these rights in exchange for all benefits of the individual contract. Premiums paid under the individual contract will be refunded. Your choice of Beneficiary in the individual contract, if different than for this Coverage, will be considered notice of change of Beneficiary for any claim under this Section C.

#### **D. CONVERSION PRIVILEGE.**

If you cease to be insured for the Member Term Life Insurance of the Group Contract for one of the reasons stated below, you may convert all or part of your insurance under this Coverage, which then ends, to an individual life insurance contract. Evidence of insurability is not required. The reasons are:

- (1) Your employment ends or you transfer out of a Covered Class.
- (2) All term life insurance of the Group Contract for your class ends by amendment or otherwise. But, on the date it ends, you must have been insured for five years for that insurance (or for that insurance and any Prudential rider or group contract replaced by that insurance).



Any such conversion is subject to the rest of this Section D.

**Availability:** You must apply for the individual contract and pay the first premium by the later of:

- (1) the thirty-first day after you cease to be insured for the Member Term Life Insurance; and
- (2) the fifteenth day after you have been given written notice of the conversion privilege. But, in no event may you convert the insurance to an individual contract if you do not apply for the contract and pay the first premium prior to the ninety-second day after you cease to be insured for the Member Term Life Insurance.

**Individual Contract Rules:** The individual contract must conform to the following:

**Amount:** Not more than your Member Term Life Insurance under this Coverage when your insurance ends. But, if it ends because all term life insurance of the Group Contract for your class ends, the total amount of individual insurance which you may get in place of all your life insurance then ending under the Group Contract will not exceed the lesser of the following:

- (1) The total amount of all your life insurance then ending under the Group Contract reduced by the amount of group life insurance from any carrier for which you are or become eligible within the next 31 days.
- (2) \$10,000.

**Form:** Any form of a life insurance contract that:

- (1) conforms to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, having no distinction based on sex; and
- (2) is one that Prudential usually issues at the age and amount applied for.

This does not include term insurance or a contract with disability or supplementary benefits.

**Premium:** Based on Prudential's rate as it applies to the form and amount, and to your class of risk and age at the time.

**Effective Date:** The end of the 31 day period after you cease to be insured for the Member Term Life Insurance.

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Any death benefit provided under a section of this Coverage is payable according to that section and the Beneficiary and Mode of Settlement Rules.

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# Option to Accelerate Payment of Death Benefits

The following is added to the Member Term Life Coverage provision:

## Definitions

- **Terminally Ill Member:** A Member whose life expectancy is 6 months or less.
- **Terminal Illness Proceeds:** The amount of Member Term Life Insurance that you may elect to place under this option. The Terminal Illness Proceeds are equal to 50% of the amount in force on your life on the date Prudential receives the proof that you are a Terminally Ill Member. However, the Terminal Illness Proceeds may be reduced if, within 6 months after the date Prudential receives such proof, a reduction on account of age would have applied to the amount of your Member Term Life Insurance. In that case, the amount of the Terminal Illness Proceeds may not exceed the amount of such Insurance after applying the reduction.

**Option:** If you become a Terminally Ill Member while insured under the Member Term Life Insurance provision or while your death benefit protection is being extended under the Member Term Life Coverage provision, you may elect to have the Terminal Illness Proceeds placed under this option. That election is subject to the conditions set forth below.

**Payment of Terminal Illness Proceeds:** If you elect this option, Prudential will pay the Terminal Illness Proceeds you place under this option in one sum when it receives proof that you are a Terminally Ill Member.

If you do not want the Terminal Illness Proceeds in one sum, you may elect to have them paid in 6 equal monthly installments. The first monthly payment will be due when Prudential receives proof that you are a Terminally Ill Member. The other payments are due on the same day of each later month.

**To Whom Payable:** The benefits under this provision are payable to you.

**Amount Due But Unpaid at Your Death:** If you elect monthly installments and you die before all payments have been made, Prudential will pay your Beneficiary or Beneficiaries determined under the Beneficiary Rules in one sum. That sum will be the total of the payments that remain.

**Conditions:** Your right to be paid under this option is subject to these terms:

- (1) You must choose this option in writing in a form that satisfies Prudential.
- (2) You must furnish proof that satisfies Prudential that your life expectancy is 6 months or less, including certification by a Doctor.
- (3) Your Member Term Life Insurance must not be assigned.
- (4) Terminal Illness Proceeds will be made available to you on a voluntary basis only. Therefore:
  - (a) If you are required by law to use this option to meet the claims of creditors, whether in bankruptcy or otherwise, you are not eligible for this benefit.

- (b) If you are required by a government agency to use this option in order to apply for, get or keep a government benefit or entitlement, you are not eligible for this benefit.

**Effect on Insurance:** This benefit is in lieu of the benefits that would have been paid on your death with respect to the Terminal Illness Proceeds. When you elect this option, the total amount of Member Term Life Insurance otherwise payable on your death, including any amount under an extended death benefit, will be reduced by the Terminal Illness Proceeds. Also, any amount you could otherwise have converted to an individual contract will be reduced by the Terminal Illness Proceeds.

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# Dependents Term Life Coverage

## FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS ONLY

### A. DEATH BENEFIT WHILE A COVERED PERSON.

If a dependent dies while a Covered Person, the amount of insurance on that dependent under this Coverage is payable when Prudential receives written proof of death.

### B. DEATH BENEFIT DURING A CONVERSION PERIOD.

A death benefit is payable under this Section B if a dependent dies:

- (1) within 31 days after ceasing to be a Covered Person; and
- (2) while entitled (under Section C) to a conversion of the insurance under this Coverage to an individual contract.

The amount of the benefit is equal to the amount of Dependents Term Life Coverage which could have been converted. It is payable even if conversion was not applied for. It is payable when Prudential receives written proof of death.

### C. CONVERSION PRIVILEGE.

This privilege applies if you cease to be insured for the Dependents Term Life Coverage of the Group Contract with respect to a dependent. That dependent may have your insurance on the dependent under this Coverage, which then ends, converted to an individual life insurance contract. Evidence of insurability is not required. However, conversion is not available if the insurance ends for one of these reasons:

- (1) You fail to make any required contribution for insurance under the Group Contract.
- (2) All Dependents Term Life Coverage of the Group Contract for your class ends by amendment or otherwise. This (2) does not apply if, on the date it ends, you have been insured with respect to the dependent for five years for that insurance (or for that insurance and any Prudential rider or group contract replaced by that insurance).

Any such conversion is subject to the rest of this Section C.

**Availability:** The individual contract must be applied for and the first premium must be paid by the later of:

- (1) the thirty-first day after you cease to be insured for Dependents Term Life Coverage with respect to the dependent; and
- (2) the fifteenth day after you have been given written notice of the conversion privilege. But, in no event may you convert the insurance to an individual contract if you do not apply for the contract and pay the first premium prior to the ninety-second day after you cease to be insured for Dependents Term Life Coverage with respect to the dependent.

**Individual Contract Rules:** The individual contract must conform to the following:

**Amount:** Not more than the amount of Dependents Term Life Coverage on the dependent ending under this Coverage. But, if it ends because all the Dependents Term Life Coverage of the Group Contract for your class ends, the total amount of individual insurance which may be obtained in place of all the Dependents Term Life Coverage on the dependent then ending under the Group Contract will not exceed the lesser of the following:

- (1) The total amount of all your Dependents Term Life Coverage on the dependent then ending under the Group Contract reduced by the amount of group life insurance from any carrier for which you are or become eligible with respect to the dependent within the next 31 days.
- (2) \$10,000.

