

## **University of New England**

CIGNA VISION

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 1, 2024

CN004  
3345889

This document printed in May, 2024 takes the place of any documents previously issued to you which described your benefits.

Printed in U.S.A.



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*Home Office: Bloomfield, Connecticut  
Mailing Address: Hartford, Connecticut 06152*

**Notice to Buyer: This certificate provides vision benefits only.**

**CIGNA HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY**

a Cigna company (hereinafter called Cigna) certifies that it insures certain Employees for the benefits provided by the following policy(s):

**EMPLOYER:** University of New England

**GROUP POLICY(S) — COVERAGE**

3345889 - VIS CIGNA VISION

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 1, 2024

This certificate describes the main features of the insurance. It does not waive or alter any of the terms of the policy(s). If questions arise, the policy(s) will govern.

This certificate takes the place of any other issued to you on a prior date which described the insurance.



*Geneva Cambell Brown, Corporate Secretary*

### **Explanation of Terms**

You will find terms starting with capital letters throughout your certificate. To help you understand your benefits, most of these terms are defined in the Definitions section of your certificate.

### **The Schedule**

**The Schedule is a brief outline of your maximum benefits which may be payable under your insurance. For a full description of each benefit, refer to the appropriate section listed in the Table of Contents.**

## Important Notices

### Notice Regarding Provider Directories and Provider Networks - Vision

A Participating Provider network consists of a group of local practitioners who contract directly or indirectly with Cigna to provide services to members.

You may receive a listing of Participating Providers by calling the member services number on your benefit identification card, or by visiting [www.myCigna.com](http://www.myCigna.com).

### Notice - Participating Provider Benefits

The Vision benefit plan includes the following options:

- If you select a Participating Provider Cigna will base its payment on the amount listed in the Schedule of Benefits. The Participating Provider will limit his/her charge to the Contracted Fee for the service.
- If you select a Non-Participating Provider Cigna will base its payment on the amount listed in the Out-of-Network section of the Schedule of Benefits. The Non-Participating Provider may balance bill up to his/her actual charge.

### Notice – Emergency Services

Emergency Services rendered by a Non-Participating Provider will be paid at the Participating Provider benefit level in the event a Participating Provider is not available.

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### Discrimination is Against the Law

Cigna complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Cigna does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

Cigna:

- Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:
  - Qualified sign language interpreters
  - Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)
- Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
  - Qualified interpreters
  - Information written in other languages

If you need these services, contact customer service at the toll-free number shown on your ID card, and ask a Customer Service Associate for assistance.

If you believe that Cigna has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance by sending an email to [ACAGrievance@cigna.com](mailto:ACAGrievance@cigna.com) or by writing to the following address:

Cigna  
Nondiscrimination Complaint Coordinator  
P.O. Box 188016  
Chattanooga, TN 37422

If you need assistance filing a written grievance, please call the number on the back of your ID card or send an email to [ACAGrievance@cigna.com](mailto:ACAGrievance@cigna.com). You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, SW  
Room 509F, HHH Building  
Washington, D.C. 20201  
1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)

Complaint forms are available at  
<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

### Proficiency of Language Assistance Services

English – ATTENTION: Language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call 1.877.478.7557 (TTY: 800.428.4833).

Spanish – ATENCIÓN: Hay servicios de asistencia de idiomas, sin cargo, a su disposición. Llame al 1.877.478.7557 (TTY: 800.428.4833).

Chinese – 注意：我們可為您免費提供語言協助服務。請致電 1.877.478.7557（聽障專線：800.428.4833）。

Vietnamese – XIN LƯU Ý: Quý vị được cấp dịch vụ trợ giúp về ngôn ngữ miễn phí. Vui lòng gọi 1.877.478.7557 (TTY: 800.428.4833).

Korean – 주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 1.877.478.7557 (TTY: 800.428.4833)번으로 전화해주시요.

Tagalog – PAUNAWA: Makakakuha ka ng mga serbisyo sa tulong sa wika nang libre. Tumawag sa 1.877.478.7557 (TTY: 800.428.4833).

Russian – ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода.

Звоните 1.877.478.7557 (линия ТТУ телетайп:  
800.428.4833).

**Arabic** – ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم 1.877.478.7557 (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: 800.428.4833).

French Creole – ATANSYON: Gen sèvis èd pou lang ki disponib gratis pou ou. Rele 1.877.478.7557 (TTY: 800.428.4833).

French – ATTENTION: Des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Veuillez appeler le 1.877.478.7557 (ATS: 800.428.4833).

Portuguese – ATENÇÃO: Se fala português, encontram-se disponíveis serviços linguísticos, grátis. Ligue 1.877.478.7557 (TTY: 800.428.4833).

Polish – UWAGA: Możesz skorzystać z bezpłatnej pomocy językowej. Zadzwoń pod numer 1 877 478 7557 (TTY: 800.428.4833).

Japanese –  
注意事項：日本語を話される場合、無料の言語支援をご利用いただけます。1.877.478.7557 (TTY: 800.428.4833) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

Italian – ATTENZIONE: In caso la lingua parlata sia l'italiano, sono disponibili servizi di assistenza linguistica gratuiti. Chiamare il numero 1.877.478.7557 (TTY: 800.428.4833).

German – ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 1.877.478.7557 (TTY: 800.428.4833).

**Persian (Farsi)** – توجه: خدمات کمک زبانی، به صورت رایگان به شما ارائه میشود. با شماره 1.877.478.7557 تماس بگیرید (شماره تلفن ویژه ناشنوايان: 800.428.4833).

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## Eligibility - Effective Date

### Employee Insurance

This plan is offered to you as an Employee.

### Eligibility for Employee Insurance

You will become eligible for insurance on the day you complete the waiting period if:

- you are in a Class of Eligible Employees; and
- you are an eligible, full-time Employee; and
- you normally work at least 20 hours a week; and
- you pay any required contribution.

If you were previously insured and your insurance ceased, you must satisfy the New Employee Group Waiting Period to become insured again. If your insurance ceased because you were no longer employed in a Class of Eligible Employees, you are not required to satisfy any waiting period if you again become a member of a Class of Eligible Employees within one year after your insurance ceased.

**Initial Employee Group:** You are in the Initial Employee Group if you are in the employ of an Employer on the Participation Date of the Employer.

**New Employee Group:** You are in the New Employee Group if your employment with an Employer starts after the Participation Date of that Employer.

### Eligibility for Dependent Insurance

You will become eligible for Dependent Insurance on the later of:

- the day you become eligible for yourself; or
- the day you acquire your first Dependent.

### Waiting Period

**Initial Employee Group:** None.

**New Employee Group:** The first day of the month following date of hire. If hired on the first of the month, coverage is effective the same day.

### Classes of Eligible Employees

Each Employee as reported to the insurance company by your Employer.

### Effective Date of Employee Insurance

You will become insured on the date you elect the insurance by signing an approved payroll deduction or enrollment form, as applicable, but no earlier than the date you become eligible.

You will become insured on your first day of eligibility, following your election, if you are in Active Service on that date, or if you are not in Active Service on that date due to your health status.

### Late Entrant - Employee

You are a Late Entrant if:

- you elect the insurance more than 30 days after you become eligible; or

- you again elect it after you cancel your payroll deduction (if required).

## **Dependent Insurance**

For your Dependents to be insured, you will have to pay the required contribution, if any, toward the cost of Dependent Insurance.

### **Effective Date of Dependent Insurance**

Insurance for your Dependents will become effective on the date you elect it by signing an approved payroll deduction form (if required), but no earlier than the day you become eligible for Dependent Insurance. All of your Dependents as defined will be included.

Your Dependents will be insured only if you are insured.

### **Late Entrant – Dependent**

You are a Late Entrant for Dependent Insurance if:

- you elect that insurance more than 30 days after you become eligible for it; or
- you again elect it after you cancel your payroll deduction (if required).

### **Exception for Newborns**

Any Dependent child born while you are insured will become insured on the date of his birth if you elect Dependent Insurance no later than 31 days after his birth. If you do not elect to insure your newborn child within such 31 days, coverage for that child will end on the 31<sup>st</sup> day. No benefits for expenses incurred beyond the 31<sup>st</sup> day will be payable.

### **Exception for Newborn Grandchildren**

Any child born to your Dependent child while you are insured for Medical Insurance will be covered for the first 31 days of his life. Coverage for such child will not continue beyond the 31<sup>st</sup> day and no benefits for expenses incurred beyond the 31<sup>st</sup> day will be payable.





### **Cigna Vision Providers**

To find a Cigna Vision Provider, or to get a claim form, the Insured Person should visit **myCigna.com** and use the link on the vision coverage page, or they may call Customer Service using the toll-free number on their identification card.

### **Reimbursement/Filing a Claim**

When an Insured Person(s) has an exam or purchases Materials from a Cigna Vision Provider they pay any applicable Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible shown in The Schedule at the time of purchase. The Insured Person does not need to file a claim form.

If an Insured Person(s) has their exam or purchases Materials from a provider who is not a Cigna Vision Provider, the Insured Person pays the full cost at the time of purchase. The Insured Person must submit a claim form to be reimbursed. Send a completed Cigna Vision claim form and itemized receipt to:

Cigna Vision, Claims Dept. c/o FAA  
PO Box 8504  
Mason, OH 45040-7111

Cigna Vision will pay for covered expenses within ten business days of receiving the completed claim form and itemized receipt.

