

Northeastern University
January 1, 2012

DISCLAIMER

Sponsor: **Northeastern University**

Policy Number(s): **GF3-810-260765-01**

Date Provided: **May 24, 2012**

The following certificate(s) are a true copy of the certificate(s) issued under the policy(ies).

LIBERTY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF BOSTON

Northeastern University

CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE

Liberty Life Assurance Company of Boston welcomes your employer as a client.

Sponsor: **Northeastern University**

Plan Number: **GF3-810-260765-01**

Effective Date: **January 1, 2012**

When this plan refers to "you" or "your" it means the Employee insured under this plan. This is your Disability Income certificate of coverage as long as you are eligible for insurance and remain insured.

A few words about this certificate of coverage...

It is written in plain English. A few terms and provisions are written as required by insurance law. **PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.** If you have any questions about any terms and provisions, please contact the Insurance Administrator at your work location or write to Liberty. Liberty will assist you in any way we can to help you understand your benefits.

Also, if the terms of your certificate of coverage and the policy differ, the policy will govern. Your coverage may be terminated or modified in whole or in part under the terms and provisions of the policy.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jean Scanlon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Executive Vice President

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| SECTION 1. | SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS |
| SECTION 2. | DEFINITIONS |
| SECTION 3. | ELIGIBILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATES |
| SECTION 4. | DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS |
| SECTION 5. | EXCLUSIONS |
| SECTION 6. | TERMINATION PROVISIONS |
| SECTION 7. | GENERAL PROVISIONS |

SECTION 1 - SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR INSURANCE BENEFITS

What is the Minimum Hourly Requirement?

Applicable to Class 1

Employees working a minimum of 2/3 of their regular full-time schedule

Applicable to Class 2

Employees working a minimum of 24 hours per week annually or 35 hours per week for at least 8 months

Who is Eligible for Long Term Disability Benefits?

Class 1: Faculty in a benefits eligible position with an annual appointment of 2/3 time or more

Class 2: Staff

Note: Temporary and seasonal Employees and Employees who are not United States citizens or legal residents working in the United States are not covered under this policy.

What is the Eligibility Waiting Period?

1. If you are employed by the Sponsor on the policy effective date -
First of the month following 1 year of continuous, Active Employment
2. If you begin employment for the Sponsor after the policy effective date -
First of the month following 1 year of continuous, Active Employment

If the Employee was insured for Long Term Disability by a previous employer within the four month period prior to employment with the Sponsor, and the Employee provides a completed waiver form from the previous employer within 30 days of the date of hire that shows proof of prior coverage, then the Eligibility Waiting Period will be waived.

Are Employee Contributions Required?

No

SECTION 1 - SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE

What is the Elimination Period?

The greater of:

- a. the end of your Short Term Disability Benefits; or
- b. 180 days

What is the Amount of Insurance Benefits?

60.00% of Basic Monthly Earnings not to exceed a Maximum Monthly Benefit of \$25,000.00 less Other Income Benefits and Other Income Earnings as outlined in Section 4.

What is the Maximum Basic Monthly Earnings on which the Benefit is Based? \$41,666.67

What is the Own Occupation Duration?

24 Month Own Occupation

SECTION 1 - SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

What is the Minimum Monthly Benefit?

The Minimum Monthly Benefit is \$100.00 or 10.00% of your Gross Monthly Benefit, whichever is greater.

What is the Maximum Benefit Period?

| <u>Age at Disability</u> | <u>Maximum Benefit Period</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Less than age 60..... | To age 65 |
| 60 - 64 | 5 years |
| 65 - 69 | To age 70 (but not less than 1 year) |
| 70 and over..... | 1 year |

SECTION 2 - DEFINITIONS

In this section Liberty defines some basic terms needed to understand this plan.

"Active Employment" means you must be actively at work for the Sponsor:

1. on a full-time basis and paid regular earnings;
2. for at least the minimum number of hours shown in the Schedule of Benefits; and either perform such work:
 - a. at the Sponsor's usual place of business; or
 - b. at a location to which the Sponsor's business requires you to travel.

You will be considered actively at work if you were actually at work on the day immediately preceding:

1. a weekend (except where one or both of these days are scheduled work days);
2. holidays (except when the holiday is a scheduled work day);
3. paid vacations;
4. any non-scheduled work day;
5. an excused leave of absence (except medical leave for your own disabling condition and lay-off); and
6. an emergency leave of absence (except emergency medical leave for your own disabling condition).

"Administrative Office" Liberty Life Assurance Company of Boston, 9 Riverside Road, Weston, MA 02493.

SECTION 2 - DEFINITIONS

(Continued)

"Any Occupation" means any occupation that you are or become reasonably fitted by training, education, experience, age, physical and mental capacity.

"Appropriate Available Treatment" means care or services which are:

1. generally acknowledged by Physicians to cure, correct, limit, treat or manage the disabling condition;
2. accessible within your geographical region;
3. provided by a Physician who is licensed and qualified in a discipline suitable to treat the disabling Injury or Sickness;
4. in accordance with generally accepted medical standards of practice.

"Basic Monthly Earnings" means the Covered Person's monthly base salary from the Sponsor in effect immediately prior to the date Disability begins. However, such earnings will not include bonuses, commissions, overtime pay and extra compensation.

"Consumer Price Index" means the government publication "The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers" provided monthly by the U.S. Department of Labor, or its successor or in the event of no successor a similar Index of comparable purpose chosen by Liberty.

SECTION 2 - DEFINITIONS

(Continued)

"Disability" or "Disabled" means:

1. For persons other than pilots, co-pilots, and crewmembers of an aircraft:

i. that during the Elimination Period and the next 24 months of Disability you, as a result of Injury or Sickness, are unable to perform the Material and Substantial Duties of your Own Occupation; and

ii. thereafter, you are unable to perform, with reasonable continuity, the Material and Substantial Duties of Any Occupation.

2. With respect to Covered Persons employed as pilots, co-pilots and crewmembers of an aircraft:

as of a result of Injury or Sickness you are unable to perform the Material and Substantial Duties of Any Occupation.

