

Employer: NORTH RANCH BENEFIT TRUST

Group Number: 742397

Dental Plan Certificate of Insurance HumanaDental Insurance Company

This certificate outlines the insurance provided by the group policy. It is not an insurance policy. It does not extend or change the coverage listed in the group policy. The insurance described in this certificate is subject to the provisions, terms, exclusions and conditions of the group policy.

We will amend this certificate to conform to the minimum requirements of California laws. This certificate replaces any certificate previously issued under the provisions of the group policy.

IMPORTANT: If you opt to receive dental services that are not covered services under this policy/plan, a participating dental provider may charge you his or her usual and customary rate for those services. Prior to providing a patient with dental services that are not a covered benefit, the dentist should provide to the patient a treatment plan that includes each anticipated service to be provided and the estimated cost of each service. If you would like more information about dental coverage options, you may call member services or your insurance broker. To fully understand your coverage, you may wish to carefully review this evidence of coverage document.

NOTICE

**This Certificate provides coverage for limited dental services.
Please review the Summary of Your Benefits section of this certificate carefully.**



Gerald L. Ganoni
President

HUMANA[®]
Specialty Benefits

Table of contents

Benefits

Summary of your benefits	7
Waiting periods.....	8
Your plan benefits.....	9
Limitations and exclusions (all services)	11
How your plan works.....	13

Claims

How we pay claims.....	15
Coordinating benefits with another insurer	17
Recovery rights	19

Eligibility

When you are eligible for coverage	20
Terminating coverage	25
Replacement provisions	26

Disclosures

Discount/access disclosure	27
----------------------------------	----

Shared savings

Shared savings program	28
------------------------------	----

Definitions	29
-------------------	----

(Italicized words within text are defined in the Definitions section of this document.)

Open Enrollment Rider	35
-----------------------------	----

The California Continuation Benefits Replacement Act (Cal-COBRA)

On January 1, 1998, the California Continuation Benefits Replacement Act (Cal-COBRA) became effective. This California law applies to *employers* with 2 to 19 *employees*. The law requires that *employers* offer qualified beneficiaries (covered *employee* and a spouse and/or *dependent* children who were covered under the plan on the day before the qualifying event) the opportunity to elect temporary continuation of medical and dental coverage in certain instances where there is a loss of group insurance coverage due to a qualifying event. Evidence of *your* good health is not required for continuation of coverage.

Qualifying events

Covered *employees* can elect to continue coverage, if coverage is lost due to either of the following qualifying events:

1. Termination (other than for gross misconduct) of the *employee's* employment; or
2. Reduction in the hours of the *employee's* employment.

A covered spouse of a covered *employee* can elect continuation, if coverage is lost due to any of the following qualifying events:

1. Death of the *employee*;
2. Termination of the *employee's* employment or reduction in the *employee's* hours of employment;
3. Divorce or legal separation from the *employee*; or
4. The *employee* becoming entitled to Medicare.

A covered *dependent* child has the right to elect continuation, if coverage is lost due to any of the following qualifying events:

1. The death of the *employee* parent;
2. Termination of the *employee* parent's employment or reduction in the hours worked;
3. Parent's divorce or legal separation;
4. The *employee* parent becoming entitled to Medicare;
5. The *dependent* ceasing to be a "*dependent child*" under the terms of the plan.

Also, children born to the *employee* or placed with the *employee* for adoption during the continuation period are qualified beneficiaries and are entitled to elect continuation of coverage.

Notification and election

The *employee* or a family member has the responsibility to inform the insurer of a divorce, legal separation, or a child losing *dependent* status under the plan. The *employee* or a family member must give this notice within 60 days from the later of:

1. The date of the qualifying event; or
2. The date coverage would be lost under the terms of the plan.

Qualified beneficiaries lose the right to continuation coverage if they do not provide notice of the qualifying event within 60 days. Upon receipt of notification of the qualifying event, the insurer shall notify the qualified beneficiary of the right to elect Cal-COBRA continuation.

A qualified beneficiary is not automatically entitled to continuation of coverage, the beneficiary must elect continuation coverage within 60 days of the later of: the date coverage is lost; or the date that the notice to the qualified beneficiary is sent. Qualified beneficiaries not electing continuation coverage within the 60 day election period lose the right to continue coverage.

If during a continuation period, a child is born or placed for adoption, the child is considered a qualified beneficiary. The covered *employee* on continuation or other guardian may elect continuation coverage for the child, provided the child satisfies the otherwise applicable plan eligibility requirements (for example: age). The covered *employee* or a family member must notify the *employer* within 31 days of the birth or placement to enroll the child. Failure to do so may result in the loss of the right to cover the child under continuation coverage.

Each qualified beneficiary has an independent right to elect continuation. A covered *employee* or the covered *employee's* spouse may elect continuation coverage on behalf of another qualified beneficiary. An election on behalf of a minor child can be made by the child's parent or legal guardian.

Premium and coverage

If continuation coverage is elected and the applicable premium paid, the continuation coverage will be identical to the coverage provided under the plan to similarly situated active *employees* and/or their covered *dependents*. If coverage is changed or modified for active *employees*, then continuation coverage will be changed or modified for individuals on continuation.

If the qualified beneficiary is covered by the medical plan and the dental plan, he/she may elect continuation under one plan or both plans.

The initial premium payment is due by the 45th day after the date continuation coverage is elected. The initial premium payment must include charges back to the date continuation coverage began (the date of loss of coverage). Subsequent premiums are due monthly on the first of the month for which premium is due, subject to a 31 day grace period.

Duration of coverage

If coverage is lost due to the *employee's* termination of employment (other than for gross misconduct) or reduction in hours, the maximum continuation period for the *employee*, spouse and *dependent* children is 36 months from the date of the qualifying event.

1. If a qualified beneficiary is determined under the Social Security Act to have been disabled at the time of termination of employment or eligibility or within 60 days afterward, the continuation period for all qualified beneficiaries is 36 months from the date of the qualifying event. For the 36 month continuation period to apply, notice of the determination of disability under the Social Security Act must be provided by the disabled individual to the *employer* within 60 days after the date of the determination letter and prior to the end of the original 36 month continuation coverage period.
 - If the qualified beneficiary is no longer disabled, the coverage would continue to the later of 36 months from the date of the qualifying event or the end of the month following the 31 days after the final determination that the beneficiary is no longer disabled.

- If a second qualifying event occurs (for example the *employee* dies or becomes divorced) within the 36 month continuation period, the maximum coverage period (for the spouse or *dependent* children) is 36 months from the date of the first qualifying event.
2. If coverage is lost due to the death of the *employee*, divorce, legal separation, the *employee* becoming entitled to Medicare, or the loss of *dependent* status under the plan, the maximum coverage period for a spouse and *dependent* children is 36 months from the date of the qualifying event.
 3. If the *employee* becomes entitled to Medicare within the initial continuation period following an initial qualifying event, the other qualified beneficiaries may be entitled to continuation not to exceed 36 months from the date of the *employee's* Medicare entitlement.

Termination of Cal-COBRA continuation coverage

Cal-COBRA continuation coverage may be terminated prior to the end of the maximum continuation period when:

1. Premiums are not paid timely;
2. The *employer* ceases to maintain any group health plan;
3. The contract between the insurer and the *employer* is terminated prior to the date the qualified beneficiary's continuation coverage would terminate, coverage under the prior plan shall terminate and the qualified beneficiary may be able to elect continuation coverage under the subsequent group benefit plan if any;
4. The qualified beneficiary obtains coverage under another group health plan:
 - That does not contain any exclusion or limitation with respect to any pre-existing condition the individual has; or
 - When the exclusion or limitation no longer applies, if such plan has an applicable exclusion or limitation (An exclusion or limitation of the new plan may not apply at all depending on the length of the individual's prior creditable coverage under the previous plan(s). Federal law requires that once an individual obtains creditable health insurance, evidence of this coverage can be used to reduce or eliminate any pre-existing medical condition exclusion or limitation period that might otherwise apply under the new health insurance coverage.); or
5. The qualified beneficiary becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (even if entitlement is based on end stage renal disease); or
6. The qualified beneficiary moves out of the insurer's service area, or the qualified beneficiary commits fraud or deception in the use of benefits.

Other information

Please contact *your employer* for any questions regarding Cal-COBRA continuation. Notify *your employer* of any change in marital status, or a change of address.

When continued coverage terminates, the qualified beneficiaries may have the right to exercise the Conversion Privilege described in the Certificate.

The plan or a rider to the plan may also provide a continuation privilege, please refer to the certificate for additional continuation provisions.

Benefits

Policyholder (Employer): NORTH RANCH BENEFIT TRUST
Group Number: 742397
Coverage Effective Date: 05/01/2015

Summary of your benefits

This summary provides an overview of plan *benefits*. Refer to the **Your plan benefits** and **Waiting periods** provisions for detailed descriptions, including additional limitations or exclusions. Paid *benefits* are based on the *reimbursement limit*.

Dental benefits

Individual maximum benefit:

\$1,000 per year per member for Preventive and Basic services.

Individual deductible:

\$50 per year per member for Basic services.

Maximum family deductible:

Covered expenses applied to the plan deductible of each covered member are combined to a year maximum of \$150.

Preventive Services:

Benefits are paid at 100%.

1. Routine teeth cleaning (prophylaxis)
2. Topical fluoride treatment
3. Sealants
4. X-rays
5. Oral examinations

Basic Services:

Benefits are paid at 80% after the deductible.

1. Fillings (amalgam and composite restorations)
2. Non-surgical extractions
3. Non-surgical residual root removal
4. Emergency exam and palliative care for pain relief

Benefits

Waiting periods

This provision describes for the *employee* and *dependents* added at the same time as the *employee*, the waiting periods that apply before *benefits* are available for *covered services*. *Dependents* added after the effective date of the *employee* may be subject to a separate waiting period. Please call *us* for the waiting period that applies to those *dependents*.

Preventive Services:

No waiting periods apply to Preventive *services*.

Basic Services:

No waiting periods apply to Basic *services*, unless *you* are a *late applicant*.

If *you* are a *late applicant*, *you* must be insured under this policy for a period of 12 continuous months before Basic *services* will be covered.

Benefits

Your plan benefits

We pay *benefits* on *covered expenses* as explained in the **How your plan works** section. *Benefits* for *covered services* explained below are limited to the *maximum benefit* shown in the **Summary of your benefits**.

Preventive services

1. Oral evaluations (periodic, limited, comprehensive and problem focused) - two per *year*.
2. Periodontal evaluations - two per *year*.
3. Cleaning (prophylaxis), including all scaling and polishing procedures – two per *year*.
4. For members age 40 and older, oral cancer screening – one per *year*.
5. Intra-oral complete series X-rays (at least 14 films, including bitewings), or panoramic X-ray – once every five years. If the total cost of periapical and bitewing X-rays exceeds the cost of a complete series of X-rays, the plan will consider these as a complete series.
6. Bitewing X-rays – one set per *year*.
7. Other X-rays – only to diagnose specific treatment.
8. Topical fluoride treatment – provided to *dependents* age 14 and younger. *Service* is payable once per *year*.
9. Sealants – application provided to *dependents* age 14 and younger to the occlusal surface of permanent molars that are free of decay and restorations. *Service* is payable once per tooth per lifetime.

We will not cover preventive control programs including, but not limited to, oral hygiene instructions, plaque control, take-home items, prescriptions and dietary planning.

Basic services

1. Amalgam restorations (fillings) – limit to one per tooth in a two *year* period. Multiple restorations on one surface are considered one restoration.
2. Composite restorations (fillings) limited to one per tooth in a two *year* period. On anterior teeth – Composite restorations on molar and bicuspid teeth are considered an alternate *service* and will be payable as a comparable amalgam filling. *You* will be responsible for the remaining *expense incurred*. Multiple restorations on one surface are considered one restoration.
3. *Emergency* care – treatment for the initial *palliative* care of pain and/or injury. *Services* include *palliative* procedures for treatment to the teeth and supporting structures. *We* will consider the *service* as a separate *benefit* only if no other *service*, except X-rays, is provided during the same visit.
4. Extractions - coronal remnants of a deciduous tooth or erupted tooth or exposed root.