**Form:** Any form of a life insurance contract that:

- (1) conforms to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, having no distinction based on sex; and
- (2) is one that Prudential usually issues at the age and amount applied for.

This does not include term insurance or a contract with disability or supplementary benefits.

**Premium:** Based on Prudential's rate as it applies to the form and amount, and to the dependent's class of risk and age at the time.

**Effective Date:** The end of the 31 day period after you cease to be insured for Dependents Term Life Coverage with respect to the dependent.

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Any death benefit provided under a section of this Coverage is payable to you. If you are not living at the death of a dependent\*, the death benefit is payable to the dependent's estate or, at Prudential's option, to any one or more of these surviving relatives of the dependent: wife; husband; Registered Domestic Partner, mother; father; children; brothers; sisters.

\*If you and a dependent die in the same event and it cannot be determined who died first, the insurance will be payable as if that dependent died before you.

# General Information

## **BENEFICIARY RULES**

The rules in this section apply to insurance payable on account of your death, when the Coverage states that they do. But these rules are modified by any burial expenses rule in the Schedule of Benefits and, if there is an assignment, by the following sections: Limits on Assignments; and Effect of Gift Assignment of Rights of Group Life Insurance Under Another Group Contract.

"Beneficiary" means a person chosen, on a form approved by Prudential, to receive the insurance benefits.

You have the right to choose a Beneficiary for each Coverage under this Prudential Group Contract.

If there is a Beneficiary for the insurance under a Coverage, it is payable to that Beneficiary. Any amount of insurance under a Coverage for which there is no Beneficiary at your death will be payable to yourthe first of the following: your (a) surviving spouse or Registered Domestic Partner; (b) surviving child(ren) in equal shares; (c) surviving parents in equal shares; (d) surviving siblings in equal shares; (e) estate. This order will apply unless otherwise provided in the Limits on Assignments.

You may change the Beneficiary at any time without the consent of the present Beneficiary. The Beneficiary change form must be filed through the Contract Holder. The change will take effect on the date the form is signed. But it will not apply to any amount paid by Prudential before it receives the form.

If there is more than one Beneficiary but the Beneficiary form does not specify their shares, they will share equally. If a Beneficiary dies before you, that Beneficiary's interest will end. It will be shared equally by any remaining Beneficiaries, unless the Beneficiary form states otherwise.

If you and a Beneficiary die in the same event and it cannot be determined who died first, the insurance will be payable as if that Beneficiary died before you.

## **MODE OF SETTLEMENT RULES**

The rules in this section apply to Life Insurance payable on account of a Covered Person's death. But these rules are subject to the Limits on Assignments section.

Life Insurance is normally paid to the Beneficiary in one sum. Subject to applicable law, where the amount of the benefit meets Prudential's current minimum requirement, payment in one sum will be made by establishing a retained asset account in the Beneficiary's name, unless the Beneficiary elects another settlement or payment option available at the time of claim, and the benefit distribution will be deemed complete when the account is established. The retained asset account is an interest-bearing draft account backed by the financial strength of Prudential. Funds are held in Prudential's general account or elsewhere as Prudential may direct and an account in the Beneficiary's name is credited interest at a rate set by Prudential's discretion, subject to a minimum rate that will change no more than once every 90 days on advance notice to the Beneficiary. The Beneficiary is provided a draftbook and has immediate access to the entire amount by writing drafts for any amount up to the account balance. The retained asset account is not a bank account and is not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; it is a contractual undertaking between Prudential and the Beneficiary. Further information about the account is provided at the time of claim. Prudential may at

its discretion provide other forms of payment in one sum. But another mode of settlement may be arranged with Prudential for all or part of the insurance, as stated below.

**Arrangements for Mode of Settlement:** You may arrange a mode of settlement by proper written request to Prudential.

If, at a Covered Person's death, no mode of settlement has been arranged for an amount of the person's Life Insurance, the Beneficiary and Prudential may then mutually agree on a mode of settlement for that amount.

**Conditions for Mode of Settlement:** The Beneficiary must be a natural person taking in the Beneficiary's own right. A mode of settlement will apply to secondary Beneficiaries only if Prudential agrees in writing. Each installment to a person must not be less than \$20.00. A change of Beneficiary will void any mode of settlement arranged before the change.

**Choice by Beneficiary:** A Beneficiary being paid under a mode of settlement may, if Prudential agrees, choose (or change the Beneficiary's choice of) a payee or payees to receive, in one sum, any amount which would otherwise be payable to the Beneficiary's estate.

Prudential has prepared information about the modes of settlement available. Ask the Contract Holder for this.

## **INCONTESTABILITY OF LIFE INSURANCE**

This limits Prudential's use of a person's statements in contesting an amount of Life Insurance for which the person is insured. These are statements made to persuade Prudential to accept the person for insurance. They will be considered to be made to the best of the person's knowledge and belief. These rules apply to each statement:

- (1) It will not be used in the contest unless:
  - (a) It is in a written instrument signed by the person and
  - (b) A copy of that instrument is or has been furnished to the person or to the person's Beneficiary.
- (2) If it relates to the person's insurability, it will not be used to contest the validity of insurance which has been in force, before the contest, for at least two years during the person's lifetime.

## LIMITS ON ASSIGNMENTS

You may assign your insurance under a Coverage. Unless the Schedule of Benefits states otherwise, insurance under any Coverage providing death benefits or periodic benefits on account of disability may be assigned only as a gift assignment. Any rights, benefits or privileges that you have as a Member may be assigned. This includes any right you have to choose a Beneficiary or to convert to another contract of insurance. Prudential will not decide if an assignment does what it is intended to do. Prudential will not be held to know that one has been made unless it or a copy is filed with Prudential through the Contract Holder.

This paragraph applies only to insurance for which you have the right to choose a Beneficiary, when that right has been assigned. If an assigned amount of insurance becomes payable on account of your death and, on the date of that death, there is no Beneficiary chosen by the assignee, it will be payable to:

- (1) the assignee, if living; or
- (2) the estate of the assignee, if the assignee is not living.

It will not be payable as stated in the Beneficiary Rules.

## EFFECT OF GIFT ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS OF GROUP LIFE INSURANCE UNDER ANOTHER GROUP CONTRACT

This Section applies to all Coverages providing Member death benefits.

If you are eligible for insurance under the Group Contract on the Group Contract's effective date you will have no rights, benefits or privileges under any such Coverage if, on the day before that date, all the following were true:

- (1) You were insured for group life insurance under another group contract. That contract was issued by Prudential or another insurance carrier to cover Members of the Contract Holder.
- (2) Your group life insurance under the other group contract ended.
- (3) An irrevocable and absolute gift assignment made by you was in effect. It was made before the other contract ended. That assignment was of all your rights, benefits and privileges of the group life insurance under the other group contract. Those rights were owned by the assignee or the assignee's successor.

The owner of those rights of the group life insurance under the other group contract on the day before this Group Contract's effective date will be the owner of the rights, benefits, and privileges you would have had under a Coverage if this section did not apply. This includes, but is not limited to, any right of assignment you would have had under the Limits on Assignments section above. The term "assignee" as used in that section includes such an owner.

The term "group life insurance", as used above, means only group life insurance provided under a group contract in effect on the day before the date the effective date of Group Contract.



## DEFINITIONS

**Active Work Requirement:** A requirement that a Member be actively at work as normally required by the employer or as predetermined by the Member's Public Employee Retirement Systems group on the date the insurance is to begin.