"Disability Benefits under a Retirement Plan" means money which:

1. is payable under a Retirement Plan due to Disability as defined in that plan; and
2. does not reduce the amount of money which would have been paid as retirement benefits at the normal retirement age under the plan if the Disability had not occurred. (If the payment does cause such a reduction, it will be deemed a Retirement Benefit as defined in this plan.)

SECTION 2 - DEFINITIONS

(Continued)

"Domestic Partner" means an unmarried person of the same sex with whom you share a committed relationship, are jointly responsible for each other's welfare and financial obligations, at least 18 years of age and mentally competent to consent to a contract, not related by blood to a degree that could prohibit legal marriage in the state where you legally reside, maintain the same residence(s) and are not married to or legally separated from anyone else. A Domestic Partner certification must be completed and filed with the Sponsor before the partner can be designated as an Eligible Survivor.

"Eligibility Date" means the date you become eligible for insurance under this plan. The Eligibility Requirements are shown in the Schedule of Benefits.

"Eligible Survivor" means your spouse or Domestic Partner, if living, otherwise your children under age 25.

"Eligibility Waiting Period" means the continuous length of time you must be in Active Employment in an eligible class to reach your Eligibility Date.

"Elimination Period" means a period of consecutive days of Disability for which no benefit is payable. The Elimination Period is shown in the Schedule of Benefits and begins on the first day of Disability.

If you return to work for any sixty or fewer days during the Elimination Period and cannot continue, Liberty will count only those days you are Disabled to satisfy the Elimination Period.

"Employee" means a person in Active Employment with the Sponsor.

"Enrollment Form" is the document completed by you, if required, when enrolling for coverage. This form must be satisfactory to Liberty.

SECTION 2 - DEFINITIONS

(Continued)

"Extended Treatment Plan" means continued care that is consistent with the American Psychiatric Association's standard principles of Treatment, and is in lieu of confinement in a Hospital or Institution. It must be approved in writing by a Physician.

"Family and Medical Leave" means a leave of absence for the birth, adoption or foster care of a child, or for the care of your child, spouse or parent or for your own serious health condition as those terms are defined by the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) and any amendments, or by applicable state law.

"Gross Monthly Benefit" means your Monthly Benefit before any reduction for Other Income Benefits and Other Income Earnings.

"Hospital" or **"Institution"** means a facility licensed to provide Treatment for the condition causing your Disability.

SECTION 2 - DEFINITIONS

(Continued)

"Initial Enrollment Period" means one of the following periods during which you may first enroll for coverage under this plan:

1. if you are eligible for insurance on the plan effective date, a period before the plan effective date set by the Sponsor and Liberty.
2. if you become eligible for insurance after the plan effective date, the period which ends 31 days after your Eligibility Date.

"Injury" means bodily impairment resulting directly from an accident and independently of all other causes. For the purpose of determining benefits under this plan:

1. any Disability which begins more than 60 days after an Injury will be considered a Sickness; and
2. any Injury which occurs before you are covered under this plan, but which accounts for a medical condition that arises while you are covered under this plan will be treated as a Sickness.

"Last Monthly Benefit" means the gross Monthly Benefit payable to you prior to your death without any reduction for earnings received from employment.

"Material and Substantial Duties" means responsibilities that are normally required to perform your Own Occupation, or any other occupation, and cannot be reasonably eliminated or modified.

SECTION 2 - DEFINITIONS

(Continued)

"Monthly Benefit" means the monthly amount payable by Liberty to you if you are Disabled.

"Own Occupation" means your occupation that you were performing when your Disability began. For the purposes of determining Disability under this plan, Liberty will consider your occupation as it is normally performed in the national economy.

SECTION 2 - DEFINITIONS

(Continued)

"Physician" means a person who:

1. is licensed to practice medicine and is practicing within the terms of his license; or
2. is a licensed practitioner of the healing arts in a category specifically favored under the health insurance laws of the state where the Treatment is received and is practicing within the terms of his license.

It does not include you, any family member or domestic partner.

SECTION 2 - DEFINITIONS

(Continued)

"Proof" means the evidence in support of a claim for benefits and includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. a claim form completed and signed (or otherwise formally submitted) by you claiming benefits;
2. an attending Physician's statement completed and signed (or otherwise formally submitted) by your attending Physician; and
3. the provision by the attending Physician of standard diagnosis, chart notes, lab findings, test results, x-rays and/or other forms of objective medical evidence in support of a claim for benefits.

Proof must be submitted in a form or format satisfactory to Liberty.

"Regular Attendance" means your personal visits to a Physician which are medically necessary according to generally accepted medical standards to effectively manage and treat your Disability.

"Retirement Benefit under a Retirement Plan" means money which:

1. is payable under a Retirement Plan either in a lump sum or in the form of periodic payments;
2. does not represent contributions made by you (payments which represent your contributions are deemed to be received over your expected remaining life regardless of when such payments are actually received); and
3. is payable upon:
 - a. early or normal retirement; or
 - b. Disability, if the payment does reduce the amount of money which would have been paid under the plan at the normal retirement age.

SECTION 2 - DEFINITIONS

(Continued)

"Retirement Plan" means a plan which provides retirement benefits to you and which is not funded wholly by your contributions. The term shall not include a profit-sharing plan, informal salary continuation plan, registered retirement savings plan, stock ownership plan, 401(K) or a non-qualified plan of deferred compensation.

"Schedule of Benefits" means the section of this policy which shows, among other things, the Eligibility Requirements, Eligibility Waiting Period, Elimination Period, Amount of Insurance, Minimum Benefit, and Maximum Benefit Period.

"Sickness" means illness, disease, pregnancy or complications of pregnancy.

"Sponsor" means the entity to whom this policy is issued.

"Sponsor's Retirement Plan" is deemed to include any Retirement Plan:

1. which is part of any Federal, State, Municipal or Association retirement system; or
2. for which you are eligible as a result of employment with the Sponsor.

"Substance Abuse" means alcohol and/or drug abuse, addiction or dependency.