Benefits

Integral service

The following *services* are considered integral to the dental *service*. A separate fee for these *services* is not considered a *covered expense*.

1. Local anesthetics;
2. Bases;
3. Pulp caps;
4. Temporary dental *services*;
5. Treatment plans;
6. Occlusal (biting or grinding surfaces of molar and bicuspid teeth) adjustments;
7. Nitrous oxide;
8. Irrigation.

We do not cover caries susceptibility testing, lab tests, saliva samples, anaerobic cultures, sensitivity testing or charges for oral pathology procedures.

We do not cover *services* that generally are considered to be medical *services* except those outlined in this section.

General anesthesia is not a *covered expense* unless it is a *medical necessity* and administered by a *dentist* in conjunction with covered oral surgical procedures outlined in this section. Patient management or apprehension is not considered a *medical necessity*.

Limitations & exclusions (all services)

In addition to the limitations and exclusions listed in **Your plan benefits** section, this policy does not provide *benefits* for the following:

1. Any *expenses incurred* while you qualify for any worker's compensation or occupational disease act or law, whether or not you applied for coverage.
2. *Services*:
 - That are free or that you would not be required to pay for if you did not have this insurance, unless charges are received from and reimbursable to the U.S. government or any of its agencies as required by law;
 - Furnished by, or payable under, any plan or law through any government or any political subdivision (this does not include Medicare or Medicaid); or
 - Furnished by any U.S. government-owned or operated hospital/institution/agency for any *service* connected with *sickness* or *bodily injury*.
3. Any loss caused or contributed by:
 - War or any act of war, whether declared or not;
 - Any act of international armed conflict; or
 - Any conflict involving armed forces of any international authority.
4. Any expense arising from the completion of forms.
5. Your failure to keep an appointment with the *dentist*.
6. Any *service* we consider *cosmetic dentistry* unless it is necessary as a result of an *accidental injury* sustained while you are covered under this policy. We consider the following *cosmetic dentistry* procedures:
 - Facings on crowns or pontics (the portion of a fixed bridge between the abutments) posterior to the second bicuspid;
 - Any *service* to correct congenital malformations;
 - Any *service* performed primarily to improve appearance; or
 - Characterizations and personalization of prosthetic devices.
7. Infection control, including but not limited to sterilization techniques.
8. Fees for treatment performed by someone other than a *dentist* except for scaling and teeth cleaning, and the topical application of fluoride that can be performed by a licensed dental hygienist. The treatment must be rendered under the supervision and guidance of the *dentist* in accordance with generally accepted dental standards.
9. Any *service* not specifically listed in **Your plan benefits**.

Benefits

10. Any *service* that we determine:

- Is not a *dental necessity* as defined in this certificate;
- Does not offer a favorable prognosis;
- Does not have uniform professional endorsement; according to American Dental Association recommendations; or
- Is deemed to be experimental or investigational in nature.

11. Any *expense incurred* before *your* effective date or after the date *your* coverage under this policy terminates (unless the *service* is eligible under **Extension of benefits**).

12. *Services* provided by someone who ordinarily lives in *your* home or who is a *family member*.

13. Charges exceeding the *reimbursement limit* for the *service*.

14. Treatment resulting from any intentionally self-inflicted injury or *bodily illness*.

15. Local anesthetics, irrigation, nitrous oxide, bases, pulp caps, temporary dental *services*, study models, treatment plans, occlusal adjustments, or tissue preparation associated with the impression or placement of a restoration when charged as a separate *service*. These *services* are considered an integral part of the entire dental *service*.

Excess coverage

We will not pay benefits for any *accidental injury* if other insurance will provide payments or expense coverage, regardless of whether the other coverage is described as primary, excess or contingent. If *your* claim against another insurer is denied or partially paid, we will process *your* claim according to the terms and conditions of this certificate. If we make a payment, *you* agree to assign to *us* any right *you* have against the other insurer for dental expenses we pay. Payments made by the other insurer will be credited toward any applicable *coinsurance* or *deductibles* for the *year*.

How your plan works

General benefit payments

We pay *benefits* for *covered expenses*, as stated in the **Summary of your benefits** and **Your plan benefits** sections, and according to any riders that are part of *your* policy. Paid *benefits* are subject to the conditions, limitations, exclusions and maximums of this policy.

After *you* receive a *service*, we will determine if it qualifies as a *covered service*. If we determine it is a *covered service*, we will pay *benefits* as follows:

1. We will determine the total *covered expense*.
2. We will review the *covered expense* against any *maximum benefits* that may apply.
3. We will determine if *you* have met *your deductible*. If *you* have not, we will subtract any amount required to fulfill the *deductible*.
4. We will make payment for the remaining eligible *covered expense* to *you* or *your dentist*, based on *your coinsurance* for that *covered service*.

Deductibles

The *deductible* is the amount that *you* are responsible to pay per *year* before we pay any *coinsurance* (see **Summary of your benefits**).

1. **Individual deductible:** *You* will have met the individual *deductible* when, each *year*, the total eligible *covered expenses* incurred reaches the individual *deductible* amount.
2. **Family deductible:** The total *deductible* that a family must pay in a *year*. Once met, we will waive any remaining individual *deductibles* for that *year*.

Coinsurance

The percentage of the *reimbursement limit* that we will pay. *Coinsurance* applies after the *deductible* is satisfied and up to the *maximum benefit*.

Waiting periods

This is the time period that certain *services* are not eligible for coverage under this policy. This begins on *your* effective date and lasts for the time shown in the **Waiting periods** provision of this certificate.

Benefit maximums

The amount we pay for *services* are limited to a *maximum benefit*. We will not make *benefit* payments that are more than the *maximum benefit* for the *covered services* shown in the **Summary of your benefits**.

Alternate services

If two or more *services* are considered to be acceptable to correct the same dental condition, the *benefits* payable will be based on the *covered expenses* for the least expensive service which will produce a professionally satisfactory result in accordance with generally accepted, proven established practice by most *dentists* with similar experience and training where the service is provided.

Benefits

If *you* or *your dentist* decide on a more costly treatment than *we* determine to be satisfactory for treatment of the condition, payment will be limited to the *reimbursement limit* and will be subject to any *deductible* and *coinsurance* for the least costly treatment. *You* will be responsible for the remaining *expense incurred*.

Pretreatment plan

We suggest that if dental treatment is expected to exceed \$300, *you* or *your dentist* submit a dental *treatment plan* for *us* to review before *your* treatment. The dental *treatment plan* should consist of:

1. A list of *services* to be performed using the American Dental Association nomenclature and codes;
2. *Your dentist's* written description of the proposed treatment;
3. Supporting pretreatment X-rays showing *your* dental needs;
4. Itemized cost of the proposed treatment; and
5. Any other appropriate diagnostic materials that *we* may request.

An estimate for *services* is not a guarantee of what *we* will pay. It tells *you* and *your dentist* in advance about the *benefits* payable for the *covered expenses* in the *treatment plan*. We will notify *you* and *your dentist* of the *benefits* payable based on the submitted *treatment plan*.

An estimate for *services* is not necessary for *emergency* care.

Process and timing

An estimate for *services* is valid for 90 days after the date *we* notify *you* and *your dentist* of the *benefits* payable for the proposed *treatment plan* (subject to *your* eligibility of coverage). If treatment will not begin for more than 90 days after the date *we* notify *you* and *your dentist*, *we* recommend that *you* submit a new *treatment plan*.

How we pay claims

Identification numbers

You received an identification (ID) card showing *your* name, identification number and group number. Show this ID card to *your dentist* when you receive *services*.

Claim forms

We do not require a standard claim form to process *benefits*. When we receive a claim, we will notify *you* or *your dentist* if any additional information is needed.

Submitting claim information and proof of loss

Either *you* or the *dentist* must complete and submit to *us* all claim information for proof of loss. We would like to receive this information within 90 days after the *expense incurred* date; however, the claim will not be reduced or denied if it was not reasonably possible to meet the 90-day guideline. In any event, we will need written proof of loss notice within one year after the date proof of loss is requested, except if *you* were legally incapacitated.

Here are examples of information we may need (this is not a comprehensive list and only provides a few examples of the information we may request).

1. An itemized bill for all dental work.
2. The following exhibits:
 - X-rays;
 - Patient records.
3. Authorizations to release any additional dental information or records.
4. Information about other insurance coverage.
5. Any information we need to determine *benefits*.

If *you* do not provide *us* with the necessary information, we will deny any related claims until *you* provide it to *us*.

Paying claims

We determine if *benefits* are available and pay promptly any amount due under this policy in the timeframe required by state law or by *dentist* contract. We may pay all or a portion of any *benefit* provided for *covered expenses* to the *dentist* unless *you* have notified *us* in writing by the time the claim form is submitted. Our payments are made in good faith and will fully discharge *us* of any liability to the extent of such payment.

Reasons for denying a claim

Below is a list of the most common reasons we cannot pay a claim. Claim payments may be limited or denied in accordance with any of the provisions contained in this certificate.

Claims

1. **Not a covered benefit:** The *service* is not a *covered service* under the certificate.
2. **Eligibility:** *You* no longer are eligible under the **Terminating coverage** section of this certificate, or the *expense incurred date* was prior to *your* effective date.
3. **Fraud:** *You* make an intentional misrepresentation by not telling *us* the facts or withhold information necessary for *us* to administer this certificate.

Insurance fraud is a crime. Anyone who willingly and knowingly engages in an activity intended to defraud *us* by filing a claim or form that contains false or deceptive information may be guilty of insurance fraud.

If a *member* commits fraud against *us*, as determined by *us*, coverage ends automatically, without notice, on the date the fraud is committed. This termination may be retroactive. *We* also will provide information to the proper authorities and support any criminal charges that may be brought. Further, *we* reserve the right to seek civil remedies available to *us*.

We will not end coverage if, after investigating the matter, *we* determine that the *member* provided information in error. *We* will adjust premium or claim payment based on this new information.

If *you* provided correct information and *we* made a processing error, *you* will be eligible for coverage and claims payment for *covered expenses*. *We* will adjust *your* premium or claim payment based on the correct information.

4. **Duplicating provisions:** If any charge is described as covered under two or more benefit provisions, *we* will pay only under the provision allowing the greater *benefit*. This may require *us* to make a recalculation based on both the amounts already paid and the amounts due to be paid. *We* have no obligation to pay for *benefits* other than those this certificate provides.

Legal actions

You cannot bring a legal action to recover a claim until 60 days after the date written proof of loss is made. No action may be brought more than three years after proof of loss is made.

Claims paid incorrectly

If a claim was paid in error, *we* have the right to recover *our* payments. *We* may correct this error by an adjustment to any amount applied to the *deductible* or *maximum benefits*. Errors may include such actions as:

1. Claims paid for *services* that are not actually covered under the policy.
2. Claims payment that is more than the amount allowed under the policy.
3. Claims paid based on fraud or an intentional misrepresentation.

We may seek recovery of *our* payments made in error from anyone to, for or with respect to whom such payments were made; or any insurance companies or organizations that provide other coverage for the *covered expenses*. *We* will determine from whom *we* shall seek recovery. For information on *our* process, see the **Recovery rights** provision.

Coordinating benefits with another insurer

Benefits subject to this provision

Benefits described in this certificate are coordinated with *benefits you* receive from other plans. This prevents duplication of coverage and resulting increases in the cost of dental coverage. For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

1. **Plan**—A plan covers medical or dental expenses and provides *benefits* or *services* by:

- Group, franchise or blanket insurance coverage;
- Group-based hospital service pre-payment plan, medical service pre-payment plan, group practice or other pre-payment coverage;
- Coverage under labor-management, employer plans, trustee plans, union welfare plans, employee benefit organization plan; and
- Governmental programs or programs mandated by state statute, or sponsored or provided by an educational institution, if it is not otherwise excluded from the calculation of benefits under this policy.

