Have a complaint or need help?

If you have a problem with a claim or your premium, call your insurance company or HMO first. If you can't work out the issue, the Texas Department of Insurance may be able to help.

Even if you file a complaint with the Texas Department of Insurance, you should also file a complaint or appeal through your insurance company or HMO. If you don't, you may lose your right to appeal.

Continental American Insurance Company

To get information or file a complaint with your insurance company or HMO:

Call: Continental American Insurance Company at 1-800-433-3036

Toll-free:

1-800-433-3036

Email: cscmail@aflac.com

Mail: Continental American Insurance Company
Post Office Box 427
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

The Texas Department of Insurance

To get help with an insurance question or file a complaint with the state:

Call: 1-800-252-3439

Online: www.tdi.texas.gov

Email: ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov

Mail: MC 111-1A, P.O. Box 149091, Austin, TX 78714

¿Tiene una queja o necesita ayuda?

Si tiene un problema con una reclamación o con su prima de seguro, llame primero a su compañía de seguros o HMO. Si no puede resolver el problema, es posible que el Departamento de Seguros de Texas (Texas Department of Insurance, por su nombre en inglés) pueda ayudar.

Aun si usted presenta una queja ante el Departamento de Seguros de Texas, también debe presentar una queja a través del proceso de quejas o de apelaciones de su compañía de seguros o HMO. Si no lo hace, podría perder su derecho para apelar.

Continental American Insurance Company

Para obtener información o para presentar una queja ante su compañía de seguros o HMO:

Llame a: Continental American Insurance Company al 1-800-433-3036

Teléfono gratuito:

1-800-433-3036

Correo electrónico: cscmail@aflac.com

L000314504202619386690000900485

Dirección postal: Continental American Insurance Company
Post Office Box 427
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

El Departamento de Seguros de Texas

Para obtener ayuda con una pregunta relacionada con los seguros o para presentar una queja ante el estado:

Llame: 1-800-252-3439

En línea: www.tdi.texas.gov

Correo electrónico: ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov

Dirección postal: MC 111-1A, P.O. Box 149091, Austin, TX 78714

How you're protected if your life or health insurance company fails

The Texas Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association protects you by paying your covered claims if your life or health insurance company is insolvent (can't pay its debts). **This notice summarizes your protections.**

The Association will pay your claims, with some exceptions required by law, if your company is licensed in Texas and a court has declared it insolvent. You must live in Texas when your company fails. If you don't live in Texas, you may still have some protections.

For each insolvent company, the Association will pay a person's claims only up to these dollar limits set by law:

- **Accident, accident and health, or health insurance (including HMOs):**
  - Up to $500,000 for health benefit plans, with some exceptions.
  - Up to $300,000 for disability income benefits.
  - Up to $300,000 for long-term care insurance benefits.
  - Up to $200,000 for all other types of health insurance.

- **Life insurance**:
  - Up to $100,000 in net cash surrender or withdrawal value.
  - Up to $300,000 in death benefits.

- **Individual annuities:** Up to $250,000 in the present value of benefits, including cash surrender and net cash withdrawal values.

- **Other policy types:** Limits for group policies, retirement plans and structured settlement annuities are in Chapter 463 of the Texas Insurance Code.

- **Individual aggregate limit:** Up to $300,000 per person, regardless of the number of policies or contracts. A limit of $500,000 may apply for people with health benefit plans.

- **Parts of some policies might not be protected:** For example, there is no protection for parts of a policy or contract that the insurance company doesn't guarantee, such as some additions to the value of variable life or annuity policies.

To learn more about the Association and your protections, contact:	For questions about insurance, contact:
Texas Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association 1601 Congress Avenue Austin, TX 78701 1-800-982-6362 or www.txlifega.org	**Texas Department of Insurance** P.O. Box 149104 Austin, TX 78714-9104 1-800-252-3439 or www.tdi.texas.gov

Note: You're receiving this notice because Texas law requires your insurance company to send you a summary of your protections under the Texas Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association Act (Insurance Code, Chapter 463). These protections apply to insolvencies that occur on or after September 1, 2019. **There may be other exceptions that aren't included in this notice.** When choosing an insurance company, you should not rely on the Association's coverage. Texas law prohibits companies and agents from using the Association as an inducement to buy insurance or HMO coverage.

Chapter 463 controls if there are differences between the law and this summary.

CONTINENTAL AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY

Columbia, South Carolina
800.433.3036

Please call the toll-free number above with any questions about this coverage.

Continuation of Coverage Endorsement

This Endorsement is part of the Policy and Certificate to which it is attached. This Endorsement is subject to all the definitions, terms, and other provisions of the Policy and Certificate to which it is attached, unless those terms are inconsistent with this Endorsement.

EFFECTIVE DATE
If issued at the same time as the Certificate, this Endorsement becomes effective when the Certificate becomes effective. If issued after the Certificate, this Endorsement will have a later Effective Date.

The following provisions are added after the Continuation Privilege provision in your Certificate:
CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE
If the Group Policy is terminated by the Policyholder and is not replaced with another group policy you may apply to continue the coverage you had on the Group Policy termination date. This includes any in-force Spouse or Dependent Child coverage. The Group Policy will be continued as if the Group Policy is in force for those who have applied to continue their coverage under this provision. The members will continue to have coverage, with their Certificates remaining in force.

The Company will apply the same benefits and plan provisions as shown in your Certificate on the date you are eligible to continue coverage under this provision. Your continued coverage is subject to all of the provisions, exclusions and limitations of the Group Policy.

To keep your Certificate in force, you must:

- Apply to the Company in writing under this Continuation of Coverage provision within 31 days after the date your Certificate would terminate, **and**
- Pay the required premium no later than 31 days after the date the Certificate would terminate and on each premium due date thereafter to the Company at our Customer Service Center in Columbus, Georgia.

PREMIUMS
Initial premium rates will be based on the rates in effect at the time you apply to continue your coverage. Premium rates can be changed by the Company at any time upon 60 days written notice to you. Any such change will be applied to all Certificates in your class and will not be based on your or your Spouse and Dependent Children's health or other individual factors.

You may decrease, but not increase, the amount of your coverage, and the amount of your Spouse's coverage, if any.

TERMINATION
Your continued coverage, including any in-force Spouse or Dependent Child coverage, will end:

- 31 days after the date you fail to pay any required premium.

- When coverage is terminated by the Company. We will provide you a 31-day advance written notice of any termination.
- On the date you die (unless your Spouse elects to become the Primary Insured under the Successor Insured provision, if applicable).

Once continued coverage is cancelled it cannot be reinstated. If your coverage terminates, we will provide benefits for valid claims that arose while your coverage was active.

CONTRACT

This Endorsement is part of the Certificate. It will terminate when:

- The Certificate terminates, or
- Premiums are no longer paid for this Endorsement.

Signed for the Company at its Home Office,

Virgil R. Miller, President

J. Matthew Loudermilk, Secretary

CONTINENTAL AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY

Columbia, South Carolina
800.433.3036

Please call the toll-free number above with any questions about this coverage.

Group Critical Illness Insurance Policy

Policyholder Name:	**FORT BEND ISD**	**Jurisdiction**	Texas
Group Policy Number	CTR0026193866	**Non-Participating**	
Effective Date	January 1, 2025	**Anniversary Date**	January 1, 2026

This limited Plan provides supplemental benefits only. It does not constitute comprehensive health insurance coverage and does not satisfy the requirement of minimum essential coverage under the Affordable Care Act.

This Plan provides benefits for the Critical Illnesses listed in the Policy Schedule.

Please read it carefully.

This policy is not a Medicare supplement policy.

NOTICE: This Policy may be subject to an increase in premium at time of renewal.

This is not a policy of workers' compensation insurance. The employer does not become a subscriber to the workers' compensation system by purchasing this policy, and if the employer is a non-subscriber, the employer loses those benefits which would otherwise accrue under the workers' compensation laws. The employer must comply with the workers' compensation law as it pertains to non-subscribers and the required notifications that must be filed and posted.

The Policyholder as shown on the Policy Schedule applied for coverage under this Group Critical Illness Insurance Policy (the "Plan"). This Plan is issued by Continental American Insurance Company (the "Company," "CAIC," "we," "us," or "our"). Based on the Master Application and the timely payment of premiums, the Company agrees to pay the benefits provided on the following pages.

You will notice that certain words and phrases (including some medical terms and the names of Plan documents) in this document are capitalized. The capitalized words refer to terms with very specific definitions as they apply to this insurance Plan.

This Plan is a legal contract between the Company and the Policyholder. All material printed by the Company on the following pages is part of the Plan. This Plan is delivered in and governed by the laws of the jurisdiction shown on the Policy Schedule.

In witness whereof, the Company executes this Plan at its home office in Columbia, South Carolina, on the Effective Date.

Signed for the Company at its Home Office,

Virgil R. Miller, President

J. Matthew Loudermilk, Secretary

Group Critical Illness Insurance
Non-Participating

Table of Contents

SECTION I – ELIGIBILITY, EFFECTIVE DATE, AND TERMINATION

PRIMARY INSURED

Eligibility

An Employee is eligible to be covered under this Plan if they are Actively at Work for their employer and included in the class that is eligible for coverage, as shown on the Master Application.