<b>Cigna Vision</b>		
<b>The Schedule</b>		
<b>For You and Your Dependents</b>		
<b>Copayments</b>		
Copayments are amounts to be paid by you or your Dependent for covered services.		
BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
	The Plan will pay 100% after any copayment, subject to any maximum shown below	The Plan will reimburse you at 100%, subject to any maximum shown below
<b>Examinations</b> One Eye Exam every Calendar Year	\$25 Copay	\$45
<b>Lenses &amp; Frames</b>	\$25 Copay*	
	<b>*Note:</b> Materials copay does not apply to Contact Lenses	
<b>Lenses</b> One pair in any 2 Calendar Years		
Single Vision Lenses	100% after Lenses & Frames copayment	\$32
Bifocal Lenses	100% after Lenses & Frames copayment	\$55
Trifocal Lenses	100% after Lenses & Frames copayment	\$65
Lenticular Lenses	100% after Lenses & Frames copayment	\$80
<b>Contact Lenses</b> One pair in any 2 Calendar Years		
Elective	100% up to \$130	\$105
Therapeutic	100%	\$210
<b>Frames</b> One pair in any 2 Calendar Years	100% up to \$130	\$71

## Vision Benefits\*\*

Please be aware that the Vision network is different from the network of your medical benefits.

### For You and Your Dependents

#### Covered Expenses

##### Benefits Include:

Examinations – One vision and eye health evaluation including but not limited to eye health examination, dilation, refraction and prescription for glasses.

Lenses (Glasses) – One pair of prescription plastic or glass lenses, all ranges of prescriptions (powers and prisms).

- Polycarbonate lenses.
- Oversize lenses.
- Progressive lenses covered up to bifocal lens amount.
- Photochromic (glass or plastic) lenses.
- Scratch Resistant Coatings.
- Ultra Violet (UV) Coatings.
- Anti-reflective (AR) Coatings.
- Hi-Index Lenses.

Frames – One frame – choice of frame covered up to retail plan allowance.

Contact Lenses – One pair or a single purchase of a supply of contact lenses in lieu of lenses and frame benefit (may not receive contact lenses and frames in same benefit year).

Contact lens retail allowance can be applied towards contact lens materials as well as the cost of supplemental contact lens professional services including fitting and evaluation, up to the stated allowance.

Coverage for Therapeutic contact lenses will be provided when visual acuity cannot be corrected to 20/70 in the better eye with eyeglasses and the fitting of the contact lenses would obtain this level of visual acuity; and in certain cases of anisometropia, keratoconus, or aphakia; as determined and documented by your Vision Provider. Contact lenses fitted for other therapeutic purposes or the narrowing of visual fields due to high minus or plus correction will be covered in accordance with the Elective contact lens benefit shown on the Schedule of Benefits.

\*\*coverage may vary at participating discount retail and membership club optical locations, please contact Customer Service for specific coverage information.

## Vision Benefits

### For You and Your Dependents

#### Expenses Not Covered

Covered Expenses will not include, and no payment will be made for:

- Orthoptic or vision training and any associated supplemental testing.
- Medical or surgical treatment of the eyes.
- Any eye examination, or any corrective eyewear, required by an employer as a condition of employment.
- Charges incurred after the Policy ends or the insured's coverage under the Policy ends, except as stated in the Policy.
- Experimental or non-conventional treatment or device.
- Charges in excess of the usual and customary charge for the service or materials.
- For or in connection with experimental procedures or treatment methods not approved by the American Optometric Association or the appropriate vision specialty society.
- Any injury or illness when paid or payable by Workers' Compensation or similar law, or which is work-related.
- Claims submitted and received in-excess of 12 months from the original date of service.
- VDT (video display terminal)/computer eyeglass benefit.
- Magnification or low vision aids.
- Spectacle lens treatments, "add-ons", or lens coatings not shown as covered in The Schedule.
- Two pair of glasses, in lieu of bifocals or trifocals.
- Prescription sunglass 'add-on' or lens coatings not shown as covered in The Schedule.
- Any non-prescription (minimum Rx required) eyeglasses, lenses, or contact lenses.
- Safety glasses or lenses required for employment.

Other Limitations are shown in the **Exclusions, Expenses Not Covered and General Limitations** section.

## Exclusions and General Limitations

### Exclusions

**Additional coverage limitations determined by plan or provider type are shown in the Schedule. Payment for the following is specifically excluded from this plan:**

- treatment of an Injury or Sickness which is due to war, declared, or undeclared.
- charges which you are not obligated to pay or for which you are not billed or for which you would not have been billed except that they were covered under this plan.
- for or in connection with experimental procedures or treatment methods not approved by the American Optometric Association or the appropriate vision specialty society.

### General Limitations

No payment will be made for expenses incurred for you or any one of your Dependents:

- for charges made by a Hospital owned or operated by or which provides care or performs services for, the United States Government, if such charges are directly related to a military-service-connected Injury or Sickness.
- to the extent that payment is unlawful where the person resides when the expenses are incurred.
- for charges which would not have been made if the person had no insurance.
- expenses for supplies, care, treatment, or surgery that are not Medically Necessary.

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## Coordination of Benefits

This section applies if you or any one of your Dependents is covered under more than one Plan and determines how benefits payable from all such Plans will be coordinated. You should file all claims with each Plan.

### Definitions

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

#### **Plan**

Any of the following that provides benefits or services for vision care or treatment:

- Group insurance and/or group-type coverage, whether insured or self-insured which neither can be purchased by

the general public, nor is individually underwritten, including closed panel coverage.

- Coverage under Medicare and other governmental benefits as permitted by law, excepting Medicaid and Medicare supplement policies.
- Medical benefits coverage of group, group-type, and individual automobile contracts.

Each Plan or part of a Plan which has the right to coordinate benefits will be considered a separate Plan.

#### **Closed Panel Plan**

A Plan that provides medical or dental benefits primarily in the form of services through a panel of employed or contracted providers, and that limits or excludes benefits provided by providers outside of the panel, except in the case of emergency or if referred by a provider within the panel.

#### **Primary Plan**

The Plan that determines and provides or pays benefits without taking into consideration the existence of any other Plan.

#### **Secondary Plan**

A Plan that determines, and may reduce its benefits after taking into consideration, the benefits provided or paid by the Primary Plan. A Secondary Plan may also recover from the Primary Plan the Reasonable Cash Value of any services it provided to you.

#### **Allowable Expense**

A necessary, reasonable and customary service or expense, including deductibles, coinsurance or copayments, that is covered in full or in part by any Plan covering you. When a Plan provides benefits in the form of services, the Reasonable Cash Value of each service is the Allowable Expense and is a paid benefit.

Examples of expenses or services that are not Allowable Expenses include, but are not limited to the following:

- An expense or service or a portion of an expense or service that is not covered by any of the Plans is not an Allowable Expense.
- If you are covered by two or more Plans that provide services or supplies on the basis of reasonable and customary fees, any amount in excess of the highest reasonable and customary fee is not an Allowable Expense.
- If you are covered by one Plan that provides services or supplies on the basis of reasonable and customary fees and one Plan that provides services and supplies on the basis of negotiated fees, the Primary Plan's fee arrangement shall be the Allowable Expense.
- If your benefits are reduced under the Primary Plan (through the imposition of a higher copayment amount, higher

coinsurance percentage, a deductible and/or a penalty) because you did not comply with Plan provisions or because you did not use a preferred provider, the amount of the reduction is not an Allowable Expense. Such Plan provisions include second surgical opinions and precertification of admissions or services.

#### **Claim Determination Period**

A calendar year, but does not include any part of a year during which you are not covered under this policy or any date before this section or any similar provision takes effect.

#### **Reasonable Cash Value**

An amount which a duly licensed provider of health care services usually charges patients and which is within the range of fees usually charged for the same service by other health care providers located within the immediate geographic area where the health care service is rendered under similar or comparable circumstances.

#### **Order of Benefit Determination Rules**

A Plan that does not have a coordination of benefits rule consistent with this section shall always be the Primary Plan. If the Plan does have a coordination of benefits rule consistent with this section, the first of the following rules that applies to the situation is the one to use:

- The Plan that covers you as an enrollee or an employee shall be the Primary Plan and the Plan that covers you as a Dependent shall be the Secondary Plan;
- If you are a Dependent child whose parents are not divorced or legally separated, the Primary Plan shall be the Plan which covers the parent whose birthday falls first in the calendar year as an enrollee or employee;
- If you are the Dependent of divorced or separated parents, benefits for the Dependent shall be determined in the following order:
  - first, if a court decree states that one parent is responsible for the child's healthcare expenses or health coverage and the Plan for that parent has actual knowledge of the terms of the order, but only from the time of actual knowledge;
  - then, the Plan of the parent with custody of the child;
  - then, the Plan of the spouse of the parent with custody of the child;
  - then, the Plan of the parent not having custody of the child, and
  - finally, the Plan of the spouse of the parent not having custody of the child.
- The Plan that covers you as an active employee (or as that employee's Dependent) shall be the Primary Plan and the Plan that covers you as laid-off or retired employee (or as that employee's Dependent) shall be the secondary Plan. If the other Plan does not have a similar provision and, as a

result, the Plans cannot agree on the order of benefit determination, this paragraph shall not apply.

- The Plan that covers you under a right of continuation which is provided by federal or state law shall be the Secondary Plan and the Plan that covers you as an active employee or retiree (or as that employee's Dependent) shall be the Primary Plan. If the other Plan does not have a similar provision and, as a result, the Plans cannot agree on the order of benefit determination, this paragraph shall not apply.
- If one of the Plans that covers you is issued out of the state whose laws govern this Policy, and determines the order of benefits based upon the gender of a parent, and as a result, the Plans do not agree on the order of benefit determination, the Plan with the gender rules shall determine the order of benefits.

If none of the above rules determines the order of benefits, the Plan that has covered you for the longer period of time shall be primary.

When coordinating benefits with Medicare, this Plan will be the Secondary Plan and determine benefits after Medicare, where permitted by the Social Security Act of 1965, as amended. However, when more than one Plan is secondary to Medicare, the benefit determination rules identified above, will be used to determine how benefits will be coordinated.

#### **Effect on the Benefits of This Plan**

If this Plan is the Secondary Plan, this Plan may reduce benefits so that the total benefits paid by all Plans during a Claim Determination Period are not more than 100% of the total of all Allowable Expenses.

The difference between the amount that this Plan would have paid if this Plan had been the Primary Plan, and the benefit payments that this Plan had actually paid as the Secondary Plan, will be recorded as a benefit reserve for you. Cigna will use this benefit reserve to pay any Allowable Expense not otherwise paid during the Claim Determination Period.