This provision does not apply to any individual policies or blanket student accident insurance provided by or through an educational institution.

2. **Allowable expense**—Any eligible expense, a portion of which is covered under one of the plans covering the person for whom the claim is made. Each plan will determine what an eligible expense is based on the provisions of the plan. When a plan provides *benefits* in the form of *services* rather than cash payments, the reasonable cash value of each *service* rendered will be both an allowable expense and a benefit paid. An expense or *service* that is not covered by any of the plans is not an allowable expense.

3. **Claim determination period**—A *year*. If, in any *year*, a person is not covered under this policy for the entire *year*, the claim determination period will be the portion of the year in which he or she was covered under this policy.

Effect on benefits

One of the plans involved will pay *benefits* first. This is called the primary plan. Under the primary plan, *benefits* will be paid without regard to the other plan(s).

All other plans are called secondary plans. The secondary plan may reduce the *benefits* so that the total *benefits* paid or provided by all plans during a claim determination period are not more than 100 percent of the total allowable expense.

Order of benefit determination

To pay claims, it must be determined which plan is primary and which plan(s) is/are secondary. A plan will pay benefits first if it meets one of the following conditions:

Claims

1. The plan that covers the person as an *employee* submitting the claim.
2. For a child covered under both parents' plans, the plan covering the parent whose birthday (month and day) occurs first in the calendar year pays before the plan covering the other parent. If the birth dates of both parents are the same, the plan that has covered the parent for the longer period of time will be the primary plan.
3. In the case of *dependent* children covered under the plans of divorced or separated parents, the following rules apply:
 - The plan of a parent who has custody will pay benefits first.
 - The plan of a stepparent who has custody will pay benefits next.
 - The plan of a parent who does not have custody will pay benefits next.
 - The plan of a stepparent who does not have custody will pay benefits next.

A court decree may give one parent financial responsibility for the medical or dental expenses of the *dependent* children. In this case the rules stated above will not apply if they conflict with the court decree. Instead, the plan of the parent with financial responsibility will pay benefits first.

4. If a person is laid off or retired, or is a *dependent* of someone who was laid off or retired, that plan becomes the secondary plan to the plan of an active *employee*.

If rules 1-4 do not determine the primary plan, the plan covering the person for the longest time is the primary plan. If it still cannot be determined which plan is the primary plan, we will waive the above rules and incorporate the rules identical with those of the other plan.

Coordinating benefits with Medicare

Coordinating benefits with Medicare will conform to federal statutes and regulations in all instances.

If *you* are eligible for Medicare benefits, whether enrolled or not, *your benefits* under this plan will be coordinated to the extent *benefits* are paid or would have been payable under Medicare as allowed by federal statutes and regulations. Medicare means Title XVIII, Parts A and B, of the Social Security Act, as enacted or amended.

Right of recovery

We reserve the right to recover *benefit* payments made for an allowable expense under this plan in the amount that exceeds the maximum amount we are required to pay under these provisions. This applies to us against:

1. Anyone for whom we made such payment.
2. Any insurance company or organization that, according to these provisions, owes *benefits* for the same allowable expense under any other plan.

Right to necessary information

We may require certain information to apply and coordinate these provisions with other plans. We will, without *your* consent, release to or obtain information from any insurance company, organization or person to implement this provision. *You* agree to furnish any information we need to apply these provisions.

Recovery rights

Your obligation in the recovery process

We have the right to collect *our* payments made in error. *You* are obligated to cooperate and assist *us* and *our* agents to protect *our* recovery rights by:

1. Obtaining *our* consent before releasing any party from liability for payment of dental expenses.
2. Providing *us* with a copy of any legal notices arising from *your* injury and its treatment.
3. Assisting *our* enforcement of recovery rights and doing nothing to prejudice *our* recovery rights.
4. Refraining from designating all (or any disproportionate part) of any recovery as exclusively for “pain and suffering.”

If *you* fail to cooperate, we will collect from *you* any payments we made.

Workers' compensation

If we pay *benefits* but determine that the *benefits* were for the treatment of *bodily injury* or *sickness* that arose from or was sustained in the course of any occupation or employment for compensation, profit or gain, we have the right to recover that payment. We will exercise *our* right to recover against *you*.

The recovery rights will be applied even though:

1. The Workers' Compensation benefits are in dispute or are made by means of settlement or compromise;
2. No final determination is made that *bodily injury* or *sickness* was sustained in the course of, or resulted from, *your* employment;
3. The amount of Workers' Compensation due to medical or health care is not agreed upon or defined by *you* or the Workers' Compensation carrier; or
4. Medical or health care benefits are specifically excluded from the Workers' Compensation settlement or compromise.

You agree that, in consideration for the coverage provided by the policy, we will be notified of any Workers' Compensation claim that *you* make, and *you* agree to reimburse *us* as described above.

Eligibility

Definitions

The following terms are used in this section:

Late applicant: If you enroll or are enrolled more than 31 days after your eligibility date or *special enrollment date*, you will be considered a *late applicant*, except in the case of a court order and your *benefits* will only cover Preventive services for the first 12 months of coverage.

Special enrollment date means:

- The date of change in family status after the initial eligibility date as follows:
 - Date of marriage or a Declaration of Domestic Partners is registered by the California Secretary of State;
 - Date of divorce or termination of Domestic Partnership;
 - Date specified in a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO);
 - Date specified in a National Medical Support Notice (NMSN);
 - Date of birth of a natural born child; or
 - Date of adoption of a child or date of placement of a child with the *employee* for the purpose of adoption; or
- The date of termination of coverage under a group dental plan or other dental insurance coverage, as specified under the "Special Enrollment" provision.

Eligibility date

Employee eligibility date

The *employee* is eligible for coverage on the date:

- The eligibility requirements stated in the Employer Group Application, or as otherwise agreed to by us and the *policyholder*, are satisfied; and
- The *employee* is in an *active status*.

Dependent eligibility date

Each *dependent* is eligible for coverage on:

- The date the *employee* is eligible for coverage, if he or she has *dependents* who may be covered on that date;
- The date of the *employee's* marriage for any *dependents* (spouse or child) acquired on that date. In the case of a registered domestic partner, the date that the California Secretary of State has registered the Declaration of Domestic Partnership;
- The date of birth of the *employee's* natural-born child;
- The date of placement of the child for the purpose of adoption by the *employee*; or

Eligibility

- The date specified in a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO) or National Medical Support Notice (NMSN) for a child, or a valid court or administrative order for a spouse, which requires the *employee* to provide coverage for a child or spouse as specified in such orders.

The *employee* may cover his or her *dependents* only if the *employee* is also covered.

A *dependent* child who enrolls for other group coverage through any employment is no longer eligible for group coverage under the policy. If a *dependent* child becomes an *employee* of the *employer*, he or she is no longer eligible as a *dependent* and must make application as an eligible *employee*.

Employee enrollment

The *employee* must enroll as agreed by the *policyholder* and *us*. Depending on the total number of *employees* covered by the *employer's policy*, we may require any *employee* to provide evidence of health status whenever enrolling as permitted by laws, rules, or regulations.

If the *employee* enrolls more than 31 days after the *employee's eligibility date* or more than 31 days after the *employee's special enrollment date*, the *employee* is a *late applicant*.

Dependent enrollment

Check with the *employer* immediately on how to enroll for *dependent* coverage. The *employee* must enroll for *dependent* coverage and enroll additional *dependents* as agreed by the *policyholder* and *us*.

Depending on the total number of *employees* covered by the *employer's policy*, we may require any *dependent* to provide evidence of health status whenever enrolling as permitted by laws, rules, or regulations.

A *dependent* enrolled more than 31 days after the *dependent's eligibility date* or the *special enrollment date* will be a *late applicant*.

Newborn dependent enrollment

An *employee* who already has *dependent* child coverage in force prior to the newborn's date of birth is not required to complete an enrollment form for the newborn child. However, the *employee* must notify *us* of the birth.

An *employee* who does not have *dependent* child coverage must enroll the newborn *dependent*, as agreed by the *policyholder* and *us*, within 31 days after the date of birth.

Newborn dependent effective date

- If we receive enrollment on, prior to, or within 2 years of the newborn's date of birth, *dependent* coverage is effective on the first of the month following receipt of the enrollment.
- If we receive enrollment between 2 years and 2 years and 31 days after the newborn's date of birth, *dependent* coverage is effective on the child's second birth date.
- If we receive enrollment more than 2 years and 31 days after the newborn's date of birth, the newborn is considered a *late applicant*.

Eligibility

Special Enrollment

Loss of other coverage

If you are an employee or dependent who was previously eligible for coverage under the policy and had waived coverage, you may be eligible for *special enrollment* under the policy.

You will not be considered a late applicant, if the following applies:

- You declined enrollment under the policy at the time of initial enrollment because:
 - You were covered under a group dental plan at the time of eligibility and your coverage terminated as a result of:
 - Termination of employment or eligibility;
 - Reduction in number of hours of employment;
 - Divorce, legal separation or death of a spouse; or
 - Termination of your employer's contribution for the coverage; or
 - You had COBRA continuation coverage under another plan at the time of eligibility and such coverage has since been exhausted; and
 - You stated, at the time of initial enrollment, that coverage under the group dental plan, or COBRA continuation was your reason for declining enrollment; and
 - You were covered under an alternate plan provided by the employer and you are replacing coverage with the policy;
- You apply for coverage within 31 days after termination of coverage under the group dental plan or COBRA.

Dependent special enrollment period

The *dependent* Special Enrollment Period is a 31-day period from the *special enrollment date*.

If *dependent* coverage is available under the *employer's policy* or added to the *policy*, an *employee* who is a *covered person* can enroll eligible *dependents* during the Special Enrollment Period. An *employee*, who is otherwise eligible for coverage and had waived coverage under the *policy* when eligible, can enroll himself/herself and eligible *dependents* during the Special Enrollment Period. The *employee* or *dependent* enrolling within 31 days from the *special enrollment date* will not be considered a *late applicant*.

Effective date

Employee effective date

The *employee's effective date* provision is stated in the Employer Group Application. It may be the date immediately following, or the first of the month following, completion of the waiting period or the *special enrollment date*.

If the *employee* enrolls more than 31 days after his or her *eligibility date* or *special enrollment date*, he or she is a *late applicant*. The *effective date* of coverage will be the first of the month following the receipt of the enrollment form.

Eligibility

Employee delayed effective date

If the *employee* is not in *active status* on the *eligibility date*, coverage will be effective the day after the *employee* returns to *active status*. The *employer* must notify *us* in writing of the *employee's* return to *active status*.

Dependent effective date

The *dependent's effective date* will be determined as follows:

- If we receive enrollment on, prior to, or within 31 days of the *dependent's eligibility date* that *dependent* is covered on the date he or she is eligible.
- If we receive enrollment on, prior to, or within 31 days of the *dependent's special enrollment date*, that *dependent's* coverage is effective on the *special enrollment date*.
- If we receive enrollment more than 31 days after the *dependent's eligibility date*, or the *special enrollment date*, that *dependent* is considered a *late applicant*. The *effective date* of coverage will be the first of the month following the receipt of the enrollment form.

However, no *dependent's effective date* will be prior to the *employee's effective date* of coverage.

Benefit changes

Benefit changes will become effective on the date specified by *us*.

Incontestability: After *you* have been insured for two years, we cannot contest the validity of coverage except for nonpayment of premium. Statements *you* make cannot be contested unless they are in writing with *your* signature. A copy of the form must then be given to *you*.