Insureds are defined as those who might be eligible for coverage under this Plan in the following categories:

- **Employee Coverage** – We insure the Employee and any Dependent Children. The Employee is the ***Primary Insured*** under this Plan.
- **Employee and Spouse Coverage** – We insure the Employee, Spouse, and any Dependent Children.

Employees should refer to *Type of Coverage* in their Certificate Schedule to determine who is covered under the Certificate.

Details for adding Insureds to Plan coverage are outlined in the Dependent Coverage – Effective Date provision.

Effective Date

The Plan's Effective Date is shown on the Policy Schedule. This Plan becomes effective on the Policy Effective Date at 12:01 a.m., as determined by the Policyholder's address.

An eligible Employee must enroll in this Plan and agree to pay the required premiums for coverage to become effective. An Employee must enroll within 31 days of the date they first become eligible for coverage. *The first premium must have been paid for coverage to become effective*.

We may require evidence of insurability satisfactory to us if the amount of coverage applied for exceeds the guaranteed-issue amount, if any, or if we do not receive the Application within 31 days after the Employee was first eligible for coverage. Evidence of insurability may also be required based on an agreement between the Policyholder and us.

The Employee's Effective Date is the date their insurance takes effect. After we receive and approve the Application, that date is either:

- The date shown on the Certificate Schedule if the Employee is Actively at Work on that date, or
- The date the Employee returns to an Actively-at-Work status if they were not Actively at Work on the date shown on the Certificate Schedule.

Termination of an Employee's Insurance

An Employee's insurance will terminate on whichever occurs first:

- The date the Company terminates the Plan.
- The 31st day after the premium due date (the last day of the Grace Period), if the premium has not been paid.
- The date the Employee no longer belongs to an eligible class.

If an Insured's coverage terminates, we will provide benefits for valid claims that arose while the Insured's coverage was active.

DEPENDENT COVERAGE

Eligibility
Dependents may be eligible for coverage under this Plan. **Employees should refer to the Type of Coverage on their Certificate Schedule to determine Dependent eligibility.** A ***Dependent*** is the Spouse of an Employee or the Dependent Child of an Employee (details included in the **Definitions** section). An eligible Spouse must not currently be disabled or unable to work and be at least 18 years of age.

Effective Date
The Effective Date for a Spouse is:
- The date shown on the Certificate Schedule if that Spouse is not confined to a hospital and is eligible for coverage on that date, or
- The first day of the month following the date the Spouse is no longer confined to a hospital (if that Spouse was confined to a hospital on the Certificate Schedule date) and is eligible for coverage on that date.

A Spouse may be added to the Plan after the Employee's Effective Date within 31 days after a Life Event or during an approved enrollment period. To be added, the Employee must complete an Application to add their Spouse to the Plan. The Company will assign the Effective Date for a Spouse's coverage after approving the application. For Spouse coverage to become effective, the Spouse must be included in the premium payment.

The Effective Date for a Dependent Child is:
- The Employee Effective Date, or
- The moment of birth for a newborn child, the date the petition is filed for adoption for adopted children, or the date of the Employee's marriage for step-children.

Termination of Dependent Insurance
Dependent Coverage will terminate on the earliest of the following:
- When the Certificate terminates,
- On the premium due date following the date we receive the Employee's written request to terminate Dependent coverage,
- When premiums are no longer paid for Dependent coverage (subject to the Grace Period),
- For Spouse coverage, when the Insured no longer meets the definition of Spouse because of annulment, divorce, or other reason, or
- For Dependent Child coverage, when the Child no longer qualifies as a Dependent because they reach age 26 or other reason. (Dependent Children who reach age 26 will have coverage continued until the last day of the month in which they turn age 26.)

Plan Termination
The **Company** has the right to cancel the Plan on any premium due date for the following reasons:
- The premium is not paid before the end of the Grace Period,
- The number of participating Employees is less than the number mutually agreed upon by the Company and the Policyholder in the signed Master Application,
- The Policyholder fails to perform any of the obligations that relate to this Policy or that are required by applicable law,
- The Policyholder no longer offers coverage to a particular class of Employees,
- The Policyholder no longer serves a class of Employees who reside in a particular geographical area, or
- The Policyholder does not provide timely information that is reasonably required.

The **Policyholder** has the right to cancel the Plan on any premium due date.
- To do this, the Policyholder must give the Company at least 31 days' written notice.
- The Plan will end on the date in the written notice or the date the Company receives the notice, whichever is later.

All outstanding premiums are due upon Plan termination. If the Company receives premium payments after the Plan terminates, this will not reinstate the Plan.

The Policyholder has the sole responsibility of notifying Certificateholders in writing of the Plan's termination as soon as reasonably possible. If the Plan terminates, it—and all Certificates and Riders issued under the Plan—will terminate on the specified termination date. The termination occurs as of 12:01 a.m. at the Policyholder's address.

Portability Privilege

When an Employee is no longer a member of an eligible class and their coverage would otherwise end, they may elect to continue their coverage under this Plan. The Employee may continue the coverage they had on the date their Certificate would otherwise terminate, including any in-force Spouse or Dependent Child coverage, without any additional underwriting requirements.

To keep their coverage in force, the Employee must:

- Notify the Company in writing within 31 days after the date their coverage would otherwise terminate. They may notify us by sending written notice to P.O. Box 84079, Columbus, GA 31993-9101 or by calling the Customer Service number at 800.433.3036, and
- Pay the required premium directly to the Company no later than 31 days after the date their coverage would otherwise terminate and on each premium due date thereafter.

Ported coverage will end on the earliest of the following dates:

- 31 days after the premium due date (the last day of the Grace Period), if the premium has not been paid, or
- The date the Group Plan is terminated.

If the Employee qualifies for this Portability Privilege, then the Company will apply the same Benefits and Plan Provisions as shown in their previously-issued Certificate. Notification of any changes in the Plan will be provided directly by the Company.

Extension of Benefits

If coverage under the Policy or any Riders that are in force ends while an Insured is confined in a Hospital for a covered Critical Illness, the Company will continue to pay benefits for confinement that become payable after the date coverage under the Policy or any Riders ends if the Insured meets the following requirements:

- The confinement must be continuous after the date of termination; and
- Coverage must not have ended as a result of the Insured's or, in the case of a Dependent Child or Spouse, the Primary Insured's voluntary termination of coverage.

This Extension of Benefits terminates upon the earliest of the following:

- The date the Insured is no longer confined to a Hospital;
- The date the Insured receives the maximum benefit for being confined to a Hospital; or
- 90 days after the date coverage would otherwise terminate.

Hospital means a place that meets all of the following criteria: Is legally licensed and operated as a hospital, provides overnight care of injured and sick people, is supervised by a Doctor, has full-time nurses supervised by a registered nurse, and has on-site use of X-ray equipment, laboratory, and surgical facilities.

The term Hospital specifically excludes any facility not meeting the definition of Hospital as defined in this Plan, including but not limited to: A nursing home, an extended-care facility, a skilled nursing facility, a rest home or home for the aged, a rehabilitation facility, a facility for the Treatment of alcoholism or drug addiction, or an assisted living facility.

SECTION II – PREMIUM PROVISIONS

Premium Payments

Premiums should be paid to the Company at P.O. Box 84069, Columbus, Georgia, 31908-4069. The first premiums are due on this Plan's Effective Date. After that, premiums are due on the first day of each month that the Plan remains in effect.

Payment of any premium will not keep the Plan in force beyond the due date of the next premium, except as set forth in the Grace Period provision.

Premium Changes
Unless we have agreed in writing not to increase premiums, the premium may change:

- On the Group Policy Anniversary Date based on renewal underwriting. (The Group Policy Anniversary Date is shown on the Policy Schedule and falls on the same date each year thereafter.)
- Whenever the terms or conditions of the Plan are modified. The new premium rates will apply only to premiums due on or after the rate change takes effect.

We will provide the Policyholder a 60-day advance written notice of any change to a premium.

Premiums on the Group Policy Anniversary Date are determined by the Attained Age of each Employee. The Attained Age rates are shown in the Schedule of Premiums.

Grace Period
This Plan has a 31-day Grace Period. If a premium is not paid on or before its due date, the premium may be paid during the next 31 days. During the Grace Period, the Plan will stay in force, unless the Policyholder has given the Company written notice of its intention to discontinue the Plan. If the Plan is discontinued, the Plan's termination date will be the latest date for which premium has been paid.

SECTION III - DEFINITIONS
When the terms below are used in this Plan, the following definitions apply:

Actively at Work (Active Work) refers to an Employee's ability to perform their regular employment duties for a full normal workday. The Employee may perform these activities either at their employer's regular place of business or at a location where they are required to travel to perform the regular duties of their employment.

Attained Age means the Employee's age on their Certificate Effective Date and on each Group Policy Anniversary Date thereafter.

Cancer (internal or invasive) is a disease that meets either of the following definitions:

- A malignant tumor characterized by:
    - The uncontrolled growth and spread of malignant cells, and
    - The invasion of distant tissue.
- A disease meeting the diagnostic criteria of malignancy, as established by the American Board of Pathology. A Pathologist must have examined and provided a report on the histocytologic architecture or pattern of the tumor, tissue, or specimen.