"Treatment" means consulting, receiving care or services provided by or under the direction of a Physician including diagnostic measures, being prescribed drugs and/or medicines, whether you choose to take them or not, and taking drugs and/or medicines.

SECTION 3 - ELIGIBILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATES

Who is Eligible for Coverage?

The eligibility requirements for insurance benefits are shown in the Schedule of Benefits.

What is Your Eligibility Date for Insurance Benefits?

If you are in an eligible class you will qualify for insurance on the later of:

1. this plan's effective date; or
2. the day after you complete the Eligibility Waiting Period shown in the Schedule of Benefits.

SECTION 3 - ELIGIBILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATES

(Continued)

What is Your Effective Date of Insurance?

Your insurance will be effective at 12:01 A.M. Standard Time in the governing jurisdiction on the day determined as follows, but only if your application or enrollment for insurance is made with Liberty through the Sponsor in a form or format satisfactory to Liberty.

You will be insured on your Eligibility Date.

When will Your Effective Date of Insurance be Delayed?

Your effective date of any initial, increased or additional insurance will be delayed if you are not in Active Employment because of Injury or Sickness. The initial, increased or additional insurance will begin on the date you return to Active Employment.

SECTION 3 - ELIGIBILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATES

(Continued)

What Happens to Your Coverage During a Family and Medical Leave?

Your coverage may be continued under this plan for an approved family or medical leave of absence for up to 12 weeks following the date coverage would have terminated, subject to the following:

1. the authorized leave is in writing;
2. the required premium is paid;
3. your benefit level, or the amount of earnings upon which your benefit may be based, will be that in effect on the date before the leave begins; and
4. continuation of coverage will cease immediately if any one of the following events should occur:
 - a. you return to work;
 - b. this plan terminates;
 - c. you are no longer in an eligible class;
 - d. nonpayment of premium when due by the Sponsor or you;
 - e. your employment terminates.

What Happens if You are Rehired?

If you are a former Employee and are re-hired by the Sponsor within 3 months of your termination date, all past periods of Active Employment with the Sponsor will be used in determining your Eligibility Date. If you are a former Employee and are re-hired by the Sponsor more than 3 months after your termination date, you are considered to be a new Employee when determining your Eligibility Date.

SECTION 3 - ELIGIBILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATES

(Continued)

Leave of Absence

The Sponsor may continue your coverage(s) by paying the required premiums, if you are given a leave of absence .

Your coverage will not continue beyond a period of 3 months with respect to personal and military leaves, and a period of 12 months with respect to sabbatical and professional leaves. In continuing such coverage under this provision, the Sponsor agrees to treat all covered Employees equally.

When will Your Coverage be Continued if You Leave the Group or Your Employment Ends because of a Plant Closing or Partial Closing? (Applicable to Massachusetts Residents only)

If you leave the group covered by this policy, you will remain insured for a period of 31 days, unless during such period you are entitled to similar benefits.

In addition, if you leave the group covered by this policy because your employment is terminated due to plant closing or covered partial closing, you will remain insured under this policy for a period of 90 days, unless during such period you are entitled to similar benefits.

SECTION 3 - ELIGIBILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATES

(Continued)

What Happens if There is a Transfer of Insurance Carriers?

In order to prevent loss of coverage for you because of transfer of insurance carriers, this plan will provide coverage for you as follows:

If You are not in Active Employment Due to Injury or Sickness

Subject to premium payments, this plan will cover you if:

1. at the time of transfer you were covered under the prior carrier's plan; and
2. you are not in Active Employment due to Injury or Sickness on the effective date of this plan.

Benefits will be determined based on the lesser of:

1. the amount of the Disability benefit that would have been payable under the prior plan and subject to any applicable plan limitations; or
2. the amount of Disability benefits payable under this plan. If benefits are payable under the prior plan for the Disability, no benefits are payable under this plan.

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE

Disability Benefit

When is Your Disability Benefit Payable?

When Liberty receives Proof that you are Disabled due to Injury or Sickness and require the Regular Attendance of a Physician, Liberty will pay you a Monthly Benefit after the end of the Elimination Period, subject to any other provisions of this plan. The benefit will be paid for the period of Disability if you give to Liberty Proof of continued:

1. Disability;
2. Regular Attendance of a Physician; and
3. Appropriate Available Treatment.

The Proof must be given upon Liberty's request and at your expense. In determining whether you are Disabled, Liberty will not consider employment factors including, but not limited to, interpersonal conflict in the workplace, recession, job obsolescence, paycuts, job sharing and loss of a professional or occupational license or certification.

For purposes of determining Disability, the Injury must occur and Disability must begin while you are insured for this coverage.

The Monthly Benefit will not:

1. exceed your Amount of Insurance; or
2. be paid for longer than the Maximum Benefit Period.

The Amount of Insurance and the Maximum Benefit Period are shown in the Schedule of Benefits.

Amount of Disability Monthly Benefit

To figure the amount of your Monthly Benefit:

1. Take the lesser of:
 - a. your Basic Monthly Earnings multiplied by the benefit percentage shown in the Schedule of Benefits; or
 - b. the Maximum Monthly Benefit shown in the Schedule of Benefits; and then
2. Deduct Other Income Benefits and Other Income Earnings, (shown in the Other Income Benefits and Other Income Earnings provision of this policy), from this amount.

The Monthly Benefit payable will not be less than the Minimum Monthly Benefit shown in the Schedule of Benefits. However, if an overpayment is due to Liberty, the Minimum Monthly Benefit otherwise payable under this provision will be applied toward satisfying the overpayment.

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

Substance Abuse Limitation

What Limitations will Apply for Substance Abuse?

The benefit for Disability due to Substance Abuse Limitation will not exceed a period of 24 months of Monthly Benefit payments while the Covered Person is insured under this policy.

If the Covered Person is in a Hospital or Institution for Substance Abuse at the end of the period of 24 months, the Monthly Benefit will be paid during the confinement.

If the Covered Person is not confined in a Hospital or Institution for Substance Abuse, but is fully participating in an Extended Treatment Plan for the condition that caused Disability, the Monthly Benefit will be payable to a Covered Person for up to a period of 36 months.