As each claim is submitted, Cigna will determine the following:

- Cigna's obligation to provide services and supplies under this policy;
- whether a benefit reserve has been recorded for you; and
- whether there are any unpaid Allowable Expenses during the Claims Determination Period.

If there is a benefit reserve, Cigna will use the benefit reserve recorded for you to pay up to 100% of the total of all Allowable Expenses. At the end of the Claim Determination Period, your benefit reserve will return to zero and a new benefit reserve will be calculated for each new Claim Determination Period.

### **Recovery of Excess Benefits**

If Cigna pays charges for benefits that should have been paid by the Primary Plan, or if Cigna pays charges in excess of those for which we are obligated to provide under the Policy, Cigna will have the right to recover the actual payment made or the Reasonable Cash Value of any services.

Cigna will have sole discretion to seek such recovery from any person to, or for whom, or with respect to whom, such services were provided or such payments made by any insurance company, healthcare plan or other organization. If we request, you must execute and deliver to us such instruments and documents as we determine are necessary to secure the right of recovery.

### **Right to Receive and Release Information**

Cigna, without consent or notice to you, may obtain information from and release information to any other Plan with respect to you in order to coordinate your benefits pursuant to this section. You must provide us with any information we request in order to coordinate your benefits pursuant to this section. This request may occur in connection with a submitted claim; if so, you will be advised that the "other coverage" information, (including an Explanation of Benefits paid under the Primary Plan) is required before the claim will be processed for payment. If no response is received within 90 days of the request, the claim will be denied. If the requested information is subsequently received, the claim will be processed.

### **Medicare Eligibles**

Cigna will pay as the Secondary Plan as permitted by the Social Security Act of 1965 as amended for the following:

- (a) a former Employee who is eligible for Medicare and whose insurance is continued for any reason as provided in this plan;
- (b) a former Employee's Dependent, or a former Dependent Spouse, who is eligible for Medicare and whose insurance is continued for any reason as provided in this plan;
- (c) an Employee whose Employer and each other Employer participating in the Employer's plan have fewer than 100 Employees and that Employee is eligible for Medicare due to disability;
- (d) the Dependent of an Employee whose Employer and each other Employer participating in the Employer's plan have fewer than 100 Employees and that Dependent is eligible for Medicare due to disability;
- (e) an Employee or a Dependent of an Employee of an Employer who has fewer than 20 Employees, if that person is eligible for Medicare due to age;

- (f) an Employee, retired Employee, Employee's Dependent or retired Employee's Dependent who is eligible for Medicare due to End Stage Renal Disease after that person has been eligible for Medicare for 30 months;

Cigna will assume the amount payable under:

- Part A of Medicare for a person who is eligible for that Part without premium payment, but has not applied, to be the amount he would receive if he had applied.
- Part B of Medicare for a person who is entitled to be enrolled in that Part, but is not, to be the amount he would receive if he were enrolled.
- Part B of Medicare for a person who has entered into a private contract with a provider, to be the amount he would receive in the absence of such private contract.

A person is considered eligible for Medicare on the earliest date any coverage under Medicare could become effective for him.

This reduction will not apply to any Employee and his Dependent or any former Employee and his Dependent unless he is listed under (a) through (f) above.

### **Domestic Partners**

Under federal law, the Medicare Secondary Payer Rules do not apply to Domestic Partners covered under a group health plan when Medicare coverage is due to age. Therefore, when Medicare coverage is due to age, Medicare is always the Primary Plan for a person covered as a Domestic Partner, and Cigna is the Secondary Plan. However, when Medicare coverage is due to disability, the Medicare Secondary Payer rules explained above will apply.

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### **Coordination of Benefits**

This section applies if you or any one of your Dependents is covered under more than one Plan and determines how benefits payable from all such Plans will be coordinated. You should file all claims with each Plan.

### **Definitions**

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

#### **Plan**

Any of the following that provides benefits in the form of payment or services for:

- An insurance policy or certificate or HMO group service agreement issued to an individual or a group; or a self-

insured group health plan providing benefits in the form of reimbursement or services for care or treatment/items, except for Medicare supplement insurance.

- Medicare and other governmental benefit programs except for Medicaid.
- Medical benefits coverage under any form of group or individual automobile insurance.

Each Plan or part of a Plan which has the right to coordinate benefits will be considered a separate Plan.

### **Primary Plan**

The Plan that pays first as determined by the Order of Benefit Determination Rules below.

### **Secondary Plan**

The Plan that pays after the Primary Plan as determined by the Order of Benefit Determination Rules below. The benefits under the Secondary Plan are reduced based by the benefits under the Primary Plan.

### **Allowable Expense**

The amount of charges considered for payment under the Plan for a Covered Service prior to any reductions due to coinsurance, copayment or deductible amounts. If Cigna contracts with an entity to arrange for the provision of Covered Services through that entity's contracted network of health care providers, the amount that Cigna has agreed to pay that entity is the allowable amount used to determine your coinsurance or deductible payments. If the Plan provides benefits in the form of services, the Reasonable Cash Value of each service is the Allowable Expense and is a paid benefit.

### **Claim Determination Period**

A calendar year, excluding any part of a calendar year during which you are not covered under this Plan or any date before this section or any similar provision takes effect.

### **Deductible**

When this Plan is secondary in a Coordination of Benefits situation, any Covered Expenses paid by the Primary Plan shall be credited toward the Deductible.

### **Order of Benefit Determination Rules**

A Plan that does not have a coordination of benefits rule consistent with this section shall always be the Primary Plan. If the Plan does have a coordination of benefits rule consistent with this section, the first of the following rules that applies to the situation is the one to use:

- The Plan that covers you as an enrollee or an employee shall be the Primary Plan and the Plan that covers you as a Dependent shall be the Secondary Plan;
- If you are a Dependent child whose parents are not divorced or legally separated, the Primary Plan shall be the Plan

which covers the parent whose birthday falls first in the calendar year as an enrollee or employee;

- If you are the Dependent of divorced or separated parents, the Primary Plan for the Dependent shall be determined in the following order:
  - if a court decree states that one parent is responsible for the child's healthcare expenses or health coverage and the Plan for that parent has actual knowledge of the terms of the order, then it shall be Primary, but only from the time of actual knowledge;
  - the Plan of the parent with custody of the child;
  - the Plan of the spouse of the parent with custody of the child;
  - the Plan of the parent not having custody of the child, and
  - the Plan of the spouse of the parent not having custody of the child.
- The Plan that covers you as an active employee (or as that employee's Dependent) shall be the Primary Plan and the Plan that covers you as laid-off or retired employee (or as that employee's Dependent) shall be the Secondary Plan. If the other Plan does not have a similar provision and, as a result, the Plans do not reach agreement on the order of benefit determination, this paragraph shall not apply.
- The Plan that covers you under a right of continuation which is provided by federal or state law shall be the Secondary Plan and the Plan that covers you as an active employee or retiree (or as that employee's Dependent) shall be the Primary Plan. If the other Plan does not have a similar provision and, as a result, the Plans do not reach agreement on the order of benefit determination, this paragraph shall not apply.
- If one of the Plans that covers you is issued out of the state whose laws govern this Policy, and determines the order of benefits based upon the gender of a parent, and as a result, the Plans do not reach agreement on the order of benefit determination, the Plan with the gender rules shall determine the order of benefits.

If none of the above rules determines the order of benefits, the Plan that has covered you for the longer period of time shall be Primary Plan.

You are expected to enroll in Medicare when you first become eligible. If you do not enroll in Medicare, this Plan will not pay the portion Medicare would have paid as the Primary Plan and will only pay benefits as if this Plan was your Secondary Plan.

When coordinating benefits with Medicare, this Plan will be the Secondary Plan and determine benefits after Medicare, where permitted by the Social Security Act of 1965, as amended. However, when more than one Plan is secondary to

Medicare, the benefit determination rules identified above, will be used to determine how benefits will be coordinated.

#### **Effect on the Benefits of This Plan**

If this Plan is the Primary Plan, the amount this Plan pays for a Covered Expense will be determined without regard to the benefits payable under any other Plan.

If this Plan is the Secondary Plan, the amount this Plan pays for a Covered Expense is the Allowable Expense less the amount payable by the Primary Plan during a Claim Determination Period.

The difference between the amount that this Plan pays when it is the Secondary Plan and what it would have paid as the Primary Plan will be recorded as a benefit reserve for you. This benefit reserve will be used to pay any Covered Expense not otherwise paid during the Claim Determination Period.

As each claim is submitted, Cigna will determine the following:

- whether the expense for which the claim is made is covered under this Plan;
- whether to record a benefit reserve for you; and
- whether you incurred any Covered Expenses during the Claims Determination Period that were not paid by this Plan or the Primary Plan.

The benefit reserve recorded for you will be used to pay any Covered Expenses incurred during the Claim Determination Period that are not otherwise paid by the Primary Plan or this Plan. At the beginning of each Claim Determination Period, your benefit reserve will be zero and a new benefit reserve will be recorded for you as described above. Benefit reserve amounts not used in the prior Claim Determination Period do not carry over to the next Claim Determination Period.

#### **Recovery of Excess Benefits**

If this Plan is the Secondary Plan and Cigna pays for Covered Expenses that should have been paid by the Primary Plan, or if Cigna pays any amount in excess of what it is obligated to pay under this Plan, Cigna will have the right to recover the amount of the overpayment.

Cigna will seek such recovery. If we request, you must execute and deliver to us such instruments and documents as we determine are necessary to secure our right of recovery.

#### **Right to Receive and Release Information**

Cigna, without consent or notice to you, may obtain information from and release information to any other Plan with respect to you in order to coordinate your benefits pursuant to this section. You must provide us with any information we request in order to coordinate your benefits pursuant to this section. This request may occur in connection with a submitted claim; if so, you will be advised that the "other coverage" information, (including an Explanation of

Benefits paid under the Primary Plan) is required before the claim will be processed for payment. If no response is received within 90 days of the request, the claim will be denied. If the requested information is subsequently received, the claim will be processed.