Cancer (internal or invasive) also includes:

- Melanoma that is Clark's Level III or higher ***or*** Breslow depth equal to or greater than 0.77mm,
- Myelodysplastic syndrome - RCMD (refractory cytopenia with multilineage dysplasia),
- Myelodysplastic syndrome - RAEB (refractory anemia with excess blasts),
- Myelodysplastic syndrome - RAEB-T (refractory anemia with excess blasts in transformation), or
- Myelodysplastic syndrome - CMML (chronic myelomonocytic leukemia).

The following are **not** considered internal or invasive Cancers:

- Pre-malignant tumors or polyps
- Carcinomas in Situ
- Any superficial, non-invasive Skin Cancers including basal cell and squamous cell carcinoma of the skin
- Melanoma in Situ
- Melanoma that is Diagnosed as
    - Clark's Level I or II,
    - Breslow depth less than 0.77mm, **or**
    - Stage 1A melanomas under TNM Staging
- Metastatic Cancer

Carcinoma in Situ is Non-Invasive Cancer that is in the natural or normal place, confined to the site of origin without having invaded neighboring tissue.

Melanoma in Situ means melanoma cells that occur only on the outer layer of the skin (the epidermis), where there is no invasion of the deeper layer (the dermis).

Non-Invasive Cancer is a Cancer that is in the natural or normal place, confined to the site of origin without having invaded neighboring tissue.

For the purposes of this Plan, a Non-Invasive Cancer is:

- Internal Carcinoma in Situ
- Myelodysplastic Syndrome - RA (refractory anemia)
- Myelodysplastic Syndrome - RARS (refractory anemia with ring sideroblasts)
- Myeloproliferative Blood Disorder

Premalignant conditions or conditions with malignant potential, other than those specifically named above, are **not** considered Non-Invasive Cancer.

Skin Cancer, as defined in this Plan, is **not** considered Non-Invasive Cancer and therefore is not payable under the Non-Invasive Cancer benefit.

Skin Cancer is a Cancer that forms in the tissues of the skin.

The following are considered Skin Cancers:

- Basal cell carcinoma
- Squamous cell carcinoma of the skin
- Melanoma in Situ
- Melanoma that is Diagnosed as:
  - Clark's Level I or II,
  - Breslow depth less than 0.77mm, or
  - Stage 1A melanomas under TNM Staging

These conditions are not payable under the Cancer (internal or invasive) benefit.

Cancer, Non-Invasive Cancer or Skin Cancer must be Diagnosed in one of two ways:

1. ***Pathological Diagnosis*** is a Diagnosis based on a microscopic study of fixed tissue or preparations from the hemic (blood) system. This Diagnosis must be made by a certified Pathologist and conform to the American Board of Pathology standards.

2. ***Clinical Diagnosis*** is based only on the study of symptoms. The Company will accept a Clinical Diagnosis only if**:**
   - A Doctor cannot make a Pathological Diagnosis because it is medically inappropriate or life-threatening,
   - Medical evidence exists to support the Diagnosis, and
   - A Doctor is treating the Insured for Cancer or Carcinoma in Situ.

Claimant means a person who is authorized to make a claim under the Certificate.

Complete Remission is defined as having no Symptoms and no Signs that can be identified to indicate the presence of Cancer.

Critical Illness is a disease or a sickness as defined in the Plan that first manifests while your coverage is in force.

Any loss due to Critical Illness must begin while your coverage is in force. Critical Illness includes only the following, provided such Critical Illness meets all applicable definitions contained in the Plan and, where indicated, is caused by an underlying condition:

- Cancer (internal or invasive)
- Non-Invasive Cancer

Date of Diagnosis is defined as follows:

- ***Cancer:*** The day tissue specimens, blood samples, or titer(s) are taken (Diagnosis of Cancer and/or Carcinoma in Situ is based on such specimens).
- ***Non-Invasive Cancer:*** The day tissue specimens, blood samples, or titer(s) are taken (Diagnosis of Cancer and/or Carcinoma in Situ is based on such specimens).
- ***Skin Cancer:*** The date the skin biopsy samples are taken for microscopic examination.

Dependent Children are an Employee's or an Employee's Spouse's natural children, step-children, grandchildren who are the Employee's dependents for federal income tax purposes at the time the application for coverage of the grandchild is made, foster children, children subject to legal guardianship, adopted children, children for whom the Employee is required to provide medical support, or Children Placed for Adoption, who are younger than age 26. However, we will continue coverage for Dependent Children insured under the Plan after the age of 26 if they are incapable of self-sustaining employment due to mental or physical disability, and are chiefly dependent on a parent for support and maintenance. The Employee or the Employee's Spouse must furnish proof of this incapacity and dependency to the Company within 31 days following the Dependent Child's 26th birthday.

The insurance on any Dependent Child will terminate on the last day of the month in which the Dependent Child turns age 26; it is the Employee's responsibility to notify us in writing when coverage on a Dependent Child terminates. Termination will be without prejudice to any claim originating prior to the date of termination. Our acceptance of any applicable premium after such date will be considered as premium for only the remaining persons who qualify as Insureds under this Plan. When coverage on all Dependent Children terminates, the Employee must notify the Company, in writing, and elect whether to continue this Plan on an Employee or Employee and Spouse Coverage basis. After such notice, we will arrange for the payment of the appropriate premium due, including returning any unearned premium, if applicable.

Children Placed for Adoption are Children for whom the Employee has entered a decree of adoption, Employee has initiated adoption proceedings, or is party to a suit in which the Employee seeks to adopt the child. A decree of adoption must be entered within one year from the date proceedings were initiated, unless extended by order of the court.

Diagnosis (***Diagnosed***) refers to the definitive and certain identification of an illness or disease that:

- Is made by a Doctor and
- Is based on clinical or laboratory investigations, as supported by the Insured's medical records.

The illness must meet the requirements outlined in this Plan for the particular Critical Illness being Diagnosed.

Doctor is a person who is duly qualified as a practitioner of the healing arts acting within the scope of their license, and:

- Is licensed to practice medicine; prescribe and administer drugs; or to perform surgery, or
- Is a duly qualified medical practitioner according to the laws and regulations in the state in which Treatment is made.

Employee is a person who meets eligibility requirements under **Section I – Eligibility, Effective Date, and Termination** and who is covered under this Plan. The Employee is the Primary Insured under this Plan.

Family Member includes the Employee's Spouse as well as the following members of the Employee's immediate family:

- Son
- Daughter
- Mother
- Father
- Sister
- Brother

This includes step-Family Members and Family-Members-in-law.

Life Event means an event that qualifies an Employee to make changes to benefits at times other than their enrollment period. Events qualifying as Life Events are established solely by the Policyholder.

Maintenance Drug Therapy is a course of systemic medication given to a patient after a Cancer goes into Complete Remission because of primary Treatment. Maintenance Drug Therapy includes ongoing hormonal therapy, immunotherapy, or chemo-prevention therapy. Maintenance Drug Therapy

is meant to decrease the risk of Cancer recurrence; it is not meant to treat a Cancer that is still present.

Pathologist is a Doctor who is:

- Licensed to practice medicine, and
- Licensed by the American Board of Pathology to practice pathologic anatomy.

A Pathologist also includes an Osteopathic Pathologist who is certified by the Osteopathic Board of Pathology.

Signs and/or Symptoms are the evidence of disease or physical disturbance observed by a Doctor or other medical professional. The Doctor (or other medical professional) must observe these Signs while acting within the scope of their license.

Spouse is your legal wife or husband who is listed on your Application.

Treatment or ***Medical Treatment*** is the consultation, care, or services provided by a Doctor. This includes receiving any diagnostic measures and taking prescribed drugs and medicines.

Treatment-Free From Cancer refers to the period of time without the consultation, care, or services provided by a Doctor. This includes receiving diagnostic measures and taking prescribed drugs and medicines. Treatment does not include Maintenance Drug Therapy or routine follow-up visits to verify whether Cancer or Carcinoma in Situ has returned.

SECTION IV - BENEFIT PROVISIONS

The benefit amounts payable under this section are shown in the Policy Schedule. The Company will pay benefits for a Critical Illness in the order the events occur.

Critical Illness Benefit

Initial Diagnosis Benefit

We will pay the Critical Illness benefit when an Insured is Diagnosed with one of the Critical Illnesses shown in the Benefit Schedule, and when such Diagnosis is caused by or solely attributed to an underlying disease as identified herein. We will pay this benefit if:

- The initial Date of Diagnosis is while the Insured's coverage is in force, and
- The Certificate does not exclude the illness or condition by name or by specific description.

Benefits will be based on the Face Amount in effect on the Critical Illness Date of Diagnosis.

Additional Diagnosis Benefit

Once benefits have been paid for a Critical Illness, the Company will pay benefits for each different Critical Illness when the Date of Diagnosis for the new Critical Illness is separated from the prior, different Critical Illness by at least 1 consecutive months and the new Critical Illness is not caused or contributed by a Critical Illness for which benefits have been paid.