Retired employee coverage

Retired employee eligibility date

Retired *employees* are an eligible class of *employees* if requested on the Employer Group Application and if approved by *us*. An *employee* who retires while insured under this *policy* is considered eligible for retired *employee* dental coverage on the date of retirement if the eligibility requirements stated in the Employer Group Application are satisfied.

Retired employee enrollment

Notification of the *employee's* retirement must be submitted to *us* by the *employer* within 31 days of the date of retirement. If we receive the notification more than 31 days after the date of retirement, *you* will be considered a *late applicant*.

Eligibility

Retired employee effective date

The *effective date* of coverage for an eligible retired *employee* is the date of retirement for an *employee* who retires after the date we approve the *employer's* request for a retiree classification, provided we receive notice of the retirement within 31 days. If we receive notice more than 31 days after retirement, the *effective date* of coverage will be the date we specify.

Retired employee benefit changes

Additional or increased insurance or a decrease in insurance will become effective on the approved date of change.

Reinstatement

If the *policy* terminates, it may be reinstated at *our* option. Reinstatement requests must be submitted in writing by the *policyholder*, are subject to *our* approval. We will issue a conditional receipt for the premium tendered at the time of application, and the policy will be reinstated upon approval of such application by *us*, or upon the thirtieth day following the date of such conditional receipt unless we have previously notified in writing of *our* disapproval of the application for reinstatement.

Within thirty days of our receipt of the reinstatement request, the *policy* will be reinstated or the *policyholder* will be notified in writing of our disapproval.

A *policyholder* that requests reinstatement will be assessed a Reinstatement Fee.

Eligibility

Terminating coverage

Your insurance coverage may end at any time, as stated below and in the **Employer Group Application**.

Coverage terminates on the earliest of the following events:

1. Termination date listed in the policy;
2. Failure to pay premium by the required due date;
3. The date the *employer* stops participating in the policy;
4. The date *you* enter the military fulltime;
5. When *you* no longer are eligible for coverage as outlined in the **Employer Group Application**;
6. *You* terminate employment with the *employer*;
7. For a *dependent*, the date the *employee's* insurance terminates;
8. For a *dependent*, the date he/she no longer meets the definition of a *dependent*;
9. The date an *employee* requests that insurance be terminated for the *employee* and/or *dependents*;
10. An *employee's* retirement date unless the **Employer Group Application** provides coverage for retirees; or
11. For any *benefit* that may be deleted from the policy, the date it is deleted.

Domestic Partnership and any eligibility allowed there under will terminate on:

1. The date one of the *domestic partners* dies.
2. The date one of the *domestic partners* marries.
3. The earliest of the following:
 - The date one *domestic partner* gives or sends to the other partner a written notice that he or she is terminating the Domestic Partnership.
 - The date the *employee* submits to the *employer* notification to terminate the domestic Partnership;
or
 - The date as indicated on the Notice of Termination of Domestic Partnership or its equivalent, as filed in the city, county, or state in which the *domestic partners* reside if it offers the ability to terminate a Domestic Partnership.

The coverage of any *domestic partner's dependent* who became eligible as a result of the Domestic Partnership will terminate upon termination of the Domestic Partnership.

Special provisions for active status

If the *employer* continues coverage under this policy, *your* coverage remains in force for no longer than:

1. Three consecutive months if the *employee* is temporarily laid off, in part-time status or on approved non-medical leave of absence; or
2. Six consecutive months if the *employee* is *totally disabled*.

If this coverage terminates and the *employee* returns to an *active status*, the *employee* will be considered a new *employee* and must re-enroll for insurance coverage.

Eligibility

Replacement provisions

Applicability: This provision applies only if:

1. *You* are eligible for dental coverage on *your employer's* effective date under this policy; and
2. *You* were covered on the final day of coverage on *your employer's* previous group dental plan (Prior Plan).

Delayed effective date: *We* will waive the Delayed Effective Date provision if it applies to *you* when *you* would otherwise be eligible for dental coverage on *your employer's* effective date under this policy. Dental coverage is provided to *you* until the earlier of the following dates:

1. 90 days after *your employer's* effective date under this plan.
2. The date *your* dental coverage would otherwise terminate according to the **Terminating coverage** section in the certificate.

If *you* satisfy the Delayed Effective Date provision before either of these dates, *your* dental coverage will continue uninterrupted.

Deductible/coinsurance amount: Any *expense incurred* while *you* were covered under the Prior Plan may be used to satisfy *your deductible* amount under this dental plan. These expenses must qualify as *covered expenses* that would have been applied to the *deductible/coinsurance* amount for the *calendar year* that this dental plan becomes effective.

Prior plan extension of benefits: Any *benefits* that *you* are entitled to receive during an extension period under *your* Prior Plan are not considered payable *benefits* under this plan.

Modification of policy

This plan may be modified at any time by agreement between *us* and the *policyholder* without the consent of any *member*. Modifications will not be valid unless approved by *our* president, vice president, secretary or other authorized officer. The approval must be endorsed on, or attached to, the policy. No agent has the authority to modify the policy, waive any of the policy provisions, extend the time for premium payment, make or alter any contract, or waive any of the Company's other rights or responsibilities.

Disclosures

Discount/Access disclosure

From time to time, we may offer or provide *you* with access to discount programs. In addition, we may arrange for third-party service providers such as optometrists, *dentists* and laboratories to provide *you* with discounts on goods and *services*. Some of these third-party service providers may make payments to *us* when these discount programs are used. These payments offset the cost to *us* of making these programs available and may help reduce the costs of *your* plan administration.

Who has responsibility for these discounts?

Although we have arranged for third parties to offer discounts on these goods and *services*, these discount programs are not insured benefits under this certificate. The third-party providers are solely responsible for providing the goods and/ or *services*. We are not responsible for any goods and/ or *services* nor are we liable if vendors refuse to honor such discounts. Further, we are not liable for the negligent provision of such goods and/ or *services* by third-party service providers.

Discount programs may not be available to people who "opt out" of marketing communications, or where otherwise restricted by law.

Shared savings

Shared savings program

We have a Shared Savings Program that provides *you* with savings when we obtain discounts from *dentists*. When we are able to obtain these discounts, *your deductible* and *coinsurance* will be calculated at the discounted amount.

You do not need to inquire in advance about a *dentist's* status. When processing *your* claim, we automatically will determine if the *dentist* was participating in the program at the time treatment was provided, and we will calculate *your deductible* and *coinsurance* on the discounted amount. *Your* Explanation of Benefits statement will reflect any savings received.

However, *you* may inquire in advance to determine if a *dentist* participates in the Shared Savings Program by calling 1-800-233-4013. *Dentist* arrangements in the Shared Savings Program change constantly. We cannot guarantee that a *dentist* who is in the Shared Savings Program at the time of *your* inquiry will still be in the program at the time treatment is received. Discounts depend on availability on a claim by claim basis. Therefore, availability and discount amounts cannot be guaranteed.

We make no representations about the *dentists* participating in the Shared Savings Program. Additionally, we reserve the right to modify, amend or discontinue the Shared Savings Program at any time.

Definitions

Accidental injury: Damage to the mouth, teeth and supporting tissue due directly to an accident. It does not include damage to the teeth, appliances or prosthetic devices that results from chewing or biting food or other substances.

Active status: The *employee* performs all of his or her duties on a regular full-time basis for the required number of hours per week shown on the employer's group application, for 48 weeks per year. *Active status* applies to *employees* whether they perform their duties at the *employer's* business establishment or at another location when required to travel for job purposes; on each regular paid vacation day; and any regular non-working holiday if the *employee* is not *totally disabled* on his or her effective date of coverage. An *employee* is considered in *active status* if he or she was in *active status* on his or her last regular working day.

Benefit: The amount payable in accordance with the provisions of this plan.

Bodily injury: An injury due directly to an accident.

Coinsurance: The percent of *covered expense* that is payable as *benefits* after the *deductible* is satisfied, up to the *maximum benefit*. The applicable *coinsurance* percentage rate is shown in the **Summary of your benefits**.

Cosmetic dentistry: Services provided by a *dentist* primarily for the purpose of improving appearance.

Covered expense: The *reimbursement limit* for a *covered service*.

Covered service: A service considered a *dental necessity*, *medical necessity* or routine Preventive service that is:

1. Ordered by a *dentist*;
2. For the *benefits* described, subject to any *maximum benefit*, as well as all other terms, provisions, limitations and exclusions of the policy; and
3. Incurred when a *member* is insured for that *benefit* under the policy on the *expense incurred date*.

Deductible: The amount of *covered expenses* you must incur and pay before we pay *benefits*.

Dental necessity: The extent of care and treatment that is the generally accepted, proven established practice by most *dentists* with similar experience and training. Such care and treatment must use the least costly setting or procedure required by the patient's condition, and must not be provided primarily for the convenience of the patient or the *dentist*. To determine *dental necessity*, we may require preoperative dental x-rays and other pertinent information to determine if *benefits* are payable for the service submitted.

Dentist: An individual who is duly licensed to practice dentistry or perform oral surgery and is acting within the lawful scope of his or her license.

Definitions

Dependent: A covered *employee's*:

1. Lawful spouse or domestic partner; and
2. Natural blood related child, stepchild or child of a *domestic partner*, a child placed for adoption, or legally adopted child whose age is less than the limiting age; or
3. Child for whom *you* have received a court or administrative order to provide coverage, if *you* are eligible for family coverage until:
 - Such court order or administrative order is no longer in effect; or
 - The child is enrolled for comparable health coverage which is effective no later than the termination of the child's coverage under this plan.

The coverage for each *dependent* child is subject to the following limiting age(s):

1. The birthday he or she attains the age of 26; or
2. The birthday he or she attains the age of 26 if such child is a regular full-time attendance at an accredited secondary school, college or university or licensed technical school. The *dependent* child must be enrolled for sufficient course credits to maintain full –time status as defined by that school. A *dependent* child continues to be eligible for coverage for up to four months following the close of a school term only if enrolled as full-time student for the following school term.

A covered *dependent* child who becomes an *employee* eligible for other group coverage no longer is eligible for coverage under this *policy*.

A covered *dependent* child who attains the limiting age while insured under this policy remains eligible if the covered *dependent* child is:

1. Incapable of self-sustaining employment due to a physical or mentally disabling injury, illness or condition; and
2. Chiefly dependent upon *you* for support and maintenance.

We will notify *you* 90 days before the date *your* covered *dependent* child reaches the limiting age. Within 60 days of receiving the notice of attainment of the limiting age, *you* must submit proof to *us* of *your* covered *dependent* child's eligibility due to any disabling condition.

A disabled *dependent* child, as defined in the bulleted items above, who attained the limiting age while insured under the *employer's* previous group dental plan (Prior Plan) is eligible for coverage under the *policy*. Please refer to the **Replacement provisions** section of this certificate.

You must furnish satisfactory proof to *us* upon *our* request that the conditions, as defined in the bulleted items above, exist on and after the date the limiting age is reached. After two years from the date the first proof was furnished, we may not request such proof more often than annually. If satisfactory proof is not submitted to *us*, the child's coverage will not continue beyond the last date of eligibility.

Definitions

Domestic Partner: A member of a domestic partnership established in California by filing a Declaration of Domestic Partnership with the Secretary of State. The domestic partnership must meet all of the requirements of California Family Code Section 297 as shown below:

1. Domestic partners are two adults who have chosen to share one another's lives in an intimate and committed relationship of mutual caring.
2. A domestic partnership shall be established in California when both persons file a Declaration of Domestic Partnership with the Secretary of State pursuant to this division, and, at the time of filing, all of the following requirements are met:
 - Neither person is married to someone else or is a member of another domestic partnership with someone else that has not been terminated, dissolved, or adjudged a nullity.
 - The two persons are not related by blood in a way that would prevent them from being married to each other in this state.
 - Both persons are at least 18 years of age or have the appropriate court order allowing the underage person(s) to establish a domestic partnership;
 - Either of the following:
 - Both persons are members of the same sex.
 - One or both of the persons meet the eligibility criteria under Title II of the Social Security Act as defined in 42 U.S.C. Section 402(a) for old-age insurance benefits or Title XVI of the Social Security Act as defined in 42 U.S.C. Section 1381 for aged individuals.
Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, persons of opposite sexes may not constitute a domestic partnership unless one or both of the persons are over the age of 62.
 - Both persons are capable of consenting to the domestic partnership.