#### **Coordination of Benefits with Medicare**

If you, your spouse, or your Dependent are covered under this Plan and qualify for Medicare, federal law determines which Plan is the primary payer and which is the secondary payer. The primary payer always determines covered benefits first, without considering what any other coverage will pay. The secondary payer determines its coverage only after the Primary Plan has completed its determination.

#### **When Medicare is the Primary Payer**

Medicare will be the primary payer and this Plan will be the secondary payer, even if you don't elect to enroll in Medicare or you receive services from a provider who does not accept Medicare payments, in the following situations:

- **COBRA or State Continuation**: You, your spouse, or your covered Dependent qualify for Medicare for any reason and are covered under this Plan due to COBRA or state continuation of coverage.
- **Retirement or Termination of Employment**: You, your spouse, or your covered Dependent qualify for Medicare for any reason and are covered under this Plan due to your retirement or termination of employment.
- **Disability**: You, your spouse, or your covered Dependent qualify for Medicare due to a disability, you are an active Employee, and your Employer has fewer than 100 employees.
- **Age**: You, your spouse, or your covered Dependent qualify for Medicare due to age, you are an active Employee, and your Employer has fewer than 20 employees.
- **End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)**: You, your spouse, or your covered Dependent qualify for Medicare due to End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) and you are an active or retired Employee. This Plan will be the primary payer for the first 30 months. Beginning with the 31<sup>st</sup> month, Medicare will be the primary payer.

#### **When This Plan is the Primary Payer**

This Plan will be the primary payer and Medicare will be the secondary payer in the following situations:

- **Disability**: You, your spouse, or your covered Dependent qualify for Medicare due to a disability, you are an active Employee, and your Employer has 100 or more employees.
- **Age**: You, your spouse, or your covered Dependent qualify for Medicare due to age, you are an active Employee, and your Employer has 20 or more employees.



- **End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD):** You, your spouse, or your covered Dependent qualify for Medicare due to End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) and you are an active or retired Employee. This Plan is the primary payer for the first 30 months. Beginning with the 31<sup>st</sup> month, Medicare will be the primary payer.

#### **Domestic Partners**

Under federal law, when Medicare coverage is due to age, Medicare is always the primary payer and this Plan is the secondary payer for a person covered under this Plan as a Domestic Partner. However, when Medicare coverage is due to disability, the Disability payer explanations above will apply.

**IMPORTANT: If you, your spouse, or your Dependent do not elect to enroll in Medicare Parts A and/or B when first eligible, or you receive services from a provider who does not accept Medicare payments, this Plan will calculate payment based on what should have been paid by Medicare as the primary payer if the person had been enrolled or had received services from a provider who accepts Medicare payments. A person is considered eligible for Medicare on the earliest date any coverage under Medicare could become effective.**

#### **Failure to Enroll in Medicare**

If you, your spouse, or your Dependent do not enroll in Medicare Parts A and/or B during the person's initial Medicare enrollment period, or the person opts out of coverage, the person may be subject to Medicare late enrollment penalties, which can cause a delay in coverage and result in higher Medicare premiums when the person does enroll. It can also result in a reduction in coverage under Medicare Parts A and B. If you are planning to retire or terminate employment and you will be eligible for COBRA, state Continuation, or retiree coverage under this Plan, you should enroll in Medicare before you terminate employment to avoid penalties and to receive the maximum coverage under Medicare. Please consult Medicare or the Social Security Administration for more information.

#### **Assistance with Medicare Questions**

For more information on Medicare's rules and regulations, contact Medicare toll-free at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov). You may also contact the Social Security Administration toll-free at 1-800-772-1213, at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov), or call your local Social Security Administration office.

## **Payment of Benefits**

### **Assignment and Payment of Benefits**

You may not assign to any party, including, but not limited to, a provider of healthcare services/items, your right to benefits under this plan, nor may you assign any administrative, statutory, or legal rights or causes of action you may have under ERISA, including, but not limited to, any right to make a claim for plan benefits, to request plan or other documents, to file appeals of denied claims or grievances, or to file lawsuits under ERISA. Any attempt to assign such rights shall be void and unenforceable under all circumstances.

You may, however, authorize Cigna to pay any healthcare benefits under this policy to a Participating or non-Participating Provider. When you authorize the payment of your healthcare benefits to a Participating or non-Participating Provider, you authorize the payment of the entire amount of the benefits due on that claim. If a provider is overpaid because of accepting duplicate payments from you and Cigna, it is the provider's responsibility to reimburse the overpayment to you. Cigna may pay all healthcare benefits for Covered Services directly to a Participating Provider without your authorization. You may not interpret or rely upon this discrete authorization or permission to pay any healthcare benefits to a Participating or non-Participating Provider as the authority to assign any other rights under this policy to any party, including, but not limited to, a provider of healthcare services/items.

Even if the payment of healthcare benefits to a non-Participating Provider has been authorized by you, Cigna may, at its option, make payment of benefits to you. When benefits are paid to you or your Dependent, you or your Dependents are responsible for reimbursing the non-Participating Provider.

If any person to whom benefits are payable is a minor or, in the opinion of Cigna is not able to give a valid receipt for any payment due him, such payment will be made to his legal guardian. If no request for payment has been made by his legal guardian, Cigna may, at its option, make payment to the person or institution appearing to have assumed his custody and support.

When one of our participants passes away, Cigna may receive notice that an executor of the estate has been established. The executor has the same rights as our insured and benefit payments for unassigned claims should be made payable to the executor.

Payment as described above will release Cigna from all liability to the extent of any payment made.

### **Recovery of Overpayment**

When an overpayment has been made by Cigna, Cigna will have the right at any time to: recover that overpayment from the person to whom or on whose behalf it was made; or offset

the amount of that overpayment from a future claim payment. In addition, your acceptance of benefits under this plan and/or assignment of Medical Benefits separately creates an equitable lien by agreement pursuant to which Cigna may seek recovery of any overpayment. You agree that Cigna, in seeking recovery of any overpayment as a contractual right or as an equitable lien by agreement, may pursue the general assets of the person or entity to whom or on whose behalf the overpayment was made.

### **Calculation of Covered Expenses**

Cigna, in its discretion, will calculate Covered Expenses following evaluation and validation of all provider billings in accordance with:

- the methodologies in the most recent edition of the Current Procedural terminology.
- the methodologies as reported by generally recognized professionals or publications.

HC-POB163

03-20

## **Termination of Insurance**

### **Employees**

Your insurance will cease on the earliest date below:

- the date you cease to be in a Class of Eligible Employees or cease to qualify for the insurance.
- the last day for which you have made any required contribution for the insurance.
- the date the policy is cancelled.
- the last day of the calendar month in which your Active Service ends except as described below.

Any continuation of insurance must be based on a plan which precludes individual selection.

### **Temporary Layoff or Leave of Absence**

If your Active Service ends due to temporary layoff or leave of absence, your insurance will be continued until the date your Employer stops paying premium for you or otherwise cancels your insurance. However, your insurance will not be continued for more than 60 days past the date your Active Service ends.

### **Injury or Sickness**

If your Active Service ends due to an Injury or Sickness, your insurance will be continued while you remain totally and continuously disabled as a result of the Injury or Sickness. However, your insurance will not continue past the date your

Employer stops paying premium for you or otherwise cancels your insurance.

### **Retirement**

If your Active Service ends because you retire, your insurance will be continued until the date on which your Employer stops paying premium for you or otherwise cancels the insurance.

### **Dependents**

Your insurance for all of your Dependents will cease on the earliest date below:

- the date your insurance ceases.
- the date you cease to be eligible for Dependent Insurance.
- the last day for which you have made any required contribution for the insurance.
- the date Dependent Insurance is cancelled.

The insurance for any one of your Dependents will cease on the date that Dependent no longer qualifies as a Dependent.

HC-TRM128

12-17

## **Federal Requirements**

The following pages explain your rights and responsibilities under federal laws and regulations. Some states may have similar requirements. If a similar provision appears elsewhere in this booklet, the provision which provides the better benefit will apply.

HC-FED1

10-10

## **Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO)**

### **Eligibility for Coverage Under a QMCSO**

If a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO) is issued for your child, that child will be eligible for coverage as required by the order and you will not be considered a Late Entrant for Dependent Insurance.

You must notify your Employer and elect coverage for that child, and yourself if you are not already enrolled, within 31 days of the QMCSO being issued.

### **Qualified Medical Child Support Order Defined**

A Qualified Medical Child Support Order is a judgment, decree or order (including approval of a settlement agreement) or administrative notice, which is issued pursuant to a state domestic relations law (including a community property law),

or to an administrative process, which provides for child support or provides for health benefit coverage to such child and relates to benefits under the group health plan, and satisfies all of the following:

- the order recognizes or creates a child's right to receive group health benefits for which a participant or beneficiary is eligible;
- the order specifies your name and last known address, and the child's name and last known address, except that the name and address of an official of a state or political subdivision may be substituted for the child's mailing address;
- the order provides a description of the coverage to be provided, or the manner in which the type of coverage is to be determined;
- the order states the period to which it applies; and
- if the order is a National Medical Support Notice completed in accordance with the Child Support Performance and Incentive Act of 1998, such Notice meets the requirements above.

The QMCSO may not require the health insurance policy to provide coverage for any type or form of benefit or option not otherwise provided under the policy, except that an order may require a plan to comply with State laws regarding health care coverage.

#### **Payment of Benefits**

Any payment of benefits in reimbursement for Covered Expenses paid by the child, or the child's custodial parent or legal guardian, shall be made to the child, the child's custodial parent or legal guardian, or a state official whose name and address have been substituted for the name and address of the child.

HC-FED4

10-10

### **Effect of Section 125 Tax Regulations on This Plan**

Your Employer has chosen to administer this Plan in accordance with Section 125 regulations of the Internal Revenue Code. Per this regulation, you may agree to a pretax salary reduction put toward the cost of your benefits. Otherwise, you will receive your taxable earnings as cash (salary).