Reoccurrence Benefit

Once benefits have been paid for a Critical Illness, benefits are payable for that same Critical Illness when the Date of Diagnosis for the Reoccurrence of that Critical Illness is separated from the prior occurrence of that Critical Illness by at least 3 consecutive months and the Critical Illness is not caused or contributed by a Critical Illness for which benefits have been paid.

Non-Invasive Cancer Benefit

We will pay the amount shown in the Policy Schedule for the Diagnosis of a Non-Invasive Cancer. This benefit is payable in addition to all other applicable benefits.

Additional Benefits

Additional Benefits are payable if the Date of Diagnosis is while the Insured's coverage is in force, and the Certificate does not exclude the illness or condition by name or by specific description.

Skin Cancer Benefit

We will pay the amount shown in the Policy Schedule for the Diagnosis of Skin Cancer. This benefit is payable 1 per calendar year.

Health Screening Benefit

We will pay the amount shown in the Policy Schedule for Health Screening Tests performed while an Insured's coverage is in force. This benefit is payable 1 per calendar year, per Insured up to the maximum shown on the Certificate Schedule. Benefits are payable for Covered Dependent Children at 100.00% of the Employee benefit amount.

This benefit is only payable for Health Screening Tests performed as the result of preventive care, including tests and diagnostic procedures ordered in connection with routine examinations.

Health Screening Tests include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Blood test for triglycerides
- Bone marrow testing
- Breast ultrasound
- CA 15-3 (blood test for breast cancer)
- CA 125 (blood test for ovarian cancer)
- CEA (blood test for colon cancer)
- Chest X-ray
- Colonoscopy
- Non-diagnostic vascular screening
- DNA stool analysis
- Fasting blood glucose test
- Flexible sigmoidoscopy
- Hemoccult stool analysis
- Mammography
- Pap smear
- PSA (blood test for prostate cancer)
- Serum cholesterol test to determine level of HDL and LDL
- Serum protein electrophoresis (blood test for myeloma)
- Spiral CT screening for lung cancer
- Stress test on a bicycle or treadmill
- Thermography
- HIV test performed via nucleic acid test (NAT)
- HPV test performed via Pap smear
- Biopsies
- Genetic Screening Test performed in a medical facility
- Human Coronavirus test
- Dental Exams
- Vision Exams
- Immunizations
- Mental Health Screening

Waiver of Premium Benefit
If an Employee becomes Totally Disabled as defined in this Plan due to a covered Critical Illness, we will waive premiums for the Employee and any currently covered Dependents (this includes any Riders that are in force).

Total Disability or ***Totally Disabled*** means the Employee is completely unable to perform all of the substantial and material duties and functions of their occupation and any other gainful occupation in which the Employee earns substantially the same compensation earned before the disability.

After 90 days of Total Disability, all Plan premiums will be waived if:
- The Employee's Total Disability began before the age of 65;
- The Employee's Total Disability has continued without interruption for at least 90 days, during which time the Employee and/or the Policyholder have paid premiums; and
- The Employee provides proof of Total Disability as required by us. Satisfactory Proof of Loss for Total Disability must be provided at least once every 12 months.

Pending our approval of a claim for the Waiver of Premium Benefit, premiums should be paid as they are due. Premiums that were paid for the first 90 days of Total Disability will be refunded after the claim for this benefit is approved.

Waiver of Premium will continue until the earliest of the following:
- The premium due date following the Employee's 65th birthday,
- The date the Company has waived premiums for a total of 24 months of Total Disability,
- The date the Employee refuses to provide proof of continuing Total Disability,
- The date the Employee's Total Disability ends, or
- The date coverage ends according to the Termination provisions in **Section I – Eligibility, Effective Date, and Termination.**

If the Employee is still eligible for coverage when they return to Active Work, coverage for any Insured may be continued if premium payments are resumed.

SECTION V – EXCLUSIONS

Exclusions
We will not pay for loss due to any of the following:
- **Self-Inflicted Injuries** – injuring or attempting to injure oneself intentionally or taking action that causes oneself to become injured
- **Suicide** – committing or attempting to commit suicide, while sane or insane
- **Illegal Acts** – participating or attempting to participate in an illegal activity, or working at an illegal job

- **Participation in Aggressive Conflict** of any kind, including:
  - War (declared or undeclared) or military conflicts
  - Insurrection or riot
  - Civil commotion or civil state of belligerence
- **Illegal substance abuse, which includes the following:**
  - Abuse of legally-obtained prescription medication
  - Illegal use of non-prescription drugs
- An error, mishap, or malpractice during medical, diagnostic, or surgical treatment or procedure
- Diagnosis of a Critical Illness made by a Family Member.

SECTION VI – CLAIM PROVISIONS

Notice of Claim

Written notice of claim must be given to us:

- Within 60 days after the Date of Diagnosis, or
- As soon as reasonably possible.

When we receive written Notice of Claim, we will send a claim form. If the Claimant does not receive the claim form within 15 days after the notice is sent, written Proof of Loss can be sent to us without waiting for the form. Notice must include the Employee's name and the Certificate number. Notice can be mailed to the Company at:

P.O. Box 84075, Columbus, GA 31993-9103

Failure to give notice within the time prescribed does not invalidate or reduce any claim if it was not reasonably possible to give the notice within that time and notice was given as soon as was reasonably possible.

Proof of Loss

Proof of Loss refers to documentation that supports a claim. (This information is often found in standardized medical documents, such as hospital bills and operative reports. It includes a statement by the treating Doctor.) Proof of Loss establishes the nature and extent of the loss, the Company’s obligation to pay the claim, and the Claimant’s right to receive payment.

The Claimant must provide Proof of Loss to the Company at:

P.O. Box 84075, Columbus, GA 31993-9103

Proof of Loss must be given to us within 90 days of the Date of Diagnosis. Failure to give Proof of Loss within such time shall not invalidate or reduce any claim if such Proof of Loss is given as soon as reasonably possible. The Company will not accept Proof of Loss any later than one year and three months after the Date of Diagnosis, except in the absence of the Claimant’s legal mental capacity.

The Claimant will be responsible for the cost of obtaining a completed claim form. We may request additional Proof of Loss, such as records from hospitals or Doctors. The Claimant will be responsible for the cost of obtaining these records.

We may require authorizations to obtain medical and psychiatric information as well as non-medical information, including personal financial information.

When we receive the claim and due Proof of Loss, we will review the Proof of Loss. If we approve the claim, we will pay the benefits subject to the terms of the Certificate.

Physical Examination and Autopsy

The Company may have an Insured examined as often as reasonably necessary while a claim is pending. In the case of death, the Company may also require an autopsy, unless prohibited by law. The Company will cover all costs for exams or autopsy.

Prompt Payment of Benefits
For benefits other than for loss of time, the Company will, once we receive the required Proof of Loss, pay, deny, or settle each submitted claim not later than the 60th day after the date Proof of Loss is received. Subject to written Proof of Loss, all accrued benefits payable under the policy for loss of time will be paid at least monthly during the period for which the insurer is liable. Any balance remaining unpaid at the end of that time will be paid as soon as possible after the Proof of Loss is received.

Payment of Claims
We will pay all benefits to the Employee unless otherwise assigned. For any benefits that remain unpaid at the time of death, we will pay those benefits in the following order:
- To the Employee's beneficiary or the beneficiary's assignee,
- To the Employee's surviving Spouse,
- To the Employee's estate.

Special Rules for the Payment of Claims for Dependent Children
When required by law, We will provide for benefits payable for a Dependent Child to be paid to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission if such agency paid, through medical assistance, for the treatment received by the Dependent Child for a Covered Condition.

When required by law, We will provide for benefits payable for a Dependent Child to be paid to the Dependent Child's possessory or managing conservator if that individual:
1. provides a written notice that the individual is a possessory or managing conservator of the Dependent Child on whose behalf the claim is made; and
2. provides a certified copy of a court order designating the individual as possessory or managing conservator of the Dependent Child or other relevant evidence.

Unpaid Premium
When a claim is paid, we may deduct any premium due and unpaid from the claim payment.

Changing of Beneficiary
A change in beneficiary must be submitted in writing to our Home Office in a form acceptable to us and signed by the Employee. Unless otherwise specified by the Employee, a change in beneficiary will take effect on the date the notice of change is signed. We will not be liable for any action taken before notice is received and recorded at the Home Office.

Claim Review
If a claim is denied, the Employee will be given written notice of:
- The reason for the denial,
- The Plan provision that supports the denial, and
- The Employee's right to ask for a review of the claim.

Appeals Procedure
Before filing any lawsuit—and no later than 60 days after notice of denial of a claim—the Employee, the Claimant, or an authorized representative of either must appeal any denial of benefits under the Plan by sending a written request for review of the denial to our Home Office.

Legal Action
The Employee cannot take legal action against us for benefits under this Plan:
- Within 60 days after the Employee has sent us written Proof of Loss, or
- More than three years from the time written proof is required to be given.

SECTION VII – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Entire Contract Changes
This insurance is provided under a contract of Group Critical Illness insurance with the Policyholder. The entire Contract of Insurance is made up of:
- The Policy;
- The Certificates of insurance;
- The Application of the Policyholder, a copy of which is attached to and made part of the Policy when issued; and

- Any Riders, Endorsements, or Amendments to the Policy or Certificate.