Emergency: A sudden, serious dental condition caused by an accident or dental disease that, if not treated immediately, would result in serious harm to the dental health of the *member*. Coverage for an *emergency* is limited to *palliative* care only.

Employee: The person who is regularly employed and paid a salary or earnings and is in *active status* at the *employer's* place of business. If the *employer* is a union, the *employee* must be in good standing and eligible for insurance according to the union's rules of eligibility.

Employer: The *policyholder* of the **Group Insurance Plan**, or any subsidiary described in the **Employer Group Application**.

Expense incurred: The amount *you* are charged for a *service*.

Expense incurred date: The date on which the *service* is performed for *services* not listed above.

Family member: Anyone related to *you* by blood, marriage or adoption.

Definitions

Health care practitioner: Someone who is professionally licensed by the appropriate state agency to diagnose or treat a *bodily injury* or *sickness*, and who provides *services* within the scope of that license. A *health care practitioner's* services are not covered if he/she lives in *your* home or is a *family member*.

Late applicant: An *employee* or an *employee's* eligible *dependent* who enrolls or is enrolled for dental coverage more than 31 days after his/her eligibility date.

Maximum benefit: The maximum amount that may be payable for each *member* for *covered services*. The applicable *maximum benefit* is shown in the **Summary of your benefits**. No further *benefits* are payable after the *maximum benefit* is reached.

Maximum family deductible: The total *deductible* applied to one family in a *year*, as defined on the **Summary of your benefits**.

Medical necessity/ medically necessary: The extent of services required to diagnose or treat a *bodily injury* or *sickness* that is known to be safe and effective by most *health care practitioners* who are licensed to diagnose or treat that *bodily injury* or *sickness*. Such *services* must be:

1. The least costly setting procedure required by *your* condition;
2. Not provided primarily for the convenience of *you* or the *health care practitioner*;
3. Consistent with *your* symptoms or diagnosis of the *sickness* or *bodily injury* under treatment;
4. Furnished for an appropriate duration and frequency in accordance with accepted medical practices, and appropriate for *your* symptoms, diagnosis, or *sickness* or *bodily injury*; and
5. Substantiated by the records and documentation maintained by the provider of *service*.

Member: *Employees* and/or their covered *dependents*.

Palliative: Treatment used in an *emergency* to relieve, ease or alleviate the acute severity of dental pain, swelling or bleeding. *Palliative* treatment usually is performed for, but not limited to, the following acute conditions:

1. Toothache;
2. Localized infection;
3. Muscular pain; or
4. Sensitivity and irritations of the soft tissue.

Services are not considered *palliative* when used in association with any other *covered services* except X-rays and/or exams.

Policyholder: The legal entity named on the face page of the policy.

Reimbursement limit is the maximum allowable fee for a *covered service*. It is the lesser of:

1. The fee most often charged in the geographical area where the *service* was performed;
2. The fee most often charged by the provider;
3. The fee that is recognized as reasonable by a prudent person;

Definitions

4. The fee determined by comparing charges for similar *services* to a national database adjusted to the geographical area where the *services* or procedures were performed;
5. At *our* choice the fee determined by using a national Relative Value Scale. Relative Value Scale means a methodology that values procedures and *services* relative to each other that includes, but is not limited to, a scale in terms of difficulty, work, risk, as well as the material and outside costs of providing the *service*, as adjusted to the geographic area where the *services* or procedures were performed;
6. In the case of *services* rendered by providers with whom *we* have agreements, the fee that *we* have negotiated with that provider;
7. The fee based on a percentage of the fee Medicare allows for the same or similar *services* provided in the same geographic area.

Charges billed by a provider that exceed the *reimbursement limit* will not apply to the *member's deductible* or *coinsurance*.

Services: Procedures, surgeries, exams, consultations, advice, diagnosis, referrals, treatment, tests, supplies, drugs, devices or technologies.

Sickness: A disturbance in function or structure of *your* body causing physical signs or symptoms that, if left untreated, will result in deterioration of your health.

Total disability/totally disabled: An *employee* or employed covered spouse who, during the first 12 months of a disability, is prevented by *bodily injury* or *sickness* from performing all aspects of his or her respective job or occupation. After 12 months, *total disability/totally disabled* means the person is prevented by *bodily injury* or *sickness* from engaging in any paid job or occupation that he/she is reasonably qualified for by education, training or experience.

For any *member* who is not employed, *total disability* means a disability preventing him/her from performing the usual and customary activities of someone in good health of the same age and gender.

A *totally disabled* individual may not engage in any paid job or occupation.

Treatment plan: A written report on a form satisfactory to us and completed by the *dentist* that includes:

1. A list of the services to be performed, using the American Dental Association nomenclature and codes;
2. *Your dentist's* written description of the proposed treatment;
3. Supporting pretreatment x-rays showing *your* dental needs;
4. Itemized cost of the proposed treatment; and
5. Any other appropriate diagnostic materials as requested by *us*.

We, us and our: The insurance company as shown on the cover page of this certificate.

Definitions

Year means the period of time which begins on any January 1st and ends on the following December 31st. When *you* first become covered by the *policy*, the first *year* begins for *you* on the effective date of *your* insurance and ends on the following December 31st.

You and your: Any covered *employee* and/or *dependent(s)*.

Change in Plan Rider: Coverage for Open Enrollment

Your certificate is amended to include this plan rider. The effective date of the rider is the latter of the effective date of *your* certificate or the date this rider is added to *your* certificate. *Benefits* are subject to all policy terms, conditions and limitations, including waiting periods.

Open enrollment period

The open enrollment period is the annual period during which eligible *employees* may apply for coverage for themselves and their eligible *dependents* as outlined in the **Employer Group Application** (see your employer for details).

To enroll for coverage

The *employee* must complete the enrollment/change form provided by *us*, carefully listing each person to be covered. Enrollment during the open enrollment period will be allowed if *we* receive the completed forms within the open enrollment period. Any reference to *late applicants* within the Eligibility section of *your* certificate and/or Policy is removed. *Late applicants* are not eligible for coverage, and must wait until the following open enrollment periods to apply.

When you are eligible for coverage section in your certificate is amended as follows:

The eligibility date of coverage is amended as follows:

Employee Coverage:

The *employee* is eligible for coverage on the date:

1. The eligibility requirements stated in the Employer Group Application, or as otherwise agreed to by *us* and the *policyholder*, are satisfied;
2. The *employee* is in an *active status*, or;
3. The employer's annual anniversary date.

Dependent coverage:

Each *dependent* is eligible for coverage on the date:

1. The *employee* is eligible for coverage, if he or she has *dependents* who may be covered on that date;
2. Of the *employee's* marriage for any *dependents* (spouse or child) acquired on that date;
3. Of birth of the *employee's* natural-born child;
4. Of placement of the child for the purpose of adoption by the *employee*;
5. Specified in a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO) or National Medical Support Notice (NMSN) for a child, or a valid court or administrative order for a spouse, which requires the *employee* to provide coverage for a child or spouse as specified in such orders.
6. Of the *employer's* annual anniversary date.

Please check your Schedule of Benefits for waiting periods that may apply to *you*.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bruce Broussard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bruce" and last name "Broussard" clearly distinguishable.

Bruce Broussard
President

HUMANA[®]

Specialty Benefits

HumanaDental.com

Toll Free 800-233-4013

1100 Employers Blvd

Green Bay WI 54344

Insured by HumanaDental Insurance Company
In Kentucky, insured by The Dental Concern, Inc.

NO COST LANGUAGE SERVICES NOTICE

No Cost Language Services. You can get an interpreter. You can get documents read to you and some sent to you in your language. For help, call us at the number listed on your ID card. For more help call the CA Dept. of Insurance at 1-800-927-4357. (English)

Servicios de idiomas sin costo. Puede obtener un intérprete. Le pueden leer documentos y que le envíen algunos en español. Para obtener ayuda, llámenos al número que figura en su tarjeta de identificación. Para obtener más ayuda, llame al Departamento de Seguros de CA al 1-800-927-4357. (Spanish)

خدمات ترجمه بدون هزینه. می‌توانید خدمات یک مترجم شفاهی استفاده کنید و بگوئید مدارک به زبان فارسی برایتان خوانده و یا فرستاده شوند برای دریافت کمک، با ما از طریق شماره تلفنی که روی کارت شناسانی شما قید شده است تماس بگیرید. برای دریافت کمک بیشتر، به CA Dept. of Insurance (اداره بیمه کالیفرنیا) به شماره 1-800-927-4357 تلفن کنید. (Arabic)

Անվճար լեզվական ծառայություններ: Դուք կարող եք թարգմանիչ ձեռք բերել: Դուք կարող եք փաստաթղթերն ընթերցել տալ ձեզ համար եւ դրանց որոշ մասը կարող է ձեզ ուղարկվել ձեր լեզվով: Օգնության համար զանգահարեք մեզ ձեր ինքնության (ID) քարտի վրա նշված համարով: Լրացուցիչ օգնության համար զանգահարեք Կալիֆոռնիայի Ապահովագրության Բաժանմունք 1-800-927-4357 համարով: (Անգլերեն) (Armenian)

免費語言服務。您可獲得口譯員服務，用漢語把文件唸給您聽，並且把部分漢語文件發送給您。欲取得協助，請撥打您的ID卡上所列示的電話號碼與我們聯絡。欲取得其他協助，請致電 1-800-927-4357（英語）與加州保險部聯絡。（Chinese）

Kev Pab Txhais Lus Tsis Yuav Nqi. Koj muaj peev xwm thov tau neeg txhais lus rau koj. Koj muaj peev xwm thov kom neeg nyeem ntawv rau koj thiab xav ntawv rau koj ua koj cov lus. Yog xav tau kev pab, hu rau peb ntawm tus xov tooj nyob hauv koj daim yuaj nrog cev (ID card). Yog xav tau kev pab ntxiv hu rau CA lub Rooj Tsav Xwm Saib Xyuas Kev Faj Seeb ntawm 1-800-927-4357 (Hmong)

無料の言語サービス 日本語で通訳をご提供し、書類をお読みします。サービスをご希望の方は、IDカード記載の番号までご連絡ください。詳細については、カリフォルニア州保険庁 1-800-927-4357（英語）まで電話でお問い合わせください。(Japanese)

សេវាកម្មឥតគិតថ្លៃ។ អ្នក អាចទទួលបានអ្នកបកប្រែភាសា និង អាចឯកសារជូនអ្នក។ សម្រាប់ជំនួយ សូមទូរស័ព្ទមកយើងខ្ញុំតាមលេខដែលមានបង្ហាញលើប័ណ្ណសំគាល់ខ្លួនរបស់អ្នក។ សម្រាប់ជំនួយបន្ថែមទៀត សូមទូរស័ព្ទទៅលក់ស្តង់ដាររបស់រដ្ឋកាលីហ្វ័រញ៉ា តាមលេខ 1-800-927-4357 (Khmer)

무료 언어지원 서비스. 귀하는 한국어 통역 서비스를 받으실 수 있습니다. 한국어로 문서를 낭독해주는 서비스를 받으시거나 한국어로 된 문서를 받으실 수 있습니다. 도움이 필요하신 분은 귀하의 ID카드에 나와있는 안내 전화로 문의해 주십시오. 보다 자세한 사항을 문의하실 분은 캘리포니아 주 보험국, 안내 전화 1-800-927-4357 번으로 연락해 주십시오. (Korean)