In no event will the Monthly Benefit be payable beyond the Maximum Benefit Period shown in the Schedule of Benefits.

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

Rehabilitation Incentive Benefit

When is Your Rehabilitation Incentive Benefit Payable?

Liberty will pay an increased Monthly Benefit while you are fully participating in a Rehabilitation Program. Liberty must first approve the Rehabilitation Program in writing before you can be considered for this benefit. If Liberty does not approve a Rehabilitation Program, the regular Disability benefit will be payable provided you are Disabled under the terms of this plan. To be eligible for a Rehabilitation Incentive Benefit, you must:

1. be Disabled and receiving benefits under this plan; and
2. be fully participating in a Rehabilitation Program approved by Liberty.

What is Your Increased Monthly Benefit?

If you are eligible for a Rehabilitation Incentive Benefit, the benefit percentage, shown in the Schedule of Benefits, will be increased to 70.00%. The increased benefit will begin on the first day of the month after Liberty receives written Proof of your full participation in the Rehabilitation Program.

What is Your Decreased Monthly Benefit?

If you, at any time, decline to fully participate in an approved Rehabilitation Program recommended by Liberty, the benefit percentage shown in the Schedule of Benefits will be reduced to 60.00% beginning on the first day of the month following your declination to fully participate in the approved Rehabilitation Program. If Liberty recommends rehabilitation, benefits will be paid at the reduced amount from the date recommendation is made until Liberty receives your written agreement to fully participate in the Rehabilitation Program.

When will Your Rehabilitation Incentive Benefit be Discontinued?

The Rehabilitation Incentive Benefit will cease:

1. when you are no longer fully participating in a Rehabilitation Program approved by Liberty;
2. in accordance with the provision[s] entitled "When will Your Long Term Disability Benefit Be Discontinued?"; or
3. when the Rehabilitation Program ends.

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

Rehabilitation Incentive Benefit (Continued)

For the purpose of this provision, "**Rehabilitation Program**" means a comprehensive individually tailored, goal oriented program to return you, if you are Disabled, to gainful employment. The services offered may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. physical therapy;
2. occupational therapy;
3. work hardening programs;
4. functional capacity evaluations;
5. psychological and vocational counseling;
6. rehabilitative employment; and
7. vocational rehabilitation services.

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

Three month Survivor Benefit

What Happens to Your Benefit if You Die?

Liberty will pay a lump sum benefit to the Eligible Survivor when Proof is received that you died:

1. after Disability had continued for 180 or more consecutive days; and
2. while receiving a Monthly Benefit.

The lump sum benefit will be an amount equal to three times your Last Monthly Benefit.

If the survivor benefit is payable to your children, payment will be made in equal shares to the children, including step children and legally adopted children. However, if any of said children are minors or incapacitated, payment will be made on their behalf to the court appointed guardian of the children's property. This payment will be valid and effective against all claims by others representing or claiming to represent the children.

If there is no Eligible Survivor, the benefit is payable to the estate.

If an overpayment is due to Liberty at the time of your death, the benefit payable under this provision will be applied toward satisfying the overpayment.

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

When is Your Cost of Living Adjustment Benefit Payable?

Liberty will pay a Cost of Living Adjustment Benefit you after you have met your Elimination Period and continue to be Disabled from an Injury or Sickness for 12 or more months.

When will You be Eligible for this Benefit?

You will be eligible for a Cost of Living Adjustment Benefit if you:

1. have been Disabled for 12 consecutive months following your Elimination Period; and
2. are receiving Disability benefits on January 1st.

You will continue to be eligible for additional Cost of Living Adjustment Benefits on each subsequent January 1st if you are continuously receiving Disability benefits under this plan.

How is Your Cost of Living Adjustment Monthly Benefit Figured?

To figure the amount of your Cost of Living Adjustment Benefit:

1. multiply your net monthly Disability benefit by the lesser of the change in CPI or 3.00%; and
2. add the amount determined above to your net monthly Disability benefit.

The Cost of Living Adjustment Benefit is not subject to the Maximum Monthly Benefit as shown in the Schedule of Benefits.

The Cost of Living Adjustment Benefit will cease to be payable on the earliest of:

1. the date you cease to be Disabled;
2. the date you die; or
3. the end of the Maximum Benefit Period.

What is Your Cost of Living Adjustment Net Monthly Benefit?

The net Monthly Benefit means the amount determined by reducing your amount of Monthly Benefit by Other Income Benefits and Other Income Earnings stated in this plan. For the purpose of calculating adjustments, the net Monthly Benefit will include any prior years' Cost of Living Adjustments.

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

Workplace Modification Benefit

When is Your Workplace Modification Benefit Payable?

If you are Disabled and receiving a benefit from Liberty, a benefit may be payable to the Sponsor as part of your benefit for modifications to the workplace to accommodate your return to work.

Liberty will reimburse the Sponsor for up to 100% of reasonable costs the Sponsor incurs for the modification, up to the greater of:

1. \$2,000.00; or
2. the equivalent of 2 months of your Monthly Benefit.

To qualify for this benefit:

1. the Disability must prevent you from performing some or all of the Material and Substantial Duties of your occupation; and
2. any proposed modifications must be approved in writing and signed by you, the Sponsor and Liberty; and
3. the Sponsor must agree to make the modifications to the workplace to reasonably accommodate your return to work.

The Sponsor's costs for the approved modifications will be reimbursed after:

1. the proposed modifications have been made; and
2. written proof of the expenses incurred by the Sponsor has been provided to Liberty; and
3. Liberty has received proof that you have returned to work.

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

Monthly Pension Supplement Benefit

When is Your Monthly Pension Supplement Benefit Payable?

If you are receiving a Monthly Benefit and are an eligible participant in the Sponsor's qualified defined contribution pension plan and are or become Permanently and Totally Disabled in addition to payment of such Monthly Benefit, a Monthly Pension Supplement Benefit will be payable to the trust established in connection with such plan.