In the absence of fraud, a statement made by the Policyholder or an Insured is considered a representation and not a warranty. A statement made by the Policyholder or an Insured may not be used in any contest under the Plan, unless a copy of the written instrument containing the statement is or has been provided to:

- The person making the statement; or
- If the statement was made by the Insured and the Insured has died or become incapacitated, the Insured's beneficiary or personal representative.

Changes to this Plan:

- Will not be valid unless approved in writing by an officer of the Company,
- Must be noted on or attached to the Contract, and
- May not be made by any insurance agent (nor can an agent waive any Plan provisions).

Misstatement of Age

If an age has been misstated on the Application, the benefits will be those that the paid premium would have purchased at the correct age.

Successor Insured

If an Employee dies while covered under their Certificate and their Spouse is also insured under this Plan at the time of their death, then their surviving Spouse may elect to become the Primary Insured at the current Spouse Face Amount. This would include continuation of any Dependent Child coverage that is in force at that time.

To become the Primary Insured and keep coverage in force, the surviving Spouse must:

- Notify the Company in writing within 31 days after the date of the Employee's death; and
- Pay the required premium to the Company no later than 31 days after the date of the Employee's death, and on each premium due date thereafter.

If the Certificate does not cover a surviving Spouse, the Certificate will terminate from the date of the Employee's death. All unearned premium from the date of the Employee's death will be refunded.

Time Limit on Certain Defenses

After two years from the Employee's Effective Date of coverage, the Company may not void coverage or deny a claim for any loss because of misstatements made on the Employee's Application. This does not apply to fraudulent misstatements.

Clerical Error

Clerical error by the Policyholder will not end coverage or continue terminated coverage. In the event of a clerical error, the Company will make a premium adjustment.

Individual Certificates

The Company will give the Policyholder a Certificate for each Employee. The Certificate will set forth:

- The coverage,
- To whom benefits will be paid, and
- The rights and privileges under the Plan.

Required Information

The Policyholder will be responsible for furnishing all information and proofs that the Company may reasonably require with regard to the Plan.

Conformity with State Statutes

This Plan was issued on its Effective Date in the state noted on the Master Application. Any Plan provision that conflicts with that state's statutes is amended to conform to the minimum requirements of those statutes.

POLICY SCHEDULE

Group Policyholder:	FORT BEND ISD
Group Policy Number:	CTR0026193866
Group Policy Effective Date:	January 1, 2025
Group Policy Anniversary Date:	January 1, 2026
Jurisdiction:	Texas
Face Amount:	See Certificates
Spouse Amount:	See Certificates
Covered Dependent Children:	50.00% of applicable Face Amount
Benefit Percentages:	
Cancer (internal or invasive)	100.00% of applicable Face Amount
Non-Invasive Cancer	25.00% of applicable Face Amount
Maximum Payable for Additional Diagnosis Benefit:	1 per 1 months
Maximum Payable for Reoccurrence Benefit:	1 per 3 months
Additional Benefits:	
Health Screening Benefit Amount:	$50.00 per Insured
Maximum per Insured:	1 per Calendar Year
Health Screening Benefit for Covered Dependent Children:	100.00% of Health Screening Benefit Amount
Maximum:	1 per Calendar Year
Skin Cancer:	$500.00
Skin Cancer for Covered Dependent Children:	50.00% of Skin Cancer Benefit Amount
Maximum per Covered Person:	1 per Calendar Year
Waiver of Premium:	Yes

This Plan is delivered in and governed by the laws of the jurisdiction shown above.

This Plan is age-banded. That means Employees' rates may increase on the Group Policy Anniversary Date. Premiums at the Policy Anniversary Date are determined by the Employee's Attained Age rate, as shown in the Policy Schedule of Premiums.

BENEFIT SCHEDULE

Critical Illness Benefits

The applicable benefit amount is payable for the following Critical Illnesses, provided such Critical Illness meets all applicable definitions contained in the Plan and is caused by an underlying disease as set forth herein:

- Cancer (internal or invasive)
- Non-Invasive Cancer

Additional Benefits

Health Screening Benefit
Skin Cancer Benefit
Waiver of Premium Benefit

Schedule of Premiums

FORT BEND ISD - Monthly

Uni Tobacco-Employee					
Issue Age	$10,000	$15,000	$20,000	$25,000	$30,000
18- 24	2.20	3.30	4.40	5.50	6.60
25 - 34	2.80	4.20	5.60	7.00	8.40
35 - 44	4.60	6.90	9.20	11.50	13.80
45 - 54	7.40	11.10	14.80	18.50	22.20
55 - 64	11.60	17.40	23.20	29.00	34.80
65 +	19.80	29.70	39.60	49.50	59.40

Uni Tobacco-Spouse					
Issue Age	$10,000	$15,000	$20,000	$25,000	$30,000
18- 24	3.00	4.50	6.00	7.50	9.00
25 - 34	3.20	4.80	6.40	8.00	9.60
35 - 44	4.40	6.60	8.80	11.00	13.20
45 - 54	7.00	10.50	14.00	17.50	21.00
55 - 64	13.60	20.40	27.20	34.00	40.80
65 +	25.40	38.10	50.80	63.50	76.20

CONTINENTAL AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY

Columbia, South Carolina
800.433.3036

Please call the toll-free number above with any questions about this coverage.

Certificate of Insurance For
Group Critical Illness Insurance Policy

This limited Plan provides supplemental benefits only. It does not constitute comprehensive health insurance coverage and does not satisfy the requirement of minimum essential coverage under the Affordable Care Act.

This Plan provides benefits for the Critical Illnesses listed in the Benefit Schedule.

Please read it carefully.

This certificate is not a Medicare supplement policy.

NOTICE: This Certificate may be subject to an increase in premium at time of renewal.

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

Your Employer (the “Policyholder”) applied for coverage under this Group Critical Illness Insurance Policy (the “Plan”). This Plan is issued by Continental American Insurance Company (the “Company,” “CAIC,” “we,” “us,” or “our”). For the purposes of this Plan, “you” (including “your” and “yours”) refers to you. Based on the application process and the timely payment of premiums, the Company agrees to pay the benefits provided on the following pages.

You will notice that certain words and phrases (including some medical terms and the names of Plan documents) in this document are capitalized. The capitalized words refer to terms with very specific definitions as they apply to this insurance Plan.

We certify that you are insured under the Group Critical Illness Policy (the “Plan”). The Plan was issued to the Policyholder. This coverage provides benefits for loss resulting from Critical Illness. The Certificate is subject to the Definitions, Exclusions, and other provisions of the Plan.

Certain provisions of the Plan are summarized in this Certificate. All provisions of the Plan, whether contained in your Certificate or not, apply to the insurance referred to by the Certificate.

The Certificate Effective Date is shown in the Certificate Schedule. The Certificate will terminate as provided in the provision titled “Termination of Your Insurance” in Section I. This Certificate will remain in effect for the period for which the premium has been paid. This Certificate may be continued for further periods as stated in the Plan.

This Certificate, when it becomes effective, automatically replaces any Certificate or Certificates previously issued to you under the Plan.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION I – ELIGIBILITY, EFFECTIVE DATE, AND TERMINATION

PRIMARY INSURED

Eligibility
You are eligible to be covered under this Plan if you are Actively at Work for your employer and included in the class that is eligible for coverage, as shown on the Master Application.

Insureds are defined as those who might be eligible for coverage under this Plan in the following categories:

- **Employee Coverage** – We insure the Employee and any Dependent Children. The Employee is the ***Primary Insured*** under this Plan.
- **Employee and Spouse Coverage** – We insure the Employee, Spouse, and any Dependent Children.

You should refer to *Type of Coverage* in your Certificate Schedule to determine who is covered under this Certificate.

Details for adding Insureds to Plan coverage are outlined in the Dependent Coverage – Effective Date provision.

Effective Date
Your Employee Effective Date is shown on the Certificate Schedule.

Your Employee Effective Date is the date your insurance takes effect. After we receive and approve the Application, that date is either:

- The date shown on the Certificate Schedule if you are Actively at Work on that date, or
- The date you return to an Actively-at-Work status if you were not Actively at Work on the date shown on the Certificate Schedule.

Termination of Your Insurance
Your insurance will terminate on whichever occurs first:

- The date the Company terminates the Plan.
- The 31st day after the premium due date (the last day of the Grace Period), if the premium has not been paid.
- The date you no longer belong to an eligible class.

If an Insured's coverage terminates, we will provide benefits for valid claims that arose while their coverage was active.

DEPENDENT COVERAGE

Eligibility
Dependents may be eligible for coverage under this Plan. **You should refer to the Type of Coverage on the Certificate Schedule to determine Dependent eligibility.** A ***Dependent*** is your Spouse or your Dependent Child (details included in the **Definitions** section). An eligible Spouse must not currently be disabled or unable to work and be at least 18 years of age.