**Calendar Year:** A year starting January 1.

**Contributory Insurance, Non-contributory Insurance:** Contributory Insurance is insurance for which the Contract Holder has the right to and may require your direct contribution to the cost of coverage. Non-contributory Insurance premiums are paid by the Contract Holder, usually without direct contribution from you. The rate for Non-contributory insurance may be determined, or in some cases, reduced, in part, based on your contributions for contributory insurance or other benefits offered to you under the Contract Holder benefit plan.

**Coverage:** A part of the Booklet consisting of:

- (1) A benefit page labeled as a Coverage in its title.
- (2) Any page or pages that continue the same kind of benefits.
- (3) A Schedule of Benefits entry and other benefit pages or forms that by their terms apply to that kind of benefits.

**Covered Person under a Coverage:** A Member who is insured for Member Insurance under that Coverage; a Qualified Dependent for whom a Member is insured for Dependents Insurance, if any, under that Coverage.

**Dependents Insurance:** Insurance on the person of a dependent.

**Doctor:** A licensed practitioner of the healing arts acting within the scope of the license.

**Injury:** Injury to the body of a Covered Person.

**Member:** A person who is an individual Member of the Contract Holder. The term also applies to that person for any rights after insurance ends.

**Members Insurance:** Insurance on the person of a Member.

**Prudential:** The Prudential Insurance Company of America.

**Sickness:** Any disorder of the body or mind of a Covered Person, but not an Injury; pregnancy of a Covered Person, including abortion, miscarriage or childbirth.

**You:** A Member.

# When Your Insurance Ends

## MEMBER AND DEPENDENTS INSURANCE

Your Member Insurance under a Coverage or your Dependents Insurance under a Coverage will end when the first of these occurs:

- Your membership in the Covered Classes for the insurance ends. A Member shall cease to be included in the Covered Classes for the Coverage at the end of a period for which a required payment was made, with respect to the Member if at that time, the Member fails to meet the requirements of membership.
- The part of the Group Contract providing the insurance ends.
- For Contributory Insurance under a Coverage of the Group Contract, you fail to pay, when due, any contribution required. But, if Member Insurance is Contributory, failure to contribute for Dependents Insurance will not cause your Member Insurance to end.
- The Insurance is Dependents Insurance under the Dependents Term Life Coverage and your Member Insurance under the Member Term Life Coverage ends.

Your Dependents Insurance for a Qualified Dependent under a Coverage will end when that person ceases to be a Qualified Dependent for that Coverage.

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**The Claims and Appeals section  
is not part of the  
Group Insurance Certificate.**

# CLAIMS AND APPEALS

## Plan Benefits Provided by

The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
751 Broad Street  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

This Group Contract underwritten by The Prudential Insurance Company of America provides insured benefits. For all purposes of this Group Contract, the Employer/Policyholder acts on its own behalf or as an agent of its employees. Under no circumstances will the Employer/Policyholder be deemed the agent of The Prudential Insurance Company of America, absent a written authorization of such status executed between the Employer/Policyholder and The Prudential Insurance Company of America. Nothing in these documents shall, of themselves, be deemed to be such written execution.

## Claim Procedures

### 1. Determination of Benefits

Prudential shall notify you of the claim determination within 45 days of the receipt of your claim. This period may be extended by 30 days if such an extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan. A written notice of the extension, the reason for the extension and the date by which the plan expects to decide your claim, shall be furnished to you within the initial 45-day period. This period may be extended for an additional 30 days beyond the original 30-day extension if necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan. A written notice of the additional extension, the reason for the additional extension and the date by which the plan expects to decide on your claim, shall be furnished to you within the first 30-day extension period if an additional extension of time is needed. However, if a period of time is extended due to your failure to submit information necessary to decide the claim, the period for making the benefit determination by Prudential will be tolled (i.e., suspended) from the date on which the notification of the extension is sent to you until the date on which you respond to the request for additional information.

If your claim for benefits is denied, in whole or in part, you or your authorized representative will receive a written notice from Prudential of your denial. The notice will be written in a manner calculated to be understood by you and shall include:

- (a) the specific reason(s) for the denial,
- (b) references to the specific plan provisions on which the benefit determination was based,
- (c) a description of any additional material or information necessary for you to perfect a claim and an explanation of why such information is necessary,
- (d) a description of Prudential's appeals procedures and applicable time limits, and
- (e) if an adverse benefit determination is based on a medical necessity or experimental treatment or similar exclusion or limit, an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination will be provided free of charge upon request.

## 2. Appeals of Adverse Determination

If your claim for benefits is denied or if you do not receive a response to your claim within the appropriate time frame (in which case the claim for benefits is deemed to have been denied), you or your representative may appeal your denied claim in writing to Prudential within 180 days of the receipt of the written notice of denial or 180 days from the date such claim is deemed denied. You may submit with your appeal any written comments, documents, records and any other information relating to your claim. Upon your request, you will also have access to, and the right to obtain copies of, all documents, records and information relevant to your claim free of charge.

A full review of the information in the claim file and any new information submitted to support the appeal will be conducted by Prudential, utilizing individuals not involved in the initial benefit determination. This review will not afford any deference to the initial benefit determination.

Prudential shall make a determination on your claim appeal within 45 days of the receipt of your appeal request. This period may be extended by up to an additional 45 days if Prudential determines that special circumstances require an extension of time. A written notice of the extension, the reason for the extension and the date that Prudential expects to render a decision shall be furnished to you within the initial 45-day period. However, if the period of time is extended due to your failure to submit information necessary to decide the appeal, the period for making the benefit determination will be tolled (i.e., suspended) from the date on which the notification of the extension is sent to you until the date on which you respond to the request for additional information.

If the claim on appeal is denied in whole or in part, you will receive a written notification from Prudential of the denial. The notice will be written in a manner calculated to be understood by the applicant and shall include:

- (a) the specific reason(s) for the adverse determination,
- (b) references to the specific plan provisions on which the determination was based,
- (c) a statement that you are entitled to receive upon request and free of charge reasonable access to, and make copies of, all records, documents and other information relevant to your benefit claim upon request,
- (d) a description of Prudential's review procedures and applicable time limits,
- (e) a statement that you have the right to obtain upon request and free of charge, a copy of internal rules or guidelines relied upon in making this determination, and
- (f) a statement describing any appeals procedures offered by the plan.

If a decision on appeal is not furnished to you within the time frames mentioned above, the claim shall be deemed denied on appeal.

If the appeal of your benefit claim is denied or if you do not receive a response to your appeal within the appropriate time frame (in which case the appeal is deemed to have been denied), you or your representative may make a second, voluntary appeal of your denial in writing to Prudential within 180 days of the receipt of the written notice of denial or 180 days from the date such claim is deemed denied. You may submit with your second appeal any written comments, documents, records and any other information relating to your claim.