The Monthly Pension Supplement Benefit will be equal to 15.00% of the Employee's Basic Monthly Earnings. The Monthly Pension Supplement Benefit will be paid to the trust for allocation to your account maintained by such trust for purposes of meeting all or part (depending upon the amount of the benefit) of the Sponsor's obligation to make a contribution to such trust on your behalf.

The entire part of the premium to provide this Monthly Pension Supplement Benefit is paid by the Sponsor out of its own assets. You do not pay any part of the cost of this benefit.

The Monthly Pension Supplement Benefit is not subject to the provision entitled Other Income Benefits and Other Income Earnings or the Maximum Monthly Benefit.

Proof of Permanent and Total Disability, when applicable, Regular Attendance by a Physician and Appropriate Available Treatment must be given to Liberty within 30 days of the request for such Proof. Failure to furnish such Proof within such time shall not invalidate any claim if it was not reasonably possible to furnish such Proof within such time. Such Proof must be furnished as soon as reasonably possible and in no event, except in the absence of legal capacity of the claimant, later than one year from the time Proof is otherwise required.

The Monthly Pension Supplement Benefit will cease on the earliest of the following dates:

1. the date you are no longer Permanently and Totally Disabled, as defined in this provision;
2. the date you cease to be an eligible participant in the Sponsor's qualified defined contribution pension plan;
3. the date you die;
4. the end of the Maximum Benefit Period; or
5. the date you voluntarily elect to receive Disability or retirement benefits under the Sponsor's qualified defined contribution pension plan.

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

Monthly Pension Supplement Benefit (Continued)

When is Your Monthly Pension Supplement Benefit Payable? (Continued)

With respect to this provision, the term, "**Permanently and Totally Disabled**" means you are unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months.

Note: Any Monthly Pension Supplement Benefit paid under this provision will release Liberty of liability to the extent of such payment. The Sponsor shall be solely responsible for meeting all Federal and State requirements applicable to its qualified defined contribution pension plan.

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

Other Income Benefits and Other Income Earnings

What are Your Other Income Benefits and Other Income Earnings?

Other Income Benefits means:

1. The amount for which you are eligible under:
 - a. Workers' or Workmen's Compensation Laws;
 - b. Occupational Disease Law;
 - c. Title 46, United States Code Section 688 (The Jones Act);
 - d. any work loss provision in mandatory "No-Fault" auto insurance;
 - e. Railroad Retirement Act;
 - f. any governmental compulsory benefit act or law; or
 - g. any other act or law of like intent.
2. The amount of any Disability benefits which you are eligible to receive under:
 - a. any other group insurance plan of the Sponsor;
 - b. any governmental retirement system as a result of your employment with the Sponsor; or
 - c. any individual insurance plan where the premium is wholly or partially paid by the Sponsor. However, Liberty will only reduce the Monthly Benefit if your Monthly Benefit under this plan, plus any benefits that you are eligible to receive under such individual insurance plan exceed 100% of your Basic Monthly Earnings. If this sum exceeds 100% of Basic Monthly Earnings, your Monthly Benefit under this plan will be reduced by such excess amount.
3. The amount of benefits you receive under the Sponsor's Retirement Plan as follows:
 - a. the amount of any Disability Benefits under a Retirement Plan, or Retirement Benefits under a Retirement Plan you voluntarily elect to receive as retirement payment under the Sponsor's Retirement Plan; and
 - b. the amount you receive as retirement payments when you reach the later of age 62, or normal retirement age as defined in the Sponsor's plan.
4. The amount of Disability and/or Retirement Benefits under the United States Social Security Act, the Canada Pension Plan, the Quebec Pension Plan, or any similar plan or act, which:
 - a. you receive or are eligible to receive; and
 - b. your spouse, child or children receive or are eligible to receive because of your Disability; or
 - c. your spouse, child or children receive or are eligible to receive because of your eligibility for retirement benefits.
5. Any amount you receive from any unemployment benefits.

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS
(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

Other Income Benefits and Other Income Earnings (Continued)

What are Your Other Income Benefits and Other Income Earnings? (Continued)

Other Income Earnings means:

1. the amount of earnings you earn or receive from any form of employment including severance;
and
2. any amount you receive from any formal or informal sick leave or salary continuation plan(s).

Other Income Benefits, except retirement benefits, must be payable as a result of the same Disability for which Liberty pays a benefit. The sum of Other Income Benefits and Other Income Earnings will be deducted in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

Estimation of Benefits

How will Your Benefits be Estimated?

Liberty will reduce your Disability benefits by the amount of Other Income Benefits that we estimate are payable to you and your dependents.

Your Disability benefit will not be reduced by the estimated amount of Other Income Benefits if you:

1. provide satisfactory proof of application for Other Income Benefits;
2. sign a reimbursement agreement under which, in part, you agree to repay Liberty for any overpayment resulting from the award or receipt of Other Income Benefits;
3. if applicable, provide satisfactory proof that all appeals for Other Income Benefits have been made on a timely basis to the highest administrative level unless Liberty determines that further appeals are not likely to succeed; and
4. if applicable, submit satisfactory proof that Other Income Benefits have been denied at the highest administrative level unless Liberty determines that further appeals are not likely to succeed.

Liberty will not estimate or reduce for any benefits under the Sponsor's pension or retirement benefit plan according to applicable law, until you actually receive them.

In the event that Liberty overestimates the amount payable to you from any plans referred to in the Other Income Benefits and Other Income Earnings provision of this plan, Liberty will reimburse you for such amount upon receipt of written proof of the amount of Other Income Benefits awarded (whether by compromise, settlement, award or judgement) or denied (after appeal through the highest administrative level).

When May Liberty Provide Social Security Assistance?

Liberty may help you in applying for Social Security Disability Income Benefits. In order to be eligible for assistance you must be receiving a Monthly Benefit from Liberty. Such assistance will be provided only if Liberty determines that assistance would be beneficial.

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

What Happens if You Receive a Lump Sum Payment?