Effective Date
The Effective Date for a Spouse is:
- The date shown on the Certificate Schedule if that Spouse is not confined to a hospital and is eligible for coverage on that date, or
- The first day of the month following the date the Spouse is no longer confined to a hospital (if that Spouse was confined to a hospital on the Certificate Schedule date) and is eligible for coverage on that date.

A Spouse may be added to the Plan after the Employee's Effective Date within 31 days after a Life Event or during an approved enrollment period. To be added, the Employee must complete an Application to add their Spouse to the Plan. The Company will assign the Effective Date for a Spouse's coverage after approving the application. For Spouse coverage to become effective, the Spouse must be included in the premium payment.

The Effective Date for a Dependent Child is:
- The Employee Effective Date, or
- The moment of birth for a newborn child, the date the petition is filed for adoption for adopted children, or the date of the Employee's marriage for step-children.

A day begins at 12:01 a.m. standard time at the Employee's, Spouse's, or Dependent Child's place of residence.

Termination of Dependent Insurance
Dependent Coverage will terminate on the earliest of the following:
- When the Certificate terminates,
- On the premium due date following the date we receive your written request to terminate Dependent coverage,
- When premiums are no longer paid for Dependent coverage (subject to the Grace Period),
- For Spouse coverage, when the Insured no longer meets the definition of Spouse because of annulment, divorce, or other reason, or
- For Dependent Child coverage, when the Child no longer qualifies as a Dependent because they reach age 26 or other reason. (Dependent Children who reach age 26 will have coverage continued until the last day of the month in which they turn age 26.)

Plan Termination
The **Company** has the right to cancel the Plan on any premium due date for the following reasons:
- The premium is not paid before the end of the Grace Period,
- The number of participating Employees is less than the number mutually agreed upon by the Company and the Policyholder in the signed Master Application,
- The Policyholder fails to perform any of the obligations that relate to this Policy or that are required by applicable law,
- The Policyholder no longer offers coverage to a particular class of Employees,
- The Policyholder no longer serves a class of Employees who reside in a particular geographical area, or
- The Policyholder does not provide timely information that is reasonably required.

The **Policyholder** has the right to cancel the Plan on any premium due date.
- To do this, the Policyholder must give the Company at least 31 days' written notice.
- The Plan will end on the date in the written notice or the date the Company receives the notice, whichever is later.

All outstanding premiums are due upon Plan termination. If the Company receives premium payments after the Plan terminates, this will not reinstate the Plan.

The Policyholder has the sole responsibility of notifying Certificateholders in writing of the Plan's termination as soon as reasonably possible. If the Plan terminates, it—and all Certificates and Riders issued under the Plan—will terminate on the specified termination date. The termination occurs as of 12:01 a.m. at the Policyholder's address.

Portability Privilege

When you are no longer a member of an eligible class and your coverage would otherwise end, you may elect to continue your coverage under this Plan. You may continue the coverage you had on the date your Certificate would otherwise terminate, including any in-force Spouse or Dependent Child coverage, without any additional underwriting requirements.

To keep your coverage in force, you must:

- Notify the Company in writing within 31 days after the date your coverage would otherwise terminate. You may notify us by sending written notice to P.O. Box 84079, Columbus, GA 31993-9101 or by calling the Customer Service number at 800.433.3036, and
- Pay the required premium directly to the Company no later than 31 days after the date your coverage would otherwise terminate and on each premium due date thereafter.

Ported coverage will end on the earliest of the following dates:

- 31 days after the premium due date (the last day of the Grace Period), if the premium has not been paid, or
- The date the Group Plan is terminated.

If you qualify for this Portability Privilege, then the Company will apply the same Benefits and Plan Provisions as shown in your previously-issued Certificate. Notification of any changes in the Plan will be provided directly by the Company.

Extension of Benefits

If coverage under the Certificate or any Riders that are in force ends while an Insured is confined in a Hospital for a covered Critical Illness, the Company will continue to pay benefits for confinement that become payable after the date coverage under the Certificate or any Riders ends if the Insured meets the following requirements:

- The confinement must be continuous after the date of termination; and
- Coverage must not have ended as a result of the Insured's or, in the case of a Dependent Child or Spouse, the Primary Insured's voluntary termination of coverage.

This Extension of Benefits terminates upon the earliest of the following:

- The date the Insured is no longer confined to a Hospital;
- The date the Insured receives the maximum benefit for being confined to a Hospital; or
- 90 days after the date coverage would otherwise terminate.

Hospital means a place that meets all of the following criteria: Is legally licensed and operated as a hospital, provides overnight care of injured and sick people, is supervised by a Doctor, has full-time nurses supervised by a registered nurse, and has on-site use of X-ray equipment, laboratory, and surgical facilities.

The term Hospital specifically excludes any facility not meeting the definition of Hospital as defined in this Plan, including but not limited to: A nursing home, an extended-care facility, a skilled nursing facility, a rest home or home for the aged, a rehabilitation facility, a facility for the Treatment of alcoholism or drug addiction, or an assisted living facility.

SECTION II – PREMIUM PROVISIONS

Premium Payments

Premiums should be paid to the Company at P.O. Box 84069, Columbus, Georgia, 31908-4069. The first premiums are due on this Plan's Effective Date. After that, premiums are due on the first day of each month that the Plan remains in effect.

Payment of any premium will not keep the Plan in force beyond the due date of the next premium, except as set forth in the Grace Period provision.

Premium Changes
Unless we have agreed in writing not to increase premiums, the premium may change:

- On the Group Policy Anniversary Date based on renewal underwriting. (The Group Policy Anniversary Date is shown on the Policy Schedule and falls on the same date each year thereafter.)
- Whenever the terms or conditions of the Plan are modified. The new premium rates will apply only to premiums due on or after the rate change takes effect.

We will provide the Policyholder a 60-day advance written notice of any change to a premium.

Premiums on the Group Policy Anniversary Date are determined by your Attained Age. The Attained Age rates are shown in the Schedule of Premiums.

Grace Period
This Plan has a 31-day Grace Period. If a premium is not paid on or before its due date, the premium may be paid during the next 31 days. During the Grace Period, the Plan will stay in force, unless the Policyholder has given the Company written notice of its intention to discontinue the Plan. If the Plan is discontinued, the Plan's termination date will be the latest date for which premium has been paid.

SECTION III - DEFINITIONS

When the terms below are used in this Plan, the following definitions apply:

Actively at Work (Active Work) refers to your ability to perform your regular employment duties for a full normal workday. You may perform these activities either at your employer's regular place of business or at a location where you are required to travel to perform the regular duties of your employment.

Attained Age means your age on your Certificate Effective Date and on each Group Policy Anniversary Date thereafter.

Cancer (internal or invasive) is a disease that meets either of the following definitions:

- A malignant tumor characterized by:
    - The uncontrolled growth and spread of malignant cells, and
    - The invasion of distant tissue.
- A disease meeting the diagnostic criteria of malignancy, as established by the American Board of Pathology. A Pathologist must have examined and provided a report on the histocytologic architecture or pattern of the tumor, tissue, or specimen.

Cancer (internal or invasive) also includes:

- Melanoma that is Clark's Level III or higher ***or*** Breslow depth equal to or greater than 0.77mm,
- Myelodysplastic syndrome - RCMD (refractory cytopenia with multilineage dysplasia),
- Myelodysplastic syndrome - RAEB (refractory anemia with excess blasts),
- Myelodysplastic syndrome - RAEB-T (refractory anemia with excess blasts in transformation), or
- Myelodysplastic syndrome - CMML (chronic myelomonocytic leukemia).

The following are **not** considered internal or invasive Cancers:

- Pre-malignant tumors or polyps
- Carcinomas in Situ
- Any superficial, non-invasive Skin Cancers including basal cell and squamous cell carcinoma of the skin
- Melanoma in Situ
- Melanoma that is Diagnosed as
    - Clark's Level I or II,
    - Breslow depth less than 0.77mm, **or**
    - Stage 1A melanomas under TNM Staging
- Metastatic Cancer

Carcinoma in Situ is Non-Invasive Cancer that is in the natural or normal place, confined to the site of origin without having invaded neighboring tissue.

Melanoma in Situ means melanoma cells that occur only on the outer layer of the skin (the epidermis), where there is no invasion of the deeper layer (the dermis).

Non-Invasive Cancer is a Cancer that is in the natural or normal place, confined to the site of origin without having invaded neighboring tissue.

For the purposes of this Plan, a Non-Invasive Cancer is:

- Internal Carcinoma in Situ
- Myelodysplastic Syndrome - RA (refractory anemia)
- Myelodysplastic Syndrome - RARS (refractory anemia with ring sideroblasts)
- Myeloproliferative Blood Disorder

Premalignant conditions or conditions with malignant potential, other than those specifically named above, are **not** considered Non-Invasive Cancer.

Skin Cancer, as defined in this Plan, is **not** considered Non-Invasive Cancer and is therefore not payable under the Non-Invasive Cancer benefit.

Skin Cancer is a Cancer that forms in the tissues of the skin.

The following are considered Skin Cancers:

- Basal cell carcinoma
- Squamous cell carcinoma of the skin
- Melanoma in Situ
- Melanoma that is Diagnosed as
  - Clark's Level I or II,
  - Breslow depth less than 0.77mm, or
  - Stage 1A melanomas under TNM Staging

These conditions are not payable under the Cancer (internal or invasive) benefit.