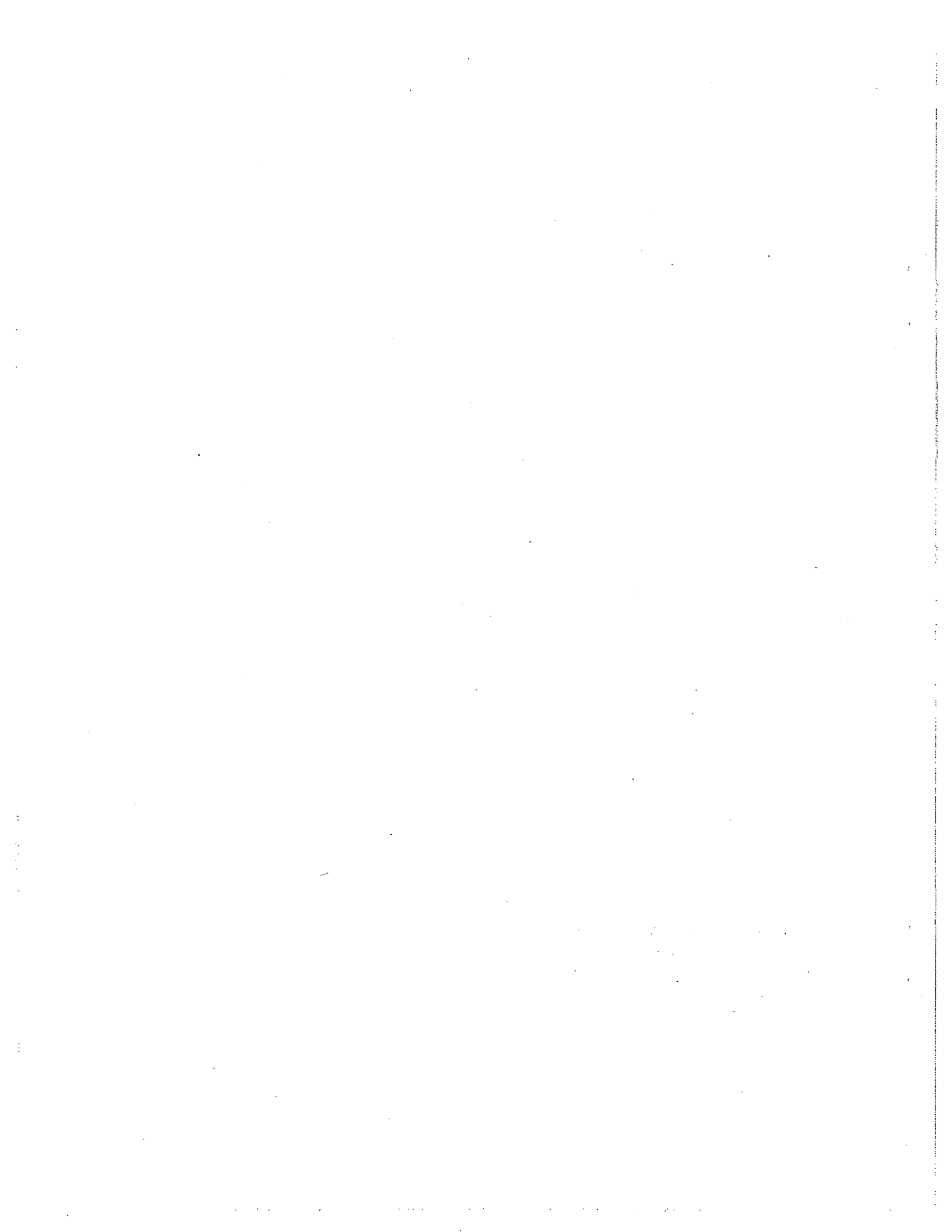
Upon your request, you will also have access to, and the right to obtain copies of, all documents, records and information relevant to your claim free of charge.

Prudential shall make a determination on your second claim appeal within 45 days of the receipt of your appeal request. This period may be extended by up to an additional 45 days if Prudential determines that special circumstances require an extension of time. A written notice of the extension, the reason for the extension and the date by which Prudential expects to render a decision shall be furnished to you within the initial 45-day period. However, if the period of time is extended due to your failure to submit information necessary to decide the appeal, the period for making the benefit determination will be tolled from the date on which the notification of the extension is sent to you until the date on which you respond to the request for additional information.

Your decision to submit a benefit dispute to this voluntary second level of appeal has no effect on your right to any other benefits under this plan. If you elect to initiate a lawsuit without submitting to a second level of appeal, the plan waives any right to assert that you failed to exhaust administrative remedies. If you elect to submit the dispute to the second level of appeal, the plan agrees that any statute of limitations or other defense based on timeliness is tolled during the time that the appeal is pending.

If the claim on appeal is denied in whole or in part for a second time, you will receive a written notification from Prudential of the denial. The notice will be written in a manner calculated to be understood by the applicant and shall include the same information that was included in the first adverse determination letter. If a decision on appeal is not furnished to you within the time frames mentioned above, the claim shall be deemed denied on appeal.







**National Conference on Public Employee  
Retirement Systems (NCPERS)**

***Public Employee Financial Protection Plan***

***\$16 Plan –***

***Minnesota and Idaho Retirement System***

**Accidental Death and Dismemberment Coverage**



**Prudential**

## Disclosure Notice

### **FOR ARKANSAS RESIDENTS**

#### **Prudential's Customer Service Office:**

The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
Prudential Group Life Claim Division  
P.O. Box 8517  
Philadelphia, PA 19176  
1-800-524-0542

If Prudential fails to provide you with reasonable and adequate service, you may contact:

Arkansas Insurance Department  
Consumer Services Division  
1200 West Third Street  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1904  
1-800-852-5494

### **FOR FLORIDA RESIDENTS**

The benefits of the policy providing your coverage are governed by the law of a state other than Florida.

### **FOR INDIANA RESIDENTS**

Questions regarding your policy or coverage should be directed to:

**The Prudential Insurance Company of America**  
**(800) 524-0542**

If you (a) need the assistance of the governmental agency that regulates insurance; or (b) have a complaint you have been unable to resolve with your insurer you may contact the Department of Insurance by mail, telephone or e-mail:

State of Indiana Department of Insurance  
Consumer Services Division  
311 West Washington Street, Suite 300  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Consumer Hotline: (800) 622-4461; (317) 232-2395

Complaints can be filed electronically at [www.in.gov/idoi](http://www.in.gov/idoi).

## **FOR MARYLAND RESIDENTS**

**The Group Insurance Contract providing coverage under this Certificate was issued in a jurisdiction other than Maryland and may not provide all of the benefits required by Maryland law.**

## **FOR TEXAS RESIDENTS**

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

## **FOR WISCONSIN RESIDENTS**

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

Problems with Your Insurance? – If you are having problems with your insurance company or agent, do not hesitate to contact the insurance company or agent to resolve your problem.

#### **Prudential's Customer Service Office:**

**The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
Prudential Group Life Claim Division  
P.O. Box 8517  
Philadelphia, PA 19176  
1-800-524-0542**

You can also contact the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance, a state agency which enforces Wisconsin's insurance laws, and file a complaint. You can contact the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance by contacting:

Office of the Commissioner of Insurance  
Complaints Department  
P.O. Box 7873  
Madison, WI 53707-7873  
1-800-236-8517  
608-266-0103

**THIS NOTICE IS FOR TEXAS RESIDENTS ONLY**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

To obtain information or make a complaint:

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

**1-800-252-3439**

You may write the Texas Department of Insurance:

P.O. Box 149104  
Austin, TX 78714-9104  
Fax: (512) 490-1007

Web: <http://www.tdi.texas.gov>

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

**PREMIUM OR CLAIM DISPUTES:**

Should you have a dispute concerning your premium or about a claim you should contact Prudential first. If the dispute is not resolved, you may contact the Texas Department of Insurance.