Other Income Benefits from a compromise, settlement, award or judgement which are paid to you in a lump sum and are meant to compensate you for any one or more of the following:

1. loss of past or future wages;
2. impaired earnings capacity;
3. lessened ability to compete in the open labor market;
4. any degree of permanent impairment; and
5. any degree of loss of bodily function or capacity;

will be prorated on a monthly basis as follows:

1. over the period of time such benefits would have been paid if not in a lump sum; or
2. if such period of time cannot be determined, the lesser of:
 - a. the remainder of the Maximum Benefit Period; or
 - b. 5 years.

What Happens if You Receive any Cost of Living Increases?

After the first deduction for each of the Other Income Benefits, the Monthly Benefit will not be further reduced due to any cost of living increases payable under the Other Income Benefits and Other Income Earnings provision of this plan. This provision does not apply to increases received from any form of employment.

What Happens if Your Benefit Period is Less than a Month?

For any period for which a Long Term Disability benefit is payable that does not extend through a full month, the benefit will be paid on a prorated basis. The rate will be 1/30th for each day for such period of Disability.

When will Your Long Term Disability Benefits be Discontinued?

The Monthly Benefit will cease on the earliest of:

1. the date you fail to provide Proof of continued Disability and Regular Attendance of a Physician;
2. the date you fail to cooperate in the administration of the claim. Such cooperation includes, but is not limited to, providing any information or documents needed to determine whether benefits are payable or the actual benefit amount due;

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

When will Your Long Term Disability Benefits be Discontinued? (Continued)

The Monthly Benefit will cease on the earliest of: (Continued)

3. the date you refuse to be examined or evaluated at reasonable intervals;
4. the date you refuse to receive Appropriate Available Treatment;
5. the date you refuse a job with the Sponsor where workplace modifications or accommodations were made to allow you to perform the Material and Substantial Duties of the job;
6. the date you are no longer Disabled according to this plan;
7. the end of the Maximum Benefit Period; or
8. the date you die.

SECTION 4 - DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

(Continued)

LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE (Continued)

Successive Periods of Disability

What Happens if You Return to Work and Become Disabled Again?

With respect to this plan, "**Successive Periods of Disability**" means a Disability which is related or due to the same cause(s) as a prior Disability for which a Monthly Benefit was payable.

A Successive Period of Disability will be treated as part of the prior Disability if, after receiving Disability benefits under this plan, you:

1. return to your Own Occupation on an Active Employment basis for less than twelve continuous months; and
2. perform all the Material and Substantial Duties of your Own Occupation.

To qualify for the Successive Periods of Disability benefit, you must experience more than a 20% loss of Basic Monthly Earnings.

Benefit payments will be subject to the terms of this plan for the prior Disability.

If you return to your Own Occupation on an Active Employment basis for twelve continuous months or more, the Successive Period of Disability will be treated as a new period of Disability. You must complete another Elimination Period.

If you become eligible for coverage under any other group long term disability coverage, this Successive Periods of Disability provision will cease to apply to you.

SECTION 5 - EXCLUSIONS

GENERAL EXCLUSIONS

What Disabilities are Not Covered?

This plan will not cover any Disability due to:

1. war, declared or undeclared, or any act of war;
2. intentionally self-inflicted injuries, while sane or insane;
3. active Participation in a Riot;
4. the committing of or attempting to commit a felony or misdemeanor;
5. cosmetic surgery unless such surgery is in connection with an Injury or Sickness sustained while you are covered under this plan; or
6. a gender change, including, but not limited to, any operation, drug therapy or any other procedure related to a gender change.

No benefit will be payable during any period of incarceration.

With respect to this provision, **Participation** shall include promoting, inciting, conspiring to promote or incite, aiding, abetting, and all forms of taking part in, but shall not include actions taken in defense of public or private property, or actions taken in your defense, if such actions of defense are not taken against persons seeking to maintain or restore law and order including, but not limited to police officers and fire fighters.

With respect to this provision, **Riot** shall include all forms of public violence, disorder or disturbance of the public peace, by three or more persons assembled together, whether or not acting with a common intent and whether or not damage to persons or property or unlawful act or acts is the intent or the consequence of such disorder.

SECTION 6 - TERMINATION PROVISIONS

When will Your Insurance End?

You will cease to be insured on the earliest of the following dates:

1. the date this plan terminates, but without prejudice to any claim originating prior to the time of termination;
2. the date you are no longer in an eligible class;
3. the date your class is no longer included for insurance;
4. the date employment terminates. Cessation of Active Employment will be deemed termination of employment, except the insurance will be continued for an Employee absent due to Disability during:
 - a. the Elimination Period; and
 - b. any period during which premium is being waived.
5. the date you cease active work due to a labor dispute, including any strike, work slowdown, or lockout.

Liberty reserves the right to review and terminate all classes insured under this plan if any class(es) cease(s) to be covered.

SECTION 7 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Is Assignment Allowed?

No assignment of any present or future right or benefit under this policy will be allowed.

How will Liberty Conform With State Statutes?

Any provision of this plan which, on its effective date, is in conflict with the statutes of the governing jurisdiction of this plan is hereby amended to conform to the minimum requirements of such statute.

What are Liberty's Examination Rights?

Liberty, at its own expense, may have the right and opportunity to have the claimant, whose Injury or Sickness is the basis of a claim, examined or evaluated at reasonable intervals deemed necessary by Liberty. This right may be used as often as reasonably required.

Who has the Authority for Interpretation of this Plan?

Liberty shall possess the authority, in its sole discretion, to construe the terms of this plan and to determine benefit eligibility hereunder. Liberty's decisions regarding construction of the terms of this plan and benefit eligibility shall be conclusive and binding.

When can this Plan be Contested?

The validity of this plan shall not be contested, except for non-payment of premiums, after it has been in force for two years from the date of issue. The validity of this plan shall not be contested on the basis of a statement made relating to insurability by you after such insurance has been in force for two years during your lifetime, and shall not be contested unless the statement is contained in a written instrument signed by you.

When can Legal Proceedings Begin?

A claimant or the claimant's authorized representative cannot begin any legal action:

1. until 60 days after Proof of claim has been given; or
2. more than three years after the time Proof of claim is required.

What Happens if Your Age is Misstated?

If your age has been misstated, an equitable adjustment will be made in the premium. If the amount of the benefit is dependent upon your age, the amount of the benefit will be the amount you would have been entitled to if your correct age were known.