#### **A. Coverage elections**

Per Section 125 regulations, you are generally allowed to enroll for or change coverage only before each annual benefit period. However, exceptions are allowed:

- if your Employer agrees, and you meet the criteria shown in the following Sections B through H and enroll for or change coverage within the time period established by your Employer.

#### **B. Change of status**

A change in status is defined as:

- change in legal marital status due to marriage, death of a spouse, divorce, annulment or legal separation;
- change in number of Dependents due to birth, adoption, placement for adoption, or death of a Dependent;
- change in employment status of Employee, spouse or Dependent due to termination or start of employment, strike, lockout, beginning or end of unpaid leave of absence, including under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), or change in worksite;
- changes in employment status of Employee, spouse or Dependent resulting in eligibility or ineligibility for coverage;
- change in residence of Employee, spouse or Dependent to a location outside of the Employer's network service area; and
- changes which cause a Dependent to become eligible or ineligible for coverage.

#### **C. Court order**

A change in coverage due to and consistent with a court order of the Employee or other person to cover a Dependent.

#### **D. Medicare or Medicaid eligibility/entitlement**

The Employee, spouse or Dependent cancels or reduces coverage due to entitlement to Medicare or Medicaid, or enrolls or increases coverage due to loss of Medicare or Medicaid eligibility.

#### **E. Change in cost of coverage**

If the cost of benefits increases or decreases during a benefit period, your Employer may, in accordance with plan terms, automatically change your elective contribution.

When the change in cost is significant, you may either increase your contribution or elect less-costly coverage. When a significant overall reduction is made to the benefit option you have elected, you may elect another available benefit option. When a new benefit option is added, you may change your election to the new benefit option.

## **F. Changes in coverage of spouse or Dependent under another employer's plan**

You may make a coverage election change if the plan of your spouse or Dependent: incurs a change such as adding or deleting a benefit option; allows election changes due to Change in Status, Court Order or Medicare or Medicaid Eligibility/Entitlement; or this Plan and the other plan have different periods of coverage or open enrollment periods.

## **G. Reduction in work hours**

If an Employee's work hours are reduced below 30 hours/week (even if it does not result in the Employee losing eligibility for the Employer's coverage); and the Employee (and family) intend to enroll in another plan that provides Minimum Essential Coverage (MEC). The new coverage must be effective no later than the 1st day of the 2nd month following the month that includes the date the original coverage is revoked.

## **H. Enrollment in a Qualified Health Plan (QHP)**

**Employee:** The Employee seeks to enroll in a QHP through an Exchange during the Marketplace's annual open enrollment period; and the disenrollment from the group plan corresponds to the intended enrollment of the Employee (and family) in a QHP through an Exchange for new coverage effective beginning no later than the day immediately following the last day of the original coverage.

**Family:** A plan may allow an Employee to revoke family coverage midyear in order for family members ("related individuals") to enroll in a QHP through an Exchange (Marketplace). The related individual(s) seek to enroll in a QHP during the Marketplace's annual open enrollment period, and the disenrollment from the group plan corresponds to the intended enrollment of the individual(s) in a QHP for new coverage effective beginning no later than the day immediately following the last day of the original coverage. If the Employee does not enroll in a QHP, the Employee must select self-only coverage or family coverage including one or more already-covered individuals.

HC-FED111

01-23

## **Eligibility for Coverage for Adopted Children**

Any child who is adopted by you, including a child who is placed with you for adoption, will be eligible for Dependent Insurance, if otherwise eligible as a Dependent, upon the date of placement with you. A child will be considered placed for adoption when you become legally obligated to support that child, totally or partially, prior to that child's adoption.

If a child placed for adoption is not adopted, all health coverage ceases when the placement ends, and will not be continued.

The provisions in the "Exception for Newborns" section of this document that describe requirements for enrollment and effective date of insurance will also apply to an adopted child or a child placed with you for adoption.

HC-FED67

09-14

## **Group Plan Coverage Instead of Medicaid**

If your income and liquid resources do not exceed certain limits established by law, the state may decide to pay premiums for this coverage instead of for Medicaid, if it is cost effective. This includes premiums for continuation coverage required by federal law.

HC-FED13

10-10

## **Requirements of Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (as amended) (FMLA)**

Any provisions of the policy that provide for: continuation of insurance during a leave of absence; and reinstatement of insurance following a return to Active Service; are modified by the following provisions of the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended, where applicable:

### **Continuation of Health Insurance During Leave**

Your health insurance will be continued during a leave of absence if:

- that leave qualifies as a leave of absence under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended; and
- you are an eligible Employee under the terms of that Act.

The cost of your health insurance during such leave must be paid, whether entirely by your Employer or in part by you and your Employer.

### **Reinstatement of Canceled Insurance Following Leave**

Upon your return to Active Service following a leave of absence that qualifies under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended, any canceled insurance (health, life or disability) will be reinstated as of the date of your return.

You will not be required to satisfy any eligibility or benefit waiting period to the extent that they had been satisfied prior to the start of such leave of absence.

Your Employer will give you detailed information about the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended.

HC-FED93

10-17

## **Uniformed Services Employment and Re-Employment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA)**

The Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA) sets requirements for continuation of health coverage and re-employment in regard to an Employee's military leave of absence. These requirements apply to medical and dental coverage for you and your Dependents. They do not apply to any Life, Short-term or Long-term Disability or Accidental Death & Dismemberment coverage you may have.

### **Continuation of Coverage**

For leaves of less than 31 days, coverage will continue as described in the Termination section regarding Leave of Absence.

For leaves of 31 days or more, you may continue coverage for yourself and your Dependents as follows:

You may continue benefits by paying the required premium to your Employer, until the earliest of the following:

- 24 months from the last day of employment with the Employer;
- the day after you fail to return to work; and
- the date the policy cancels.

Your Employer may charge you and your Dependents up to 102% of the total premium.

### **Reinstatement of Benefits (applicable to all coverages)**

If your coverage ends during the leave of absence because you do not elect USERRA at the expiration of USERRA and you are reemployed by your current Employer, coverage for you and your Dependents may be reinstated if you gave your Employer advance written or verbal notice of your military service leave, and the duration of all military leaves while you are employed with your current Employer does not exceed 5 years.

You and your Dependents will be subject to only the balance of a waiting period that was not yet satisfied before the leave began. However, if an Injury or Sickness occurs or is aggravated during the military leave, full Plan limitations will apply.

If your coverage under this plan terminates as a result of your eligibility for military medical and dental coverage and your order to active duty is canceled before your active duty service commences, these reinstatement rights will continue to apply.

HC-FED18

10-10

## **Claim Determination Procedures under ERISA**

**The following complies with federal law. Provisions of applicable laws of your state may supersede.**

### **Postservice Determinations**

When you or your representative requests a coverage determination or a claim payment determination after services have been rendered, Cigna will notify you or your representative of the determination within 30 days after receiving the request. However, if more time is needed to make a determination due to matters beyond Cigna's control, Cigna will notify you or your representative within 30 days after receiving the request. This notice will include the date a determination can be expected, which will be no more than 45 days after receipt of the request.

If more time is needed because necessary information is missing from the request, the notice will also specify what information is needed, and you or your representative must provide the specified information to Cigna within 45 days after receiving the notice. The determination period will be suspended on the date Cigna sends such a notice of missing information, and the determination period will resume on the date you or your representative responds to the notice.

HC-FED79

03-13

## **COBRA Continuation Rights Under Federal Law**

### **For You and Your Dependents**

#### **What is COBRA Continuation Coverage?**

Under federal law, you and/or your Dependents must be given the opportunity to continue health insurance when there is a "qualifying event" that would result in loss of coverage under the Plan. You and/or your Dependents will be permitted to continue the same coverage under which you or your Dependents were covered on the day before the qualifying event occurred, unless you move out of that plan's coverage area or the plan is no longer available. You and/or your Dependents cannot change coverage options until the next open enrollment period.

### **When is COBRA Continuation Available?**

For you and your Dependents, COBRA continuation is available for up to 18 months from the date of the following qualifying events if the event would result in a loss of coverage under the Plan:

- your termination of employment for any reason, other than gross misconduct; or
- your reduction in work hours.

For your Dependents, COBRA continuation coverage is available for up to 36 months from the date of the following qualifying events if the event would result in a loss of coverage under the Plan:

- your death;
- your divorce or legal separation; or
- for a Dependent child, failure to continue to qualify as a Dependent under the Plan.

### **Who is Entitled to COBRA Continuation?**

Only a “qualified beneficiary” (as defined by federal law) may elect to continue health insurance coverage. A qualified beneficiary may include the following individuals who were covered by the Plan on the day the qualifying event occurred: you, your spouse, and your Dependent children. Each qualified beneficiary has their own right to elect or decline COBRA continuation coverage even if you decline or are not eligible for COBRA continuation.

The following individuals are not qualified beneficiaries for purposes of COBRA continuation: domestic partners, grandchildren (unless adopted by you), stepchildren (unless adopted by you). Although these individuals do not have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage, if you elect COBRA continuation coverage for yourself, you may also cover your Dependents even if they are not considered qualified beneficiaries under COBRA. However, such individuals’ coverage will terminate when your COBRA continuation coverage terminates. The sections titled “Secondary Qualifying Events” and “Medicare Extension For Your Dependents” are not applicable to these individuals.

### **Secondary Qualifying Events**

If, as a result of your termination of employment or reduction in work hours, your Dependent(s) have elected COBRA continuation coverage and one or more Dependents experience another COBRA qualifying event, the affected Dependent(s) may elect to extend their COBRA continuation coverage for an additional 18 months (7 months if the secondary event occurs within the disability extension period) for a maximum of 36 months from the initial qualifying event. The second qualifying event must occur before the end of the initial 18 months of COBRA continuation coverage or within the disability extension period discussed below. Under no circumstances will COBRA continuation coverage be

available for more than 36 months from the initial qualifying event. Secondary qualifying events are: your death; your divorce or legal separation; or, for a Dependent child, failure to continue to qualify as a Dependent under the Plan.