خدمات مجانی مربوط به زبان. می‌توانید خدمات یک مترجم شفاهی استفاده کنید و بگوئید مدارک به زبان فارسی برایتان خوانده و یا فرستاده شوند برای دریافت کمک، با ما از طریق شماره تلفنی که روی کارت شناسانی شما قید شده است تماس بگیرید. برای دریافت کمک بیشتر، به CA Dept. of Insurance (اداره بیمه کالیفرنیا) به شماره 1-800-927-4357 تلفن کنید. (Persian)

ਮੁਫਤ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ। ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਈ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਆਂ ਮਿਲ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਪੜ੍ਹ ਕੇ ਸੁਣਾਏ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਨ ਅਤੇ ਕੁਝ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਭੇਜੇ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਨ। ਮਦਦ ਲਈ, ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਆਈਡੀ (ID) ਕਾਰਡ 'ਤੇ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਫ਼ੌਨ ਕਰੋ। ਵਧੇਰੇ ਮਦਦ ਲਈ ਕੈਲੀਫ਼ੋਰਨੀਆ ਡਿਪਾਰਟਮੈਂਟ ਆਫ਼ ਇਨਸੂਰੈਂਸ ਨੂੰ 1-800-927-4357 'ਤੇ ਫ਼ੌਨ ਕਰੋ। (ਅੰਗ੍ਰੇਜ਼ੀ) (Punjabi)

Бесплатные услуги перевода. Вы можете воспользоваться услугами переводчика. Для вас могут прочесть документы или выслать вам некоторые из них на вашем языке. Если вам требуется помощь, звоните нам по номеру, указанному на вашей идентификационной (ID) карте. Если вам требуется дополнительная помощь, звоните в Департамент страхования штата Калифорния по телефону 1-800-927-4357. (Английский) (Russian)

Walang Gastos na mga Serbisyo sa Wika. Makakakuha ka ng interpreter at maipababasa mo sa Tagalog ang mga dokumento. Para makakuha ng tulong, tawagan kami sa numerong nakalista sa iyong ID card. Para sa karagdagang tulong, tawagan ang CA Dept. of Insurance sa 1-800-927-4357 (Taglog)

Các Dịch Vụ Trợ Giúp Ngôn Ngữ Miễn Phí. Quý vị có thể được nhận dịch vụ thông dịch. Được người khác đọc giúp các tài liệu và một vài tài liệu sẽ được gửi cho quý vị bằng ngôn ngữ của quý vị. Để được giúp đỡ, hãy gọi cho chúng tôi tại số điện thoại ghi trên thẻ hội viên của quý vị. Để được trợ giúp thêm, xin gọi Phòng bảo hiểm California tại số 1-800-927-4357 (Vietnamese)

NOTICE TO INSURED REGARDING FILING OF COMPLAINTS

As our insured, your satisfaction is very important to us. If you have a question about your policy, if you need assistance with a problem, or if you have a claim, you should first contact your insurance agent or contact us at:

**HumanaDental Correspondence Office
P.O. Box 14638
Lexington, KY 40512-4638
(800)-233-4013**

Should you have a valid claim, we fully expect to provide a fair settlement in a timely fashion.

If you have not received a satisfactory resolution to your problem from either your insurance agent or us, you may contact the California Department of Insurance with your complaint.

To contact the Department, write or call:

**California Department of Insurance
Consumer Communications Bureau
300 S Spring Street, South Tower
Los Angeles, CA 90013
(800)-927-4357 within California
(213) 897-8921 in Los Angeles or outside California**

CALIFORNIA LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE GUARANTEE ASSOCIATION ACT SUMMARY DOCUMENT AND DISCLAIMER

Residents of California who purchase life and health insurance and annuities should know that the insurance companies licensed in this state to write these types of insurance are members of the California Life and Health Insurance Guarantee Association ("CLHIGA"). The purpose of this Association is to assure that policyholders will be protected, within limits, in the unlikely event that a member insurer becomes financially unable to meet its obligations. If this should happen, the Guarantee Association will assess its other member insurance companies for the money to pay the claims of insured persons who live in this state and, in some cases, to keep coverage in force. The valuable extra protection provided through the Association is not unlimited, as noted below, and is not a substitute for consumers' care in selecting insurers.

The California Life and Health Insurance Guarantee Association may not provide coverage for this policy. If coverage is provided, it may be subject to substantial limitations or exclusions, and require continued residency in California. You should not rely on coverage by the Association in selecting an insurance company or in selecting an insurance policy.

Coverage is NOT provided for your policy or any portion of it that is not guaranteed by the insurer or for which you have assumed the risk, such as variable contract sold by prospectus.

Insurance companies or their agents are required by law to give or send you this notice. **However, insurance companies and their agents are prohibited by law from using the existence of the Guarantee Association to induce you to purchase any kind of insurance policy.**

Policyholders with additional questions should first contact their insurer or agent or may then contact:

California Life and Health Insurance Guarantee Association
P.O. Box 17319
Beverly Hills, CA 90209-3319

or

Consumer Service Division
California Department of Insurance
300 South Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Below is a brief summary of this law's coverages, exclusions and limits. This summary does not cover all provisions of the law; nor does it in any way change anyone's rights or obligations under the Act or the rights or obligations of the Association.

COVERAGE

Generally, individuals will be protected by the California Life and Health Insurance Guarantee Association if they live in this state and hold a life or health insurance contract, or an annuity, or if they

are insured under a group insurance contract, issued by a member insurer. The beneficiaries, payees or assignees of insured persons are protected as well, even if they live in another state.

EXCLUSIONS FROM COVERAGE

However, persons holding such policies are **not** protected by this Guarantee Association if:

- Their insurer was not authorized to do business in this state when it issued the policy or contract;
- Their policy was issued by a health care service plan (HMO), Blue Cross, Blue Shield, a charitable organization, a fraternal benefit society, a mandatory state pooling plan, a mutual assessment company, an insurance exchange, or a grants and annuities society;
- They are eligible for protection under the laws of another state. This may occur when insolvent insurer was incorporated in another state whose guaranty association protects insureds who live outside the state.

The Guarantee Association also does **not** provide coverage for:

- Unallocated annuity contracts; that is, contracts which are not issued to and owned by an individual and which guarantee rights to group contract holders, not individuals;
- Employer and association plans, to the extent they are self-funded or uninsured;
- Synthetic guaranteed interest contracts;
- Any policy or portion of a policy which is not guaranteed by the insurer or for which the individual has assumed the risk, such as a variable contract sold by prospectus;
- Any policy of reinsurance unless an assumption certificate was issued;
- Interest rate yields that exceed an average rate;
- Any portion of a contract that provides dividends or experience rating credits.

LIMITS ON AMOUNT OF COVERAGE

The Act limits the Association to pay benefits as follows:

LIFE AND ANNUITY BENEFITS

- 80% of what the life insurance company would owe under a life policy or annuity contract up to
- \$100,000 in cash surrender values,
- \$100,000 in present value of annuities, or

- \$250,000 in life insurance death benefits
- A maximum of \$250,000 for any one insured life no matter how many policies and contracts there were with the same company, even if the policies provided different types of coverages.

HEALTH BENEFITS

- A maximum of \$200,000 of the contractual obligations that the health insurance company would owe were it not insolvent. The maximum may increase or decrease annually based upon changes in the health care cost component of the consumer price index.

PREMIUM SURCHARGE

Member insurers are required to recoup assessments paid to the Association by way of a surcharge on premiums charged for insurance policies to which the Act applies.

Notices

The following pages contain important information about Humana's claims procedures and certain federal laws. There may be differences between the Certificate of Insurance and this Notice packet. There may also be differences between this notice packet and state law. The Plan participant is eligible for the rights more beneficial to the participant.

This section includes notices about:

Claims and Appeal Procedures

Federal Legislation

Medical Child Support Orders

Continuation of Coverage for Full-time Students During Medical Leave of Absence

General Notice Of COBRA Continuation Of Coverage Rights

Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 (TEFRA)

Family And Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA)

Your Rights Under ERISA

Privacy and Confidentiality Statement

CLAIMS AND APPEALS PROCEDURES

The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) established minimum requirements for claims procedures. Humana complies with these standards. Covered persons in insured plans subject to ERISA should also consult their insurance benefit plan documents (e.g., the Certificate of Insurance or Evidence of Coverage). Humana complies with the requirements set forth in any such benefit plan document issued by it with respect to the plan unless doing so would prevent compliance with the requirements of the federal ERISA statute and the regulations issued thereunder. The following claims procedures are intended to comply with the ERISA claims regulation, and should be interpreted consistent with the minimum requirements of that regulation. Covered persons in plans not subject to ERISA should consult their benefit plan documents for the applicable claims and appeals procedures.

DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY

With respect to paying claims for benefits or determining eligibility for coverage under a policy issued by Humana, Humana as administrator for claims determinations and as ERISA claims review fiduciary, shall have full and exclusive discretionary authority to:

- 1) Interpret plan provisions.
- 2) Make decisions regarding eligibility for coverage and benefits; and
- 3) Resolve factual questions relating to coverage and benefits.

CLAIMS PROCEDURES

Definitions

Adverse determination: means a decision to deny benefits for a pre-service claim or a post-service claim under a group health and/or dental plan.

Claimant: A covered person (or authorized representative) who files a claim.

Concurrent-care Decision: A decision by the plan to reduce or terminate benefits otherwise payable for a course of treatment that has been approved by the plan (other than by plan amendment or termination) or a decision with respect to a request by a Claimant to extend a course of treatment beyond the period of time or number of treatments that has been approved by the plan.

Group health plan: an employee welfare benefit plan to the extent the plan provides dental care to employees or their dependents directly (self insured) or through insurance (including HMO plans), reimbursement or otherwise.

Health insurance issuer: the offering company listed on the face page of your Certificate of Insurance or Certificate of Coverage and referred to in this document as "Humana."

Post-service Claim: Any claim for a benefit under a group health plan that is not a Pre-service Claim.

Pre-service Claim: A request for authorization of a benefit for which the plan conditions receipt of the benefit, in whole or in part, on advance approval.

Urgent-care Claim (expedited review): A claim for covered services to which the application of the time periods for making non-urgent care determinations could seriously jeopardize the life or health of the covered person or the ability of the covered person to regain maximum function; or in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of the covered person's medical condition, would subject the covered person to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the service that is the subject of the claim.

Humana will make a determination of whether a claim is an Urgent-care Claim. However, any claim a physician, with knowledge of a covered person's medical condition, determines is a "Urgent-care Claim" will be treated as a "claim involving urgent care."

Submitting a Claim

This section describes how a Claimant files a claim for plan benefits.

A claim must be filed in writing and delivered by mail, postage prepaid, by FAX or e-mail. A request for pre-authorization may be filed by telephone. The claim or request for pre-authorization must be submitted to Humana or to Humana's designee at the address indicated in the covered person's benefit plan document or identification card. Claims will be not be deemed submitted for purposes of these procedures unless and until received at the correct address.

Claims submissions must be in a format acceptable to Humana and compliant with any legal requirements. Claims not submitted in accordance with the requirements of applicable federal law respecting privacy of protected health information and/or electronic claims standards will not be accepted by Humana.

Claims submissions must be timely. Claims must be filed as soon as reasonably possible after they are incurred, and in no event later than the period of time described in the benefit plan document.

Claims submissions must be complete and delivered to the designated address. At a minimum they must include:

- Name of the covered person who incurred the covered expense.
- Name and address of the provider
- Diagnosis
- Procedure or nature of the treatment
- Place of service
- Date of service
- Billed amount

A general request for an interpretation of plan provisions will not be considered a claim. Requests of this type, such as a request for an interpretation of the eligibility provisions of the plan, should be directed to the plan administrator.

Procedural Defects

If a Pre-service Claim submission is not made in accordance with the plan's requirements, Humana will notify the Claimant of the problem and how it may be remedied within five (5) days (or within 24 hours, in the case of an Urgent-care Claim). If a Post-service Claim is not made in accordance with the plan's requirement, it will be returned to the submitter.