A refund of premium will not be made for a period more than 12 months before the date Liberty is advised of the error.

SECTION 7 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

(Continued)

When Must Liberty be Notified of a Claim?

1. Notice of claim must be given to Liberty within 30 days of the date of the loss on which the claim is based. If that is not possible, Liberty must be notified as soon as it is reasonably possible to do so. Such notice of claim must be received in a form or format satisfactory to Liberty.
2. When written notice of claim is applicable and has been received by Liberty, you will be sent claim forms. If the forms are not received within 15 days after written notice of claim is sent, you can send to Liberty written Proof of claim without waiting for the forms.

When Must Liberty Receive Proof of Claim?

1. Satisfactory Proof of loss must be given to Liberty no later than 30 days after the end of the Elimination Period.
2. Failure to furnish such Proof within such time shall not invalidate or reduce any claim if it was not reasonably possible to furnish such Proof within such time. Such Proof must be furnished as soon as reasonably possible, and in no event, except in the absence of legal capacity of the claimant, later than one year from the time Proof is otherwise required.
3. Proof of continued loss, continued Disability and Regular Attendance of a Physician must be given to Liberty within 30 days of the request for such Proof.

Liberty reserves the right to determine if your Proof of loss is satisfactory.

Who are Claims Paid To?

The benefit is payable to you. But, if a benefit is payable to your estate, or if you are a minor, or you are not competent, Liberty has the right to pay up to \$2,000 to any of your relatives or any other person whom Liberty considers entitled thereto by reason of having incurred expense for the maintenance, medical attendance or burial. If Liberty in good faith pays the benefit in such a manner, any such payment shall fulfill Liberty's responsibility for the amount paid.

What are Liberty's Rights of Recovery?

Liberty has the right to recover any overpayment of benefits caused by, but not limited to, the following:

1. fraud;
2. any error made by Liberty in processing a claim; or
3. your receipt of any Other Income Benefits.

Liberty may recover an overpayment by, but not limited to, the following:

1. requesting a lump sum payment of the overpaid amount;
2. reducing any benefits payable under this policy;
3. taking any appropriate collection activity available including any legal action needed; and
4. placing a lien, if not prohibited by law, in the amount of the overpayment on the proceeds of any Other Income Benefits, whether on a periodic or lump sum basis.

It is required that full reimbursement be made to Liberty.

SECTION 7 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

(Continued)

How will Statements Made In Your Application Affect Your Coverage?

In the absence of fraud, all statements made in any application are considered representations and not warranties (absolute guarantees). No representation by:

1. the Sponsor in applying for this plan will make it void unless the representation is contained in the signed Application; or
2. you in enrolling for insurance under this plan will be used to reduce or deny a claim unless a copy of the Enrollment Form, signed by you if required, is or has been given to you.

What are Liberty's Rights of Subrogation and Reimbursement?

When your Injury or Sickness appears to be someone else's fault, benefits otherwise payable under this policy for loss of time as a result of that Injury or Sickness will not be paid unless your or your legal representative agree(s):

1. to repay Liberty for such benefits to the extent they are for losses for which compensation is paid to you by or on behalf of the person at fault;
2. to allow Liberty a lien on such compensation and to hold such compensation in trust for Liberty; and
3. to execute and give to Liberty any instruments needed to secure the rights under 1. and 2. above.

Further, when Liberty has paid benefits to or on your behalf, Liberty will be subrogated to all rights of recovery that you have against the person at fault. These subrogation rights will extend only to recovery of the amount Liberty has paid. You must execute and deliver any instruments needed and do whatever else is necessary to secure those rights to Liberty.

How does the Policy Affect Workers' Compensation?

This plan and the coverages provided are not in lieu of, nor will they affect any requirements for coverage under any Workers' Compensation Law or other similar law.

SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

Name of Plan: The Northeastern University Plan

Plan benefits are provided under the terms of the Group Disability Income Policy No. GF3-810-260765-01 hereinafter referred to as "the policy", issued by Liberty Life Assurance Company of Boston, hereinafter referred to as "Liberty," to the Employer hereinafter referred to as "Sponsor".

Participants Included: See Schedule of Benefits

Name and Address of Sponsor:

Northeastern University
716 Columbus Avenue
Suite 250
Boston, MA 02120

Who Pays For the Plan: Premiums are paid by the Sponsor.

The cost of the Plan is funded 100% by Employer contributions.

Plan Identification Number:

- a. Sponsor IRS Identification No.: 04-1679980
- b. Plan No.: 503

Type of Plan: Group Disability Income

Plan Year: January 1st - December 31st

Plan Administrator, Name, Address and Telephone No:

Northeastern University
716 Columbus Avenue
Suite 250
Boston, MA 02120
(617) 373-2230

Agent for Service of Legal Process on the Plan:

Same as above

Type of Administration: Insurer Administration

Funding Arrangement of the Plan: Benefits of the Plan are insured.

SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

(Continued)

Amendment of the Sponsor's Plan:

The Plan Sponsor reserves the right to modify, amend or terminate in whole or in part, any or all provisions of the Plan. Amendments to the Plan are to be made by a written resolution adopted in accordance with the established procedures of the Board of Directors. Amendments may be adopted with retroactive effect to the extent permitted by ERISA and the Code.

Amendment of Liberty's Policy:

The policy may be changed in whole or in part by mutual agreement of the Sponsor and Liberty. Only an Officer of Liberty can approve a change. The approval must be in writing and endorsed on or attached to the policy. No consent of any participant or any other person referred to in the policy(ies) shall be required to modify, amend, or change the policy(ies).

NOTE: If you cease active employment, see your benefits administrator to determine what arrangements, if any, may be made to continue your coverage beyond the date you cease active employment.

When May The Policy Terminate?