### **Disability Extension**

If, after electing COBRA continuation coverage due to your termination of employment or reduction in work hours, you or one of your Dependents is determined by the Social Security Administration (SSA) to be totally disabled under Title II or XVI of the SSA, you and all of your Dependents who have elected COBRA continuation coverage may extend such continuation for an additional 11 months, for a maximum of 29 months from the initial qualifying event.

To qualify for the disability extension, all of the following requirements must be satisfied:

- SSA must determine that the disability occurred prior to or within 60 days after the disabled individual elected COBRA continuation coverage; and
- A copy of the written SSA determination must be provided to the Plan Administrator within 60 calendar days after the date the SSA determination is made AND before the end of the initial 18-month continuation period.

If the SSA later determines that the individual is no longer disabled, you must notify the Plan Administrator within 30 days after the date the final determination is made by SSA. The 11-month disability extension will terminate for all covered persons on the first day of the month that is more than 30 days after the date the SSA makes a final determination that the disabled individual is no longer disabled.

All causes for “Termination of COBRA Continuation” listed below will also apply to the period of disability extension.

### **Medicare Extension for Your Dependents**

When the qualifying event is your termination of employment or reduction in work hours and you became enrolled in Medicare (Part A, Part B or both) within the 18 months before the qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage for your Dependents will last for up to 36 months after the date you became enrolled in Medicare. Your COBRA continuation coverage will last for up to 18 months from the date of your termination of employment or reduction in work hours.

### **Termination of COBRA Continuation**

COBRA continuation coverage will be terminated upon the occurrence of any of the following:

- the end of the COBRA continuation period of 18, 29 or 36 months, as applicable;
- failure to pay the required premium within 30 calendar days after the due date;
- cancellation of the Employer’s policy with Cigna;

- after electing COBRA continuation coverage, a qualified beneficiary enrolls in Medicare (Part A, Part B, or both);
- after electing COBRA continuation coverage, a qualified beneficiary becomes covered under another group health plan, unless the qualified beneficiary has a condition for which the new plan limits or excludes coverage under a pre-existing condition provision. In such case coverage will continue until the earliest of: the end of the applicable maximum period; the date the pre-existing condition provision is no longer applicable; or the occurrence of an event described in one of the first three bullets above;
- any reason the Plan would terminate coverage of a participant or beneficiary who is not receiving continuation coverage (e.g., fraud).

### **Employer's Notification Requirements**

Your Employer is required to provide you and/or your Dependents with the following notices:

- An initial notification of COBRA continuation rights must be provided within 90 days after your (or your spouse's) coverage under the Plan begins (or the Plan first becomes subject to COBRA continuation requirements, if later). If you and/or your Dependents experience a qualifying event before the end of that 90-day period, the initial notice must be provided within the time frame required for the COBRA continuation coverage election notice as explained below.
- A COBRA continuation coverage election notice must be provided to you and/or your Dependents within the following timeframes:
  - if the Plan provides that COBRA continuation coverage and the period within which an Employer must notify the Plan Administrator of a qualifying event starts upon the loss of coverage, 44 days after loss of coverage under the Plan;
  - if the Plan provides that COBRA continuation coverage and the period within which an Employer must notify the Plan Administrator of a qualifying event starts upon the occurrence of a qualifying event, 44 days after the qualifying event occurs; or
  - in the case of a multi-employer plan, no later than 14 days after the end of the period in which Employers must provide notice of a qualifying event to the Plan Administrator.

### **How to Elect COBRA Continuation Coverage**

The COBRA coverage election notice will list the individuals who are eligible for COBRA continuation coverage and inform you of the applicable premium. The notice will also include instructions for electing COBRA continuation coverage. You must notify the Plan Administrator of your election no later than the due date stated on the COBRA election notice. If a written election notice is required, it must

be post-marked no later than the due date stated on the COBRA election notice. If you do not make proper notification by the due date shown on the notice, you and your Dependents will lose the right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. If you reject COBRA continuation coverage before the due date, you may change your mind as long as you furnish a completed election form before the due date.

Each qualified beneficiary has an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Continuation coverage may be elected for only one, several, or for all Dependents who are qualified beneficiaries. Parents may elect to continue coverage on behalf of their Dependent children. You or your spouse may elect continuation coverage on behalf of all the qualified beneficiaries. You are not required to elect COBRA continuation coverage in order for your Dependents to elect COBRA continuation.

### **How Much Does COBRA Continuation Coverage Cost?**

Each qualified beneficiary may be required to pay the entire cost of continuation coverage. The amount may not exceed 102% of the cost to the group health plan (including both Employer and Employee contributions) for coverage of a similarly situated active Employee or family member. The premium during the 11-month disability extension may not exceed 150% of the cost to the group health plan (including both employer and employee contributions) for coverage of a similarly situated active Employee or family member.

For example: If the Employee alone elects COBRA continuation coverage, the Employee will be charged 102% (or 150%) of the active Employee premium. If the spouse or one Dependent child alone elects COBRA continuation coverage, they will be charged 102% (or 150%) of the active Employee premium. If more than one qualified beneficiary elects COBRA continuation coverage, they will be charged 102% (or 150%) of the applicable family premium.

### **When and How to Pay COBRA Premiums**

#### *First payment for COBRA continuation*

If you elect COBRA continuation coverage, you do not have to send any payment with the election form. However, you must make your first payment no later than 45 calendar days after the date of your election. (This is the date the Election Notice is postmarked, if mailed.) If you do not make your first payment within that 45 days, you will lose all COBRA continuation rights under the Plan.

#### *Subsequent payments*

After you make your first payment for COBRA continuation coverage, you will be required to make subsequent payments of the required premium for each additional month of coverage. Payment is due on the first day of each month. If you make a payment on or before its due date, your coverage under the Plan will continue for that coverage period without any break.

### *Grace periods for subsequent payments*

Although subsequent payments are due by the first day of the month, you will be given a grace period of 30 days after the first day of the coverage period to make each monthly payment. Your COBRA continuation coverage will be provided for each coverage period as long as payment for that coverage period is made before the end of the grace period for that payment. However, if your payment is received after the due date, your coverage under the Plan may be suspended during this time. Any providers who contact the Plan to confirm coverage during this time may be informed that coverage has been suspended. If payment is received before the end of the grace period, your coverage will be reinstated back to the beginning of the coverage period. This means that any claim you submit for benefits while your coverage is suspended may be denied and may have to be resubmitted once your coverage is reinstated. If you fail to make a payment before the end of the grace period for that coverage period, you will lose all rights to COBRA continuation coverage under the Plan.

### **You Must Give Notice of Certain Qualifying Events**

If you or your Dependent(s) experience one of the following qualifying events, you must notify the Plan Administrator within 60 calendar days after the later of the date the qualifying event occurs or the date coverage would cease as a result of the qualifying event:

- Your divorce or legal separation; or
- Your child ceases to qualify as a Dependent under the Plan.
- The occurrence of a secondary qualifying event as discussed under “Secondary Qualifying Events” above (this notice must be received prior to the end of the initial 18- or 29-month COBRA period).

(Also refer to the section titled “Disability Extension” for additional notice requirements.)

Notice must be made in writing and must include: the name of the Plan, name and address of the Employee covered under the Plan, name and address(es) of the qualified beneficiaries affected by the qualifying event; the qualifying event; the date the qualifying event occurred; and supporting documentation (e.g., divorce decree, birth certificate, disability determination, etc.).

### **Newly Acquired Dependents**

If you acquire a new Dependent through marriage, birth, adoption or placement for adoption while your coverage is being continued, you may cover such Dependent under your COBRA continuation coverage. However, only your newborn or adopted Dependent child is a qualified beneficiary and may continue COBRA continuation coverage for the remainder of the coverage period following your early termination of COBRA coverage or due to a secondary qualifying event.

COBRA coverage for your Dependent spouse and any Dependent children who are not your children (e.g., stepchildren or grandchildren) will cease on the date your COBRA coverage ceases and they are not eligible for a secondary qualifying event.

### **COBRA Continuation for Retirees Following Employer’s Bankruptcy**

If you are covered as a retiree, and a proceeding in bankruptcy is filed with respect to the Employer under Title 11 of the United States Code, you may be entitled to COBRA continuation coverage. If the bankruptcy results in a loss of coverage for you, your Dependents or your surviving spouse within one year before or after such proceeding, you and your covered Dependents will become COBRA qualified beneficiaries with respect to the bankruptcy. You will be entitled to COBRA continuation coverage until your death. Your surviving spouse and covered Dependent children will be entitled to COBRA continuation coverage for up to 36 months following your death. However, COBRA continuation coverage will cease upon the occurrence of any of the events listed under “Termination of COBRA Continuation” above.

### **Interaction With Other Continuation Benefits**

You may be eligible for other continuation benefits under state law. Refer to the Termination section for any other continuation benefits.

HC-FED66

07-14

## **ERISA Required Information**

The name of the Plan is:

University of New England Employee Benefit Plan

The name, address, ZIP code and business telephone number of the sponsor of the Plan is:

University of New England  
11 Hills Beach Road  
Biddeford, ME 04005  
207-602-2394

Employer Identification  
Number (EIN):

010211810

Plan Number:

501

The name, address, ZIP code and business telephone number of the Plan Administrator is:

Employer named above

The name, address and ZIP code of the person designated as agent for service of legal process is:

Employer named above



The office designated to consider the appeal of denied claims is:

The Cigna Claim Office responsible for this Plan

The cost of the Plan is shared by Employee and Employer.

The Plan's fiscal year ends on 12/31.

The preceding pages set forth the eligibility requirements and benefits provided for you under this Plan.

#### **Plan Trustees**

A list of trustees of the Plan, which includes name, title and address, is available upon request to the Plan Administrator.