Authorized Representatives

A covered person may designate an authorized representative to act on his or her behalf in pursuing a benefit claim or appeal. The authorization must be in writing and authorize disclosure of health information.

If a document is not sufficient to constitute designation of an authorized representative, as determined by Humana, the plan will not consider a designation to have been made. An assignment of benefits does not constitute designation of an authorized representative.

- Any document designating an authorized representative must be submitted to Humana in advance or at the time an authorized representative commences a course of action on behalf of the covered person. Humana may verify the designation with the covered person prior to recognizing authorized representative status.
- In any event, a health care provider with knowledge of a covered person's medical condition acting in connection with an Urgent-care Claim will be recognized by the plan as the covered person's authorized representative.

Covered persons should carefully consider whether to designate an authorized representative.

Circumstances may arise under which an authorized representative may make decisions independent of the covered person, such as whether and how to appeal a claim denial.

Claims Decisions

After a determination on a claim is made, Humana will notify the Claimant within a reasonable time, as follows:

Pre-service Claims

Humana will provide notice of a favorable or *adverse determination* within a reasonable time appropriate to the medical circumstances but no later than 15 days after the plan receives of the claim.

This period may be extended by an additional 15 days, if Humana determines the extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan. Before the end of the initial 15-day period, Humana will notify the Claimant of the circumstances requiring the extension and the date by which Humana expects to make a decision.

If the reason for the extension is because Humana does not have enough information to decide the claim, the notice of extension will describe the required information, and the Claimant will have at least 45 days from the date the notice is received to provide the necessary information.

Urgent-care Claims (expedited review)

Humana will determine whether a particular claim is an Urgent-care Claim. This determination will be based on information furnished by or on behalf of a covered person. Humana will exercise its judgment when making the determination with deference to the judgment of a physician with knowledge of the covered person's condition. Humana may require a Claimant to clarify the medical urgency and circumstances supporting the Urgent-care Claim for expedited decision-making.

Notice of a favorable or *adverse determination* will be made by Humana as soon as possible, taking into account the medical urgency particular to the covered person's situation, but not later than 72 hours after receiving the Urgent-care Claim.

If a claim does not provide sufficient information to determine whether, or to what extent, services are covered under the plan, Humana will notify the Claimant as soon as possible, but not more than 24 hours after receiving the Urgent-care Claim. The notice will describe the specific information necessary to complete the claim. The Claimant will have a reasonable amount of time, taking into account the covered person's circumstances, to provide the necessary information – but not less than 48 hours.

Humana will provide notice of the plan's Urgent-care Claim determination as soon as possible but no more than 48 hours after the earlier of:

- The plan receives the specified information; or
- The end of the period afforded the Claimant to provide the specified additional information.

Concurrent-care Decisions

Humana will notify a Claimant of a Concurrent-care Decision involving a reduction or termination of pre-authorized benefits sufficiently in advance of the reduction or termination to allow the Claimant to appeal and obtain a determination.

Humana will decide Urgent-care Claims involving an extension of a course of treatment as soon as possible taking into account medical circumstances. Humana will notify a Claimant of the benefit determination, whether adverse or not, within 24 hours after the plan receives the claim, provided the claim is submitted to the plan 24 hours prior to the expiration of the prescribed period of time or number of treatments.

Post-service Claims

Humana will provide notice of a favorable or *adverse determination* within a reasonable time appropriate to the medical circumstances but no later than 30 days after the plan receives the claim.

This period may be extended an additional 15 days, if Humana determines the extension is necessary due to matters beyond the plan's control. Before the end of the initial 30-day period, Humana will notify the affected Claimant of the extension, the circumstances requiring the extension and the date by which the plan expects to make a decision.

If the reason for the extension is because Humana does not have enough information to decide the claim, the notice of extension will describe the required information, and the Claimant will have at least 45 days from the date the notice is received to provide the specified information. Humana will make a decision on the earlier of the date on which the Claimant responds or the expiration of the time allowed for submission of the requested information.

Initial Denial Notices

Notice of a claim denial (including a partial denial) will be provided to Claimants by mail, postage prepaid, by FAX or by e-mail, as appropriate, within the time frames noted above. With respect to adverse decisions involving Urgent-care Claims, notice may be provided to Claimants orally within the time frames noted above. If oral notice is given, written notification must be provided no later than 3 days after oral notification.

A claims denial notice will convey the specific reason for the *adverse determination* and the specific plan provisions upon which the determination is based. The notice will also include a description of any additional information necessary to perfect the claim and an explanation of why such information is necessary. The notice will disclose if any internal plan rule, protocol or similar criterion was relied upon to deny the claim. A copy of the rule, protocol or similar criterion will be provided to Claimants, free of charge, upon request.

The notice will describe the plan's review procedures and the time limits applicable to such procedures, including a statement of the Claimant's right to bring a civil action under ERISA Section 502(a) following an adverse benefit determination on review.

If an *adverse determination* is based on medical necessity, experimental treatment or similar exclusion or limitation, the notice will state that an explanation of the scientific or clinical basis for the determination will be provided, free of charge, upon request. The explanation will apply the terms of the plan to the covered person's medical circumstances.

In the case of an adverse decision of an Urgent-care Claim, the notice will provide a description of the plan's expedited review procedures

APPEALS OF ADVERSE DETERMINATIONS

A Claimant must appeal an *adverse determination* within 180 days after receiving written notice of the denial (or partial denial). An appeal may be made by a Claimant by means of written application to Humana, in person, or by mail, postage prepaid.

A Claimant, on appeal, may request an expedited appeal of an adverse Urgent-care Claim decision orally or in writing. In such case, all necessary information, including the plan's benefit determination on review, will be transmitted between the plan and the Claimant by telephone, facsimile, or other available similarly expeditious method, to the extent permitted by applicable law

Determination of appeals of denied claims will be conducted promptly, will not defer to the initial determination and will not be made by the person who made the initial adverse claim determination or a subordinate of that person. The determination will take into account all comments, documents, records, and other information submitted by the Claimant relating to the claim.

On appeal, a Claimant may review relevant documents and may submit issues and comments in writing. A Claimant on appeal may, upon request, discover the identity of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the plan in connection with the *adverse determination* being appealed, as permitted under applicable law.

If the claims denial is based in whole, or in part, upon a medical judgment, including determinations as to whether a particular treatment, or other service is experimental, investigational, or not medically necessary or appropriate, the person deciding the appeal will consult with a health care professional who has appropriate training and experience in the field of medicine involved in the medical judgment. The consulting health care professional will not be the same person who decided the initial appeal or a subordinate of that person.

Time Periods for Decisions on Appeal

Appeals of claims denials will be decided and notice of the decision provided as follows:

Urgent-care Claims	As soon as possible but no later than 72 hours after Humana receives the appeal request.
Pre-service Claims	Within a reasonable period but no later than 30 days after Humana receives the appeal request.
Post-service Claims	Within a reasonable period but no later than 60 days after Humana receives the appeal request.
Concurrent-care Decisions	Within the time periods specified above depending on the type of claim involved.

Appeals Denial Notices

Notice of a claim denial (including a partial denial) will be provided to Claimants by mail, postage prepaid, by FAX or by e-mail, as appropriate, within the time periods noted above.

A notice that a claim appeal has been denied will include:

- The specific reason or reasons for the *adverse determination*.
- Reference to the specific plan provision upon which the determination is based.
- If any internal plan rule, protocol or similar criterion was relied upon to deny the claim. A copy of the rule, protocol or similar criterion will be provided to the Claimant, free of charge, upon request.
- A statement describing any voluntary appeal procedures offered by the plan and the claimant's right to obtain the information about such procedures, and a statement about the Claimant's right to bring an action under section 502(a) of ERISA.
- If an *adverse determination* is based on medical necessity, experimental treatment or similar exclusion or limitation, the notice will state that an explanation of the scientific or clinical basis for the determination will be provided, free of charge, upon request. The explanation will apply the terms of the plan to the covered person's medical circumstances.

In the event an appealed claim is denied, the Claimant will be entitled to receive without charge reasonable access to, and copies of, any documents, records or other information that:

- Was relied upon in making the determination.
- Was submitted, considered or generated in the course of making the benefit determination, without regard to whether such document, record or other information was relied upon in making the benefit determination.
- Demonstrates compliance with the administrative processes and safeguards required in making the determination.
- Constitutes a statement of policy or guidance with respect to the plan concerning the denied treatment option or benefit for the claimant's diagnosis, without regard to whether the statement was relied on in making the benefit determination.

EXHAUSTION OF REMEDIES

Upon completion of the appeals process under this section, a Claimant will have exhausted his or her administrative remedies under the plan. If Humana fails to complete a claim determination or appeal within the time limits set forth above, the claim shall be deemed to have been denied and the Claimant may proceed to the next level in the review process.

After exhaustion of remedies, a Claimant may pursue any other legal remedies available, which may include bringing civil action under ERISA section 502(a) for judicial review of the plan's determination. Additional information may be available from the local U.S. Department of Labor Office.

LEGAL ACTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

No lawsuit may be brought with respect to plan benefits until all remedies under the plan have been exhausted.

No lawsuit with respect to plan benefits may be brought after the expiration of the applicable limitations period stated in the benefit plan document. If no limitation is stated in the benefit plan document, then no such suit may be brought after the expiration of the applicable limitations under applicable law.

MEDICAL CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS

An individual who is a child of a covered employee shall be enrolled for coverage under the group health plan in accordance with the direction of a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO) or a National Medical Support Notice (NMSO).

A QMCSO is a state-court order or judgment, including approval of a settlement agreement that: (a) provides for support of a covered employee's child; (b) provides for health care coverage for that child; (c) is made under state domestic relations law (including a community property law); (d) relates to benefits under the group health plan; and (e) is "qualified," i.e., it meets the technical requirements of ERISA or applicable state law. QMCSO also means a state court order or judgment enforcing state Medicaid law regarding medical child support required by the Social Security Act section 1908 (as added by Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993).

An NMSO is a notice issued by an appropriate agency of a state or local government that is similar to a QMCSO requiring coverage under the group health plan for a dependent child of a non-custodial parent who is (or will become) a covered person by a domestic relations order providing for health care coverage.

Procedures for determining the qualified status of medical child support orders are available at no cost upon request from the plan administrator.

CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS DURING MEDICAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE

A dependent child who is in regular full-time attendance at an accredited secondary school, college or university, or licensed technical school continues to be eligible for coverage for until the earlier of the following if the dependent child takes a medically necessary leave of absence:

- Up to one year after the first day of the medically necessary leave of absence; or
- The date coverage would otherwise terminate under the plan.

We may require written certification from the dependent child's health care practitioner that the dependent child has a serious bodily injury or sickness requiring a medically necessary leave of absence.

GENERAL NOTICE OF COBRA CONTINUATION COVERAGE RIGHTS

Introduction

You are receiving this notice because you have recently become covered under a group health and/or dental plan (the Plan). This notice contains important information about your right to COBRA continuation coverage, which is a temporary extension of coverage under the Plan. This notice generally explains COBRA continuation coverage, when it may become available to you and your family, and what you need to do to protect the right to receive it.

The right to COBRA continuation coverage was created by a federal law, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA). COBRA continuation coverage can become available to you when you would otherwise lose your group health and/or dental coverage. It can also become available to other members of your family who are covered under the Plan when they would otherwise lose their group health and/or dental coverage. For additional information about your rights and obligations under the Plan and under federal law, you should review the Plan's benefit plan document or contact the Plan Administrator.

What is COBRA Continuation Coverage?

COBRA continuation coverage is a continuation of Plan coverage when coverage would otherwise end because of a life event known as a "qualifying event." Specific qualifying events are listed later in this notice. After a qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage must be offered to each person who is a "qualified beneficiary." You, your spouse, and your dependent children could become qualified beneficiaries if coverage under the Plan is lost because of the qualifying event. Under the Plan, the qualified beneficiaries who elect COBRA continuation coverage must pay for COBRA continuation coverage.