**ATTACH THIS NOTICE TO YOUR POLICY:**

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

**AVISO IMPORTANTE**

Para obtener información o para someter una queja:

Puede comunicarse con el Departamento de Seguros de Texas para obtener información acerca de compañías, coberturas, derechos o quejas al:

**1-800-252-3439**

Puede escribir al Departamento de Seguros de Texas:

P.O. Box 149104  
Austin, TX 78714-9104  
Fax: (512) 490-1007

Web: <http://www.tdi.texas.gov>

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

**DISPUTAS SOBRE PRIMAS O RECLAMOS:**

Si tiene una disputa concerniente a su prima o a un reclamo, debe comunicarse con Prudential primero. Si no se resuelve la disputa, puede entonces comunicarse con el departamento (TDI).

**UNA ESTE AVISO A SU POLIZA:**

Este aviso es sólo para propósito de información y no se convierte en parte o condición del documento adjunto.

**THE PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA**

## Certificate of Coverage

**Prudential** certifies that insurance is provided according to the Group Contract(s) for each Insured Member. Your Booklet's Schedule of Benefits shows the Contract Holder and the Group Contract Number(s).

**Insured Member:** You are eligible to become insured under the Group Contract if you are in the Covered Classes of the Booklet's Schedule of Benefits and meet the requirements in the Booklet's Who is Eligible section. The When You Become Insured section of the Booklet states how and when you may become insured for each Coverage. Your insurance will end when the rules in the When Your Insurance Ends section so provide. Your Booklet and this Certificate of Coverage together form your Group Insurance Certificate.

**Beneficiary for Member Death Benefits:** See the Booklet's Beneficiary Rules.

**Coverages and Amounts:** The available Coverages and the amounts of insurance are described in the Booklet.

If you are insured, your Booklet and this Certificate of Coverage form your Group Insurance Certificate. Together they replace any older booklets and certificates issued to you for the Coverages in the Booklet's Schedule of Benefits. All Benefits are subject in every way to the entire Group Contract which includes the Group Insurance Certificate.

The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
751 Broad Street  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

# Foreword

*We are pleased to present you with this Booklet. It describes the Program of benefits we have arranged for you and what you have to do to be covered for these benefits.*

*We believe this Program provides worthwhile protection for you and your family.*

*Please read this Booklet carefully. If you have any questions about the Program, we will be happy to answer them.*

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** *This Booklet is an important document and should be kept in a safe place. This Booklet and the Certificate of Coverage made a part of this Booklet together form your Group Insurance Certificate.*

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN STATES:** *There are state-specific requirements that may change the provisions under the Coverage(s) described in this Group Insurance Certificate. If you live in a state that has such requirements, those requirements will apply to your Coverage(s) and are made a part of your Group Insurance Certificate. Prudential has a website that describes these state-specific requirements. You may access the website at [www.prudential.com/etonline](http://www.prudential.com/etonline). When you access the website, you will be asked to enter your state of residence and your Access Code. **Your Access Code is 92860.***

*If you are unable to access this website, want to receive a printed copy of these requirements or have any questions, call Prudential at 1-866-439-9026.*

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# Schedule of Benefits

**Covered Classes:** All Members of the Minnesota and Idaho Retirement System who elect the \$16.00 plan.

**Program Date:** March 1, 2012. This Booklet describes the benefits under the Group Program as of the Program Date.

- This Booklet and the Certificate of Coverage together form your Group Insurance Certificate. The Coverages in this Booklet are insured under a Group Contract issued by Prudential. All benefits are subject in every way to the entire Group Contract which includes the Group Insurance Certificate. It alone forms the agreement under which payment of insurance is made.

## ACCIDENTAL DEATH AND DISMEMBERMENT COVERAGE

### BENEFIT AMOUNTS UNDER MEMBER INSURANCE:

#### Amount For Each Benefit Class:

Benefit Classes	Amount of Insurance
-----------------	---------------------

All Members according to Member's attained age, as follows:

Less than 25 .....	\$100,000
Age 25 or more but less than age 30 .....	100,000
Age 30 or more but less than age 40 .....	100,000
Age 40 or more but less than age 45 .....	100,000
Age 45 or more but less than age 50 .....	100,000
Age 50 or more but less than age 55 .....	100,000
Age 55 or more but less than age 60 .....	100,000
Age 60 or more but less than age 65 .....	100,000
Age 65 or more .....	7,500

## OTHER INFORMATION

**Contract Holder:** NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

**Group Contract No.:** G-92860A

**Cost of Insurance:** The insurance in this Booklet is Contributory Insurance. You will be informed of the amount of your contribution when you enroll.

#### Prudential's Address:

The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
80 Livingston Avenue  
Roseland, New Jersey 07068



## **WHEN YOU HAVE A CLAIM**

Each time a claim is made, it should be made without delay. Use a claim form, and follow the instructions on the form.

If you do not have a claim form, contact the Contract Holder.

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# Who is Eligible to Become Insured

## FOR MEMBER INSURANCE

You are eligible to become insured for Member Insurance while:

- You are a Member of the Minnesota and Idaho Retirement System; and
- You are in a Covered Class.

Your class is determined by the Contract Holder. This will be done under its rules, on dates it sets. The Contract Holder must not discriminate among persons in like situations. You cannot belong to more than one class for insurance on each basis, Contributory or Non-contributory Insurance, under a Coverage. "Class" means Covered Class, Benefit Class or anything related to work, such as position or earnings, which affects the insurance available.

The rules for obtaining Member Insurance are in the When You Become Insured section.

# When You Become Insured

## FOR MEMBER INSURANCE

Your Member Insurance under a Coverage will begin the first day of the month following the date of enrollment for the Coverage and on which:

- You have enrolled, if the Coverage is Contributory; and
- You are eligible for Member Insurance; and
- You are in a Covered Class for that insurance; and
- Your insurance is not being delayed under the Delay of Effective Date section below; and
- That Coverage is part of the Group Contract.

For Contributory Insurance, you must enroll on a form approved by Prudential and agree to pay the required contributions. The Contract Holder will tell you whether contributions are required and the amount of any contribution when you enroll.

At any time, the benefits for which you are insured are those for your class, unless otherwise stated.

# Delay of Effective Date

## **FOR MEMBER INSURANCE**

Your Member Insurance under a Coverage will be delayed if you do not meet the Active Work Requirement on the day your insurance would otherwise begin. Instead, it will begin on the first day you meet the Active Work Requirement and the other requirements for the insurance. The same delay rule will apply to any increase in your insurance that is subject to this section. If you do not meet the Active Work Requirement on the day that an increase would take effect, it will take effect on the day you meet that requirement.

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# Accidental Death and Dismemberment Coverage

## FOR YOU ONLY

This Coverage pays benefits for accidental Loss which results from an accident.

### A. DEFINITIONS OF LOSS.

Loss means your:

- (1) loss of life;
- (2) total and permanent Loss of Sight;
- (3) permanent loss of hand or foot by severance at or above the wrist or ankle.

Loss of Sight means total and permanent loss of sight. Corrected visual acuity must be 20/200 or worse or the field of vision must be less than 20 degrees.

### B. BENEFITS.

Benefits for accidental Loss are payable only if all of these conditions are met:

- (1) You sustain an accidental bodily Injury while a Covered Person.
- (2) The Loss results directly from that Injury and from no other cause.
- (3) You suffer the Loss within 90 days after the accident.

Not all such Losses are covered. See Losses Not Covered below.

**Benefit Amount Payable:** The amount payable depends on the type of Loss as shown below. All benefits are subject to the Limits below.