1. If the Sponsor fails to pay any premium within the grace period, the policy will automatically terminate at 12:00 midnight of the last day of the grace period. The "grace period" is the 45 days following a premium due date during which premium payment may be paid.
2. The Sponsor may terminate the policy by advance written notice delivered to Liberty at least 31 days prior to the termination date. But the policy will not terminate during any period for which premium has been paid.
3. Liberty may terminate the policy on any premium due date by giving written notice to the Sponsor at least 90 days in advance if:
 - a. The number of employees insured is less than 10;
 - b. less than 100% of the Employees eligible for any non-contributory insurance are insured for it; or
 - c. the Sponsor fails:
 - i. to furnish promptly any information which Liberty may reasonably require; or
 - ii. to perform any other obligations pertaining to this policy.
4. Termination may take effect on any earlier date when both the Sponsor and Liberty agree.

No consent of any participant or any other person referred to in the policy(ies) shall be required to terminate the policy(ies).

SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

(Continued)

What Are Your Rights In The Event Of Policy Termination?

Termination of the policy under any conditions will not prejudice any payable claim which occurs while the policy is in force.

What Are Your Rights Under ERISA?

1. As a participant in this Plan, you are entitled to certain rights and protection under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides that all Plan participants shall be entitled to:
 - a. Examine, without charge, at the Plan Administrator's office and at other specified locations, all documents governing the Plan, including insurance contracts, 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.
 - b. Obtain, upon written request to the Plan Administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the Plan, including insurance contracts, and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated summary plan description. The Plan Administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.
 - c. Receive a summary of the Plan's annual financial report. The Plan Administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary annual report.
2. In addition to creating rights for Plan participants, ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the employee benefit Plan.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. If your claim for a welfare benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, 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.
6. Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of plan documents 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.

SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

(Continued)

What Are Your Rights Under ERISA? (Continued)

7. 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. 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 if, for example, it finds your claim is frivolous.
8. If you have any questions about your Plan, you should contact the Plan Administrator.
9. 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.

What is the Time Frame For Claim Decisions?

If your claim is denied, Liberty will notify you of the adverse decision within a reasonable period of time, but not later than 45 days after receiving the claim. This 45-day period may be extended for up to 30 days, if Liberty: (1) determines the extension is necessary because of matters beyond the Plan's control, and (2) notifies you, before the end of the 45-day period, why the extension is needed and the expected decision date. If, before the end of the first 30-day extension, Liberty determines, due to matters beyond the Plan's control, a decision cannot be rendered within that extension period, the determination period may be extended for up to an additional 30 days, provided Liberty notifies you, before the end of the first 30-day extension period, why the extension is needed and the expected decision date.

The notice of extension shall explain: (1) the standards on which benefit entitlement is based, (2) the unresolved issues that prevent a claim decision, and (3) the additional information needed. You have at least 45 days to provide the information.

The claim determination time frames begin when a claim is filed, without regard to whether all the information necessary to make a claim determination accompanies the filing.

If an extension is necessary because you failed to submit necessary information, the days from the date Liberty sends you the extension notice until you respond to the request for additional information are not counted as part of the claim determination period.

SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

(Continued)

What If Your Claim Is Denied?

Liberty's notice of denial shall include:

1. The specific reason or reasons for denial with reference to those specific Plan provisions on which the denial is based;
2. A description of any additional material or information necessary to perfect the claim and an explanation of why that material or information is necessary;
3. A description of the Plan's appeal procedures and time frames, including a statement of the claimant's right to bring a civil action under ERISA following an adverse decision on appeal;
4. If applicable, any internal rule, guideline, protocol, or other similar criterion relied upon in making the adverse decision, or a statement that such a rule, guideline, protocol, other similar criterion was relied upon and a copy thereof will be provided free of charge upon request; and
5. If the adverse decision was based on a medical necessity, experimental treatment, or similar exclusion or limit, an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the adverse decision, or a statement that such explanation will be provided free of charge upon request.

What Do You Do To Appeal A Claim Denial?

You, or your authorized representative, may appeal a denied claim within 180 days after you receive Liberty's notice of denial. You have the right to:

1. Submit to Liberty, for review, written comments, documents, records, and other information relating to the claim;
2. Request, free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records and other information relevant to your claim;
3. A review that takes into account all comments, documents, records, and other information submitted by you, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial claim decision;
4. A review that does not afford deference to the initial adverse decision and which is conducted neither by the individual who made the adverse decision nor the person's subordinate;
5. If the appeal involves an adverse decision based on medical judgment, a review of your claim by a health care professional who has appropriate training and experience in the field of medicine involved in the medical judgment, and who was neither consulted in connection with the adverse decision nor the subordinate of any such individual; and
6. The identification of medical or vocational experts, if any, consulted in connection with the claim denial, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the decision.

SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

(Continued)

What Do You Do To Appeal A Claim Denial? (Continued)

Liberty will make a full and fair review of your appeal and may require additional documents as it deems necessary in making such a review. A final decision on the review will be made within a reasonable period of time but not later than 45 days following receipt of the written request for review unless Liberty determines that special circumstances require an extension. In such case, a written notice will be sent to you before the end of the initial 45-day period. The extension notice shall indicate the special circumstances and the date by which Liberty expects to render the appeal decision. The extension cannot exceed a period of 45 days from the end of the initial period.

The appeal time frames begin when an appeal is filed, without regard to whether all the information necessary to make an appeal decision accompanies the filing.

If an extension is necessary because you failed to submit necessary information, the days from the date of the extension notice until you respond to the request for additional information are not counted as part of the appeal determination period.

Liberty's notice of denial shall include:

1. The specific reason or reasons for denial with reference to those Plan provisions on which the denial is based;
2. A statement that you are entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of all documents, records, and other information relevant to your claim;
3. A statement describing any voluntary appeal procedures offered by Liberty and your right to obtain the information about such procedures, and a statement of your right to bring an action under ERISA;
4. If applicable, any internal rule, guideline, protocol, or other similar criterion relied upon in making the adverse decision, or a statement that such a rule, guideline, protocol, or other similar criterion was relied upon and a copy thereof will be provided free of charge upon request; and
5. If the adverse decision was based on a medical necessity, experimental treatment, or similar exclusion or limit, an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the adverse decision, or a statement that such explanation will be provided free of charge upon request.

You and 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.