Cancer, Non-Invasive Cancer or Skin Cancer must be Diagnosed in one of two ways:

1. ***Pathological Diagnosis*** is a Diagnosis based on a microscopic study of fixed tissue or preparations from the hemic (blood) system. This Diagnosis must be made by a certified Pathologist and conform to the American Board of Pathology standards.

2. ***Clinical Diagnosis*** is based only on the study of symptoms. The Company will accept a Clinical Diagnosis only if**:**
   - A Doctor cannot make a Pathological Diagnosis because it is medically inappropriate or life-threatening,
   - Medical evidence exists to support the Diagnosis, and
   - A Doctor is treating the Insured for Cancer or Carcinoma in Situ.

Claimant means a person who is authorized to make a claim under the Certificate.

Complete Remission is defined as having no Symptoms and no Signs that can be identified to indicate the presence of Cancer.

Critical Illness is a disease or a sickness as defined in the Plan that first manifests while your coverage is in force.

Any loss due to Critical Illness must begin while your coverage is in force. Critical Illness includes only the following, provided such Critical Illness meets all applicable definitions contained in the Plan and, where indicated, is caused by an underlying condition:

- Cancer (internal or invasive)
- Non-Invasive Cancer

Date of Diagnosis is defined as follows:

- ***Cancer:*** The day tissue specimens, blood samples, or titer(s) are taken (Diagnosis of Cancer and/or Carcinoma in Situ is based on such specimens).
- ***Non-Invasive Cancer:*** The day tissue specimens, blood samples, or titer(s) are taken (Diagnosis of Cancer and/or Carcinoma in Situ is based on such specimens).
- ***Skin Cancer:*** The date the skin biopsy samples are taken for microscopic examination.

Dependent Children are your or your Spouse's natural children, step-children, grandchildren who are your dependents for federal income tax purposes at the time the application for coverage of the grandchild is made, foster children, children subject to legal guardianship, adopted children, children for whomyou are required to provide medical support, or Children Placed for Adoption, who are younger than age 26. However, we will continue coverage for Dependent Children insured under the Plan after the age of 26 if they are incapable of self-sustaining employment due to mental or physical disability, and are chiefly dependent on a parent for support and maintenance. You or your Spouse must furnish proof of this incapacity and dependency to the Company within 31 days following the Dependent Child's 26th birthday.

The insurance on any Dependent Child will terminate on the last day of the month in which the Dependent Child turns age 26; it is your responsibility to notify us in writing when coverage on a Dependent Child terminates. Termination will be without prejudice to any claim originating prior to the date of termination. Our acceptance of any applicable premium after such date will be considered as premium for only the remaining persons who qualify as Insureds under this Plan. When coverage on all Dependent Children terminates, you must notify the Company, in writing, and elect whether to continue this Plan on an Employee or Employee and Spouse Coverage basis. After such notice, we will arrange for the payment of the appropriate premium due, including returning any unearned premium, if applicable.

Children Placed for Adoption are Children for whom you have entered a decree of adoption, have initiated adoption proceedings, or are party to a suit in which you seek to adopt the child. A decree of adoption must be entered within one year from the date proceedings were initiated, unless extended by order of the court.

Diagnosis (***Diagnosed***) refers to the definitive and certain identification of an illness or disease that:

- Is made by a Doctor and
- Is based on clinical or laboratory investigations, as supported by your medical records.

The illness must meet the requirements outlined in this Plan for the particular Critical Illness being Diagnosed.

Doctor is a person who is duly qualified as a practitioner of the healing arts acting within the scope of their license, and:

- Is licensed to practice medicine; prescribe and administer drugs; or to perform surgery, or
- Is a duly qualified medical practitioner according to the laws and regulations in the state in which Treatment is made.

Employee is a person who meets eligibility requirements under **Section I – Eligibility, Effective Date, and Termination**, and who is covered under this Plan. The Employee is the Primary Insured under this Plan.

Family Member includes your Spouse as well as the following members of your immediate family:

- Son
- Daughter
- Mother
- Father
- Sister
- Brother

This includes step-Family Members and Family-Members-in-law.

Life Event means an event that qualifies an Employee to make changes to benefits at times other than their enrollment period. Events qualifying as Life Events are established solely by the Policyholder.

Maintenance Drug Therapy is a course of systemic medication given to a patient after a Cancer goes into Complete Remission because of primary Treatment. Maintenance Drug Therapy includes ongoing hormonal therapy, immunotherapy, or chemo-prevention therapy. Maintenance Drug Therapy

is meant to decrease the risk of Cancer recurrence; it is not meant to treat a Cancer that is still present.

Pathologist is a Doctor who is:

- Licensed to practice medicine, and
- Licensed by the American Board of Pathology to practice pathologic anatomy.

A Pathologist also includes an Osteopathic Pathologist who is certified by the Osteopathic Board of Pathology.

Signs and/or Symptoms are the evidence of disease or physical disturbance observed by a Doctor or other medical professional. The Doctor (or other medical professional) must observe these Signs while acting within the scope of their license.

Spouse is your legal wife or husband who is listed on your Application.

Treatment or ***Medical Treatment*** is the consultation, care, or services provided by a Doctor. This includes receiving any diagnostic measures and taking prescribed drugs and medicines.

Treatment-Free From Cancer refers to the period of time without the consultation, care, or services provided by a Doctor. This includes receiving diagnostic measures and taking prescribed drugs and medicines. Treatment does not include Maintenance Drug Therapy or routine follow-up visits to verify whether Cancer or Carcinoma in Situ has returned.

SECTION IV - BENEFIT PROVISIONS

The benefit amounts payable under this section are shown in the Certificate Schedule. The Company will pay benefits for a Critical Illness in the order the events occur.

Critical Illness Benefit

Initial Diagnosis Benefit

We will pay the Critical Illness benefit when an Insured is Diagnosed with one of the Critical Illnesses shown in the Benefit Schedule, and when such Diagnosis is caused by or solely attributed to an underlying disease as identified herein. We will pay this benefit if:

- The initial Date of Diagnosis is while the Insured's coverage is in force, and
- The Certificate does not exclude the illness or condition by name or by specific description.

Employee

Benefits will be based on the Face Amount in effect on the Critical Illness Date of Diagnosis.

Additional Diagnosis Benefit

Once benefits have been paid for a Critical Illness, the Company will pay benefits for each different Critical Illness when the Date of Diagnosis for the new Critical Illness is separated from the prior, different Critical Illness by at least 1 consecutive months and the new Critical Illness is not caused or contributed by a Critical Illness for which benefits have been paid.

Reoccurrence Benefit

Once benefits have been paid for a Critical Illness, benefits are payable for that same Critical Illness when the Date of Diagnosis for the Reoccurrence of that Critical Illness is separated from the prior occurrence of that Critical Illness by at least 3 consecutive months and the Critical Illness is not caused or contributed by a Critical Illness for which benefits have been paid.

Non-Invasive Cancer Benefit

We will pay the amount shown in the Certificate Schedule for the Diagnosis of a Non-Invasive Cancer. This benefit is payable in addition to all other applicable benefits.

Additional Benefits

Additional Benefits are payable if the Date of Diagnosis is while the Insured's coverage is in force, and the Certificate does not exclude the illness or condition by name or by specific description.

Skin Cancer Benefit

We will pay the amount shown in the Certificate Schedule for the Diagnosis of Skin Cancer. This benefit is payable 1 per calendar year.

Health Screening Benefit

We will pay the amount shown in the Certificate Schedule for Health Screening Tests performed while an Insured's coverage is in force. This benefit is payable 1 per calendar year, per Insured up to the maximum shown on the Certificate Schedule. Benefits are payable for Covered Dependent Children at 100.00% of the Employee benefit amount.

This benefit is only payable for Health Screening Tests performed as the result of preventive care, including tests and diagnostic procedures ordered in connection with routine examinations.

Health Screening Tests include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Blood test for triglycerides
- Bone marrow testing
- Breast ultrasound
- CA 15-3 (blood test for breast cancer)
- CA 125 (blood test for ovarian cancer)
- CEA (blood test for colon cancer)
- Chest X-ray
- Colonoscopy
- Non-diagnostic vascular screening
- DNA stool analysis
- Fasting blood glucose test
- Flexible sigmoidoscopy
- Hemoccult stool analysis
- Mammography
- Pap smear
- PSA (blood test for prostate cancer)
- Serum cholesterol test to determine level of HDL and LDL
- Serum protein electrophoresis (blood test for myeloma)
- Spiral CT screening for lung cancer
- Stress test on a bicycle or treadmill
- Thermography
- HIV test performed via nucleic acid test (NAT)
- HPV test performed via Pap smear
- Biopsies
- Genetic Screening Test performed in a medical facility
- Human Coronavirus test
- Dental Exams
- Vision Exams
- Immunizations
- Mental Health Screening

Waiver of Premium Benefit
If you become Totally Disabled as defined in this Plan due to a covered Critical Illness, we will waive premiums for you and any currently covered Dependents (this includes any Riders that are in force).