	Percent of Your Amount of Insurance
Loss of or by Reason of:	
Life .....	100
Sight of Both Eyes .....	100
Both Hands .....	100
Both Feet .....	100
One Hand and One Foot .....	100
One Hand and Sight of One Eye .....	100
One Foot and Sight of One Eye .....	100
Sight of One Eye .....	50
One Hand .....	50

One Foot..... 50

**Limit Per Accident:**

No more than your Amount of Insurance under this Coverage at the time of the accident will be paid for all Losses resulting from Injuries sustained in that accident.

**C. LOSSES NOT COVERED.**

A Loss is not covered if it results from any of these:

- (1) Suicide or attempted suicide, while sane or insane.
- (2) Sickness, whether the Loss results directly or indirectly from the Sickness.
- (3) Medical or surgical treatment of Sickness, whether the Loss results directly or indirectly from the treatment.
- (4) Any bacterial or viral infection. But, this does not include:
  - (a) a pyogenic infection resulting from an accidental cut or wound; or
  - (b) a bacterial infection resulting from accidental ingestion of a contaminated substance.
- (5) War, or any act of war. War means declared or undeclared war, and includes resistance to armed aggression.
- (6) Travel or flight in any vehicle used for aerial navigation, if any of these apply:
  - (a) you are performing as a pilot or a crew member of any aircraft.
  - (b) You are giving or receiving training for duties performed by a pilot or crew member.This includes getting in, out, on or off any such vehicle.

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The Claim Rules apply to the payment of the benefits.

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# Additional Benefits under Accidental Death and Dismemberment Coverage

## FOR YOU ONLY

### A. ADDITIONAL BENEFITS RELATED TO LOSSES.

If a benefit is payable under the Coverage for a Loss an additional benefit may be payable. Any such benefit is payable in addition to any other benefit payable under this Coverage. The additional amount payable for each additional benefit and any additional conditions that apply to an additional benefit are shown below. An additional benefit is payable only if those conditions are met.

**(1) Additional Benefit for Loss of Life as a Result of an Accident in an Automobile While Using a Seat Belt:**

This additional benefit for your Loss of life only applies if you sustain an accidental bodily Injury resulting in the Loss while:

- (a) you are a driver or passenger in an Automobile;
- (b) you are wearing a Seat Belt in the manner prescribed by the vehicle's manufacturer; and
- (c) the actual use of a Seat Belt at the time of the Injury is verified in an official report of the accident, or is certified in writing by the investigating official(s).

**Losses Not Covered under this Additional Benefit:** A Loss is not covered under this additional benefit if it results from driving or riding in any Automobile used in a race or a speed or endurance test, or for acrobatic or stunt driving, or for any illegal purpose.

**Additional Amount Payable under this Additional Benefit:** An amount equal to the lesser of:

- (1) 10% of your Amount of Insurance; and
- (2) \$10,000.

**(2) Additional Benefit for Loss of Life as a Result of an Accident in an Automobile While Using an Air Bag:**

This additional benefit for your Loss of life only applies if this test is met.

You sustain an accidental bodily Injury resulting in the Loss while:

- (a) you are a driver or passenger in an Automobile;
- (b) you are wearing a Seat Belt in the manner prescribed by the vehicle's manufacturer;
- (c) the actual use of a Seat Belt at the time of the Injury is verified in an official report of the accident, or is certified in writing by the investigating official(s);
- (d) the Automobile is equipped with a factory-installed Air Bag; and

(e) a properly functioning Air Bag was deployed for the seat that you occupied.

**Losses Not Covered under this Additional Benefit:** A Loss is not covered under this additional benefit if it results from driving or riding in any Automobile used in a race or a speed or endurance test, or for acrobatic or stunt driving, or for any illegal purpose.

**Additional Amount Payable under this Additional Benefit:** An amount equal to the lesser of:

- (1) 10% of your Amount of Insurance; and
- (2) \$10,000.

**(3) Additional Benefit for Tuition Reimbursement for Your Dependent Spouse or Registered Domestic Partner:**

This additional benefit for Tuition reimbursement for your dependent Spouse or Registered Domestic Partner only applies if you suffer a Loss of life.

This additional benefit is payable for the person who:

- (a) is your Spouse or Registered Domestic Partner on the date of your death; and
- (b) enrolls in any professional or trades program within 30 months after the date of your death for the purposes of obtaining an independent source of support or enriching that Spouse's or Registered Domestic Partner's ability to earn a living.

Proof of enrollment must be given to Prudential.

**Additional Amount Payable under this Additional Benefit:** An amount equal to the least of:

- (1) the actual annual tuition charged for the program;
- (2) 1% of your Amount of Insurance; and
- (3) \$2,500.

**(4) Additional Benefit for Tuition Reimbursement for Your Dependent Child:**

This additional benefit for Tuition reimbursement for your dependent child only applies if you suffer a Loss of life.

This additional benefit is payable for each dependent child less than age 23 who:

- (a) wholly depends on you for support and maintenance on the date of your death; and
- (b) is enrolled as a full-time student in a School on the date of your death; or
- (c) is at the 12th grade level on the date of your death and becomes a full-time student in a School within 365 days after that date.

Proof of enrollment must be given to Prudential.

**Additional Amount Payable under this Additional Benefit:** An amount equal to the least of:

- (1) the actual annual Tuition, exclusive of room and board, charged by the School;

(2) 1% of your Amount of Insurance; and

(3) \$2,500.

This benefit is payable annually for up to 4 consecutive years, but not beyond the date the child reaches age 23.

If there is no dependent child eligible for this benefit, a benefit of \$1,000 will be paid.

**(5) Additional Benefit for Return of Remains:**

This additional benefit for return of remains only applies if you suffer a Loss of life and such Loss occurs outside a 150 mile radius of your home. It is payable for Return of Remains Expenses incurred to return your body home to your country of residence.

**Additional Amount Payable under this Additional Benefit:** An amount equal to the lesser of:

(1) the amount of Return of Remains Expenses; and

(2) \$2,500.

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# Definitions under Accidental Death and Dismemberment Coverage

## FOR YOU ONLY

Some of the terms used in the Coverage:

**Air Bag:** An inflatable safety device that: (1) meets published federal safety standards; (2) is installed by the Automobile's manufacturer or replaced by an organization sanctioned by the Automobile's manufacturer; and (3) is not altered after that installation or replacement.

**Automobile:** A validly registered:

- (1) vehicle that may be legally driven with the standard issue class of motor vehicle driver's license and no additional class of license is necessary to operate this vehicle; or
- (2) four wheel, two axle private passenger motor vehicle.

But Automobile does not include: (1) a motor vehicle intended for off-road use; or (2) a motor vehicle being used without the owner's permission.

**Return of Remains Expenses:** Expenses for any of the following: (1) embalming; (2) cremation; (3) a coffin; and (4) transportation of the remains to return the person's body home.

**School:** An institution of higher learning. The term includes, but is not limited to, a university, college or trade school.

**Seat Belt:** Any passive restraint device for an adult that meets published federal safety standards, is installed by the Automobile's manufacturer or replaced by an organization sanctioned by the Automobile's manufacturer; and is not altered or replaced after that installation.

**Tuition:** The charge or fee for instruction, as at a private school, trade school or a college or university. Tuition does not include fees or charges other than for instruction.

# General Information

## **BENEFICIARY RULES**

The rules in this section apply to insurance payable on account of your death, when the Coverage states that they do. But, if there is an assignment, these rules are modified by the Limits on Assignments section.

"Beneficiary" means a person chosen, on a form approved by Prudential, to receive the insurance benefits.