#### **Plan Type**

The plan is a healthcare benefit plan.

#### **Collective Bargaining Agreements**

You may contact the Plan Administrator to determine whether the Plan is maintained pursuant to one or more collective bargaining agreements and if a particular Employer is a sponsor. A copy is available for examination from the Plan Administrator upon written request.

#### **Discretionary Authority**

The Plan Administrator delegates to Cigna the discretionary authority to interpret and apply plan terms and to make factual determinations in connection with its review of claims under the plan. Such discretionary authority is intended to include, but not limited to, the determination of the eligibility of persons desiring to enroll in or claim benefits under the plan, the determination of whether a person is entitled to benefits under the plan, and the computation of any and all benefit payments. The Plan Administrator also delegates to Cigna the discretionary authority to perform a full and fair review, as required by ERISA, of each claim denial which has been appealed by the claimant or his duly authorized representative.

#### **Plan Modification, Amendment and Termination**

The Employer as Plan Sponsor reserves the right to, at any time, change or terminate benefits under the Plan, to change or terminate the eligibility of classes of employees to be covered by the Plan, to amend or eliminate any other plan term or condition, and to terminate the whole plan or any part of it. Contact the Employer for the procedure by which benefits may be changed or terminated, by which the eligibility of classes of employees may be changed or terminated, or by which part or all of the Plan may be terminated. No consent of any participant is required to terminate, modify, amend or change the Plan.

Termination of the Plan together with termination of the insurance policy(s) which funds the Plan benefits will have no adverse effect on any benefits to be paid under the policy(s) for any covered medical expenses incurred prior to the date that policy(s) terminates. Likewise, any extension of benefits under the policy(s) due to you or your Dependent's total

disability which began prior to and has continued beyond the date the policy(s) terminates will not be affected by the Plan termination. Rights to purchase limited amounts of life and medical insurance to replace part of the benefits lost because the policy(s) terminated may arise under the terms of the policy(s). A subsequent Plan termination will not affect the extension of benefits and rights under the policy(s).

Your coverage under the Plan's insurance policy(s) will end on the earliest of the following dates:

- the date you leave Active Service (or later as explained in the Termination Section;)
- the date you are no longer in an eligible class;
- if the Plan is contributory, the date you cease to contribute;
- the date the policy(s) terminates.

See your Plan Administrator to determine if any extension of benefits or rights are available to you or your Dependents under this policy(s). No extension of benefits or rights will be available solely because the Plan terminates.

#### **Statement of Rights**

As a participant in the plan you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides that all plan participants shall be entitled to:

#### **Receive Information About Your Plan and Benefits**

- examine, without charge, at the Plan Administrator's office and at other specified locations, such as worksites and union halls, all documents governing the plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure room of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.
- obtain, upon written request to the Plan Administrator, copies of documents governing the Plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated summary plan description. The administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.
- receive a summary of the Plan's annual financial report. The Plan Administrator is required by law to furnish each person under the Plan with a copy of this summary financial report.

#### **Continue Group Health Plan Coverage**

- continue health care coverage for yourself, your spouse or Dependents if there is a loss of coverage under the Plan as a result of a qualifying event. You or your Dependents may have to pay for such coverage. Review the documents governing the Plan on the rules governing your federal continuation coverage rights.

### **Prudent Actions by Plan Fiduciaries**

In addition to creating rights for plan participants, ERISA imposes duties upon the people responsible for the operation of the employee benefit plan. The people who operate your plan, called “fiduciaries” of the Plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other plan participants and beneficiaries. No one, including your employer, your union, or any other person may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a welfare benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA. If your claim for a welfare benefit is denied or ignored you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge, and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules.

### **Enforce Your Rights**

Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of documents governing the plan or the latest annual report from the plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you 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 you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the administrator. If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a state or federal court.

In addition, if you disagree with the plan’s decision or lack thereof concerning the qualified status of a domestic relations order or a medical child support order, you may file suit in federal court. If it should happen that plan fiduciaries misuse the plan’s money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example if it finds your claim is frivolous.

### **Assistance with Your Questions**

If you have any questions about your plan, you should contact the plan administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the plan administrator, you should contact the nearest 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. You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

HC-FED72

05-15

### **Notice of an Appeal or a Grievance**

The appeal or grievance provision in this certificate may be superseded by the law of your state. Please see your explanation of benefits for the applicable appeal or grievance procedure.

### **Cigna Vision Second Level Appeals Address**

Please submit your Level 2 Grievance documents to the following address:

Cigna  
NAU National Appeals Unit  
P.O. Box 188044  
Chattanooga, TN 37422

HC-SPP4

04-10

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### **Appointment of Authorized Representative**

You may appoint an authorized representative to assist you in submitting a claim or appealing a claim denial. However, Cigna may require you to designate your authorized representative in writing using a form approved by Cigna. At all times, the appointment of an authorized representative is revocable by you. To ensure that a prior appointment remains valid, Cigna may require you to re-appoint your authorized representative, from time to time.

Cigna reserves the right to refuse to honor the appointment of a representative if Cigna reasonably determines that:

- the signature on an authorized representative form may not be yours, or

- the authorized representative may not have disclosed to you all of the relevant facts and circumstances relating to the overpayment or underpayment of any claim, including, for example, that the billing practices of the provider of medical services may have jeopardized your coverage through the waiver of the cost-sharing amounts that you are required to pay under your plan.

If your designation of an authorized representative is revoked, or Cigna does not honor your designation, you may appoint a new authorized representative at any time, in writing, using a form approved by Cigna.

HC-AARI

01-17

## When You Have A Complaint Or An Appeal

For the purposes of this section, any reference to "you", "your" or "Member" also refers to a representative or provider designated by you to act on your behalf, unless otherwise noted.

We want you to be completely satisfied with the care you receive. That is why we have established a process for addressing your concerns and solving your problems.

### Start with Customer Service

We are here to listen and help. If you have a concern regarding a person, a service, the quality of care, contractual benefits, or a rescission of coverage, you can call our toll-free number and explain your concern to one of our Customer Service representatives. Please call us at the Customer Service Toll-Free Number that appears on your Benefit Identification card, explanation of benefits or claim form.

We will do our best to resolve the matter on your initial contact. If we need more time to review or investigate your concern, we will get back to you as soon as possible, but in any case within 20 days.

If you are not satisfied with the results of a coverage decision, you can start the appeals procedure.

### Appeals Procedure

Cigna has a two step appeals procedure for coverage decisions. To initiate an appeal, you must submit a request for an appeal in writing, after receipt of a denial notice, to the following address:

Cigna  
National Appeals Unit (NAU)  
PO Box 188011  
Chattanooga, TN 37422

You should state the reason why you feel your appeal should be approved and include any information supporting your appeal. If you are unable or choose not to write, you may ask to register your appeal by telephone. Call us at the toll-free number on your Benefit Identification card, explanation of benefits or claim form.

### Level One Appeal

Your appeal will be reviewed and the decision made by someone not involved in the initial decision. Appeals involving Medical Necessity or clinical appropriateness will be considered by a health care professional.

For level one appeals, we will respond in writing with a decision within 15 calendar days after we receive an appeal for a required preservice or concurrent care coverage determination (decision). We will respond within 20 working days after we receive an appeal for a postservice coverage determination. If more time or information is needed to make the determination, we will notify you in writing to request an extension of up to 15 calendar days and to specify any additional information needed to complete the review.

You may request that the appeal process be expedited if, (a) the time frames under this process would seriously jeopardize your life, health or ability to regain maximum function or in the opinion of your Physician would cause you severe pain which cannot be managed without the requested services; or (b) your appeal involves nonauthorization of an admission or continuing inpatient Hospital stay.

If you request that your appeal be expedited based on (a) above, you may also ask for an expedited external Independent Review at the same time, if the time to complete an expedited level-one appeal would be detrimental to your medical condition.

Cigna's Physician reviewer, in consultation with the treating Physician, will decide if an expedited appeal is necessary. When an appeal is expedited, we will respond orally with a decision within 72 hours, followed up in writing within two working days of the oral response.

### Level Two Appeal

If you are dissatisfied with our level one appeal decision, you may request a second review. To start a level two appeal, follow the same process required for a level one appeal.

Most requests for a second review will be conducted by the Appeals Committee, which consists of at least three people. Anyone involved in the prior decision may not vote on the Committee. For appeals involving Medical Necessity or clinical appropriateness, the Committee will consult with at least one Physician reviewer in the same or similar specialty as the care under consideration, as determined by Cigna's Physician reviewer. You may present your situation to the Committee in person or by conference call.

For level two appeals we will acknowledge in writing that we have received your request and schedule a Committee review. For required preservice and concurrent care coverage determinations, the Committee review will be completed within 15 calendar days. For postservice claims, the Committee review will be completed within 20 working days. If more time or information is needed to make the determination, we will notify you in writing to request an extension of up to 15 calendar days and to specify any additional information needed by the Committee to complete the review. In the event any new or additional information (evidence) is considered, relied upon or generated by Cigna in connection with the level-two appeal, Cigna will provide this information to you as soon as possible and sufficiently in advance of the decision, so that you will have an opportunity to respond. Also, if any new or additional rationale is considered by Cigna, Cigna will provide the rationale to you as soon as possible and sufficiently in advance of the decision so that you will have an opportunity to respond.

You will be notified in writing of the Committee's decision within five working days after the Committee meeting, and within the Committee review time frames above if the Committee does not approve the requested coverage.

You may request that the appeal process be expedited if the time frames under this process would seriously jeopardize your life, health or ability to regain maximum function or in the opinion of your Physician would cause you severe pain which cannot be managed without the requested services; or your appeal involves nonauthorization of an admission or continuing inpatient Hospital stay. Cigna's Physician reviewer, in consultation with the treating Physician will decide if an expedited appeal is necessary. When an appeal is expedited, we will respond orally with a decision within 72 hours, followed up in writing within two working days of the oral response.