Total Disability or ***Totally Disabled*** means you are completely unable to perform all the substantial and material duties and functions of your occupation and any other gainful occupation in which you earn substantially the same compensation earned before the disability.

After 90 days of Total Disability, all Plan premiums will be waived if:
- Your Total Disability began before your age of 65;
- Your Total Disability has continued without interruption for at least 90 days, during which time you and/or the Policyholder have paid premiums; and
- You provide proof of Total Disability as required by us. Satisfactory Proof of Loss for Total Disability must be provided at least once every 12 months.

Pending our approval of a claim for the Waiver of Premium Benefit, premiums should be paid as they are due. Premiums that were paid for the first 90 days of Total Disability will be refunded after your claim for this benefit is approved.

Waiver of Premium will continue until the earliest of the following:
- The premium due date following your 65th birthday,
- The date the Company has waived premiums for a total of 24 months of Total Disability,
- The date you refuse to provide proof of continuing Total Disability,
- The date your Total Disability ends, or
- The date coverage ends according to the Termination provisions in **Section I – Eligibility, Effective Date, and Termination.**

If you are still eligible for coverage when you return to Active Work, coverage for any Insured may be continued if premium payments are resumed.

SECTION V – EXCLUSIONS

Exclusions
We will not pay for loss due to any of the following:
- **Self-Inflicted Injuries** – injuring or attempting to injure oneself intentionally or taking action that causes oneself to become injured
- **Suicide** – committing or attempting to commit suicide, while sane or insane
- **Illegal Acts** – participating or attempting to participate in an illegal activity, or working at an illegal job

- **Participation in Aggressive Conflict** of any kind, including:
  - War (declared or undeclared) or military conflicts
  - Insurrection or riot
  - Civil commotion or civil state of belligerence
- **Illegal substance abuse, which includes the following:**
  - Abuse of legally-obtained prescription medication
  - Illegal use of non-prescription drugs
- An error, mishap, or malpractice during medical, diagnostic, or surgical treatment or procedure
- Diagnosis of a Critical Illness made by a Family Member.

SECTION VI – CLAIM PROVISIONS

Notice of Claim

Written notice of claim must be given to us:

- Within 60 days after the Date of Diagnosis, or
- As soon as reasonably possible.

When we receive written Notice of Claim, we will send a claim form. If the Claimant does not receive the claim form within 15 days after the notice is sent, written Proof of Loss can be sent to us without waiting for the form. Notice must include your name and Certificate number. Notice can be mailed to the Company at:

P.O. Box 84075, Columbus, GA 31993-9103

Failure to give notice within the time prescribed does not invalidate or reduce any claim if it was not reasonably possible to give the notice within that time and notice was given as soon as was reasonably possible.

Proof of Loss

Proof of Loss refers to documentation that supports a claim. (This information is often found in standardized medical documents, such as hospital bills and operative reports. It includes a statement by the treating Doctor.) Proof of Loss establishes the nature and extent of the loss, the Company's obligation to pay the claim, and the Claimant's right to receive payment.

The Claimant must provide Proof of Loss to the Company at:

P.O. Box 84075, Columbus, GA 31993-9103

Proof of Loss must be given to us within 90 days of the Date of Diagnosis. Failure to give Proof of Loss within such time shall not invalidate or reduce any claim if such Proof of Loss is given as soon as reasonably possible. The Company will not accept Proof of Loss any later than one year and three months after the Date of Diagnosis, except in the absence of the Claimant's legal mental capacity.

The Claimant will be responsible for the cost of obtaining a completed claim form. We may request additional Proof of Loss, such as records from hospitals or Doctors. The Claimant will be responsible for the cost of obtaining these records.

We may require authorizations to obtain medical and psychiatric information as well as non-medical information, including personal financial information.

When we receive the claim and due Proof of Loss, we will review the Proof of Loss. If we approve the claim, we will pay the benefits subject to the terms of the Certificate.

Physical Examination and Autopsy

The Company may have an Insured examined as often as reasonably necessary while a claim is pending. In the case of death, the Company may also require an autopsy, unless prohibited by law. The Company will cover all costs for exams or autopsy.

Prompt Payment of Benefits
For benefits other than for loss of time, the Company will, once we receive the required Proof of Loss, pay, deny, or settle each submitted claim not later than the 60th day after the date Proof of Loss is received. Subject to written Proof of Loss, all accrued benefits payable under the policy for loss of time will be paid at least monthly during the period for which the insurer is liable. Any balance remaining unpaid at the end of that time will be paid as soon as possible after the Proof of Loss is received.

Payment of Claims
We will pay all benefits to you unless otherwise assigned. For any benefits that remain unpaid at the time of death, we will pay those benefits in the following order:
- To your beneficiary or the beneficiary's assignee,
- To your surviving Spouse,
- To your estate.

Special Rules for the Payment of Claims for Dependent Children
When required by law, We will provide for benefits payable for a Dependent Child to be paid to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission if such agency paid, through medical assistance, for the treatment received by the Dependent Child for a Covered Condition.

When required by law, We will provide for benefits payable for a Dependent Child to be paid to the Dependent Child's possessory or managing conservator if that individual:
1. provides a written notice that the individual is a possessory or managing conservator of the Dependent Child on whose behalf the claim is made; and
2. provides a certified copy of a court order designating the individual as possessory or managing conservator of the Dependent Child or other relevant evidence.

Unpaid Premium
When a claim is paid, we may deduct any premium due and unpaid from the claim payment.

Changing of Beneficiary
A change in beneficiary must be submitted in writing to our Home Office in a form acceptable to us and signed by you. Unless otherwise specified by you, a change in beneficiary will take effect on the date the notice of change is signed. We will not be liable for any action taken before notice is received and recorded at the Home Office.

Claim Review
If a claim is denied, you will be given written notice of:
- The reason for the denial,
- The Plan provision that supports the denial, and
- Your right to ask for a review of the claim.

Appeals Procedure
Before filing any lawsuit—and no later than 60 days after notice of denial of a claim—you, the Claimant, or an authorized representative of either must appeal any denial of benefits under the Plan by sending a written request for review of the denial to our Home Office.

Legal Action
You cannot take legal action against us for benefits under this Plan:
- Within 60 days after you have sent us written Proof of Loss, or
- More than three years from the time written proof is required to be given.

SECTION VII – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Entire Contract Changes
Your insurance is provided under a contract of Group Critical Illness insurance with the Policyholder. The entire Contract of Insurance is made up of:
- The Policy;
- The Certificate of insurance;
- The Application of the Policyholder, a copy of which is attached to and made part of the Policy when issued; and

- Any Riders, Endorsements, or Amendments to the Policy or Certificate.

In the absence of fraud, a statement made by the Policyholder or an Insured is considered a representation and not a warranty. A statement made by the Policyholder or an Insured may not be used in any contest under the Plan, unless a copy of the written instrument containing the statement is or has been provided to:

- The person making the statement; or
- If the statement was made by the Insured and the Insured has died or become incapacitated, the Insured's beneficiary or personal representative.

Changes to this Plan:

- Will not be valid unless approved in writing by an officer of the Company,
- Must be noted on or attached to the Contract, and
- May not be made by any insurance agent (nor can an agent waive any Plan provisions).

Misstatement of Age

If an age has been misstated on the Application, the benefits will be those that the paid premium would have purchased at the correct age.

Successor Insured

If you die while covered under this Certificate and your Spouse is also insured under this Plan at the time of your death, then your surviving Spouse may elect to become the Primary Insured at the current Spouse Face Amount. This would include continuation of any Dependent Child coverage that is in force at that time.

To become the Primary Insured and keep coverage in force, your surviving Spouse must:

- Notify the Company in writing within 31 days after the date of your death; and
- Pay the required premium to the Company no later than 31 days after the date of your death, and on each premium due date thereafter.

If the Certificate does not cover a surviving Spouse, the Certificate will terminate from the date of your death. All unearned premium from the date of your death will be refunded.

Time Limit on Certain Defenses

After two years from your Effective Date of coverage, the Company may not void coverage or deny a claim for any loss because of misstatements made on your Application. This does not apply to fraudulent misstatements.

Clerical Error

Clerical error by the Policyholder will not end coverage or continue terminated coverage. In the event of a clerical error, the Company will make a premium adjustment.

Individual Certificates

The Company will give the Policyholder a Certificate for each Employee. The Certificate will set forth:

- The coverage,
- To whom benefits will be paid, and
- The rights and privileges under the Plan.

Required Information

The Policyholder will be responsible for furnishing all information and proofs that the Company may reasonably require with regard to the Plan.

Conformity with State Statutes

This Plan was issued on its Effective Date in the state noted on the Master Application. Any Plan provision that conflicts with that state's statutes is amended to conform to the minimum requirements of those statutes.

BENEFITS SCHEDULE

Critical Illness Benefits

The applicable benefit amount is payable for the following Critical Illnesses, provided such Critical Illness meets all applicable definitions contained in the Plan and is caused by an underlying disease as set forth herein:

- Cancer (internal or invasive)
- Non-Invasive Cancer

Additional Benefits

Health Screening Benefit
Skin Cancer Benefit
Waiver of Premium Benefit