You have the right to choose a Beneficiary for each Coverage under this Prudential Group Contract.

If there is a Beneficiary for the insurance under a Coverage, it is payable to that Beneficiary. Any amount of insurance under a Coverage for which there is no Beneficiary at your death will be payable to yourthe first of the following: your (a) surviving spouse or Registered Domestic Partner; (b) surviving child(ren) in equal shares; (c) surviving parents in equal shares; (d) surviving siblings in equal shares; (e) estate. This order will apply unless otherwise provided in the Limits on Assignments.

You may change the Beneficiary at any time without the consent of the present Beneficiary. The Beneficiary change form must be filed through the Contract Holder. The change will take effect on the date the form is signed. But it will not apply to any amount paid by Prudential before it receives the form.

If there is more than one Beneficiary but the Beneficiary form does not specify their shares, they will share equally. If a Beneficiary dies before you, that Beneficiary's interest will end. It will be shared equally by any remaining Beneficiaries, unless the Beneficiary form states otherwise.

If you and a Beneficiary die in the same event and it cannot be determined who died first, the insurance will be payable as if that Beneficiary died before you.

## **MODE OF SETTLEMENT RULES**

The rules in this section apply to Accident Insurance payable on account of a Covered Person's death. But these rules are subject to the Limits on Assignments section.

Insurance payable on account of a Covered Person's death is normally paid to the Beneficiary in one sum. Subject to applicable law, where the amount of the benefit meets Prudential's current minimum requirement, payment in one sum will be made by establishing a retained asset account in the Beneficiary's name, unless the Beneficiary elects another settlement or payment option available at the time of claim, and the benefit distribution will be deemed complete when the account is established. The retained asset account is an interest-bearing draft account backed by the financial strength of Prudential. Funds are held in Prudential's general account or elsewhere as Prudential may direct and an account in the Beneficiary's name is credited interest at a rate set by Prudential's discretion, subject to a minimum rate that will change no more than once every 90 days on advance notice to the Beneficiary. The Beneficiary is provided a draftbook and has immediate access to the entire amount by writing drafts for any amount up to the account balance. The retained asset account is not a bank account and is not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; it is a contractual undertaking between Prudential and the Beneficiary. Further information about the account is provided at the time of claim. Prudential may at its discretion provide other forms of

payment in one sum. But another mode of settlement may be arranged with Prudential for all or part of the insurance, as stated below.

**Arrangements for Mode of Settlement:** You may arrange a mode of settlement by proper written request to Prudential.

If, at a Covered Person's death, no mode of settlement has been arranged for an amount of the person's Accident Insurance, the Beneficiary and Prudential may then mutually agree on a mode of settlement for that amount.

**Conditions for Mode of Settlement:** The Beneficiary must be a natural person taking in the Beneficiary's own right. A mode of settlement will apply to secondary Beneficiaries only if Prudential agrees in writing. Each installment to a person must not be less than \$20.00. A change of Beneficiary will void any mode of settlement arranged before the change.

**Choice by Beneficiary:** A Beneficiary being paid under a mode of settlement may, if Prudential agrees, choose (or change the Beneficiary's choice of) a payee or payees to receive, in one sum, any amount which would otherwise be payable to the Beneficiary's estate.

Prudential has prepared information about the modes of settlement available. Ask the Contract Holder for this.

## LIMITS ON ASSIGNMENTS

You may assign your insurance under a Coverage. Unless the Schedule of Benefits states otherwise, insurance under any Coverage providing death benefits or periodic benefits on account of disability may be assigned only as a gift assignment. Any rights, benefits or privileges that you have as a Member may be assigned. This includes any right you have to choose a Beneficiary or to convert to another contract of insurance. Prudential will not decide if an assignment does what it is intended to do. Prudential will not be held to know that one has been made unless it or a copy is filed with Prudential through the Contract Holder.

This paragraph applies only to insurance for which you have the right to choose a Beneficiary, when that right has been assigned. If an assigned amount of insurance becomes payable on account of your death and, on the date of that death, there is no Beneficiary chosen by the assignee, it will be payable to:

- (1) the assignee, if living; or
- (2) the estate of the assignee, if the assignee is not living.

It will not be payable as stated in the Beneficiary Rules.

## DEFINITIONS

**Active Work Requirement:** A requirement that a Member be actively at work as normally required by the employer or as predetermined by the Member's Public Employee Retirement Systems group on the date the insurance is to begin.

**Calendar Year:** A year starting January 1.

**Contributory Insurance, Non-contributory Insurance:** Contributory Insurance is insurance for which the Contract Holder has the right to and may require your direct contribution to the cost of coverage. Non-contributory Insurance premiums are paid by the Contract Holder, usually without direct contribution from you. The rate for Non-contributory insurance may be determined, or in some cases, reduced, in part, based on your contributions for contributory insurance or other benefits offered to you under the Contract Holder benefit plan.

**Coverage:** A part of the Booklet consisting of:

- (1) A benefit page labeled as a Coverage in its title.
- (2) Any page or pages that continue the same kind of benefits.
- (3) A Schedule of Benefits entry and other benefit pages or forms that by their terms apply to that kind of benefits.

**Covered Person under a Coverage:** A Member who is insured for Member Insurance under that Coverage.

**Doctor:** A licensed practitioner of the healing arts acting within the scope of the license.

**Injury:** Injury to the body of a Covered Person.

**Member:** A person who is an individual Member of the Contract Holder. The term also applies to that person for any rights after insurance ends.

**Members Insurance:** Insurance on the person of a Member.

**Prudential:** The Prudential Insurance Company of America.

**Sickness:** Any disorder of the body or mind of a Covered Person, but not an Injury; pregnancy of a Covered Person, including abortion, miscarriage or childbirth.

**You:** A Member.

## CLAIM RULES

These rules apply to payment of benefits under all accident Coverages.

**Proof of Loss:** Prudential must be given written proof of the loss including any requested documentation, such as a death certificate, for which claim is made under the Coverage. This proof must cover the occurrence, character and extent of that loss. It must be furnished within 90 days after the date of the loss. But, if any Coverage provides for periodic payment of benefits at monthly or shorter intervals, the proof of loss for each such period must be furnished within 90 days after the period ends.

A claim will not be considered valid unless the proof is furnished within these time limits. However, it may not be reasonably possible to do so. In that case, the claim will still be considered valid if the proof is furnished as soon as reasonably possible.

**When Benefits are Paid:** Benefits are paid when Prudential receives written proof of the loss including any requested documentation, such as a death certificate. But, if a Coverage provides that benefits are payable at equal intervals of a month or less, Prudential will not have to pay those benefits more often.

**To Whom Payable:** Benefits are payable to you with these exceptions:

- (1) Benefits for Tuition reimbursement for your surviving Spouse or Registered Domestic Partner will be paid to:
  - (a) your Spouse or Registered Domestic Partner, if living; or
  - (b) your Spouse's or Registered Domestic Partner's estate, if your Spouse or Registered Domestic Partner is not living at the time a benefit is paid.
- (2) Benefits for Tuition reimbursement for your children will be paid to the person or institution appearing to Prudential to have assumed the main support of your dependent children.
- (3) Benefits for any other of your Losses that are unpaid at your death or become payable on account of your death will be paid to your Beneficiary or Beneficiaries. (See Beneficiary Rules.)

If you and a Beneficiary die in the same event and it cannot be determined who died first, benefits will be payable as if that Beneficiary died before you.
- (4) If you are not living, benefits for your Spouse's or Registered Domestic Partner's Losses are payable to your Spouse or Registered Domestic Partner.
- (5) If neither you nor your Spouse or Registered Domestic Partner is living, the benefits will be paid to your Spouse's or Registered Domestic Partner's estate.