If you are an employee, you will become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because either one of the following qualified events happens:

- Your hours of employment are reduced, or
- Your employment ends for any reason other than gross misconduct.

If you are the spouse of an employee, you will become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because any of the following events happen:

- Your spouse dies;
- Your spouse's hours of employment are reduced;
- Your spouse's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
- Your spouse becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B or both); or
- You become divorced or legally separated from your spouse.

Your dependent children will become qualified beneficiaries if they lose coverage under the Plan because of any of the following qualifying events happen:

- The parent-employee dies;
- The parent-employee's hours of employment are reduced;
- The parent-employee's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
- The parent-employee becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (Part A, Part B or both);
- The parents become divorced or legally separated; or
- The child stops being eligible for coverage under the plan as a "dependent child."

When is COBRA Coverage Available

The plan will offer COBRA continuation coverage to qualified beneficiaries only after the Plan Administrator has been notified that a qualifying event has occurred. When the qualifying event is the end of employment or reduction of hours of employment, death of the employee, or commencement of a proceeding in bankruptcy with respect to the employer, the employer must notify the Plan Administrator of the qualifying event.

You Must Give Notice of Some Qualifying Events

For the other qualifying events (divorce or legal separation of the employee and spouse or a dependent child's losing eligibility for coverage as a dependent child) you must notify the Plan Administrator within 60 days after the qualifying event occurs.

How is COBRA Coverage Provided?

Once the Plan Administrator receives notice that a qualifying event has occurred, COBRA continuation coverage will be offered to each of the qualified beneficiaries. Each qualified beneficiary will have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Covered employees may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their spouses, and parents may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their children. Once the Plan Administrator offers COBRA continuation coverage, the qualified beneficiaries must elect such coverage within 60 days.

COBRA continuation coverage is a temporary continuation of coverage. When the qualifying event is the death of the employee, your divorce or legal separation, or a dependent child's losing eligibility as a dependent child, COBRA continuation coverage last for up to a total of 36 months. When the qualifying event is the end of employment, or reduction in the employee's hours of employment, and the employee became entitled to Medicare benefits less than 18 months before the qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage for qualified beneficiaries other than the employee last until 36 months after the date of Medicare entitlement. For example, if a covered employee becomes entitled to Medicare 8 months before the date on which the employment terminates, COBRA continuation coverage for his spouse and children can last up to 36 months after the date of Medicare entitlement, which is equal to 28 months after the date of the qualifying event (36 months minus 8 months). Otherwise, when the qualifying event is the end of employment or reduction of the employee's hours of employment, COBRA continuation coverage generally last for only up to a total of 18 months. There are two ways in which this 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage can be extended.

Disability Extension of 18-Month Period of Continuation Coverage

If you or anyone in your family covered under the Plan is determined by the Social Security Administration to be disabled and you notify the Plan Administrator within 60 days of such determination, you and your entire family may be entitled to receive up to an additional 11 months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a total of 29 months. The disability would have to have started at some time before the 60th day of COBRA continuation coverage and must last at least until the end of the 18-month period of continuation coverage.

Second Qualifying Event Extension of 18-Month Period of Continuation Coverage

If your family experiences another qualifying event while receiving 18 months of COBRA continuation coverage, the spouse and dependent children in your family can get up to 18 additional months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 36 months, if notice of the second qualifying event is given to the Plan within 60 days of the event. This extension may be available to the spouse and any dependent children receiving continuation coverage if the employee or former employee dies, gets divorced or legally separated, or if the dependent child stops being eligible under the plan as a dependent child, but only if the event would have caused the spouse or dependent child to lose coverage under the Plan had the first qualifying event not occurred.

If You Have Questions

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

Keep Your Plan Informed of Address Changes

In order to protect your family's rights, you should keep the Plan Administrator informed of any changes in the addresses of family members. You should also keep a copy, for your records, of any notices you send the Plan Administrator.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR INDIVIDUALS ENTITLED TO MEDICARE TAX EQUITY AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 1982 (TEFRA) OPTIONS

Where an employer employs more than 20 people, the Tax Equity And Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 (TEFRA) allows covered employees in active service who are age 65 or older and their covered spouses who are eligible for Medicare to choose one of the following options.

OPTION 1 - The benefits of their group health plan will be payable first and the benefits of Medicare will be payable second.

OPTION 2 - Medicare benefits only. The employee and his or her dependents, if any, will not be insured by the group health plan.

The employer must provide each covered employee and each covered spouse with the choice to elect one of these options at least one month before the covered employee or the insured spouse becomes age 65. All new covered employees and newly covered spouses age 65 or older must be offered these options. If Option 1 is chosen, its issue is subject to the same requirements as for an employee or dependent that is under age 65.

Under TEFRA regulations, there are two categories of persons eligible for Medicare. The calculation and payment of benefits by the group health plan differs for each category.

Category 1 Medicare eligibles are:

- Covered employees in active service who are age 65 or older who choose Option 1;
- Age 65 or older covered spouses; and
- Age 65 or older covered spouses of employees in active service who are either under age 65 or age 70 or older;

Category 2 Medicare eligibles are any other covered persons entitled to Medicare, whether or not they enrolled. This category includes, but is not limited to:

- Retired employees and their spouses; or
- Covered dependents of a covered employee, other than his or her spouse.

Calculation and Payment of Benefits

For covered persons in Category 1, benefits are payable by the policy without regard to any benefits payable by Medicare. Medicare will then determine its benefits.

For covered persons in Category 2, Medicare benefits are payable before any benefits are payable by the policy. The benefits of the policy will then be reduced by the full amount of all Medicare benefits the covered person is entitled to receive, whether or not the eligible individual is actually enrolled for Medicare Benefits.

FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT (FMLA)

If an employee is granted a leave of absence (Leave) by the employer as required by the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act, s/he may continue to be covered under the plan for the duration of the Leave under the same conditions as other employees who are currently employed and covered by the plan. If the employee chooses to terminate coverage during the Leave, or if coverage terminates as a result of nonpayment of any required contribution, coverage may be reinstated on the date the employee returns to work immediately following the end of the Leave. Charges incurred after the date of reinstatement will be paid as if the employee had been continuously covered.

UNIFORMED SERVICES EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ACT OF 1994 (USERRA)

Continuation of Benefits

Effective October 13, 1994, federal law requires health plans offer to continue coverage for employees that are absent due to service in the uniformed services and/or dependents.

Eligibility

An employee is eligible for continuation under USERRA if he or she is absent from employment because of voluntary or involuntary performance of duty in the Armed Forces, Army National Guard, Air National Guard, or commissioned corps of the Public Health Service. Duty includes absence for active duty, active duty for training, initial active duty for training, inactive duty training and for the purpose of an examination to determine fitness for duty.

An employee's dependents that have coverage under the plan immediately prior to the date of the employee's covered absence are eligible to elect continuation under USERRA.

If continuation of Plan coverage is elected under USERRA, the employee or dependent is responsible for payment of the applicable cost of coverage. If the employee is absent for not longer than 31 days, the cost will be the amount the employee would otherwise pay for coverage. For absences exceeding 30 days, the cost may be up to 102% of the cost of coverage under the plan. This includes the employee's share and any portion previously paid by the employer.

Duration of Coverage

Of elected, continuation coverage under USERRA will continue until the earlier of:

1. Twenty-four months beginning the first day of absence from employment due to service in the uniformed services; or
2. The day after the employee fails to apply for a return to employment as required by USERRA, after the completion of a period of service.

Under federal law, the period coverage available under USERRA shall run concurrently with the COBRA period available to an employee and/or eligible dependent.

Other Information

Employees should contact their employer with any questions regarding coverage normally available during a military leave of absence or continuation coverage and notify the employer of any changes in marital status, or change of address.

YOUR RIGHTS UNDER ERISA

Under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), all plan participants covered by ERISA are entitled to certain rights and protections, as described below. Notwithstanding anything in the group health plan or group insurance policy, following are a covered person's minimum rights under ERISA. ERISA requirements do not apply to plans maintained by governmental agencies or churches.

Information About the Plan and Benefits

Plan participants may:

1. Examine, free of charge, all documents governing the plan. These documents are available in the plan administrator's office.
2. Obtain, at a reasonable charge, copies of documents governing the plan, including a copy of any updated summary plan description and a copy of the latest annual report for the plan (Form 5500), if any, by writing to the plan administrator.
3. Obtain, at a reasonable charge, a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500) for the plan, if any, by writing to the plan administrator.

As a plan participant, you will receive a summary of any material changes made in the plan within 210 days after the end of the plan year in which the changes are made unless the change is a material reduction in covered services or benefits, in which case you will receive a summary of the material reduction within 60 days after the date of its adoption.

If the plan is required to file a summary annual financial report, you will receive a copy from the plan administrator.

Responsibilities of Plan Fiduciaries

In addition to creating rights for plan participants, ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the plan. These people, called "fiduciaries" of the plan, have a duty to act prudently and in the interest of plan participants and beneficiaries.

No one, including an employer, may discharge or otherwise discriminate against a plan participant in any way to prevent the participant from obtaining a benefit to which the participant is otherwise entitled under the plan or from exercising ERISA rights.

Continue Group Health Plan Coverage

Participants may be eligible to continue health care coverage for themselves, their spouse or dependents if there is a loss of coverage under the group health plan as a result of a qualifying event. You or your dependents may have to pay for such coverage. Review the COBRA notice in this document regarding the rules governing COBRA continuation coverage rights.

Claims Determinations

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

Enforce Your Rights

Under ERISA, there are steps participants may take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if a participant requests a copy of plan documents and does not receive them within 30 days, the participant may file suit in a Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the plan administrator to provide the

materials and pay you up to \$ 110 a day until the participant receives the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the plan administrator. If a claim for benefits is denied or disregarded, in whole or in part, the participant may file suit in a state or Federal court. In addition, if the participant disagrees with the plan's decision, or lack thereof, concerning the qualified status of a domestic relations order or a medical child support order, the participant may file suit in Federal court. If plan fiduciaries misuse the plan's money, or if participants are discriminated against for asserting their rights, they may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or may file suit in a Federal court.

The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If the participant is successful, the court may order the person sued to pay costs and fees. If the participant loses, the court may order the participant to pay the costs and fees.

Assistance with Questions

Contact the group health plan human resources department or the plan administrator with questions about the plan. Contact the nearest area office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210 with questions about ERISA rights. Call the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration to obtain publications about ERISA rights.

PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

We understand the importance of keeping your personal and health information private (PHI). PHI includes both medical information and individually identifiable information, such as your name, address, telephone number or social security number. We are required by applicable federal and state law to maintain the privacy of your PHI.

Under both law and our policies, we have a responsibility to protect the privacy of your PHI. We:

- Protect your privacy by limiting who may see your PHI;
- Limit how we may use or disclose your PHI;
- Inform you of our legal duties with respect to your PHI;
- Explain our privacy policies; and
- Strictly adhere to the policies currently in effect.

We reserve the right to change our privacy practices at any time, as allowed by applicable law, rules and regulations. We reserve the right to make changes in our privacy practices for all PHI that we maintain, including information we created or received before we made the changes. When we make a significant change in our privacy practices, we will send notice to our health plan subscribers. For more information about our privacy practices, please contact us.

As a covered person, we may use and disclose your PHI, without your consent/authorization, in the following ways:

Treatment: we may disclose your PHI to a health care practitioner, a hospital or other entity which asks for it in order for you to receive medical treatment.

Payment: we may use and disclose your PHI to pay claims for covered services provided to you by health care practitioners, hospitals or other entities.

We may use and disclose your PHI to conduct other health care operations activities.

It has always been our goal to ensure the protection and integrity of your personal and health information. Therefore, we will notify you of any potential situations where your identification would be used for reasons other than treatment, payment and health plan operations.