### **Independent Review Procedure**

You also have the right to appeal an unfavorable decision, including denials based on experimental or pre-existing conditions, by way of the State of Maine's independent review process. Your request must be in writing and sent to the State of Maine, Bureau of Insurance, 34 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04330. A request for an independent review must be submitted within 12 months of the date that you receive an adverse determination (decision) under Cigna's complaint and appeals process. When you request an independent review from the Maine's Bureau of Insurance, you may submit additional information for consideration. You may attend the review in person, by telephone, by teleconference or other appropriate electronic means, ask questions of the representatives and have outside assistance.

The Independent Review Organization will issue a written decision within 30 days of receipt of a completed review from Maine's Bureau of Insurance.

You may request an expedited independent review of your appeal prior to exhausting all levels of Cigna's appeals procedure if: Cigna has failed to make a decision on a complaint or an appeal within the time period required; you and Cigna mutually agreed to bypass the appeals procedure; the time frames under this process would seriously jeopardize your life, health or ability to regain maximum function or in the opinion of your Physician would cause you severe pain which cannot be managed without the requested services; or the patient has died.

You may call Cigna at the toll-free telephone number on your ID card for assistance in filing a request for an independent review with the Maine's Bureau of Insurance. There is no charge for you to initiate this independent review process. Cigna will abide by the decision of the Independent Review Organization. The Independent Review Program is a voluntary program arranged by Cigna.

You may also call Maine's Bureau of Insurance at 1-800-300-5000 for assistance.

### **Appeal to the State of Maine**

You have the right to contact the Superintendent of Insurance for assistance at any time. The Superintendent of Insurance may be contacted at the following address and telephone number:

State of Maine  
Maine Bureau of Insurance  
Superintendent of Insurance  
34 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
1-800-300-5000

### **Notice of Benefit Determination on Appeal**

Every notice of a determination on appeal will be provided in writing or electronically and, if an adverse determination, will include: information sufficient to identify the claim; the specific reason or reasons for the adverse determination; reference to the specific plan provisions on which the determination is based; a statement that the claimant is entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to and copies of all documents, records, and other Relevant Information as defined; a statement describing any voluntary appeal procedures offered by the plan and the claimant's right to bring an action under ERISA section 502(a); upon request and free of charge, a copy of any internal rule, guideline, protocol or other similar criterion that was relied upon in making the adverse determination regarding your appeal, and an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for a determination that is based on a Medical Necessity, experimental treatment or other similar exclusion or limit; and

information about any office of health insurance consumer assistance or ombudsman available to assist you in the appeal process. A final notice of adverse determination will include a discussion of the decision.

You also have the right to bring a civil action under Section 502(a) of ERISA if you are not satisfied with the decision on review. You or your plan may have other voluntary alternative dispute resolution options such as Mediation. One way to find out what may be available is to contact your local U.S. Department of Labor office and your State insurance regulatory agency. You may also contact the Plan Administrator.

### Relevant Information

Relevant Information is any document, record, or other information which was relied upon in making the benefit 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 by federal law in making the benefit determination; or constitutes a statement of policy or guidance with respect to the plan concerning the denied treatment option or benefit or the claimant's diagnosis, without regard to whether such advice or statement was relied upon in making the benefit determination.

### Legal Action

If your plan is governed by ERISA, you have the right to bring a civil action under Section 502(a) of ERISA if you are not satisfied with the outcome of the Appeals Procedure. In most instances, you may not initiate a legal action against Cigna until you have completed the Level One and Level Two Appeal processes. If your Appeal is expedited, there is no need to complete the Level Two process prior to bringing legal action.

HC-APL56

04-10

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## Definitions

### Active Service

You will be considered in Active Service:

- on any of your Employer's scheduled work days if you are performing the regular duties of your work on a full-time basis on that day either at your Employer's place of business or at some location to which you are required to travel for your Employer's business.

- on a day which is not one of your Employer's scheduled work days if you were in Active Service on the preceding scheduled work day.

HC-DFS1416

01-20

### Dependent

Dependents are:

- your lawful spouse; or
- your Domestic Partner; and
- any child of yours who is:
  - less than 26 years old.
  - 26 or more years old, unmarried, and primarily supported by you and incapable of self-sustaining employment by reason of mental or physical disability which arose while the child was covered as a Dependent under this Plan, or while covered as a dependent under a prior plan with no break in coverage.

Proof of the child's condition and dependence must be submitted to Cigna within 31 days after the date the child ceases to qualify above. From time to time, but not more frequently than once a year, Cigna may require proof of the continuation of such condition and dependence.

The term child means a child born to you or a child legally adopted by you. It also includes a stepchild, a grandchild who lives with you, or a child for whom you are the legal guardian. If your Domestic Partner has a child, that child will also be included as a Dependent.

Benefits for a Dependent child will continue until the last day of the calendar month in which the limiting age is reached.

Anyone who is eligible as an Employee will not be considered as a Dependent.

No one may be considered as a Dependent of more than one Employee.

HC-DFS1527

01-23

### Domestic Partner

A Domestic Partner is defined as a person of the same or opposite sex who:

- shares your permanent residence;
- has resided with you for no less than one year;
- is no less than 18 years of age;
- is financially interdependent with you and has proven such interdependence by providing documentation of at least two of the following arrangements: common ownership of real

property or a common leasehold interest in such property; community ownership of a motor vehicle; a joint bank account or a joint credit account; designation as a beneficiary for life insurance or retirement benefits or under your partner's will; assignment of a durable power of attorney or health care power of attorney; or such other proof as is considered by Cigna to be sufficient to establish financial interdependency under the circumstances of your particular case;

- is not a blood relative any closer than would prohibit legal marriage; and
- has signed jointly with you, a notarized affidavit attesting to the above which can be made available to Cigna upon request.

In addition, you and your Domestic Partner will be considered to have met the terms of this definition as long as neither you nor your Domestic Partner:

- has signed a Domestic Partner affidavit or declaration with any other person within twelve months prior to designating each other as Domestic Partners hereunder;
- is currently legally married to another person; or
- has any other Domestic Partner, spouse or spouse equivalent of the same or opposite sex.

You and your Domestic Partner must have registered as Domestic Partners, if you reside in a state that provides for such registration.

The section of this certificate entitled "COBRA Continuation Rights Under Federal Law" will not apply to your Domestic Partner and his or her Dependents.

HC-DFS677

01-15

### Employee

The term Employee means a full-time employee of the Employer who is currently in Active Service. The term does not include employees who are part-time or temporary or who normally work less than 20 hours a week for the Employer.

HC-DFS7

04-10

V3

### Employee

The term Employee means a full-time Employee of the Employer who is currently in Active Service. The term does not include Employees who are part-time or temporary or who normally work less than 20 hours a week for the Employer.

HC-DFS1094

12-17

### Employer

The term Employer means the policyholder and those affiliated Employers whose Employees are covered under this Policy.

HC-DFS1566

01-21

### Injury

The term Injury means an accidental bodily injury.

HC-DFS12

04-10

V1

### Medicaid

The term Medicaid means a state program of medical aid for needy persons established under Title XIX of the Social Security Act of 1965 as amended.

HC-DFS16

04-10

V1

### Medically Necessary/Medical Necessity

"Medically Necessary health care" means health care services or products provided to an enrollee for the purpose of preventing, diagnosing or treating an illness, Injury or disease or the symptoms of an illness, Injury or disease in a manner that is:

- Consistent with generally accepted standards of medical practice;
- Clinically appropriate in terms of type, frequency, extent, site and duration;
- Demonstrated through scientific evidence to be effective in improving health outcomes;
- Representative of "best practices" in the medical profession; and
- Not primarily for the convenience of the enrollee or Physician or other health care practitioner.

In determining whether health care services, supplies, or medications are Medically Necessary, the Medical Director or Review Organization may rely on the clinical coverage policies maintained by Cigna or the Review Organization. Clinical coverage policies may incorporate, without limitation and as applicable, criteria relating to U.S. Food and Drug Administration-approved labeling, the standard medical reference compendia and peer-reviewed, evidence-based scientific literature or guidelines.

HC-DFS1326 01-19

### Medicare

The term Medicare means the program of medical care benefits provided under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act of 1965 as amended.

HC-DFS17 04-10  
V1

### Ophthalmologist

The term Ophthalmologist means a person practicing ophthalmology within the scope of his license. It will also include a physician operating within the scope of his license when he performs any of the Vision Care services described in the policy.

HC-DFS70 04-10  
V1

### Optician

The term Optician means a fabricator and dispenser of eyeglasses and/or contact lenses. An optician fills prescriptions for glasses and other optical aids as specified by optometrists or ophthalmologists. The state in which an optician practices may or may not require licensure for rendering of these services.

HC-DFS71 04-10  
V1

### Optometrist

The term Optometrist means a person practicing optometry within the scope of his license. It will also include a physician operating within the scope of his license when he performs any of the Vision Care services described in the policy.

HC-DFS72 04-10  
V1

### Other Health Professional

The term Other Health Professional means an individual other than a Physician who is licensed or otherwise authorized under the applicable state law to deliver medical services and supplies. Other Health Professionals include, but are not limited to physical therapists, registered nurses and licensed practical nurses. Other Health Professionals do not include providers such as Certified First Assistants, Certified Operating Room Technicians, Certified Surgical Assistants/Technicians, Licensed Certified Surgical Assistants/Technicians, Licensed Surgical Assistants, Orthopedic Physician Assistants and Surgical First Assistants.

HC-DFS1413 01-20

### Sickness – For Medical Insurance

The term Sickness means a physical or mental illness. It also includes pregnancy. Expenses incurred for routine Hospital and pediatric care of a newborn child prior to discharge from the Hospital nursery will be considered to be incurred as a result of Sickness.

HC-DFS50 04-10  
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### Vision Provider

The term Vision Provider means: an optometrist, ophthalmologist, optician or a group partnership or other legally recognized aggregation of such professionals; duly licensed and in good standing with the relevant public licensing bodies to provide covered vision services within the scope of the Vision Providers' respective licenses.

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