**Physical Exam and Autopsy:** Prudential, at its own expense, has the right to examine the person whose loss is the basis of claim. Prudential may do this when and as often as is reasonable while the claim is pending. Prudential also has the right to arrange for an autopsy in case of accidental death, if it is not forbidden by law.

**Legal Action:** No action at law or in equity shall be brought to recover on the Group Contract until 60 days after the written proof described above is furnished. No such action shall be brought more than three years after the end of the time within which proof of loss is required.

## **INCONTESTABILITY OF INSURANCE TO WHICH THE CLAIM RULES APPLY**

This limits Prudential's use of a person's statements in contesting an amount of that insurance for which the person is insured. These are statements made to persuade Prudential to effect an amount of that insurance. They will be considered to be made to the best of the person's knowledge and belief. These rules apply to each statement:

- (1) It will not be used in a contest to avoid or reduce that amount of insurance unless:
    - (a) It is in a written instrument signed by the person; and
    - (b) A copy of that instrument is or has been furnished to the person.
  - (2) It will not be used in the contest after that amount of insurance has been in force, before the contest, for at least two years during the person's lifetime.
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# When Your Insurance Ends

## MEMBER INSURANCE

Your Member Insurance under a Coverage will end when the first of these occurs:

- Your membership in the Covered Classes for the insurance ends. A Member shall cease to be included in the Covered Classes for the Coverage at the end of a period for which a required payment was made, with respect to the Member if at that time, the Member fails to meet the requirements for membership.
  - The part of the Group Contract providing the insurance ends.
  - For Contributory Insurance under a Coverage of the Group Contract, you fail to pay, when due, any contribution required.
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**The Claims and Appeals section  
is not part of the  
Group Insurance Certificate.**

# CLAIMS AND APPEALS

## Plan Benefits Provided by

The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
751 Broad Street  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

This Group Contract underwritten by The Prudential Insurance Company of America provides insured benefits. For all purposes of this Group Contract, the Employer/Policyholder acts on its own behalf or as an agent of its employees. Under no circumstances will the Employer/Policyholder be deemed the agent of The Prudential Insurance Company of America, absent a written authorization of such status executed between the Employer/Policyholder and The Prudential Insurance Company of America. Nothing in these documents shall, of themselves, be deemed to be such written execution.

## Claim Procedures

### 1. Determination of Benefits

Prudential shall notify you of the claim determination within 45 days of the receipt of your claim. This period may be extended by 30 days if such an extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan. A written notice of the extension, the reason for the extension and the date by which the plan expects to decide your claim, shall be furnished to you within the initial 45-day period. This period may be extended for an additional 30 days beyond the original 30-day extension if necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan. A written notice of the additional extension, the reason for the additional extension and the date by which the plan expects to decide on your claim, shall be furnished to you within the first 30-day extension period if an additional extension of time is needed. However, if a period of time is extended due to your failure to submit information necessary to decide the claim, the period for making the benefit determination by Prudential will be tolled (i.e., suspended) from the date on which the notification of the extension is sent to you until the date on which you respond to the request for additional information.

If your claim for benefits is denied, in whole or in part, you or your authorized representative will receive a written notice from Prudential of your denial. The notice will be written in a manner calculated to be understood by you and shall include:

- (a) the specific reason(s) for the denial,
- (b) references to the specific plan provisions on which the benefit determination was based,
- (c) a description of any additional material or information necessary for you to perfect a claim and an explanation of why such information is necessary,
- (d) a description of Prudential's appeals procedures and applicable time limits, and
- (e) if an adverse benefit determination is based on a medical necessity or experimental treatment or similar exclusion or limit, an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination will be provided free of charge upon request.

## 2. Appeals of Adverse Determination

If your claim for benefits is denied or if you do not receive a response to your claim within the appropriate time frame (in which case the claim for benefits is deemed to have been denied), you or your representative may appeal your denied claim in writing to Prudential within 180 days of the receipt of the written notice of denial or 180 days from the date such claim is deemed denied. You may submit with your appeal any written comments, documents, records and any other information relating to your claim. Upon your request, you will also have access to, and the right to obtain copies of, all documents, records and information relevant to your claim free of charge.

A full review of the information in the claim file and any new information submitted to support the appeal will be conducted by Prudential, utilizing individuals not involved in the initial benefit determination. This review will not afford any deference to the initial benefit determination.

Prudential shall make a determination on your claim appeal within 45 days of the receipt of your appeal request. This period may be extended by up to an additional 45 days if Prudential determines that special circumstances require an extension of time. A written notice of the extension, the reason for the extension and the date that Prudential expects to render a decision shall be furnished to you within the initial 45-day period. However, if the period of time is extended due to your failure to submit information necessary to decide the appeal, the period for making the benefit determination will be tolled (i.e., suspended) from the date on which the notification of the extension is sent to you until the date on which you respond to the request for additional information.

If the claim on appeal is denied in whole or in part, you will receive a written notification from Prudential of the denial. The notice will be written in a manner calculated to be understood by the applicant and shall include:

- (a) the specific reason(s) for the adverse determination;
- (b) references to the specific plan provisions on which the determination was based,
- (c) a statement that you are entitled to receive upon request and free of charge reasonable access to, and make copies of, all records, documents and other information relevant to your benefit claim upon request,
- (d) a description of Prudential's review procedures and applicable time limits,
- (e) a statement that you have the right to obtain upon request and free of charge, a copy of internal rules or guidelines relied upon in making this determination, and
- (f) a statement describing any appeals procedures offered by the plan.

If a decision on appeal is not furnished to you within the time frames mentioned above, the claim shall be deemed denied on appeal.

If the appeal of your benefit claim is denied or if you do not receive a response to your appeal within the appropriate time frame (in which case the appeal is deemed to have been denied), you or your representative may make a second, voluntary appeal of your denial in writing to Prudential within 180 days of the receipt of the written notice of denial or 180 days from the date such claim is deemed denied. You may submit with your second appeal any written comments, documents, records and any other information relating to your claim.

Upon your request, you will also have access to, and the right to obtain copies of, all documents, records and information relevant to your claim free of charge.

Prudential shall make a determination on your second claim appeal within 45 days of the receipt of your appeal request. This period may be extended by up to an additional 45 days if Prudential determines that special circumstances require an extension of time. A written notice of the extension, the reason for the extension and the date by which Prudential expects to render a decision shall be furnished to you within the initial 45-day period. However, if the period of time is extended due to your failure to submit information necessary to decide the appeal, the period for making the benefit determination will be tolled from the date on which the notification of the extension is sent to you until the date on which you respond to the request for additional information.

Your decision to submit a benefit dispute to this voluntary second level of appeal has no effect on your right to any other benefits under this plan. If you elect to initiate a lawsuit without submitting to a second level of appeal, the plan waives any right to assert that you failed to exhaust administrative remedies. If you elect to submit the dispute to the second level of appeal, the plan agrees that any statute of limitations or other defense based on timeliness is tolled during the time that the appeal is pending.

If the claim on appeal is denied in whole or in part for a second time, you will receive a written notification from Prudential of the denial. The notice will be written in a manner calculated to be understood by the applicant and shall include the same information that was included in the first adverse determination letter. If a decision on appeal is not furnished to you within the time frames mentioned above, the claim shall be deemed denied on appeal.



